

A woman in a Jordanian military uniform, wearing a white headscarf and a dark brown beret with a gold emblem, is saluting with her right hand. She is wearing a dark brown sweater over a light blue collared shirt and a red sash. In the background, a man in a military uniform is partially visible.

DV

DesertVoice Magazine
Serving U.S. and Coalition Forces in Kuwait

April 18, 2007

U.S., Jordanian Soldiers
come together
for women's symposium

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A Jordanian soldier from the Royal Military Academy salutes as the delegation departs the U.S.-Jordanian Women's Symposium, March 22.

Photo illustration by Maj. April N. Olsen

From the Top

Drink water - ensure good hydration

It's not just insurgents who can do us harm. We can also harm ourselves – by not drinking enough water.

It's starting to get warmer in Kuwait, and pretty soon we'll all be sweating in 130-degree temperatures in the shade.

NCOs – make sure your Soldiers drink enough water,

depending on the temperatures outside and the intensity of physical work.

Also, make sure you're not so busy giving orders and ensuring the job gets done that you forget to drink some water, too.

I know there's plenty of water available – everywhere you go there are bottles of water ready for you to pick up and take along with you.

Pretty soon, it'll be Heat Category 5 and you'll need to drink a quart of water an hour.

We all remember being back in basic when our drill sergeants made us stand there with our one-quart canteens held upside down over our heads – just to make sure we drank every last drop.

We all laughed at the one Soldier who tried to beat the system and got drenched in water – but it isn't a laughing matter when you're in combat and your buddies are

depending on you to get the job done.

Remember your training. Just

because basic was a long time ago for some, don't forget the fundamental Soldier principles.

If your body can't function, this war effort can't function.

Just walking on loose sand at 2.5 miles per hour with no load is

considered moderate work – and according to the Work/Rest and Water Consumption Table at Heat Category 5 – you're only supposed to spend 20 minutes walking to every 40 minutes of resting.

Add in a combat load, and it's even more critical to keep your body hydrated and in fighting condition.

We all know that lack of hydration leads to increased risk of heat injuries.

NCOs need to monitor their Soldiers and keep them hydrated – otherwise the mission might not get completed.

It's your responsibility to keep your troops healthy and successful. Monitor the rising temperatures and corresponding heat categories to give yourself the best information possible on the best way to lead your Soldiers.

Remember, they depend on you to keep them safe and healthy.

“Third – Always First”



Command Sgt. Maj. Franklin G. Ashe
Third Army Command Sergeant Major

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Farewell Message, Army Chief of Staff

General Peter J. Schoomaker 35th Chief of Staff of the Army

Tomorrow we will stand on the parade field at Fort Myer and the mantle of Army Chief of Staff will pass to General George W. Casey. It has been a tremendous privilege and honor to serve alongside you, the Soldiers, Civilians, and family members, who make the Army the world's preeminent land force, the ultimate instrument of national resolve.

Upon becoming 35th Army Chief of Staff in August 2003, I issued an "Arrival Message" to the force. In that message I spoke of standing in an Iranian desert in 1980, on a moonlit night, at a place called *Desert One*, where eight of our comrades lost their lives and others were forever scarred. I spoke of keeping a photo of the carnage that night to remind me of the grief and failure of that mission and the commitment survivors of that operation made to a different future.

Having now been in this Army for almost four decades, and having seen the Army my father served in for 32 years before that, I can tell you in no uncertain terms that today's battle-hardened Army does, in fact, reflect the different "future" we envisioned.

Standing on the shoulders of those who have gone before us, the men and women of today's Army have remained focused on our nonnegotiable responsibility to the Nation. For almost 232 years, the Army has never failed the American people, and it never will. We have been resolute in the pursuit of our four overarching strategies – providing relevant and ready landpower; training and equipping Soldiers to serve as warriors and growing adaptive leaders; sustaining the all-volunteer force composed of highly competent Soldiers who are provided a quality of life commensurate with the level of their service; and providing infrastructure and support to enable the force to fulfill its strategic roles and missions. Furthermore, instead of reigning-in our drive to transform during a time of war, we have leveraged opportunities in this conflict to establish and accelerate the momentum necessary to reshape the entire force into a more capable campaign-quality force with vastly improved joint and expeditionary capabilities.

Specifically, as we serve alongside our joint and allied partners in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere, we have improved the Army's ability to operate and dominate in any environment against current, emerging, and unforeseen threats. While working to grow the Regular Army by 30,000 since 2004, we now have authority to permanently increase our endstrength by over 74,000 Soldiers across



all components – Active, National Guard, and Army Reserve. We have created far more capable and strategically deployable brigade-sized formations that are designed to receive and integrate new technologies and equipment as soon as they become available. There has been a significant expansion and enhancement of Army Special Operations Forces. We have and are continuing to increase Soldier and unit effectiveness and protection, as evidenced in our reset efforts and modernization plans. We have been developing a forward-looking doctrine which guides how we organize, train, fight, and sustain our forces. Finally, and perhaps most importantly given that Soldiers are our centerpiece, the Army's intellectual and cultural transformation is creating and maintaining a learning and adaptive force that will dramatically improve how we face future challenges. We are growing innovative Soldiers and pentathlete leaders through training and education built on recent combat experience. Literally, every aspect of today's Army has been touched by change, with the exception of our enduring values.

During my tenure as Army Chief of Staff, I have seen our Soldiers continuously demonstrate why they are our greatest strength. Their adherence to the Warrior Ethos is as inspiring as it is necessary. Their ability to learn and adapt as we fight an ever-changing enemy and transform to meet complex future threats is essential. Their dedication and optimism about our future are contagious.

We must never forget that war is fought in the human dimension. Therefore, technology will always play an important but distinctly

secondary role, because even our most sophisticated satellites and computers cannot get into the mind of the enemy, interact with local leaders, understand other societies and cultures, or make the instantaneous life or death decisions required to meet our 21st century challenges. Men and women with their "boots on the ground" are necessary to do all this.

Let there be no mistake, fighting and adapting today, while transforming for an uncertain and complex future against traditional, irregular, catastrophic, and disruptive threats is vital to America's security. Although those in uniform have borne a disproportionate burden during the opening engagements of this Long War, we are not fighting and cannot win this war alone. Defeating our enemies requires a shared understanding of the threat and a strategic consensus. It requires a concerted effort, utilizing all elements of power – diplomatic, informational, military, and economic.

Finally, it requires a national commitment to recruit, train, equip, and support those in uniform and their families, something that is a matter of priorities, not affordability. While prudence cautions against ignoring the effect of war weariness and our tendency toward cyclic national defense flat-footedness, let me assure you that from my vantage point, our men and women in uniform continue to enjoy the admiration and appreciation of every American. This is reflected both in public opinion and the Congress. This support has been and will be critical as we continue to fight this Long War.

The road ahead will not be easy and the stakes could not be higher. While there is much we don't know, I can say with certitude that sustained engagement of our Army will remain the norm, not the exception. Therefore, the Army must continue to demonstrate initiative, resilience, and innovation at all levels. The Army must continue to adhere to its non-negotiable Values and the Warrior Ethos. The Army must continue to learn and adapt. Yet despite challenges, everything I have seen as Army Chief of Staff encourages me.

When recalled from retired rolls nearly four years ago, I stated that "as an American Soldier, I had never left your ranks." It has been a great privilege to wear the uniform once again. I remain forever humbled by the courage, dedication, and selfless service of those who preceded us and those who remain in service to our Country. I am proud of you. You are indeed Army Strong!

God bless you – the United States Army.

Camp Arifjan event focuses on sexual assault awareness



■ Self-protection, leadership focus of April's Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Kuwait

Spc. Debrah Ledesma
Desert Voice Staff Writer

In 2005, there were 2,374 reported sexual assaults involving members of the military services. Of these, 169 occurred in Southwest Asia, according to the Department of Defense's Annual Report to Congress on sexual assault in the military.

"That's 169 assaults blue force on blue force – that's military. That's fratricide," said Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, deputy commanding general of Third Army/U.S. Army Central, during a sexual assault awareness event held at the Zone 1 Chapel at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, April 6.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness month and the U.S. military takes this very seriously. Third Army is no exception.

The U.S. military promotes a "climate based on duty, honor and respect," said Hardy.

Hardy, like many Soldiers, wants the U.S. military to be "free from fear, free from attack or any other discrimination."

He went on to say that prevention involves awareness from military leaders of what their Soldiers need and what they do.

The leadership influences the tone, atmosphere and cadence of

an organization through policy, training and enforcing standards," said Command Sgt. Maj. Willie Lemons, Third Army/U.S. Army Central equal opportunity command sergeant major.

"All commanders have an inherent command responsibility to ensure Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines serving under their purview can live and work in an environment that fosters a climate of human dignity and respect."

Training and education is exactly what Area Support Group-Kuwait had in mind for Camp Arifjan during April.

Displaying booths throughout the month, leaders hope to instill the importance of preventing sexual assault before there are victims to suffer the repercussions.

"Whenever a crime is committed there is always a victim, to include families, spouses, children and friends; all these individuals are left with the residual affects of sexual assault," said Lemons.



Photos by Spc. Debrah Ledesma

(Top Left) Members of the Sexual Assault Awareness Month team demonstrate self-protection techniques for Soldiers.

(Above) Servicemembers perform a skit to bring awareness to sexual assault dangers.

If victims know that they are safe when reporting a crime, they are more likely to file a complaint, more likely to receive help and a perpetrator is more likely to be taken out of the ranks of honorable servicemembers, making everyone safer.

"No one can solely protect themselves against sexual assault," said Lemons. "To impact the elimination of sexual assault, it takes the cooperative and concerted efforts of command emphasis, leader involvement and individual responsibility."

Beat the Heat

Tips for staying cool this summer

Photo illustration by Sgt. Chris Jones

**By Staff Sgt. Alex Licea
Third Army/USARCENT PAO**

With the heat quickly approaching service members may want to keep their canteens and water bottles as close to them as they keep their weapons.

With temperatures reaching as high as 130 degrees in the months of July and August in Kuwait, being properly hydrated may mean the difference between life and death.

The months of April through October are the highest risk months for heat injury, according to Maj. Shannon Shaw, Third Army/U.S. Army Central Surgeon Force Health Protection Officer.

“Staying hydrated is important for all Soldiers during this time of year. Troops in Kuwait should be smart and know their bodies to determine their level of hydration,” she said.

Shaw recommends drinking water throughout the day and avoid liquids

such as tea, coffee and soda. However it may be hard for some to completely fend off caffeine cravings. If so limit it to one cup a day.

Shaw suggests that proper hydration should produce pale yellow or clear urine. Dark yellow-colored urine is a clear sign of dehydration. She also recommends following the work/rest and water consumption table posted throughout camps in Kuwait.

Although hydration is important, too much of it can lead to hyponatremia, or over-hydration. To balance out your level of hydration with your level of electrolytes - essentially the medical term for the salts in your body - you should drink sports drinks like Gatorade and eat regularly.

“Troops should eat three square meals a day in order to replace salts lost due to sweat. Being on a strict diet or only drinking water may be fatal,” said Shaw.

For service members out on the

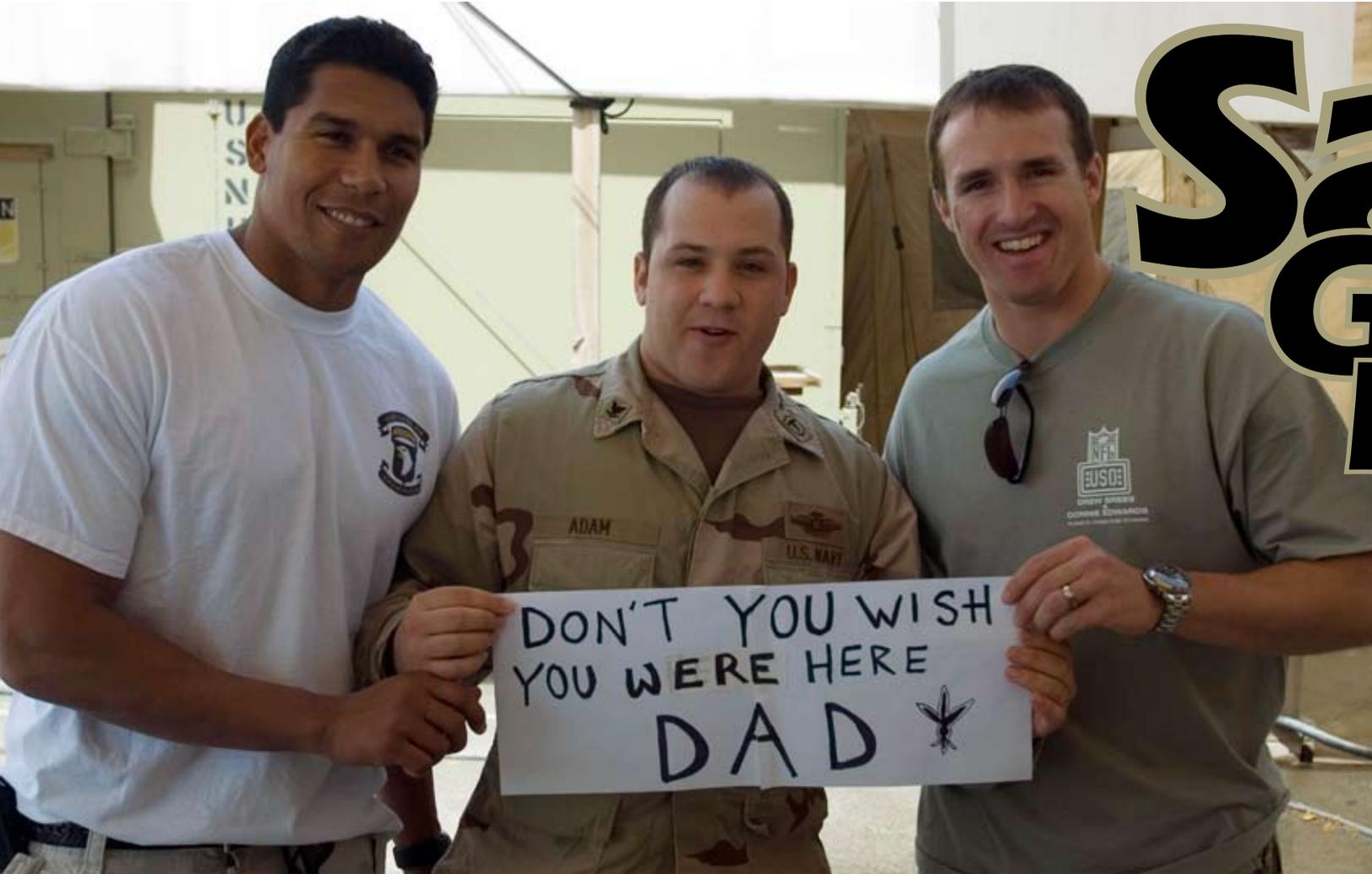
range and consistently working in the sun, Shaw recommends to take rest breaks and find any available shade. She also suggests wearing sunscreen and loosening uniforms within regulation to keep your body cool.

If you’re conducting physical training, Shaw recommends wearing as little clothing, if outside, as possible within regulation or staying inside a gym. She also suggests choosing a time of the day where the heat is not so intense.

“It is best to conduct PT during the early morning hours before sunrise or in the evening,” said Shaw.

To better safeguard themselves, troops should also recognize the early signs of dehydration, which include thirst, headaches, nausea, and feeling weak, said Shaw.

Preventing, recognizing and reacting to the early signs of dehydration could save troops lives. Simply put, drink water!



Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Donnie Edwards (left) and New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees (right) pose for a photo with Petty Officer 3rd Class Corey Adam at the Expeditionary Medical Force – Kuwait hospital on Camp Arifjan, Thursday. Adam, a Houma, La., native and Navy medical corpsman, said his dad, Delwin, is a diehard Saints fan and wanted to send a photo to him with the Saints quarterback.

New Orleans Saints QB Drew Brees headlines NFL players visit to Kuwait

Sgt. Chris Jones
Desert Voice Editor

Spc. Aaron Hunnel was playing the video game NFL Madden, playing as his favorite team the Denver Broncos. But he was losing to the New Orleans Saints, in large part to Drew Brees' two touchdown passes.

Suddenly, the video game came to life.

New Orleans quarterback Brees visited servicemembers deployed to several camps in Kuwait, April 2, shaking hands and offering photo opportunities for troops, beginning at the Expeditionary Medical Facility-Kuwait.

When Brees walked into the hospital, he saw Hunnel playing the video game, wearing a Denver Broncos hat.

"It was actually kind of embarrassing," Hunnel said of the irony of meeting the player he was playing against. "He threw two 80-yard touchdowns against me."

The NFL players visit also included Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Donnie Edwards, who was sporting a 101st Airborne Division Battle of the Bulge t-shirt.

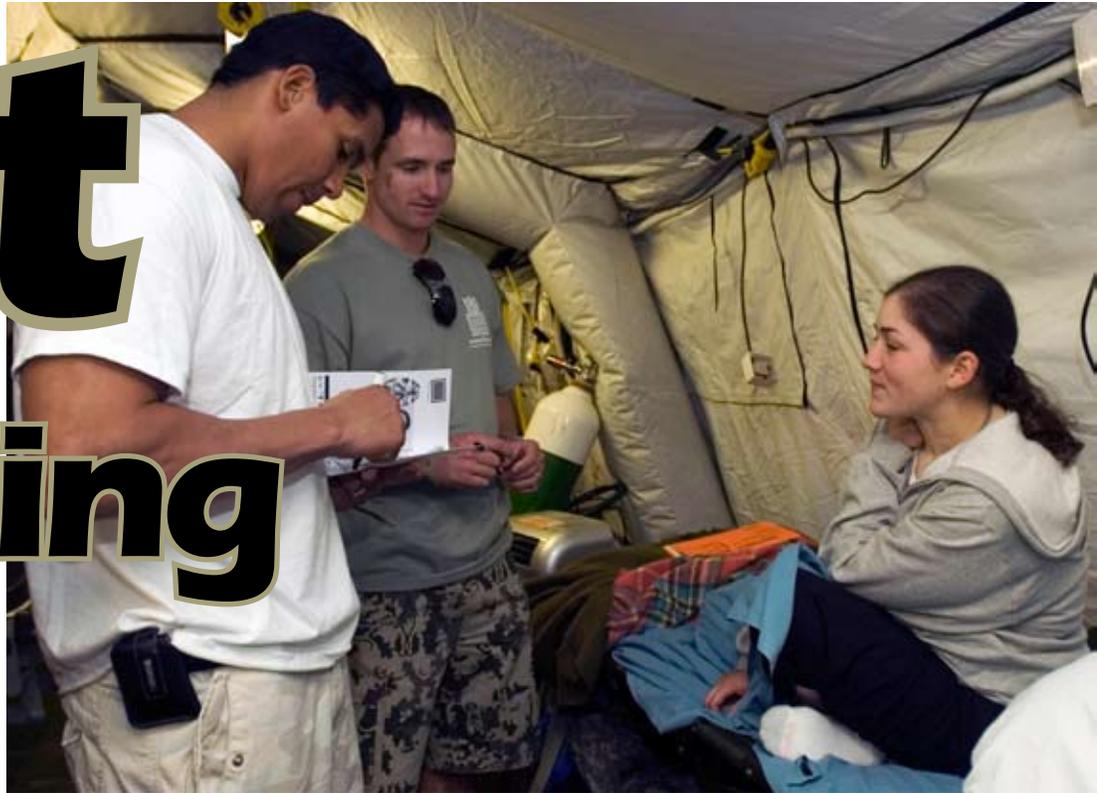
The hospital visit in Kuwait was a personal one for Brees, as around this time last year the quarterback was rehabilitating from

a potentially career-ending shoulder injury, while he was playing for the San Diego Chargers.

But not only did Brees recover, he led the Saints to the NFC Championship game – the farthest the franchise had ever gone in the playoffs. For a city that was still in its own kind of recovery process – after Hurricane Katrina – Brees brought Saints fans to their feet all season long, eventually earning 2nd place in the NFL's Most Valuable Player voting and first in the NFC.

"He was the MVP of the league last year," said Petty Officer 1st Class John Fitzgerald. "He doesn't have to come to Kuwait. So that's awesome."

aint oes Marching



Photos by Staff Sgt. Patrick N. Moes

(Top right) Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Donnie Edwards (left) and New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees sign an autograph for Amanda Aranda at the Expeditionary Medical Force – Kuwait hospital on Camp Arifjan, Thursday. The NFL stars are touring the Middle East as a part of the Active NFL Players Tour sponsored by the USO.

(Below) New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees (left) and Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Donnie Edwards (right) talk with Spc. Aaron Hunnel at the Expeditionary Medical Force – Kuwait hospital on Camp Arifjan, Thursday. Hunnel is a paralegal with the 1st Battalion, 121st Field Artillery Regiment out of the Wisconsin National Guard.

(Right) New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees signs an autograph on a Sailor's t-shirt on Camp Arifjan, Thursday.



Kuwait

U.S., Jordanian soldiers come together for women's symposium

Maj. April N. Olsen
40th PAD Commander

Females all around the world are similar," said Jordanian Army Sgt. Abeer Mahmoud Abu Sbeh. "We are always working. We are enthusiastic. We always have the ability to give – all the time."

Sbeh, a weapons instructor at the Jordanian Royal Military Academy, shared her sentiments with 30 female soldiers from the U.S. and Jordanian armies who gathered at Camp Zarqa, Jordan, March 22 to discuss the changing roles of women serving in the military.

"We have to share roles in serving our nation with men, because we have to walk hand in hand," Sbeh said.

The one-day women's symposium held at the RMA outside Amman was part of the on-going cooperation between Third Army/U.S. Army Central and the Jordanian Armed Forces to promote the integration of women in the JAF.

Third Army's Civil International Military Affairs section organized the event, which was hosted by the JAF Directorate of Military Women's Affairs.

"Providing a forum to communicate experiences and life in the military helps one of our partner nations strengthen their military by using all of their resources," said Sgt. 1st Class Scot Hector, operations NCO for CIMA, who spearheaded the event.

According to Lt. Col. Sana'a Fadel

Ali, the chief of the Training Branch at the DMWA, three percent of the Jordanian army is made up of women, with the bulk of those in the medical field, and some in the Royal Guard and military police.

She said the JAF has a goal of increasing that total and expanding career fields to include more combat support and combat jobs.

"Jordan is a leader in the region for incorporating women, open[ing] positions to women," Ali said.

Much of the current success of the integration of women into the JAF is due to the efforts of Her Royal Highness Princess Aisha Bint Al Hussein, said Hector.

Princess Aisha, a JAF brigadier general, and director of the DMWA, has been working to further the integration of women in the military.

Brig. Gen. Patricia McQuiston, director of operational sustainment, led the USARCENT contingent of officers and NCOs. She commended the pioneering spirit of the Jordanian soldiers.

"They want to be a part of the team. They want to contribute," McQuiston said. "I'm very impressed with their scope of vision, energy and enthusiasm."

The forum provided an opportunity for soldiers in both armies to exchange ideas and information related to issues affecting women in the military, such as coed training, family issues, professional development and changing roles for female soldiers.

"There's no male/female anymore, we're Soldiers," said Capt. Retaunda Riley, Third Army physician's assistant.

"Females have a bigger role in the





Photos by Maj. April N. Olsen

military today than we did in yester-year, so we need to work together,” Riley said. “More and more, the Army is going to be dependant on us to increase our role in the fight on terrorism.”

Riley said the forum was an opportunity for leaders in both armies to learn from each other.

“I learned, no matter what your cultural or religious background, females in the military all have a common interest,” said Riley. “We all want to serve our country.”

Riley said she enjoyed the chance to learn more about soldiers from a partner nation, a necessity in building stronger alliances.

“Until we tear down the stereotypes that we have on other countries, we’re never going to succeed in learning each other... we’re never going to know about the character of a country unless we actually know the people,” Riley said. “And in

order to know the people we have to connect with the people.”

(Left) Third Army/U.S. Army Central director of operational sustainment Brig. Gen. Patricia McQuistion presents a commander’s coin to Her Royal Highness Princess Aisha Bint Al Hussein, in appreciation for hosting a Women’s Symposium, March 22, in Jordan.

(Top) Sgt. Maj. Launa Klimowicz, Third Army/U.S. Army Central National Guard Affairs sergeant major, talks with Jordanian sergeants following the Women’s Symposium.

(Right) Sgt. 1st Class Danilyn Lewis, Third Army/U.S. Army Central military police/customs program manager, talks with a Jordanian soldier, also an MP, following the Women’s Symposium.



Jordan

Artillery Soldiers adapt to war



Photos by Capt. Mike Wallace

(Left) Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, Third Army/U.S. Army Central deputy commanding general, addresses artillery troops about the importance of their mission in the war against terrorism.

(Above) Col. Kenneth Beard was awarded the Ancient Order of Saint Barbara. He awarded the Order of Saint Barbara medals to Maj. John Ebbighausen, Chief Warrant Officer Harold Layton, Master Sgt. Sanford Barney-castle, Maj. Graham Green, Capt. Keith Rapp, Lt. Col. Terry Mills and Master Sgt. Tyrone Hyke. Command Sgt. Maj. Bert Tribble was also awarded the Ancient Order of Saint Barbara.

■ Third Army general addresses issues at dining-in event

Capt. Mike Wallace
377th Theater Support Command

During an artillery dining-in held in Kuwait, Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, deputy commanding general of Third Army/U.S. Army Central, related the changing role of the field artillery and the need to stay vigilante against those that would hurt America and its interests.

“People make the difference — you make the difference today. The enemy today has the will to hurt the heart of America and they won’t go away in the next six years. It is critical that we wage this war against them so they do not hurt our loved ones back home,” Hardy said.

Hardy pointed out that most Americans probably haven’t thought about what the real reasons are that the

U.S. is committed to the war against terrorism.

First, there is the oil in the area. The U.S. may not get its main supply from this area, but it is important that the world economy is stabilized over this area he stated.

Secondly, the terrorist acts against the free world has to be stopped. He said it is unacceptable for innocent people to be killed over ideology.

Third, he pointed out that state-sponsored hostilities against the free world must be addressed, such as Iran’s hostilities to the U.S. and others.

“We as a nation have to apply all dimensions of our national power to nullify these threats—just like we use all dimensions of our fighting forces in the combined arms theater, our country will use every dimension to stabilize these countries,” he said.

“Even though there haven’t been many traditional field artillery missions in the last six years, the field artillery Soldier has picked up the many roles required of him/her to support the war against terror.

“Whether they are driving trucks in a supply convoy, pulling security on forward operating bases, or keeping track of the thousands of containers that are loaded on ships and other vehicles, each Soldier is important. The field artillery can do different things,” said Hardy. ourselves by the acceptance and accomplishment of these different types of missions,” Hardy said.

Dining facilities to require EagleCash

➡ On April 15, government-contracted dining facilities in Kuwait will require contractors and other non-government personnel to pay for meals using an EagleCash Card

➡ All personnel who are required to pay for meals will coordinate with their respective human resources office for information on the EagleCash system

➡ EagleCash Cards can be obtained at military finance offices in theater

➡ For more information, contact Jorge Torres or Chief Warrant Officer Two Paul Wentz at DSN 430-3307/3314

Just One Question...

What is your favorite 'Care Package' goody?



"Corn Nuts -- Chili Picante Corn Nuts."

Staff Sgt. Ricardo Osorio
Las Vegas, Nev.
Vehicle maintenance
424th Medium Truck Detachment



"Hand Sanitizer."

Airman 1st Class Rebecca Comstock
Somerset, Kentucky
Vehicle operator
70th Medium Truck Detachment



"Candy, Jolly Ranchers."

Staff Sgt. Blane David
West Palm Beach, Fla.
Truck commander
96th Transportation Group



"Coffee."

1st Lt. Alicia Beaumont
Dallas, Texas
Platoon leader
3rd Infantry Division



"Chocolate candy."

Staff Sgt. Talmige Bell
Indianola, Miss.
Squad leader
96th Transportation Group



Hometown Hero

Sp. Belinda Fullerton
Human resources specialist
107th Quartermaster Company

Fullerton contributes to the mission of the 107th QC in the operations section of the com-

Fullerton talks about why she misses Jackson, Mich.

"Other than freedom? Vernor's -- it's a pop you can only get in Michigan. And just driving my truck, being able to pick up and go if I want to."



(Above) Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, Third Army/U.S. Army Central deputy commanding general, talks with Bishop Camillo Ballin, the bishop of Kuwait, before Holy Thursday services in Kuwait City.

(Below) The Sacred Heart Hall at the Church of Our Lady of Arabia-Ah madi in Kuwait City.

Photos by Sgt. Thomas L. Day

U.S. Catholic servicemembers join Kuwait bishop for Holy Thursday

Sgt. Thomas L. Day
Desert Voice Staff Writer

Holy Thursday was an international affair this year in Kuwait City. About 100 servicemembers from five U.S. compounds in Kuwait joined the Bishop of Kuwait for services for the holiday, which remembers the ordination of the priesthood and the Eucharist.

They didn't come empty handed either. The delegation came with 50 boxes of gifts – clothes, hygiene products, “anything that would be of use,” according to Soisson – donated by members donated by the servicemembers.

The Catholic community in Kuwait is estimated at between 136,000 and 250,000, but nearly every Catholic in Kuwait is an Indian or Filipino expatriate. Ballin estimated that there are “about 15” Kuwaiti Catholic families.

“Our biggest problem is space because we only have three churches,” Ballin, who speaks fluent English, told the Catholic servicemembers.

Ballin was born in Italy and was ordained in 1969 in Verona. After ordination, he learned Arabic in Lebanon and Syria and began practicing in Cairo. He has practiced in Suda, Rome, Egypt, and Kuwait City.

“This is always your church and ours,” Ballin said. “You are always most welcome.”

