

The Ivy Leaf

Established in 1917 to honor those who serve



VOL. 1, NO. 22 MULTI-NATIONAL DIVISION – BAGHDAD “STEADFAST AND LOYAL” NOVEMBER 12, 2006

MND-B Soldiers scale heights to train Iraqi counterparts

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MND-B, IA provide relief for displaced Iraqis

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ISF, MND-B Soldiers work together to save Saab al Bour

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Photo by Spc. Joshua Ramey, 2nd BCT PAO, 1st Arm. Div.

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Soldiers from 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, exit the ramp of an Air Force C-17 onto the flight line at Baghdad International Airport after a flight from Kuwait Oct. 19. 4th Infantry Division will pass control of MND-B to 1st Cavalry Division in mid-November.

4TH INF. DIV. TO PASS REIGNS TO 1ST CAV. DIV. 2nd BCT, 1st Inf. Div. arrives as other units wrap up stint, prepare for redeployment

Story by Sgt. Lance Wail
2nd BCT PAO, 1st Inf. Div.
CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq –

The arrival of 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, to the Multi-National Division – Baghdad area of operation during the second and third week of October marked the beginning of a deployment for a brigade – and the end for another.

Based out of Schweinfurt, Germany, the Soldiers of 2nd BCT, 1st Inf. Div., arrived in Baghdad after several months of rigorous training and preparations for the deployment.

“The Dagger Brigade is the finest

trained organization I have ever been apart of. We are represented by well-trained warriors and leaders,” said Col. J.B. Burton, commander, 2nd BCT. “We are well equipped and competent to complete the mission.”

Continuing to work with the Iraqi army and Iraqi police to remove any threats will be one of the main focuses of the incoming brigade.

“Our maintaining the relationship that 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, has established is important,” explained Burton, in reference to 2nd BCT’s goal. The team must “continue to show pride, discipline and dignity that we

display in everything we do as a brigade combat team.”

The movement from Kuwait to Iraq was simply the next step in a mission that the brigade has been preparing for.

“I am looking forward to coming out here and getting the experience,” said Spc. Brian Hudock, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment.

The brigade combat team spent approximately five weeks training in Kuwait prior to the move up to Baghdad.

“We hit the ground at Camp Buehring running, and we will keep going while we are here,” said Capt James Egan, HHB.

“I am glad to be in Iraq,” said Sgt Kelly Bandy, of HHB’s Personnel Security Detachment, after his experience in Kuwait.

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NEWS FROM THE FRONT

IA soldiers detain terrorist sniper team in Ghazaliya

BAGHDAD – Iraqi army soldiers detained three members of a sniper team Oct. 19 while conducting operations in Ghazaliya, a neighborhood in northern Baghdad.

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 1st Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, noticed a van was circling their patrol while they were conducting a security mission.

The soldiers stopped the vehicle and three suspects to conduct a preliminary search, which produced a pistol, expended 7.62mm rounds of ammunition and a video camera mounting bracket. The IA soldiers detained the three suspects for further questioning.

Upon further exploration of the vehicle, the soldiers found a Dragonov sniper rifle, a .22-cal. scoped and suppressed sniper rifle, a video camera, two fully-loaded Dragonov magazines, a box of .22-cal. ammunition and two hand grenades.

(Courtesy of MND-B PAO)

MND-B Soldiers, IPs seize illegal weapons

BAGHDAD – Iraqi policemen and Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers seized illegal weapons in a Mosque in Mansour Oct. 13.

Iraqi policemen from 3rd Battalion, 5th Brigade, 2nd National Police Division, searched the mosque while MND-B Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment, 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, provided security.

Inside the mosque, the policemen found 10 AK-47 assault rifles, a PKC machinegun, 11 AK-47 magazines, three AK-47 drums, eight 52mm mortar rounds, two blasting caps and ten bayonets.

Meanwhile, a separate patrol from 2nd Bn., 1st Inf. Regt., seized weapons from a MND-B targeted gun store in Mansour Oct. 13.

Inside the store, the Soldiers seized four AK-47 assault rifles, an SKS machinegun, four shotguns, three submachine guns, 32 pistols, two rifles, 1,000 9mm rounds of ammunition, 200 7.62mm rounds of ammunition and 50 ammunition magazines of various caliber.

(Courtesy of MND-B PAO)

IPs, MND-B Soldiers seize munitions, detain 3 suspects

BAGHDAD – Iraqi policemen and Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers found several weapons caches and detained three suspected terrorists in and around Baghdad Oct. 14 and 15.

Iraqi policemen from 3rd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 1st National Police Division, along with the 3rd Bn., 2nd Bde. National Police Transition Team, discovered a weapons cache while conducting a cordon and search southeast of Baghdad at approximately 7:45 a.m. Oct. 14. The cache contained 10 AK-47 assault rifles and a PKC machinegun.

In a separate incident, MND-B Soldiers from the 463rd Military Police Company, attached to 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, responded to a drive-by shooting and detained three suspected terrorists in Saab al Bour, north of Baghdad, Oct. 14. The suspects were detained

for further questioning.

In another incident Oct. 15, MND-B Soldiers from 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Inf. Div., found a weapons cache in Musayyib, south of Baghdad, at approximately 8 a.m., based on a tip received from the Iraqi policemen in the area.

The cache contained three large rockets, 20 small rockets and a 155mm mortar round.

Meanwhile, MND-B Soldiers from 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, discovered six improvised-explosive devices, four 105mm artillery rounds, a rocket-propelled grenade round and 15 boxes of 7.62mm ammunition in Yusufiyah, southwest of

Baghdad.

All munitions were destroyed by an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team.

As of Oct. 25, Iraqi Security Forces and MND-B Soldiers have cleared more than 95,700 buildings, 80 mosques and 65 muhallas, detained more than 224 terrorist suspects, seized more than 1,850 weapons, registered more than 750 weapons and found more than 42 weapons caches in support of operation together forward. The combined forces have also removed more than 217,485 cubic meters of trash from the streets of Baghdad.

(Courtesy of MND-B PAO)



Photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Williams, 4th BCT PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

Weeding out terrorism

BAGHDAD – Soldiers from Company A, 2nd Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, order local Iraqi merchants to unload their crop off a truck. Once the vehicle and the crop were searched, the Soldiers helped the citizens replace the produce.

The Ivy Leaf

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Have pride in what you accomplished; share your story with fellow Americans

As we near the end of our tour in Iraq, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your service. In my role as the Public Affairs Chief for Multi-National Division – Baghdad, it has been my distinct honor and pleasure to watch, listen to, read, review, edit and distribute stories about you and your accomplishments on a daily basis.

The life of a Soldier is not an easy one. By the nature of what we do, it is a hazardous occupation – and, it is one that sends us to areas around the world, to new and exotic places, such as where we currently find ourselves. Our chosen career paths can prove very rewarding, particularly for those who have had the opportunity to interact with the local communities and have seen the faces of the people your sacrifices have helped during our time here.



By Master Sgt. Eric Lobsinger, PA chief, MND-B

As Maj. Gen. Thurman, the commanding general of the 4th Infantry Division and Multi-National Division – Baghdad, has emphasized throughout the deployment, our service here in Iraq has been during perhaps the most decisive time of the country's struggle for self-governance. It has been through the blood, sweat and tears of our Soldiers that the fledgling democracy of Iraq has been provided with the vital time it needs to prove it is a viable entity for the people of Iraq.

And, as Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Riling has stated, it's been an honor and a privilege to serve with the outstanding Soldiers of the Ironhorse team.

I ask that all Ironhorse Soldiers take time to pay homage and render respects to our brethren and sisters who are no longer among our ranks – to those who truly paid the ultimate sacrifice in their service to our nation. These men and women will be remembered as the warriors they truly were.

I ask that you send your heart-felt wishes for a speedy recovery for our com-

rades who were wounded or injured while serving their nation.

For a majority of us, the return to the United States and our families is a joyous occasion. It means reestablishing a sense of normalcy for ourselves and our families. We must also remember those whose loved ones will not be returning to them. They too have truly paid the ultimate sacrifice because their fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, sons or daughters will not be making the return trip with us.

When you return back to the United States, share their story – and yours – with those you meet. Tell people about the great things our Soldiers have done. Tell them about what you've done to make Iraq better for its people. Be the ambassadors for your unit, your command – your Army. Tell the American people about the people who sought medical treatment. Tell them about the smiles that covered the faces of the children as they were provided school supplies, or even shoes, for the first time. But most of all, tell them about what was accomplished.

You have a lot of be proud of. The division trained and equipped the Iraqi Security Forces – its army, its police and its national police – and provided them

the basic skills to help safeguard the Iraqi people. Security operations conducted by MND-B Soldiers provided vital time for the Iraqi National Unity government to establish itself, while civic action programs helped improve the quality of life for the average Iraqi citizen.

To accomplish this, the Ironhorse Division morphed into a joint/combined force, comparable in size to that of a Corps-sized element. In fact, nine of the active 10 active-duty Army divisions augmented the 4th Inf. Div. to form the nucleus of MND-B, a force of more than 63,000 combatants – approximately 32,000 U.S. Soldiers, 31,000 Iraqi Security Forces and 600 Coalition Forces partners from Estonia, Georgia and Macedonia.

By year's end, the force expanded to almost 70,000. Among the "total force" represented by the division were units from the Army's active and reserve components, a robust civilian work force, foreign officers and Iraqi nationals.

So, to the members of this multi-talented team, I thank you for your service, your accomplishments and your selfless service.

Ironhorse! Steadfast and Loyal!

Parting words from the Editor: 'A hearty hi-yo, Silver ... away!'

This edition, Volume 22, is the final publication of The Ivy Leaf – for now. The Ivy Leaf newspaper has a long history with the 4th Infantry Division. It was first published in 1941 and continued through 1943; then was published from 1951 to 1955; and again from 1966 to 1970. The 4th Inf. Div. did not use The Ivy Leaf as its newspaper's name on the division's first deployment to Iraq, so that our premier edition here in January was the first Ivy Leaf published since 1970.

I feel honored to have been the editor of a publication that follows on the heels, albeit 40 years later, of the newspaper published for Soldiers deployed to Vietnam. The 4th Infantry Division arrived in Vietnam in September 1966. Its brigades were deployed to different locations with the 1st Brigade near the South China Sea, 2nd Brigade in the central highlands, and the 3rd Brigade in the Mekong Delta.

The 4th Infantry Division took part in 11 major cam-



By Sgt 1st Class Mary Mott, Editor, The Ivy Leaf

paigns during its five years in Vietnam, returning in December of 1970. The 35th Infantry Regiment, assigned to the 4th Infantry Division in Vietnam and known as the "Cacti," participated in near continuous combat on the fields and in the mountains of Vietnam. The Ivy Leaf was their newspaper. I can not think of a prouder heritage to follow.

The first editorial I wrote for this incarnation of The Ivy Leaf was about the Lone Ranger and Tonto, my favorite fictional heroes of all time. I have my real heroes as well. My father was a truck driver with the Army during the Korean War and I know that there was never a single day that he ever forgot the sacrifices that were made there. During the Vietnam War, he and my mother went out of their way to honor returning service members.

It was that kind of family history of patriotism that led me to join the Army. The same kind of patriotism that led many of you to join, I am sure. Still others among you may have joined the military services in defiance of your family.

Whatever your reason for becoming part of this special bond of camaraderie that we call the Army, know that you are part of a closed and exclusive brother- and sister-hood that only those of us who have served can ever be a part of. My job as a journalist is to "tell the Army story" – not an easy job, because basically each

individual in the Army has a different story.

I think the Ranger is part of the way America still sees itself – "believers in law and justice," above all else. I have been privileged to meet scores of men and women whose everyday acts of heroism, self-sacrifice and daily living by a code of strictest honor, regardless of circumstance, are the stuff that living by the Lone Ranger Code is all about.

It has been difficult to capture in the written word or a photograph even a very small part of what the Soldiers of Multi-National Division – Baghdad have accomplished in the past year. The more than two dozen memorial services I attended was sobering and heart-breaking, and the gut-wrenching grief at the loss of each and every one of these brave friends – which will always remain with me, as it will with each of you – is a tragic but integral part of the fashioning of our exclusive "club" of combat veterans.

One of the most oft-used clichés at the end of each episode of the Lone Ranger was when someone would step up and say, "I didn't even get a chance to thank him."

I am an "old Soldier." This is not my first deployment, but it is probably my last. I want to take this opportunity to thank you, and to recognize the sacrifice made by our fallen comrades. I hope we told your story well.

Until we meet again ... a hearty hi-yo, Silver ... away!



"To be a veteran, one must know and determine one's price for freedom."

Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia, Veteran's Day 2006

This issue of the Ivy Leaf is dedicated to the memory of the more than 225 heroes of Multi-National Division – Baghdad, who gave their lives for freedom over this past year of our deployment.

Hitting enemy with best shot



Photo by Spc. Chris McCann, 2nd BCT PAO, 10th Mtn. Div.

FOB MAHMUDIYAH, Iraq – Pfc. Scott Debois (right), of Rohnert Park, Calif., and Pfc. Ryan Fischer, of Manchester, N.H., both mortar men with the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, clean a mortar tube after firing three rounds in defense of Forward Operating Base Mahmudiyah, south of Baghdad, Oct. 18.

‘Providers’ go extra mile to deliver support to fellow Soldiers

Story by Spc. Chris McCann
2nd BCT PAO, 10th Mtn. Div.
CAMP STRIKER, Iraq –

In the age of e-mail and 24-hour super centers, people sometimes forget that food and supplies have to be transported by truck or airplane – and getting supplies around in a combat zone can be a dangerous and dicey proposition in Iraq.

The Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, is nicknamed “Provider” for a reason – convoys of trucks roll out every other day to take food, medical supplies and other goods to remote forward operating bases in the brigade’s theater of operations.

At times, the Soldiers of the BSB’s personnel security detachment are called on to assist in moving the items.

“They’re dependable,” said Pfc. John Hinton, of 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd BCT, a native of Fort Worth, Texas. “They get you what you need when you ask.”

The PSD dropped off a water-purification system to the remote base, which will enable the Soldiers and locals to

have potable water without trucking it in. Fruit, Gatorade, soda and other niceties of life were well received.

“It’s to keep morale high,” said Pfc. Antonio Harmon, of Hollywood, Fla., a transportation specialist with the BSB. “It lets them know we’re all on one team. They’ve got our back, and we’ve got theirs.”

“We’re helping bring goods to the Soldiers who don’t get the everyday conveniences we do,” added Spc. George Ernie, of Chicago, also with the PSD. “We bring that out to them.”

The next day, an air-conditioning system repair machine went to Forward Operating Base Yusufiyah, as well as new humvee tires, heavy-duty jacks, foot lockers and sundries.

“Anytime we get stuff that we need, it’s always good,” said Sgt. Scott Matthews, supply sergeant for 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 2nd BCT. “We can always find some use for whatever they send.”

The Soldiers of Company C, 4th Bn., 31st Inf. Regt., based in Yusufiyah, was especially glad for the shipment. “Batteries are good,” said Pfc. Nicholas Phillips, of

Allen, Texas, an infantryman with Company C. “We use a lot of batteries for our night vision (equipment). They run out real quick.”

Due to its relatively central location, the base is often the nearest haven for convoys with disabled vehicles. The mechanics there repair 45 to 50 vehicles each week and go through tires often.

“We need (supplies). It makes our job easier,” said Staff Sgt. Edwin Brown of Charleston, S.C., a mechanic with 4th Bn., 31st Inf. Regt., who explained, the trucks are often badly damaged, with blown tires. “When we’re fixing trucks; we use a lot of supplies.”

The Soldiers of the PSD said they also find a certain satisfaction in keeping their compatriots in the fight.

“It makes us feel good,” said Sgt. 1st Class James Felix, of Memphis, Tenn., the PSD noncommissioned officer in charge.

“When you drop it off, you can see it in their faces,” he said. “They call us the traveling Christmas truck. Last week we were on a delivery and a Soldier said ‘We love you guys.’ It makes us feel good.”

4th Bde., 6th IA Div. NCOs take oath of service during graduation ceremony

Story by Spc. Chris McCann
2nd BCT PAO, 10th Mtn. Div.

FOB MAHMUDIYAH, Iraq – Graduations are always proud moments, and there was perhaps none prouder than when ten Iraqi soldiers of the 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, were presented with certificates and officially became noncommissioned officers in a ceremony at the Iraqi army compound in south Mahmudiyah Oct. 14.

The battalion, known as the Desert Lions, has been working closely with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division’s 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment, training and conducting missions in the Mahmudiyah area.

Col. Ali, of the Desert Lions, and Lt. Col. Robert Morschauer, commander, 2nd Bn., 15th FA Regt., were

both in attendance at the ceremony, as was Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Mahoney, 2nd BCT.

“It was a challenging course,” said Alah Shimal Hassan, one of the graduates, “but there were many benefits, and we’re ready to take it on. We are pleased by the representation from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team and the distinguished Command Sgt. Maj. Mahoney and Col. Morschauer.”

“The toughest part was map analysis,” explained Hassan, “but we spent a lot of time on it.”

He said the soldiers had been thirsting for a chance to prove their mettle with such a course, despite the difficulty.

“We had wished for awhile to start to do the training,” he added. “Our instructor was steadfast and did not shrink

from the training sessions.”

Several of the graduates mentioned the stark differences between the army training they recently received and the way things were run in the past.

Now that service is not rewarded by the same corrupt methods as it was previously, Muhammed explained, there has been a change in the outlook, and Iraqi security personnel don’t want corrupt promotions – only pay commensurate with their service.

“Our soldiers now associate service with pay,” Muhammed said. “In our training, we have emphasized the nature of the work and their status (as soldiers). We are grateful to the U.S. and to the Army for helping reinforce the self-confidence of the soldiers and reinforcing all the ethics associated with military service.”

MND-B Soldiers seize 123 weapons caches during 'Operation Commando Hunter'

Story by Staff Sgt. Angela McKinzie
2nd BCT PAO, 10th Mtn. Div.

BAGHDAD – Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers continue to find weapons caches as part of Operation Commando Hunter.

The Soldiers from 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, based out of Fort Drum, N.Y., and currently attached to MND-B, seized 55 weapons caches Oct. 14-

20, bringing the total to 123 caches seized in the area near Yusufiyah, which is located 20 miles southwest of Baghdad.

The 55 additional caches consisted of an AK-47, 53,000 7.62mm AK-47 rounds, 4,000 14.5 mm anti-aircraft rounds, 12 23mm rounds, seven 90mm recoilless rifle rounds, 100 pounds of artillery propellant, 100 pounds of plastic explosive, 265 pounds of home-made explosives, a mortar tube, 82 60mm mortar rounds, nine

105mm artillery rounds, 104 120mm mortar rounds, 17 82mm mortar rounds, ten 130mm artillery rounds, 40 pressure plates, 97 directional charges, a ready-made improvised-explosive device, 17 armor-piercing IEDs, two rocket-propelled-grenade launchers and various bomb-making materials.

Operation Commando Hunter is a 2nd BCT, 10th Mtn. Div. operation intended to deny the terrorists sanctuary near Yusufiyah, south of Baghdad.

MND-B Soldiers extend helping hand to Rushdi Mullah residents

Story and photo by Spc. Chris McCann
2nd BCT PAO, 10th Mtn. Div.

RUSHDI MULLA, Iraq – The first few were hesitant, coming in by ones and twos, but soon the floodgates opened and the citizens of Rushdi Mullah came from all over town to receive medical care for a variety of ailments Oct. 19 at a Multi-National Division – Baghdad medical operation.

The medical operation was conducted by Soldiers of 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, in the small town of Rushdi Mulla, and was intended mostly to get an idea of what medical supplies were needed and to determine what clinics and health care providers were available in the area.

"It's what we came to do, besides taking care of our own," said Spc. Carrielynn Spillis, a native of Toledo, Ohio, and a medic with Company C, 210th Brigade Support Battalion, attached to 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment. "It's nice being able to come here and help them."

Kazar, a resident of Rushdi Mullah, brought his cousin's son, Mustafa, to the operation to have the 1-year-old boy's hand treated for an injury.

Medics washed it and applied antibacterial ointment and explained, through an interpreter, that each finger would have to be wrapped separately to keep them from healing together.

"I'm glad the Americans came to help," Kazar said.

"We're planning treatment ... to provide for local civilians in the area," said Sgt. Jason Lane, a medic with 4-31 Inf. Regt. "We had a very good turnout, didn't see anything too extreme, and we have a better idea of what to expect in this area."

"Initially they were fairly timid," he said. "By the end of the operation, they were more personable, particularly the children."

The Soldiers brought bags of toys – everything from plush animals to squeezable rubber ducks, which seemed to transcend the language barrier and brought smiles.

Initially, the operation was announced over loudspeakers throughout the neighborhood; but after a poor showing to start the operation, Soldiers went door-to-door to get the word out.

"When we did the foot patrol with announcements, we saw a huge change (in turnout)," said Maj. Robert Griggs, a native of Colusa, Calif., and plans officer for 4-31 Inf. Regt.



RUSHDI MULLA, Iraq – Spc. Carrielynn Spillis (left), of Toledo, Ohio, a medic with Company C, 210th Brigade Support Battalion, attached to 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, examines a young Iraqi girl Oct. 19 in Rushdi Mulla, south of Baghdad, at a medical operation to determine what medical supplies the townspeople need. Citizens were screened and treated for a variety of ailments.

It wasn't only the medics that made the operation work.

"We went out to distract the enemy so the medics could act," said Pfc. James Cook, Company D, 4-31 Inf. Regt. "We set up three traffic control points to search vehicles and patrolled the areas ... It was

all quiet."

"We kept an eye on things to make sure Soldiers didn't get hurt. We all came back in one piece. It was a good patrol," said Pfc. Samuel Rhodes, also of Co. D.

"It's a positive step in the war on terror," said 1st Lt. Aaron Brooks, of

Syracuse, N.Y., medical platoon leader, 4-31 Inf. Regt. "The Iraqis trust us enough to seek health care, and we are willing to give it in any way possible. ... The end state should be that we help support the Ministry of Health to do its own medical operations."

ISF, MND-B Soldiers reach new heights

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Brent Williams
4th BCT PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

BAGHDAD – A loud knock on the door breaks the silence of the mosque and grabs the attention of its occupants. A representative of the local imam, his family members and associates standing behind him, greet the Iraqi National Policemen standing at their door.

After a brief introduction, the police officers from 6th Battalion, 2nd National Police Division file into the Islamic building used for prayer and worship.

The day's mission has all but ended as the leaders of the 2nd Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment provide overwatch from across the street. At the request of the INP, and in respect for Iraqi culture, the Soldiers attached to the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, will not be entering the mosque on this mission.

"The (INP) forces are doing most of the searching part of this cordon element, with my Soldiers providing oversight, assistance and expertise as necessary," said Lt. Col. Gregory Butts, commander, 2nd Bn., 506th Inf. Regt., 101st Airborne Division, attached to 4th BCT, 4th Inf. Div. "Only Iraqi Security Forces will go in and search the mosque," Butts said, observing the ISF scouring the roof of the mosque. "The NP want to go in and search it because they also feel it is more appropriate, especially during Ramadan. We are here in case there are any problems."

Iraqi Security Forces and Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers continue to conduct security operations, like this one, throughout Baghdad to provide a secure and stable environment for Iraq.

Baghdad's Doura neighborhood has been plagued by terrorist elements, and the Soldiers operations completed in the area have become routine for ISF and MND-B Soldiers.

The Soldiers link-up with their Iraqi counterparts in the early morning hours. The IPs roll their vehicles into the march and prepare for the upcoming mission.

"Doura has been our main effort for the brigade and division," said Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Moss, 2nd Bn., 506th Inf. Reg. "Our whole goal is to give the Iraqi people the courage and confidence to actually defend themselves and enjoy life as a free people."

The units move simultaneously and block off key entrances, isolating a small portion of the neighborhood, in this case, near the Doura Power Plant in southern Baghdad. The Soldiers and NP officers dismount and form their teams for conducting the intensive search operations that have affectionately earned the nickname, "a block party."

The efforts of the ISF and MND-B Soldiers are helping the Iraqi government to stand up to the challenge of securing the nation's capital, said Moss.

"One thing for the Iraqi people, them gaining trust in their Iraqi Police and National Police, will individually help us out because they know we are there for a purpose," said Moss. "Eventually, the



BAGHDAD – Iraqi National Police summon Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, over to a small weapons cache hidden in a trash dump behind a neighborhood in Doura. The NPs from the 6th Brigade, 2nd National Police Division, routinely accompany the Soldiers during combined patrols and security operations, such as the cordon and search in Doura in October – part of the ongoing efforts in support of Operation Together Forward.

people are going to help us close out this war because we need them just as much as they need us."

The area of responsibility assigned to the battalion is at times challenging for the "Renegade" Soldiers, who have been responsible for the Doura area for nearly a year.

"Every day they go out," Moss beamed, "they know they are going out for a purpose: to help the Iraqi people. Now our main effort is Doura, cleaning that bad boy out of insurgents, improvised-explosive devices and trash – anything that will help the Iraqi people stand-up and enjoy life like citizens."

For Company A's 2nd Lt. Terry Gambrel, 2nd Platoon leader, the military is doing all the right things – taking the fight to the enemy, creating a more confident and capable ISF and securing the Doura neighborhood for the Iraqi people.

"From the time we got here, we haven't slowed down our (operation tempo), and if anything, towards the end, we have picked it up even more," Gambrel said. "We have had a lot of big operations – Together Forward being the biggest. After we are done taking it to the enemy and aggressively securing an area, we can't just go back to the forward operating base and say we are finished."

While the brigade and battalion leadership works with local leaders in the area to control Doura, the Soldiers of "Easy

Company" are witnessing a more self-reliant ISF, said Gambrel.

"These guys are good, and they have the ability to affect change," said the former special forces Soldier about the Iraqis from the 6th Bn., 2nd NPD. "These guys are a more capable unit than what we have seen in the past."

In less than four hours, the Soldiers sweep the neighborhood, thoroughly searching more than 140 homes and buildings – a task that would have taken longer, and with buildings such as the mosque, would have been virtually impossible without the presence of the INP.

The presence of the Iraqi Security Forces is measured and respected by both the Iraqi citizens in Doura and the MND-B Soldiers partnered in the cause. People open their doors and find comfort in the Iraqi soldiers working with the MND-B Soldiers, said Pfc. Jeremy Bailey, infantryman, Co. A, 2nd Bn., 506th Inf. Regt.

"It's been a lot safer. A lot of people are really happy," said Bailey, a native of Calhoun, Ga. "They feel a lot safer."

Operation Together Forward was the toughest task for Bailey to date, who upon completing his basic training at Fort Benning, Ga., arrived to the unit eight weeks into the deployment.

"It was kind of rough because we were out there for 15 hours a day, and all we had time to do was come back for a cou-

ple hours of sleep and then it was up and back out there again," Bailey remembered. "This is a tough job."

Despite the long days, the hard work and the imminent danger, Bailey, who once took shrapnel in his face, said he wants to see his work and efforts affect more than a temporary change.

"Sometimes, I have my doubts, but I think it could be possible," he explained. "I notice little changes. Now, I notice that they have a trash-cleaning crew out in sector, and people throw their garbage in a dump truck. It's the little things like that we are seeing that are starting to help us out. I believe it is getting better."

Bailey and Gambrel, as well as their leaders, attribute their recent successes to the dedication and the hard work of the ISF working to rebuild Baghdad.

Talk to the people in Doura – watch the NP, said Gambrel. They are accomplishing the security mission in Doura. The people will say that Doura is secure.

"We are doing exactly what I think we are supposed to be doing," Gambrel said. "We want a more confident ISF, and that is what we are doing."

"Every target we hit, we take the ISF with us – the cordon and knock missions, everything we do – those guys are with us. If we run into some kind of problem, they come running. They are also out there patrolling themselves. That's a huge leap from when we first arrived."

Female search teams support Operation Together Forward

Story by 1st Lt. Amanda Leggett

704th Support Bn., 4th BCT, 4th Inf. Div.

FOB FALCON, Iraq – A group of Soldiers sat down on a Saturday afternoon, casually exchanging stories from a mission recently completed in the residential neighborhoods of Baghdad.

Although the tales of their exploits sound typical of any group of Soldiers fighting on the front lines, there is something remarkably different about these six Soldiers – they are all females.

Trained in military occupational skills ranging from petroleum supply to radiology specialists, the six women comprise the three female search teams the 704th Support Battalion provides to support the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division.

The combat units of the 101st Airborne Division and 1st Armored Division, currently working with the 4th BCT in central and southern Baghdad are supported by the female Soldiers, who assist in cordon and search operations – and especially to interact with local Iraqi women.

“We were helpful because it made (the Iraqi women) feel more comfortable,” said Spc. Felicia Allen, small-arms towed artillery repair specialist, Company B, 704th

Support Bn.

The female Soldiers played an important role because they could search Iraqi women without violating their cultural rules that limit contact between unmarried men and women, said Sgt. Jacqueline Paprzycki, special electronic device repair noncommissioned officer, Co. B.

Paprzycki, from Graceville, Fla., explained that in most of the houses searched, the Iraqi women were moved to a separate room as soon as the male Soldiers arrived to clear the house.

On average, the Iraqi men, women and children seemed surprised to see female Soldiers, and they generally respond positively to the women in uniform; however, the patent disparity between the two cultures’ treatment of women led to some interesting situations for the Soldiers on the female search teams.

Spc. Sylvia Beach, radiology specialist, Co. C, 704th Spt. Bn., recounted, “One older man in a house we searched got mad at me when I gave him an order to sit down because I was a female.”

In light of the cultural differences, several of the female Soldiers think that their presence set a positive example for the Iraqi women.

“I feel like we gave them hope to see a female in uni-

form,” said Spc. Linda Green, ammunition specialist, Co. A, 704th Spt. Bn.

Most of the Soldiers from the female search teams also gained a new perspective of the 4th BCT’s mission in Baghdad from their experiences during Operation Together Forward.

“Before I came out here, I didn’t have much of an opinion of why we were here,” said Green, a native of Detroit. “But when you go out of the (forward operating base) and see how these people live day-to-day – houses made of mud, trash in the front yard, little electricity – I was impressed with how our military is working to help them.”

Although aspects of the mission were challenging, such as 16-hour days walking from house-to-house, all the women agree they enjoy being a part of the search teams.

“I felt like we made a difference,” said Sgt. Cynthia Pratt, petroleum supply noncommissioned officer, Co. B. “We were out there with the (front-line Soldiers).

Anything they did, we did. The Soldiers from all the units took care of us and made us feel like part of the team from day one. I was proud to be an American – especially seeing the freedoms we have as females.”

Diyala police begin construction on new training station

Story and photo by Pfc. Paul J. Harris

3rd HBCT PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

BAQUBAH, Iraq – Five thousand dollars worth of supplies for the new Diyala Police Training Center were delivered Oct. 15 by Soldiers from police transition team, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division.

Plans for the station were developed in early 2005, but due to the high volume of improvised-explosive devices that insurgents were planting along the road that leads to Khan Bani Saad or Baghdad, through Baqubah, the Iraqi police asked Soldiers to hold materials and assistance until adequate force protection measures were taken.

The PTT was able to handle that request by delivering supplies, such as Hesco baskets, concertina wire and sand bags, to aid in the security of the center.

According to Maj. Harvinder Singh, executive officer, police transition team, 3rd HBCT, a total of \$181,000 has been spent on the Diyala police force during the past year by the PTT alone.

“(The money is being spent) to improve electricity, plumbing, building small projects, generators – whatever else they may need to get something done a bit better,” Singh said.

The Diyala police currently have a training facility in downtown Baqubah, but the facility is only able to train 15 policemen a week. When the new center is fully operational, Singh said it could train 75 to 100 personnel a week and house an additional 200 officers.

The new center will have multiple ranges for different weapon types, classrooms, a shoot-house for training on the proper technique of clearing houses and a simulated vehicle-inspection point.

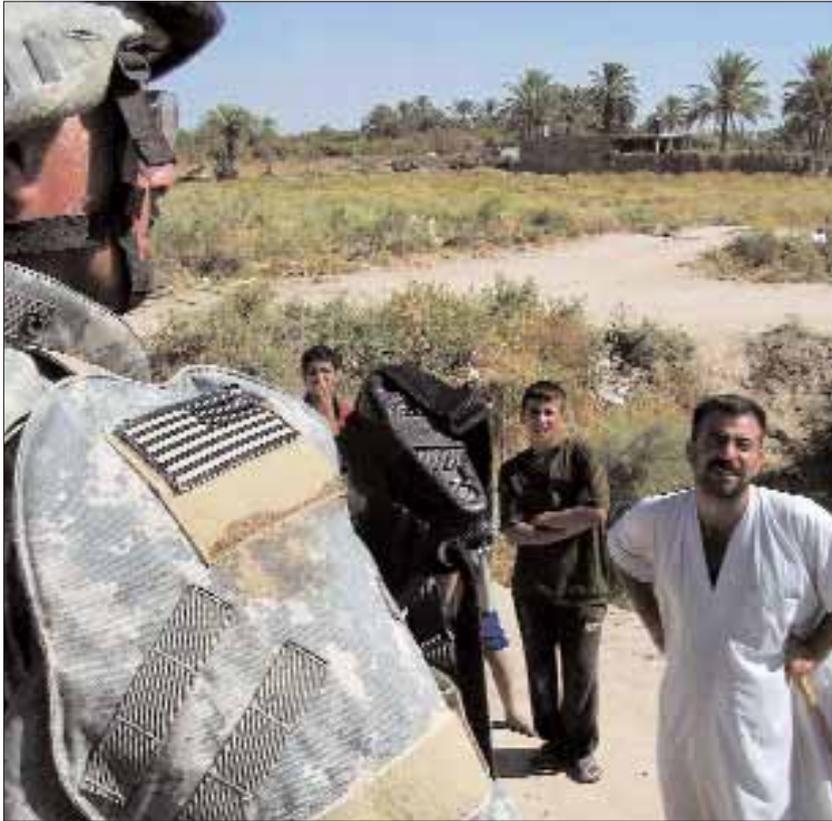
Singh said he has seen an improvement in the 10 months he has been associated with the Diyala police and PTT. The new center, with the enhanced training it provides the Iraqi police, will only make them better, he said.

“They were able to improve upon their rule of law,” Singh said. “When we first got here, there were 500 prisoners in their provincial system. (Due process) is a lot faster now. Before, prisoners could spend five days to months (in jail) now, they can process a prisoner in less than 48 hours.”



BAQUBAH, Iraq – Soldiers from 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Police Transition Team drop supplies off at the new Diyala Police Training Center Oct. 15. The center is being built by Iraqis with funding from Coalition Forces.

Fires Bde. Soldiers operate out of traditional roles to keep others safe in Baghdad



CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Sgt. 1st Class Luis Baez, master gunner, Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 20th Field Artillery Regiment, Fires Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, takes time out to make conversation with local Iraqis during a patrol outside the Victory Base Complex Oct. 3. The battery is charged with patrolling outside the base to detect threats, which could cause harm to fellow Soldiers or their Iraqi neighbors.

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Malec
Fires Bde. PAO, 4th Inf. Div.
CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq –

Multi-National Division – Baghdad's Fires Brigade Soldiers have had a break from their usual mission of manning the Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System during the past four months.

The Soldiers of Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 20th Field Artillery Regiment, Fires Bde., 4th Infantry Division, known as the Black Knights, recently had an opportunity to join in conducting reconnaissance patrols outside the wire on a daily basis.

The Soldiers make it their personal mission to locate threats before they can harm their fellow Soldiers or local Iraqi citizens.

The Soldiers patrol outside Victory Base Complex in up-armored humvees, traveling at a cautious pace and seeking signs of anything out of place that could indicate an improvised-explosive device or other threats, such as abrupt changes in landscape, suspicious people or vehicles, said Staff Sgt. Nicholas Gauwitz, patrol leader, Battery B.

"I look for anything that's a threat to me, whether it be a wire across the road or going out from the road – basically, anything that gets the hairs on the back of my neck standing up," said Gauwitz, who hails from Perham, Minn.

Besides looking out for signs of potential trouble, the Soldiers also make an effort to foster positive relationships with local residents, said Spc. Christopher Nicewonger, assistant gunner, Battery B.

"We talk to them – see what they're up to – see if they need anything, and hopefully we can help them," said the Houston native.

Each time they leave the gate, their priority is keeping their fellow Soldiers safe while helping out with the rebuilding of Iraq by keeping the residential neighborhoods safe as well, added Sgt. Walter Cook, vehicle commander, Battery B.

"We're trying to let the (Iraqis) take full reigns, and we're just trying to help them along," said the Little Rock, Ark., native.

"Back in 2003, we were pretty much in control; but now, we're slowly ceding the power over to them so we can go ahead and go back home," said Cook.

Help to make their jobs easier.



OPSEFC

It's a 24-hour mission.

MND-B's MiTT provides training, guidance as 6th IAD soldiers take lead, conduct cordon, search operation in Abu Ghuraib

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Kevin Lovel
363rd MPAD

BAGHDAD –

With dawn still a couple of hours away from signaling the beginning of a new day, Iraqi army soldiers, along with a Multi-National Division – Baghdad Military Transition Team, departed from Forward Operating Base Constitution and embarked on a cordon and search mission in eastern Abu Ghuraib District Oct. 21.

The soldiers from 1st Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, conducted the mission to help make the area safe for law-abiding Iraqi citizens.

“We’re looking for bomb-making materials and illegal weapons,” said Maj. Doug Tuttle, assistant team chief, 3rd Bde., 6th IAD MiTT, Iraqi Assistance Group, who hails from Kahoka, Mo. “There’s been a lot of bomb-making and (improvised-explosive device) making activity in this sector.”

The area the Soldiers work is well known for a variety of dangerous activities, added Maj. Joseph Mubarez, logistics advisor, 3-6 MiTT, IAG, who hails from Dearborn, Mich.

“We’re looking to confiscate any illegal weapons. There’s been a lot of activity up and down this road, so we want to see if they (IA) can find anything out about it,” he said.

Soldiers from 3-6 MiTT train on a regular basis with the IA soldiers, said Tuttle, primarily working with their staff and their company leadership, teaching them how to plan for their operations and to prepare for combat operations.

The MiTT team Soldiers said they are pleased with the progress the IA soldiers have made.

“This is one of the better brigades in the Iraqi army,” said Tuttle. “They already have two other battalions, who each have their own battle space. The soldiers are pretty well-trained, but they need extra training for the complex operations we do.”

MND-B Soldiers continue to work with the IA soldiers on basic soldiering skills.

“We’ve been working on infantry training with them, as well as planning operations with them so they can get ready to be able to take over their own area of operations,” said Capt. Patsky Gomez, operations officer and Headquarters Support Company advisor, 3-6 MiTT, who hails from Queens, N.Y.

The 1st Battalion has been training on room clearing and tactical control points, he added, and the soldiers are getting pretty good at the basic tactical skills at the soldier level.

Many MiTT team members said that the IA soldiers were doing well with the overall operation.

“When they went on the raid, they were able to go outside and provide good security for their soldiers on the ground. Then the guys on the ground were able to go in, search buildings, maintain good security and search personnel,” said Gomez.

The IA soldiers are anxious to learn and better their skills, added Staff Sgt. Ronnie Davis, logistics noncommissioned-officer-in-charge, 3-6 MiTT, IAG, who hails from Marion, S.C.

“I’ve been working with the IA for seven months, and

I’ve seen a lot of improvement. They want to learn and train. They’re getting better every day,” said Davis.

The cordon and search operation that day was quite successful, netting at least six terrorist suspects and more than 10 unauthorized weapons, said Davis.



BAGHDAD – Iraqi army soldiers from 1st Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, descend a staircase after searching the top floor of a residence Oct. 21 in eastern Abu Ghuraib. Soldiers from Multi-National Division – Baghdad’s 3rd Bde., 6th IAD Military Transition Team, Iraqi Assistance Group, served as advisors during the cordon and search mission, which featured Iraqi soldiers successfully completing the mission as their own entity.

NO SOLDIER LEFT BEHIND

Staff Sgt. Matthew Maupin

“I will never leave a fallen comrade.”

These well-known words from the Warrior Ethos ring true for Staff Sgt. Matt Maupin. Maupin is an Army Reserve Soldier from 724th Transportation Company who was captured April 9, 2004 during Operation Iraqi Freedom 2.

Staff Sgt. Maupin – we are still looking for you, and we will find you. You have not been forgotten.



New hospital wing brings hope to Tarmiya

Story and photo by
Sp. C. Terrell Turner
1st BCT PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – On a typical day at the Tarmiya Medical Clinic, patients and clinic workers witnessed a not-so-typical grand opening Oct. 10 of a new surgical and pregnancy wing hosted by Ministry of Health personnel, local council members and Soldiers from the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division.

The \$400,000 project featured operating rooms, labor and delivery facilities

and recovery rooms for patients.

After the ribbon-cutting ceremony, Dr. Ali Ibrahim, district clinic manager for the Ministry of Health, gave Maj. Herb Joliat, civil affairs officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 1st BCT, a tour of the new wing of the clinic.

Ibrahim is the medical official in charge of several clinics in the northern Baghdad region, to include Saab Al Bour, Mushada, Taji, al Tapi and others. He is responsible for providing medical services to more than a million people in the region.

“The job ran a little over the projected end date because of conditions on the site

that were outside of his initial scope that he needed to address for quality assurance,” said Joliat.

“Despite that, he still brought in his touches with his own photos and plastic plants,” he continued. “It was his building, his work in his town.”

Hameed Halhelal, the local contractor in charge of the project, said he enjoyed the project and the opportunity to help the people of Tarmiya.

“This is my first project here in Tarmiya and a very good thing for the people,” said Halhelal.

“This clinic is a great project for people needing surgery and for pregnant

women and their children,” he said.

Currently, the clinic serves approximately 140,000 people in the greater Tarmiya area.

Ibrahim coordinated the movement of additional personnel to work in the new clinic wing. He also said he receives regular assistance from local Iraqi Security Forces when he needs it.

“We moved our staff around and also brought in more experienced staff from Baghdad to work in the clinic,” he said. “Many people have told me that the new clinic is very beautiful. Everything that we do here is for the benefit of the people.”

Diyarah Water Treatment Plant opens for business



Photo by Maj. Anna Friederich, 2nd BCT PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

ABOVE: FOB KALSU, Iraq – Capt. Ben Simms, commander, Company D, 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, and Sheikh Ali Naif Daish al Janabi, celebrate the opening of the Diyarah Water Treatment Plant by cutting a red ribbon during a ceremony Oct. 14. The water plant project was a joint effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Soldiers of Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers and the 412th Civil Affairs Battalion. The completion of the project signifies the progress being made in rebuilding infrastructure in the Babil province as clean water becomes available for the citizens of Diyarah and surrounding areas.

RIGHT: FOB KALSU, Iraq – Capt. Ben Simms, commander, Company D, 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, looks on as Col. John Tully, commander, 2nd BCT, drinks clean water from the newly opened Diyarah Water Treatment Plant in the northern Babil province following a ribbon-cutting ceremony Oct. 14.



Photo by Maj. Anna Friederich, 2nd BCT PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

172nd SBCT Soldiers deliver 75 generators for 60 Karkh neighborhood schools

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Kevin Lovel
363rd MPAD
BAGHDAD –

Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers conducted a humanitarian aid mission Oct. 13 in Baghdad’s Karkh district.

The Soldiers from Troop A, 4th Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, delivered 75 generators to the district’s educational headquarters for use in 60 neighborhood schools.

“We’re dropping off generators, backpacks and soccer balls,” said Capt. Benjamin Tiernan, fire support officer, Troop A.

Prior to this mission, civil affairs

Soldiers talked with district council representatives to get an idea of what the most pressing needs in the district were, said Tiernan.

The Soldiers from Troop A are no strangers to helping Iraqi residents.

“We’ve done (humanitarian missions for) them in Mosul and Rawah but not this large of a drop with this many generators,” added Tiernan.

The unit has also provided assistance in the past for school children.

“We’ve given out a lot of these backpacks before in Mosul,” said Pfc. Michael Hoyt, mortarman, Troop A.

Iraqi Security Forces have played a part in the distribution of aid, said Tiernan.

“The Iraqi police help distribute the gifts for the children in a timely manner,” said Tiernan.

Humanitarian missions are rewarding for Soldiers, he added.

“It’s easy to feel good about these kinds of things (humanitarian aid). It helps the children. What’s gratifying is that the (city) council members chipped in to help make it happen,” said Tiernan.

Troop A’s normal missions include regular patrols in Baghdad neighborhoods, where Soldiers talk with area residents and key officials to identify terrorist suspects and also find out how they can be of assistance to the residents of the area, said Tiernan.

“People don’t know what to expect from Soldiers, so that’s why you have to get out – meet with residents and leaders to let them know you’re trying to help,” he said.

“A lot of neighborhoods are very sup-

portive,” said Tiernan. “Kids come up to us and shake our hands.”

Residents of the city council said they were impressed with the way Soldiers pitched into help meet basic needs.

“This is not the first time Coalition Forces have given us gifts,” said a grateful Abdul Satar al Robeai, chairman, Karkh city council. “This is part of a graduated giving of help to the schools and the neighborhoods since 2003.

“This (generators) will help the pupils and teachers have electricity for their schools,” added al Robeai.

Coalition Forces have also assisted with the construction of new schools and have repaired damage caused to existing school buildings by terrorists, which has strengthened the relationship between Soldiers and the people of the area, said al Robeai.



BAGHDAD – Command Sgt. Maj. Douglas Adair, 115th Engineer Battalion, Multi-National Corps – Iraq, hands out supplies donated by the Boy Scouts of America during an operation to provide students in a rural district of western Baghdad with school supplies Oct. 12.

MND-B Soldiers distribute school supplies from non-profit organizations to children of Iraq

Story and photos by Spc. Joshua Ramey
2nd BCT PAO, 1st Armored Div.

BAGHDAD –

Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers delivered school supplies and soccer balls, all donated from organizations in the United States, to the children of a rural district in western Baghdad Oct. 12.

The organizations responsible for donations were the Boy Scouts of America, talk show personality Steffan Tubbs of KOA 850 AM in Denver, and Operation Iraqi Children, headed by actor Gary Sinise and author Laura Hillenbrand.

“We’re working with the Iraqi police and the local Sheik to help better the government and central services in the area for these people,” said Capt. Craig Childs, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division. “A project like this is a visible representation of our investment in the future of this country because we’re showing that we care about the education of younger generations. Parents are going to appreciate anything we can do for their children.”

Command Sgt. Maj. Douglas Adair, 115th Engineer Battalion, based out of Utah, helped a friend, Shannon Mickel, complete his Eagle Scout project, which culminates in the donated school supplies in support of the operation.

“This has been one of the highlights of this deployment,” Adair said. “I was able to serve as a connection between people back home and locals in Iraq. I am fortunate to have been able to participate in this event with the help of civil affairs.”

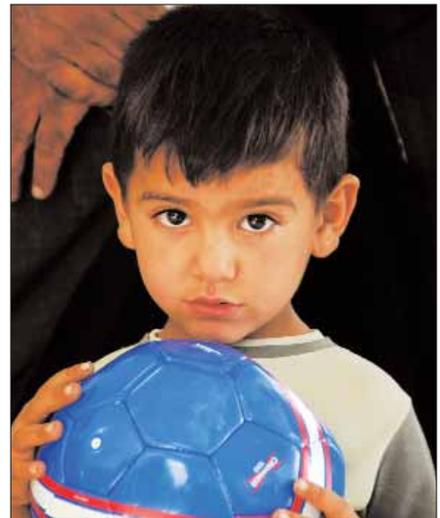
Adair said he worked with the 412th Civil Affairs Battalion to deliver the supplies to the children. The 15 boxes of school supply kits, packed with pens, pencils, notebooks, rulers and glue, were donated from businesses in Utah as part of the Eagle Scout project.

Staff Sgt. Andrew Bernier, Co. A, 412th CA Bn., helped secure approximately 150 soccer balls donated from radio station KOA 850 AM of Denver. Bernier’s father was listening to radio personality Steffan Tubbs when he requested help from anyone who had contacts in Iraq to assist in delivery.

“Missions like this represent a direct link to the Iraqi people,” noted Bernier. “We’re working on ways to keep schools open and identifying the concerns of the local people. Things that put smiles on kids’ faces really helps to build relationships with the people.”

Operation Iraqi Children has worked to donate school supplies since 2004 when Gary Sinise observed the Iraq school system lacked the most basic educational tools.

“It is very difficult for Iraqis to get the supplies they need for schools,” said Capt. Stacy Bare, Co. A, 412th CA Bn. “Every bit that we can do helps to serve the future of Iraq.”



BAGHDAD – A child from western Baghdad receives a ball donated by radio station KOA 850 AM of Denver, Colo., during an operation to distribute supplies to school children Oct. 12.



ABOVE: BAGHDAD – Members of a displaced family live in a camp secured by the Iraqi army in the Kadamiyah district, where the Soldiers from the 6th Iraqi Army Division and 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, delivered food, water, medicine, blankets, generators, stoves, school supplies and toys to the displaced residents Oct. 14.

BELOW: BAGHDAD – Residents of a displaced person’s camp in Baghdad’s Kadamiyah neighborhood help deliver supplies to Iraqi nationals Oct. 14 during a humanitarian aid operation conducted by the 6th Iraqi Army Division and 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad.



BAGHDAD – A doctor from 1st Brigade

Soldie

1-6 IA Div., 2-1

Story and photos by
Sgt. Raul Montano

2nd BCT PAO, 1st Armored Div.

BAGHDAD – Soldiers from 1st Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, and Multi-National Division – Baghdad’s, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, delivered supplies and medical care to hundreds of recently displaced Iraqi citizens in the Kadamiyah neighborhood Oct. 14.

“Supplies and resources were provided through the Neighborhood Advisory Council and brought here to benefit the people of this camp,” said Maj. Robert McCormick, Military Transition Team, working with 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division.

“Enough supplies were brought to give the people 3,000 meals, 3,000 blankets, 50 generators, 500 camping stoves and toys and school supplies for children.”

Soldiers from the 1st Bn., 6th





1st Armored Div. Soldiers help provide relief for displaced Iraqis in Kadamiyah neighborhood Oct. 14.

Soldiers bring hope to Kadamiyah

1st Armored Div. Soldiers help provide relief for displaced Iraqis in

IAD, also provided medical assistance and treatment for the people of the camps.

“The area of Kadamiyah is my responsibility, so we have come to provide the residents with anything they need to survive,” said Brig. Gen. Abdul Jaleel, commander, 1st Bde, 6th IAD, “Also, we are securing the camp and helping with anything else the residents need.”

Sani Jabar, a displaced local national, expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the Iraqi army and the Neighborhood Advisory Council.

“God bless you all,” he said to members of the Iraqi army. “This is something we will record in our minds forever.”

Jaleel also expressed his sentiments during his visit to the camp.

“Because I am Iraqi, I feel a lot of suffering and pain when I see the situation in front of me. This is just a period of Iraq, and it will soon be gone forever,” said Jaleel.



BAGHDAD – Children living in a displaced persons camp in Baghdad’s Kadamiyah neighborhood play on swings Oct. 14 while the Soldiers from the 6th Iraqi Army Division and 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, supply the people with food, medical assistance and living supplies.



CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Chief Warrant Officer 5 Michael Weist, a maintenance test pilot, and Maj. Michael Best, commander and helicopter pilot, Company B, 404th Aviation Support Battalion, Combat Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, prepare to go on a maintenance test flight Oct. 11. All CAB helicopters are flown by expert pilots during test flights before the aircraft are returned to their respective units.

Amidst redeployment, CAB Soldiers focus on mission

Story and photo by Spc. Creighton Holub
CAB PAO, 4th Inf. Div.
CAMP TAJI, Iraq –

The 4th Infantry Division's Combat Aviation Brigade

Soldiers are maintaining their mission focus as they near their redeployment to Fort Hood, Texas.

Many of the CAB Soldiers are using the redeployment as an extra motivator for continuing their hard work.

"I'm motivated to go home, buy a house and see my friends and family again," said Spc. James Jackson, a motor vehicle operator assigned to Company A, 404th Aviation Support Battalion. "If I didn't have those things to look forward to, I wouldn't be motivated. I just stay focused on the mission. It's time to go home, so I have to pay more attention to what's going on around me so everybody can go home."

The packing and logistical battle to get the CAB back to the United States is an important military task, said Sgt. Maj. Richard Ballard, operations, CAB.

"We're doing a lot of preparation for going home," said Ballard. "It may not seem like it, but it's work-related military stuff that keeps their minds focused."

While still completing their regular work tasks, the Soldiers must pack their personal belongings as well as their tools and equipment. However, they must wait until their replacements arrive so the 1st Cavalry Division aviation Soldiers can complete the mission tasks with as much proficiency as the current 4th Inf. Div. CAB Soldiers.

"Every day I come into work and I keep my guys working and motivated," said Sgt. Dwayne Dorman, a squad leader and Longbow Apache helicopter mechanic assigned to Company D, 1st Battalion, 4th Aviation Regiment. "I remind them to do their tasks according to the manuals and to stay focused."



Another squad leader and Apache mechanic from the brigade echoed his plans. "We stay focused on what missions we have to do," said Sgt.

Brenda Martency, Company D, 4th Battalion, 4th Avn. Regt. "If there's work to be done, we're right on top of it and staying busy. I don't assign the same tasks to the same people every day. We switch it up all the time so nobody does the same thing every single day. We all rotate and help each other out."

A recent mortar attack in the brigade's area came as a wakeup call to many of the Soldiers stationed here.



"We all take the same risks," said Spc. Joe Armitstead. "You've earned the combat patch whether you get shot at,

blown up or not. You come out here and you don't have a choice in whether you get hit by a mortar or if you don't, you were still there. There was the opportunity that you would get blown up – you earned the patch. "After nine months of nothing coming close to me, it's easy to think that nothing will," said Armitstead, an Apache armament specialist assigned to Co. D, 1st Bn., 4th Avn. Regt. "Everybody gets their own wakeup call," he concluded. People have to remind themselves – I had to remind myself."



Photo courtesy of MND-B PAO

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Staff Sgt. Richard Giardine, medic, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, prepares an IV Oct. 15 at the Saab al Bour Medical Station, north of Baghdad. 1st BCT Soldiers have set up a patrol base in the city to help curb sectarian violence that is plaguing the city.

ISF, MND Soldiers work to save Saab al Bour

Story by Spc. C. Terrell Turner
1st BCT PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – As international headlines report sectarian violence across Baghdad and the cities in the surrounding region, Iraqi Security Forces and Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers at Camp Taji, north of Baghdad, are working together to reestablish a level of security that will allow local residents to return safely to Saab al Bour.

During Ramadan, terrorist cells and rival Shia and Sunni factions pushed the level of violence to unprecedented levels and forced local residents to flee to nearby Khadimiya and other areas.

Soldiers from the 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, led the way in responding to the violence by aggressively conducting missions against suspected terrorists with mounted and dismounted patrols as well as providing counter-fire against mortar attacks.

The Joint Coordination Center, located at the Saab al Bour Police Station, houses the combined forces of 7th Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt. Soldiers, Iraqi army soldiers and Iraqi police officers. Formerly part of a local government complex, the location now is the central command and control location for the coordination and mission execution in the greater Saab al Bour region. MND-B Soldiers periodically rotate from Camp Taji to work at the

JCC.

The Soldiers said they felt their efforts were paying off.

“The numbers of attacks have decreased. This is my third time out here, and it’s been pretty quiet,” said Capt. Matt Cooper, assistant intelligence officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 7th Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt.

Cooper describes his job as “trying to paint a picture of what’s going on for the commander.”

In addition to that mission, Cooper said he seeks to develop the cities demographics to get a better block-by-block picture of the Shia and Sunni living in the town.

“The local nationals are starting to call the tip lines a lot more,” he said. “We send out as many patrols as we can to respond, but their level of trust in us is definitely starting to increase”

Maj. Anthony Nichols, senior Military Transition Team advisor, 1st Tank Battalion, 2nd Tank Brigade, 9th Iraqi Army Division, makes the JCC a daily stop between his patrols with his soldiers to compare notes.

“We captured 18 bad guys over the last ten days,” he said. “I think we are having a large amount of success with keeping them from consolidating and establishing themselves in the city. The most effective strategy is to go where they think you won’t go.”

As violence within Saab al Bour grew, health care providers departed and left residents with few options outside of trav-

eling long distances for emergency health care. Soldiers from 7th Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt., responded by establishing a clinic inside the JCC for Soldiers, Iraqi Security Forces and local nationals needing emergency medical assistance.

“We’ve treated about 35 local nationals for trauma injuries here,” said Staff Sgt. Robert Rushworth, aid station noncommissioned officer, HHT. “Anything life threatening means we call a medevac (medical evacuation), or if they are stabilized, the Iraqi police takes them to Khadimiya. The people know that we are here to help them when they get injured. Sometimes when the IPs go into town to respond to an incident, they bring the people here.”

As violence drops off in the city, the local clinics are reopening and Rushworth and his staff are seeing fewer patients.

“We had eight cases the other day, but that was an exception more than a normal day.”

MND-B dominance over the airspace above and around Saab al Bour helps keep the number of mortar and rocket attacks to a minimum.

Fire Support Teams at a local observation point in the area coordinate with ground patrols to provide reconnaissance and coordinate air support from AH-64D Longbow Apache attack helicopters. This provides the 7th Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt., the opportunity to immediately react and retaliate against mortar fire.

“Before we started, there were a lot

more mortar attacks,” said Sgt. Bernard Walla, fire support team chief, Troop B, 7th Sqdn.

Recently, a patrol working with the fire support team pursued three fleeing suspected terrorists. An Apache spotted the men near the mortar site and reported their location to the patrol. After firing on the patrol, one of the suspected terrorists was killed and two were taken into custody.

“It’s getting better,” he said. “That was a very good example of the fire support teams working together.”

Bryan said he currently conducts three to four patrols a day around the city, rotating on and off with another unit, for around-the-clock security in the area.

“It’s hot out here sometimes, but it’s not too tough working out here,” said Pfc. Francisco Camacho, a forward observer with HHT. “We hear mortars and gunfire periodically but lately, this past week, it has been getting better.”

As the people of the city return, Bryan sees them as hopeful but cautious.

“We make sure to stop and talk to people while we are on patrol,” he said. “They’re trying to be hopeful, but it’s been tough for them. They need electricity, food and money, but the main thing they need is the mortars to stop being fired in to the city and for snipers to stop firing on civilians. For us, that means establishing more of a presence around Saab al Bour to stop the insurgents from attacking residents.”

Dining facility serves up chow, smiles, boosts Soldier morale

Story and photos by

Sgt. 1st Class Mary Mott
363 rd MPAD

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq –

Napoleon Bonaparte is credited with having first uttered the famous words: “An Army travels on its stomach.” So keen was Napoleon on this idea that he held a contest to discover the best way to preserve food safely. French chef Nicolas Appert won the prize in 1809 by perfecting the first method of successfully canning food in jars – a French “military secret.”

Some 200 years later, a team of just over a dozen food service Soldiers working at the Oasis, otherwise known as the Division Dining facility here, believe that Napoleon had his priorities right.

Drawn primarily from the Special Troops Battalion, 4th Infantry Division, with a smattering of Soldiers from Fires Brigade, 4th Inf. Div., the dedicated DFAC workers know it is their job “to keep our fellow Soldiers fit and healthy and ready to fight,” said Sgt. 1st Class Kelvin Miller, from Valdosta, Ga., DFAC noncommissioned officer-in-charge and lead contracting officer, STB.

Miller, who will celebrate 20 years in the Army in January 2007, said he is proud of the efforts his 10 STB and four Fires Bde. food service employees have made this past year of their deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Far from the typical “mess hall” back home at Fort Hood, the DFAC operation here also encompasses half a dozen civilian employees of Kellogg, Brown and Root, and more than 70 foreign national employees of the Gulf Catering Company from India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and the Philippines, all striving together under the control of the 4th Inf. Div. team. The Soldiers ensure that all operations are run in strict accordance with Army Regulation 30-1, Food Service Program.

“The Army system is based on a 21-day menu, resulting in repetition of foods, but we can’t deviate from that menu,” pointed out Miller. However, the staff does what it can to vary the selections and their presentation, he said, including encouraging the Indian cooks to do a special Indian food bar. Other DFACs in the Multi-National Division – Baghdad area of operations have similar “ethnic food” variations, depending on what staff works at that particular facility.

“DFACs don’t normally do that,” said Miller.

The foreign national employees, who staff the serving counters, cook, and bake and clean at the DFAC, are an example of international cooperation that few Soldiers think about in those terms, said Nancy Christiansen, food service lead, KBR, who hails from Copperas Cove, Texas.

Whether from India, Sri Lanka, Nepal or the Philippines, the workers have one thing in common – a seemingly instinctive understanding of customer service and a sincere desire to do a good job, said Christiansen.

The foreign national employees have four chefs on duty at the facility, including two pastry chefs, who also try to be innovative and add color and zest to Soldiers’ meals, said Staff Sgt. Ursula Anthony, from Bainbridge, Ga.



CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Nancy Christensen (left), from Copperas Cove, Texas, civilian food service lead, Kellogg, Brown and Root; and Sgt. 1st Class Kelvin Miller, from Valdosta, Ga., dining facility noncommissioned officer-in-charge and lead contracting officer, Special Troops Battalion, 4th Infantry Division, leads DFAC workers in a group handshake and pat on the back, followed by a rousing cheer, before they start the dinner service at the division’s “Oasis” DFAC Oct. 2. The routine is followed before each meal to instill camaraderie, pride and enthusiasm, said Miller. The facility feeds more than 30,000 Soldiers a month.

“Having a lot of areas of responsibility, we are stretched thin,” said Miller. In addition to serving approximately 30,000 meals a month at the Oasis facility, the team also has the responsibility for handling “water drops” at 30 locations, amounting to delivering 60 pallets of water a week.

The DFAC also caters for special events, including unit parties, General Staff meetings and Equal Opportunity special events. Approximately eight to 10 catered events are accomplished a day, from simple birthday cakes to full meals, said Miller.

A sense of comradeship and cooperation among the three groups – Soldiers, civilians and foreign national employees –

is the key to success, said the staff members.

“The Soldiers we work with at the DFAC are so nice and polite,” said Nestor Delos Santos, who is from Manila, Philippines, and works as a dining manager. “They always try to understand every single staff member. I am really proud to be working here with Soldiers who have these kinds of principles.”

That facility’s staff also is responsible for feeding both detainees and guards at the MND-B detainee facility nearby.

“My experience has been great. It is wonderful to work with respectful people,” said Cpl. Lisa Randall, from Utica, N.Y., a cook with STB. “It will be hard to leave; we have a lot of fun and have

formed close friendships – and this is a very comfortable environment in which to work.”

The staff also goes out of its way to provide a special festive atmosphere for all holidays, said Randall. “This does a lot for morale.”

They are also required to provide escorts for foreign national employees from ration points and track all supplies. The Oasis facility is required to keep a 12-day back-up supply of foodstuffs on hand at all times in case the trucks go down, said Miller. Hundreds of thousands of dollars of food are stored and must be accounted for at all times.

Miller is responsible for full inventory accountability and all financial summaries.

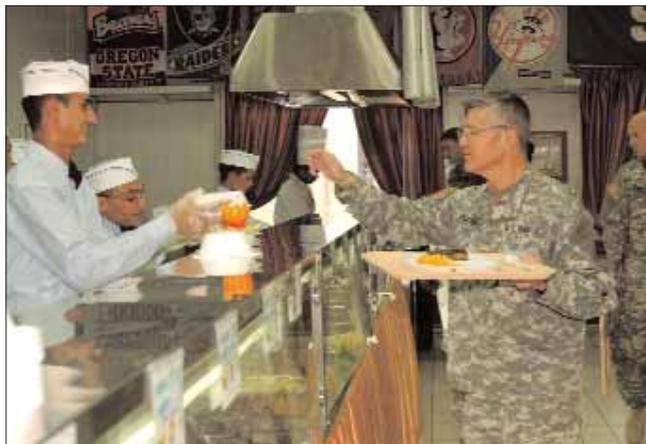
“There is a lot of cohesion and teamwork,” among civilian and Soldiers working at the DFAC, said Anthony. “It’s like we are all one big family. Not everyone is going to be pleased with everything we serve, and after a year, you are bound to see the same things all the time. But to be deployed to a wartime situation, I think this is one of the better DFACs.

“The quality of service and what (the Soldiers and civilians are served) is outstanding,” she added.

Soldiers are always bound to complain to some extent, said Anthony.

“Trying to cater to everyone’s likes and dislikes is challenging, but we do what we can,” she said.

Other members of STB who have worked for the past year in the DFAC are: Staff Sgt. Bennie Britton, from New Orleans, Texas; Staff Sgt. Michael Hood, from Kempner, Texas; Cpl. Toni Wright, from Miami; Cpl. Juan Rodriguez, from Killeen, Texas; Pfc. Samuel Jenkins, from Washington; Pfc. Samantha Case, from Nashville, Tenn.; and Pvt. Kira Herrick, from Kansas City, Kan.



CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Maj. Richard Koyama, chaplain, 4th Infantry Division, who hails from Clarksville, Tenn., goes through the chow line at the Division’s “Oasis” dining facility Oct. 2. The facility feeds more than 30,000 Soldiers a month. It is supervised by Soldiers from the Special Troops Battalion, 4th Inf. Div., but also employs civilians working for Kellogg, Brown and Root and Gulf Catering Company. Behind the serving line are Deepak Lanichhne (left) and Hari Luithel, both from Nepal and employed by GCC.



CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Soldiers assigned to Multi-National Division-Baghdad's 16th Engineer Brigade's Add-on-Armor site work under the cover of darkness while installing newly-available armor kits, including heat and air conditioning, on multiple pieces of engineer equipment including scrapers, graders, dozers and bucket loaders. The 16th Eng. Bde.'s Add-on-Armor site is one of four armor installation sites in Iraq and the only site staffed solely by Soldiers.

Up-armor empowers engineer capability, helps save lives

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class Tracy Ballog
16th Eng. Bde. PAO

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq –

By adding armor to engineer construction equipment, maintenance personnel assigned to the 16th Engineer Brigade's Add-on-Armor Installation site not only saved the military vast amounts of money and precious time, they saved lives by enabling fellow engineers to safely perform dangerous construction missions outside the wire.

When military leadership in Iraq began planning for armor installation sites across the country, maintenance personnel from the 62nd Engineer Battalion, 16th Eng. Bde., offered their expertise; the 12-member crew is the only Soldier-operated installation site of four in Iraq, and they have out-produced their civilian counterparts in all aspects of their mission.

"Our equipment was originally slated to go to Balad for the installation, but we were able to work through channels to establish a site in Baghdad, which means we wouldn't have to risk Soldiers' lives transporting the equipment to and from Balad," said Chief Warrant Officer 5 James Markley, 16th Eng. Bde. "We also saved a lot of our units' time without the equipment as we worked directly with them to schedule installations with respect to their missions.

"We saved more than \$1.5 million by doing it here rather than in Balad. The money saved was then used to build the Baghdad site and buy tools and materials for the installation."

The team traveled to Balad in July for installation training with Army Defense Systems Inc., the armor kit's manufacturer, and began Baghdad operations Aug. 1.

The team was tasked with installing the newly created armor kits onto multiple pieces of engineer equipment including graders, bucket loaders, scrapers, dozers and rollers. The armor kit production began in November 2005 and only recently became available for the engineer equipment.

Kyle Stanley, an ADSI field representative who trained the team and then joined them in Baghdad, said the site's

distinction extends beyond its Soldiers' only focus.

"The difference in this Add-on-Armor team and site doing the work versus the civilians is we are doing it in a field environment, whereas the civilian sites have a manufacturing environment," he said.

The team faced initial challenges, specifically the availability of critical pieces of equipment and tools for the initial site stand up, but they quickly adapted to the unique mission requirements, said Sgt. 1st Class Devin Pool, team noncommissioned officer-in-charge and a light wheeled vehicle mechanic with Headquarters Support Company, 62nd Eng. Bn.

"As we started installing armor, we were limited on resources and equipment. We worked in the open, without a proper facility, using the bare essentials in order to accomplish our mission. Yet despite the hardships, we prevailed and set a new standard for installation by sending a completed up-armored vehicle out of our shop every other day, which greatly improved the combat readiness and overall Soldier safety for the 5th and 62nd Eng. Bn. Soldiers," said Pool.

The armor's installation is a four-step process, which includes prepping the vehicle by stripping some areas down, adding heat and air conditioning, reinforcing the frame and then adding and welding on the armor to the equipment, explained Staff Sgt. Mark Lee, the team's shop foreman.

Some pieces of equipment required more effort than others, added Lee, a native of Pomona, Calif., and a senior heavy construction repairman.

"During the preparation phase, the bucket loader was the most difficult to work on. Adding armor onto the dozer was also difficult as it has more parts," he added.

The team was completely committed to providing fellow engineers with a timely and quality upgrade, said Markley.

"The Engineer team is by far the fastest run operation in the Army. They have completed 27 pieces of equipment in less than two months. Even the Balad civilian site, which has been operating a month longer than us, has not yet completed 27 pieces," explained Markley.

The team's motivation came from its dual role as both Soldiers and engineers, Lee said.

"Adding on the armor ourselves improved the survivability of the operators and definitely makes a difference. All the operators feel more secure and comfortable with the addition of air conditioning. They can now go into areas we couldn't go before as they now have extra protection. The armor allows our engineer commanders the freedom and confidence of going into more dangerous areas," he added.

The newly-armored vehicles were welcome upgrades to his battalion's combat capabilities, said Command Sgt. Maj. Richard St. Cyr, 62nd Eng. Bn.

"Both our 68th Construction Spt. Co. and Co. B, 62nd Eng. Bn. have gotten a lot of use out of the up-armored equipment," he said. "Co. B personnel used the up-armored loaders on route sanitation and on the Shaab and Ur blocking positions shortly after they were done. The 68th Construction Spt. Co. used the up-armored dozers on an anti-tank ditch. Both units' equipment worked with great success.

"Talking to the operators, they all told me the new armor on the dozers and loaders is a great improvement over the couple dozers with the old kits. Our Earth movers spent the bulk of the deployment working in unarmored, heavy equipment with only their body armor and Kevlar blankets for protection. Now, their visibility is increased and the heat and air conditioning vastly improved their comfort levels. We're all very happy with the new capabilities."

The Add-on-Armor crew is proud of the work they've accomplished, but the team understood their primary mission was to save lives, said Pool.

"From the start, we understood our efforts would help protect fellow Soldiers who are conducting missions in the Baghdad area of operations. We are not producing this equipment for an anonymous Soldier to use. These vehicles will be used by our friends and co-workers. Because of this, our site's production rate surpassed all expectations and our team has proven that hard work, strong will and dedication to duty can overcome any obstacle."

Army unveils 'Army Strong' campaign

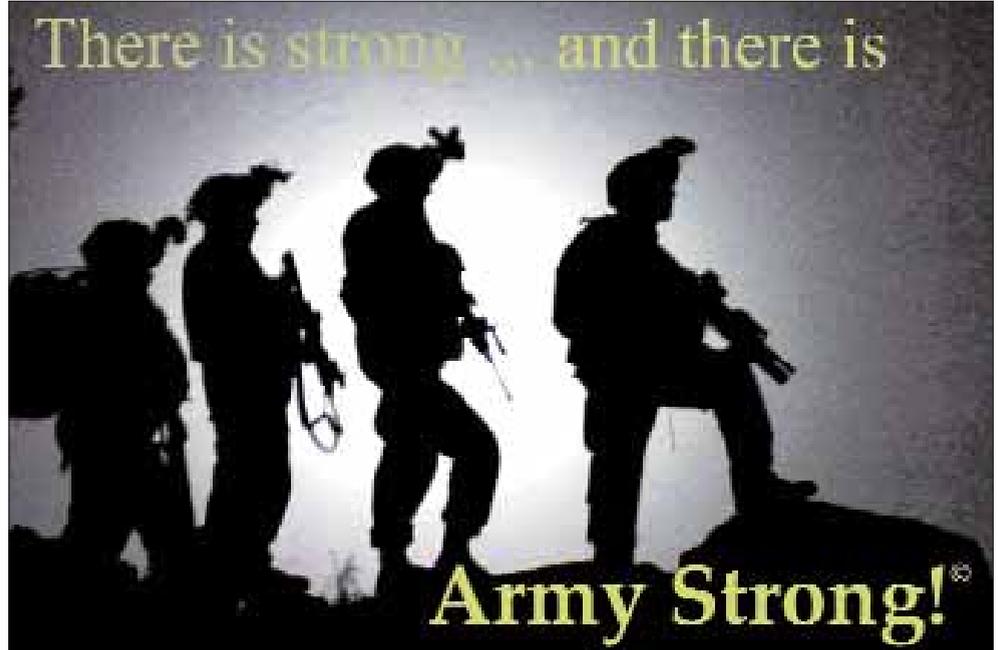
Story by Sgt. 1st Class David R. Dockett
2nd BCT PAO, 1st Armor Div.
BAGHDAD –

The U.S. Army has kicked off a new advertising campaign in support of recruiting new Soldiers, replacing the 5-year-old "Army of One" campaign. The slogan driving the ad campaign is "Army Strong," which began to appear on television, the radio, the internet and in print magazines beginning Nov. 9.

The advertising campaign is a key component in the mission to recruit, and the campaign is inspired by Soldiers. "Army Strong" explains how Soldiers display a unique brand of strength, one that is mental, emotional and physical, and is unique to those that have worn the Army Uniform: present, past and future.

The honorable Francis J. Harvey, the Secretary of the Army, spoke of the ideas behind the campaign at the Association of the United States Army annual meeting recently in Washington, D.C.

"'Army Strong' stands for a big idea" said Harvey. "It speaks to the truth about the U.S. Army – that Soldiers develop mental, emotional and physical strength forged through shared values, teamwork, experience and training ... that by making the decision to join the Army, an individual is choosing to recognize potential strength within him or herself and develop it further ... that an individual Soldier is choosing to take charge of his or her future and career ... that Soldiers actively



choose to make a difference in their lives, their families, their communities and for their nation."

The "Army Strong" advertising campaign portrays only actual Soldiers. Studies have shown that when Soldiers

discuss their own experiences, views and motivations, it makes a compelling impact on prospective recruits.

All Soldiers are encouraged to tell people about the story of their experiences and to ask potential recruits to visit

goarmy.com

More information about the "Army Strong" advertising campaign can be found on Army Knowledge Online, including a video that represents the essence of the ad campaign.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES, AA MEETINGS, AND MANDATORY R&R BRIEFINGS

DIVISION CHAPEL

Sunday	Wednesday
9 a.m. Contemp. Protestant Worship	6 p.m. EML Chaplain's Brief
10:30 a.m. Roman Catholic Mass	7 p.m. Bible Study
1 p.m. Episcopal Worship Service	8 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous
3 p.m. Gospel Worship	Thursday
8 p.m. Collective Protestant Worship	7:30 p.m. Gospel Choir Rehearsal
Monday	Friday
6 p.m. EML Chaplain's Briefing	6 p.m. EML Chaplain's Briefing
Tuesday	7 p.m. Bible Study
7 p.m. Bible Study	Saturday
	8 p.m. Contemporary Protestant Praise Band Rehearsal

CAMP STRIKER CHAPEL

Sunday	Wednesday
9 a.m. Catholic Mass	6 p.m. LDS Bible Study
10 a.m. Contemporary Protestant	7 p.m. Prayer/Bible Study
10:30 a.m. Protestant (Pad 6, Tent 410)	7:30 p.m. Prayer/Bible Study (Pad 6, Tent 410)
11:15 a.m. Traditional Protestant	Thursday
4:30 p.m. Protestant	5 p.m. Purpose Driven Life
6 p.m. LDS	7 p.m. Praise Choir Practice
7 p.m. Praise Service (Gospel)	Friday
7:30 p.m. Praise and Testimony (Pad 6, Tent 410)	9 a.m. Catholic Mass
Monday	11:15 a.m. Catholic Mass (TOC Conference room)
9 a.m. Catholic Mass	Saturday
Wednesday	6:45 p.m. Catholic Mass (Pad 6, Tent 410)
9 a.m. Catholic Mass	Daily 6:30 a.m. TOC Prayer Service (TOC Conference room)

CAMP VICTORY CHAPEL, BLDG 2

Sunday	Thursday
9 a.m. Orthodox Liturgy	4 p.m. Roman Catholic Mass
Monday	7 p.m. Spanish Bible Study
4 p.m. Roman Catholic Mass	Friday
7 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous	4 p.m. Roman Catholic Mass
Tuesday	6:30 p.m. Shabbat Service
4 p.m. Roman Catholic Mass	8 p.m. Women's Gospel Bible Study
Wednesday	Saturday
4 p.m. Roman Catholic Mass	5 p.m. Orthodox Vespers
7 p.m. Men's Gospel Fellowship	11 a.m. Seventh Day Adventist

WARRIOR CHAPEL

Sunday	Christian
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Protestant	7 p.m. Gospel Prayer
12:30 p.m. Gospel Protestant	Thursday
4 p.m. Roman Catholic Mass	7 p.m. General Protestant
5 p.m. Latter Day Saints	Friday
7 p.m. Non-Denominational	6:30 p.m. Wicca Circle Meeting

ENGINEER CHAPEL

Sunday	7 p.m. Catholic Thel. Education
8 a.m. Roman Catholic Mass	Tuesday
10 a.m. Traditional Protestant	7 p.m. Bible Study
11:30 a.m. Lutheran Worship	Wednesday
1 p.m. Latter Day Saints	7 p.m. LDS Bible Study
4 p.m. Gospel Service	Thursday
7 p.m. Traditional Protestant	7 p.m. Bible Study
Monday	Friday
	7 p.m. Gospel Bible Study

VICTORY CHAPEL SERVICES

Sunday	8:30 p.m. Protestant Music Rehearsal
7 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. Traditional Protestant Worship	Thursday
10:30 a.m. Roman Catholic Mass	6 p.m. Roman Catholic Music Rehearsal
noon Gospel Protestant Service	6:45 p.m. Men's 'Purity' Bible Study
2 p.m. Mormon Worship	Friday
4 p.m. Episcopal/Lutheran Worship	1 p.m. Jumu'ah (Islamic Prayer)
6 p.m. Contemporary Protestant Service	5 p.m. Prayer Gathering Service
Monday	6:30 p.m. Contemporary Worship Music Rehearsal
10 a.m. SGM's Meeting	8:30 p.m. Protestant Music Rehearsal
1:30 p.m. Protestant Gospel Prayer Meeting	Saturday
3 p.m. R&R -- Reunion and Suicide Intervention Briefs	9 a.m. Seventh-Day Adventist Music Practice
7 p.m. Gospel Protestant Bible Study	11 a.m. Seventh Day Adventist
Tuesday	3 p.m. R&R -- Reunion and Suicide Intervention Briefs
7 p.m. Gospel Choir Rehearsal	4 p.m. Gospel Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday	7 p.m. Roman Catholic Music Rehearsal
9:30 a.m. R&R -- Reunion and Suicide Intervention Briefs	8 p.m. Roman Catholic Mass
7 p.m. Korean Bible Study	

For more information on religious services contact Sgt. 1st Class Billy Arnold, Chaplain's plans and operations non-commissioned officer, by email at billy.arnold@mnd-b.army.mil

Culture Experts

Recapping cultural issues in Iraq

As some of you prepare to leave, and others prepare for the tour ahead, I thought it would be useful to recap some of the most important cultural issues of the past year. Here are some issues I believe to be the most relevant:

Arab names:

Arab names are patronymic. They always follow the following pattern: The person's name, followed by his father's first name, followed by his grandfather's first name.

In Iraq, a family or tribal name usually follows this. A person by the name of Kadhim Laftah Hussein al-Maliki's name is Kadhim, his father's name is Laftah, and his grandfather's name is Hussein. He belongs to the al-Maliki family or tribe.

Arabs often use nicknames. If Kadhim from the example above, were to have a son called 'Ali, he would automatically be called Abu-'Ali, which means "Father of 'Ali." 'Ali's mother would be called Umm-'Ali, which means "Mother of 'Ali." Abu- and Umm- names are usually not names, although some exceptions exist.

When told that a person's name is Abu-something, always ask for the full name. Do not be surprised when you get a different answer from Abu- or Umm-somebody.

Single Arab names are often made up of more than one word. Abd al Aziz is nobody's full name. Abdul is

Jake Lester
Cultural and
Political Expert



Jake Lester's term with Multi-National Division-Baghdad officially ended on Aug. 31. He will continue to contribute to the Ivy Leaf until TOA.

not a name, but a misspelled part of a name. 'Abd-al-'Aziz (the correct standard transliteration) is a single name. When in doubt, ask your interpreter to tell you to break a person's name up into first, second, third and family names.

Allah:

A common misconception is related to the word Allah. Allah is not the name of the god of Islam but rather the Arabic word for God. Arabic-speaking Christians and Jews also call God 'Allah.'

Mosques and Husayniyyahs:

In Iraq, there is no consistent way to determine whether a mosque is Sunni or Shiite, nor is there any useful difference between what a local would call a mosque and what he would call a Husayniyah. Both are sacred places of worship.

Our troops are urged to be very careful indeed before, and when, entering such places of worship.

The Islamic Calendar:

Islamic months are determined by visual sighting of the new crescent moon. If the moon is not sighted, even if only because of cloud cover, the new month does not begin. Of course, Sunnis and Shiites have made an art of disagreeing about dates, so it is best to ask both a Sunni and a Shiite (or a well informed advisor) when the new Islamic month begins.

Because the lunar Islamic calendar is shorter than the solar Gregorian calendar, expect any given Islamic date to occur approximately 11 days earlier – by the Gregorian calendar – than the preceding year.

Arab Headdress:

There are two types of headdress: the full, wrapped turban worn by clerics (such as the one worn by Muqtada al-Sadr); and the often checkered scarf known as the shemagh.

The elaborate turban, when worn by Iraqi Shiites, indicates that they are clerics. A black turban indicates that the cleric is descended from the Prophet Muhammad. The white indicates that the cleric is not. Sunnis wear a slightly different design, and only wear white turbans.

The shemagh is the loose scarf, often worn with a two-looped black ropelike 'Agal. Some cultural materials distributed by the Army claim that the black-and-white shemagh means something, while the red-and-white means another, and that the all-white means that the wearer has never been to the Hajj.

Unfortunately, none of this is remotely correct. For example, the King of Saudi Arabia and the Imam of the mosque at Mecca, both of whom have undoubtedly performed the Hajj many times, wear white shemaghs exclusively.

Editor's Note: Jake Lester is a former Cultural and Political Advisor who worked with MND-B from August 2004 through September 2006. A fluent speaker of Arabic, he lived in the Middle East for more than 27 years. Should you have any questions for Jake, please e-mail him at: culturalquestions@jakelester.com.



Photo by Spc. Rodney Foliente, 4th Inf. Div. PAO

BAGHDAD – Spc. Brooke Robson, medic, Brigade Support Battalion, 172nd Stryker Brigade, a Baxley, Ga., native, plays with a baby girl in Baghdad's Aamel neighborhood Nov. 4. Of the nearly 4,000 Soldiers in the 172nd SBCT, less than 150 are female. However, females in the brigade have distinguished themselves over and over in combat situations. More than 40 percent have been awarded either the Combat Medical Badge or the Combat Action Badge and four have received the Army Commendation Medal with Valor.

GUIDANCE

Army issues new first aid equipment to improve treatment of combat injuries

Although advances in body armor and rapid aeromedical evacuation have significantly reduced battle related fatalities, about one-half of our combat deaths in Operation Iraqi Freedom still result from uncontrolled bleeding.

Historically, Soldiers have been trained to stop bleeding by first applying direct pressure with a hand while preparing a gauze field dressing. If that failed to stop the bleeding, a pressure dressing would then be applied over the field dress-



By Lt. Col. Mitch Meyers, Preventive medicine officer, 4th Inf. Div.

ing. If that didn't staunch the flow of blood, an improvised tourniquet might be used on an extremity as a last resort.

Unfortunately, bandages made from cotton or gauze that have been used for thousands of years, aren't particularly effective. Improvised tourniquets and many of the older commercial tourniquets also have severe limitations.

Fortunately, in recent years, the U.S. military has pioneered several technical advancements that are revolutionizing how we deal with hemorrhaging wounds on the battlefield. Here are three of these items each individual Soldier should carry that could mean the difference between living and dying in OIF.

First, the combat application tourniquet. The CAT is standard issue for all soldiers in Iraq. It has been thoroughly tested under combat conditions and shown to be highly effective and 'user friendly.' One of the biggest advantages the CAT has over previous tourniquets is it



Photo by Lt. Col. Mitch Meyers, 4th Inf. Div.

BAGHDAD – The HemCon (Chitosan) hemostatic dressing is one of the new generation of battlefield band-aids the Food and Drug Administration-approved Chitosan based dressing was designated one of the Army's top 10 inventions of 2004.

allows for rapid use and can even be applied in a one-handed configuration. It is also easy to use under conditions of limited illumination.

Second, the emergency trauma bandage (usually called the Israeli bandage). Originally supplied only to Special Forces troops, the emergency trauma bandage is now issued throughout the U.S. military. Like the CAT, it may also be self-applied with only one hand under some circumstances. A big advantage of this item is that it combines several treatment devices into one simple package. This includes a non-stick pad, pressure applicator, secondary dressing and a closure bar. It is a combination bandage and pressure dressing that is easily and quickly applied, which in turn limits blood loss and initial treatment time.

Third, the HemCon (Chitosan) hemostatic dressing. One of the new generation of battlefield band-aids, the Food and Drug Administration-approved Chitosan (pronounced chit-o-zan) based dressing was designated one of the Army's top 10 inventions of 2004. After edging out other high-tech dressings due to its effectiveness and safety profile, this bandage is just now being issued to every Soldier in Iraq. HemCon bandages may be most useful when applied to areas where tourniquets are ineffective (an illustration would be the Ranger with a femoral artery injury in 'Black Hawk Down').



Photo by Lt. Col. Mitch Meyers, 4th Inf. Div.

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Maj. Tim Walsh, senior medical logistics planner, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, demonstrates how a wounded soldier may be able to self-apply the combat application tourniquet here recently.

Camp Slayer Babylon Movie Theater Show Times:
Monday thru Friday:
 4 p.m., 7 p.m., and 9:30 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday:
 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m., and 9:30 p.m.
 Stop by the Camp Slayer MWR for weekly movie listings

November Division MWR Calendar						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
12 Closest to the Pin @ 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.	13 Poker Night @ 8 p.m.	14	15 Karaoke Night @ 8 p.m.	16 Flag Football Capt. Meeting @ 6 p.m. Salsa Night	17 R&B Night @ 9 p.m.	18 Flag Football Tourney (TBA)
19	20 Poker Night @ 8 p.m.	21 Spades Tourney @ 8 p.m. Chess Tourney @ 8 p.m.	22 Karaoke Night @ 8 p.m.	23 5k Turkey Run (TBA) Thanksgiving	24 R&B Night @ 9 p.m.	25
26 Closest to the Pin @ 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.	27 Poker Night @ 8 p.m.	28	29 Karaoke Night @ 8 p.m.	30 Salsa Night @ 8 p.m.	31	

'Native Star' shines at Camp Liberty

Dance team entertains MND-B Soldiers, celebrates Native American Heritage Month

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Kevin Lovel
363rd MPAD

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq –

Hunting music emanated from a wooden flute at the onset of dusk, hearkening back to a more rustic and, perhaps purer, existence, setting the stage as Native American dancers from the Native Star Dance Team of New Mexico entertained Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers here Nov. 2 at the 4th Infantry Division's Oasis Dining Facility.

The event honored not only Native American Soldiers, but Native Americans and Soldiers in general and the numerous contributions they have made in defense of their nation, said Nick Brokeshoulder, emcee and choreographer.

"A lot of them (dancers) have family members that have served or are currently serving in the military," said Brokeshoulder, a retired Army veteran with more than 20 years of service as a field artilleryman and recruiter.

Brokeshoulder started the exhibition with prayer songs dedicated to all Soldiers and in honor of the memory of the first Native American Soldier killed during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"These songs are a prayer for you and all that you do," said Brokeshoulder.

At the conclusion of the prayer songs, the dance exhibition began with Nick's son, Brent Brokeshoulder, who performed the "Fancy Prairie Chicken Dance," followed by Nick's wife, Sharon Brokeshoulder, performing a Native American sign language version of Lee Greenwood's patriotic song, "God Bless the U.S.A."

Summer Dawn Fuson then performed the "Southern and Northern Cloth Dance," followed by Keely Etsitty, wearing an ornate "Jingle" dress, who captivated the audience with the intriguing "Prayer Dance for the Sick."

Fuson then treated the audience to her second solo dance of the evening, "Women's Fancy Dance," followed by Sky Medicine Bear, performing "Men's Fancy War Dance."

MND-B Soldiers applauded frequently throughout the exhibition and some remarked on how much they enjoyed attending it.

"I love it. I think it's great that they're doing this for the military," said Sgt. Frankie Albert, signal operator maintainer, Company A, Extension Detachment, Special Troops Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, who hails from Gallup, N.M.

"It reminds me of home and the ceremonies we do there," said Spc. Cassandra Morris, signal operator maintainer, Co. A, Extension Det., STB, 1st Cav. Div., who hails from Muskogee Creek Reservation, Fla.

The 4th Inf. Div. equal opportunity office has worked diligently throughout the entire deployment to honor and celebrate the contributions of the many diverse populations within the U.S. Army.

"We've been trying to acknowledge each ethnic group," said Sgt. 1st Class Ola Clark, human resources and equal opportunity specialist, Division Troops Company, Special Troops Battalion, 4th Inf. Div., who hails from Monroe, La.. "This is our opportunity to do something for the Native American Soldiers."

The performing group said they gained a lot of personal satisfaction from meeting and talking with deployed Native American Soldiers, said Brokeshoulder.

The most gratifying experience during their tour here, which has included stops at Camp Virginia, Kuwait, and Camp Adder, Iraq, was being able to recognize Native American Soldiers from the New Mexico National Guard for their hard work and sacrifice shortly before they left Camp Adder to travel home at the end of their deployment, said Brokeshoulder.

Following the exhibition, dancers graciously remained, making themselves available for photos and autographs and talking with Soldiers.



ABOVE: CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Sky Medicine Bear, Native Star Dance Team of New Mexico, entertains diners at 4th Infantry Division's Oasis Dining Facility with his rendition of Men's Fancy War Dance here Nov. 2. The team performed numerous Native American dances for Soldiers from Multi-National Division – Baghdad.

RIGHT: CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Keely Etsitty (left) and Summer Dawn Fuson, Native Star Dance Team of New Mexico, entertain Soldiers from Multi-National Division – Baghdad, at the 4th Infantry Division's Oasis Dining Facility here Nov. 2 with an authentic Native American dance.



WATCH YOUR BUDDY!

SYMPTOMS OF A HEAT CASUALTY INCLUDE:

- HEAT CRAMPS IN ARMS, LEGS OR ABDOMEN.
- SWEATING PROFUSELY.
- HOT, RED, FLUSHED SKIN
- WEAKNESS, DIZZINESS AND/OR NAUSEASNESS.
- UNCONSCIOUSNESS



'Iron Eagle' Soldiers celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month



Photo by Spc. Creighton Holub, CAB PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Spc. Susana Valdes, a signal support systems specialist assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 4th Aviation Regiment, Combat Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, performs a Mexican folk dance with Sgt. Norbey Moreno, a fuel lab technician assigned to Company A, 404th Aviation Support Battalion, during the Hispanic Heritage Month celebration here Oct. 12. The celebration included a mariachi song, dancing to the song 'LaBamba,' reggaeton, Bachata and Merengue.

CARTOON CORNER

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BY CHRIS ASHBY - WWW.ELUSIVE-CONCEPT.COM





Sports Roundup

Staff Sgt. Christian Farrell
363rd MPAD

Sports – a year in review



U.S. Army photo

I've never been a "day-counter," nor a "calendar-crossover-offer." I've always maintained that I'll know my mission here in Iraq is complete the day I board the plane that takes me home. But, as that welcome day draws near, I can no longer deny that our time in Baghdad is growing short.

The best evidence of this "shortness" may be the growing numbers of 1st Cavalry Division patches one can now spot on the uniforms of Soldiers standing in line inside the chow hall. Those "first Team shields" are akin to injuries sustained by National Football League quarterbacks – with each passing week we see more and more of them. There can be no doubt the passing of the proverbial "machine gun" is moving closer and closer each day.

As a noncommissioned officer, I have an inherent responsibility to take care of Soldiers. It's something that's on my mind every day. I don't know if my writing the Ivy Leaf sports column qualifies

as a "taking care of the troops" example, but maybe, just maybe, I have provided some poor sports-starved Soldiers somewhere with some information or point of view they have found helpful or enlightening.

But if, up until this point, I have failed in one of my core NCO missions, I want to take this opportunity to make it up to you – the sports-minded Soldiers with whom I have proudly served. "How can he possibly do that?" asks the young private who has been waiting patiently, Ivy Leaf after Ivy Leaf, for Staff Sergeant Farrell to provide him or her with some really useful intel.

"Are ye of such little faith," young war fighter? Well, the words of wisdom you've been waiting for have arrived – words in the form of answers to the all important Army ICAT test. If the ICAT is a test you're not familiar with, I advise you to read on because it's likely to become very important during the R-E-D-E-P-L-O-Y-M-E-N-T process.

We've been away from our homes for a year – some of us, more than a year. The separation from our loved ones has been tough. We've missed births and birthdays, weddings and anniversaries, and ... GAMES ... all sorts of games. The Super Bowl, the World Series, the Stanley Cup and March Madness, just to name a few. And that my friends is where the ICAT comes in.

What is one of the very first things a Soldier is likely to encounter upon returning home from a combat zone? Family gatherings and get-togethers, parties and reunions – all good times no doubt. But, rest assured, at one of the aforementioned events the conversation is bound to turn to ... you guessed it. SPORTS. During a typical year, the Soldier-sports fan engages in this kind of conversation with confidence no different to that of an infantryman approaching a target at the rifle range – bring it on!

But this year has not been typical. Waging war and following sports really

don't compliment each other very well, especially considering that prime time sports viewing in Iraq is between 3 a.m. and 4 a.m. – not good for game-watching when your mission time is 5 a.m.

The Army ICAT provides Soldiers with the ammunition they need to hold their own in discussions about all of the games they've missed because of deployment. Now, I can't just give you the answers to the Army ICAT/OIF 2006. You actually have to take the test to find out how much you've really missed.

Good luck. There are 10 questions with a total of 20 answers. I am throwing in some extra stuff for you to impress the guys at the VFW Hall!

Now my fellow sports fan-Soldiers, upon returning stateside, you can not only be proud of your service to your country, but you can also say with confidence at any upcoming function you attend, "I Can Answer That" (ICAT!) when, inevitably, the conversation turns to our favorite subject ... SPORTS. Godspeed Soldiers.



Photo by Karen Olson, DOI/M

WEST POINT, N.Y. – Gen. Daniel W. Christman (ret.), during his time as superintendent, U.S. Military Academy, boosts the spirit of the Corps and fans alike at every Army football game, by cheering on the team and dressing in colorful costumes, such as "Braveheart" in 1999.

Test your sports knowledge

1. Name the four opponents the Pittsburgh Steelers defeated on their way to winning Super Bowl XL in February? _____, _____, _____, _____.
2. The University of Texas Longhorns, led by quarterback Vince Young, beat the University of Southern California Trojans 41-38 in the 2006 Rose Bowl to win the NCAA Division I-A football national championship. The victory also ended a 34 game winning streak for USC. Name the three other players who participated in the game in addition to Young, who went on to become 1st round draft picks in the 2006 National Football League Draft. _____, _____, _____.
3. Who did the Houston Texans select with the first pick in the 2006 NFL Draft in April? _____.
4. What driver won NASCAR's premier race in February, the Daytona 500? _____.
5. During "March Madness," what teams participated in the final four of the NCAA's men's basketball championships? _____, _____, _____, _____.
6. In 2005-2006 the National Hockey League returned to the rink after a year off due to an owners and players contract dispute. What team won the Stanley Cup? _____ What NHL rookie was awarded the Conn Smythe Trophy (Most Valuable Player in the playoffs)? _____.
7. The Miami Heat defeated the Dallas Mavericks in 6 games to win the 2006 National Basketball Association Championship. Who did the Miami defeat in the Eastern Conference Finals? _____ Who did Dallas defeat in the Western Conference Finals? _____.
8. In July the Italian soccer team won the 2006 World Cup. What country was the runner-up? _____.
9. Major League Baseball's 2006 home run champion was Philadelphia Phillies first baseman Ryan Howard. Howard hit 58 home runs. How many other major leaguers hit more than 50 home runs this year? _____.
10. How many career home runs does Barry Bonds now have? _____.

Answers can be found below.

Answers: 1. Cincinnati, 31-17; Indianapolis, 21-18; Denver, 34-17; and Seattle, 21-10. 2. Reggie Bush, USC/RB (New Orleans #2), Michael Huff, Texas/S (Oakland # 7), Matt Leinart, USC/OB (Arizona #10); 3. Mario Williams, North Carolina State/S (DE); 4. Jimmie Johnson in car # 48; 5. Florida, UCLA, Georgia Mason, and LSU; 6. The Carolina Hurricanes defeated the Edmonton Oilers in 7 games; Carolina goaltender Cam Ward was named the winner of the Conn Smythe Trophy; 7. Miami defeated Detroit, 4-2; in the Eastern Conference Finals; Dallas defeated Phoenix, 4-2; in the Western Conference Finals; 8. France lost to Italy in a penalty shootout, 5-3; 9. One; David Ortiz hit 54 home runs for the Boston Red Sox; 10. 734 home runs; Bonds hit 26 home runs during the 2006 season.

FACES AND PLACES



Photo by Spc. C. Terrell Turner, 1st BCT PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Soldiers from the 463rd Military Police Company, attached to the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, pull security Oct. 27 at the Saab al Bour Police Station.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Kevin Lovel, 363rd MPAD

RIGHT: FOB PROSPERITY, Iraq – Maj. Gen. James D. Thurman, commanding general, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, greets Pfc. Robert Reagan and Spc. Alan Hawking, both of Company A, Special Troops Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division. The "Ivy Division" commander met with select Soldiers Oct. 25 from the 4th BCT for an impromptu luncheon at the King Cobra Dining Facility here in Baghdad's International Zone.

LEFT: BAGHDAD – A Soldier from Troop A, 4th Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, provides security after a sniper fires rounds in the vicinity of his unit during a humanitarian aid mission in Baghdad's Karkh district Oct. 13. Despite terrorist small-arms fire, Soldiers delivered 75 generators to be distributed to the area's schools, as well as backpacks and soccer balls to be given to the students.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Brent Williams, 4th BCT PAO, 4th Inf. Div.