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the **STATIC LINE**





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MESSAGE FROM THE TF LOYALTY COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR



It's indeed an honor and a pleasure to be fortunate enough to address the Paratroopers of Task Force Loyalty, the 3rd Brigade Combat Team and the entire Panther Family.

I recently assumed the role and the duties of the command sergeant major of TF Loyalty and would like to say that I am honored and proud to rejoin the Loyalty Team. Command Sgt. Maj. Samuel B. Campbell was selected to serve as the command

sergeant major for the new Fires Brigade at Ft Bragg, N.C., and I am positive he will do an outstanding job for the Soldiers, leaders and family members of the Fires Brigade. That is evident from the wonderful job he has done in coaching, teaching, mentoring, and caring for the entire Loyalty team. I assure you that I will give 100 percent effort in maintaining the standards that are embedded within TF Loyalty.

The Troopers of TF Panther are doing an exceptional job in conducting combat operations in Iraq. The Task Force's ability to conduct these missions is a testament to our well-led, well-trained and disciplined Paratroopers. The Panther Team recently received news of a 90-day extension, which pushes our return to home station to a later date. With this news, it is imperative that our troopers remain focused and steadfast in accomplishing the mission and doing their part in securing the coun-

try of Iraq. Through positive attitudes, a strong level of support from home and one another, we'll accomplish our mission and return home with pride. Panther Leaders at each level must take every opportunity to ensure Troopers are fully informed, keenly focused and are exercising basic Soldier discipline at all times. These measures will go a long way in preventing complacency and enable the Panther Team to accomplish its mission. I am extremely proud of the high degree of professionalism shown each day by every Trooper of TF Panther and encourage you to maintain that professionalism throughout the deployment and beyond.

The strongest link in the Panther Family chain is its family members. Their strong, unwavering support for their Trooper(s) has been key in paving the way through a tough deployment. This support and strength from our families enables the individual trooper to remain focused,

lifts his and her morale, and above all, strengthens the Panther team. I want to thank the TF Panther FRG for your tireless and priceless efforts in helping the TF leadership keep the ship moving forward. We are able to rest well knowing we have such a professional and compassionate group working on our behalf back at home.

Every Trooper should strive to uphold the standards, honor, and legacy of past Paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne Division. I am extremely honored to serve with every leader and Trooper in Task Force Panther and look forward to serving with you through the remainder of the deployment and into the future.

*All The Way
H-minus! Loyalty!
CSM Steven L. Payton
"Loyalty 9"*

3rd BCT Commander:
Col. Bryan Owens

3rd BCT CSM:
CSM Bryant Lambert

3rd BCT Public Affairs Officer:
Capt. Aydin Mohtashamian

3rd BCT PA NCOIC:
Staff Sgt. Michael J. Carden

3rd BCT PA NCO:
Sgt. Joshua R. Ford

3rd BCT PA Specialist:
Spc. Amanda Jackson

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the Static Line welcomes columns, commentaries, articles, and photographs from our readers. Send submissions to Staff Sgt. Michael J. Carden at crdn.carden@us.army.mil. We reserve the right to edit for security, accuracy, propriety, policy, clarity, and space.

Re-enlistment goes the extra mile

Sgt. Joshua R. Ford
3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

COB SPEICHER, Iraq - The Army is always looking to re-enlist experienced, combat-ready Soldiers and that is exactly what Master Sgt. Lou Bennett, re-enlistment noncommissioned officer with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, and Staff Sgt. Tobey Whitney, re-enlistment noncommissioned officer with the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 82nd Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, have been doing.

To date, the re-enlistment duo has re-enlisted 510 Soldiers receiving more than \$10 million in bonuses in the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, including 91 Soldiers receiving more than \$1 million in the 82nd BSB alone. Not only have the two re-enlisted more than 500 Paratroopers in the 3rd Brigade Combat Team since Oct. 1, 2006, but they have also re-enlisted more than 200 Soldiers that are in units other than the 82nd Airborne Division.

"They see the sign on the street for re-enlistment, and they come walking in the door, and we are not going to turn anyone away. If they want to re-enlist we see if we can work with them," said Whitney. "Just because a unit is not assigned here doesn't mean we are not going to help them."

"Re-enlisting Soldiers is our main purpose. We care about all the Soldiers. Not just the Panther Soldiers. If a Soldier wants to re-enlist we will take care of them," said Bennett.

Since most Soldiers will only get to reenlist a few times in the military, Bennett and Whitney have spent many late nights at the office trying to get Paratroopers the best possible deal they can get them.

Assignments in Japan and Italy are just some of the places they have sent Soldiers wanting a change of scenery. Other Soldiers that have wanted to be stationed close to home have gotten what they have wanted, too.

All the different jobs available can be surprising to some, said Bennett.

One Soldier from Nebraska wanted to go close to home but

knew there were no Army bases close to where his family lived. Sure enough, there was an Air Force base with an open slot for his job.

"You just never know when something like that is going to pop up," said Bennett.

"If a person doesn't like the environment they are in, re-enlistment is a tool that can change that environment," said Whitney.

One thing that they hate to see is a Soldier walk into the office and decide to get out of the military with no plan.

"It is too hard to get out of the military and go to nothing," said Whitney, who has experience in the civilian world as a police officer.

"Some Soldiers think they are going to get out and go do something productive and it is not that easy. If they have a better plan than what I can offer them then I don't bother them. If they have no plan at all I'm going to hound them until they have a plan," Whitney added.

The one thing that Soldiers ask for more than money or choice of duty station is to get sent to a unit that will not deploy for 24 to 36 months.

A lot of Soldiers in the 3rd Brigade Combat Team are already on their third or fourth deployment and want more time in the U.S., said Whitney.

This is Whitney's second deployment to Iraq, and he understands why the Soldiers want more time in the States.

"I have missed my son's last three birthdays and I am going to miss my daughter's high school graduation this year because of being deployed," added Whitney. "I know exactly where they are



Photo by Sgt. Joshua R. Ford/3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

Staff Sgt. Michael Fief and Sgt. Chauncy Jinks, both topographical analysts, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, re-enlisted for six years April 27 at Contingency Operations Base Speicher, Iraq.

coming from."

The most important thing is honesty. If a Soldier can't get the job that will keep him in the U.S. with his family or he is not going to get the bonus money he thought he would, the re-enlistment team tells no lies, said Bennett.

"A lot of times when they walk away, even if they don't re-enlist, they understand that I'm not trying to sell it. I'm being honest with them, and I'm telling them this is what I can do for you and they have to make the decision for themselves. You know I'm not a recruiter or a salesman. I'm here to give them the facts on what the Army has to offer them," said Whitney.

Paratroopers take part in combat athlete competition

Staff Sgt. Tony White
5th MPAD

SAMARRA, Iraq - Spc. Eric Fair sprints down the landing zone carrying an M-2 .50 caliber machine gun barrel over his shoulder. Beside him, his four teammates run with the rest of the M-2's components and sand bags. They aren't running to fight the enemy though. They are racing against the clock. It's an athletic competition and they want to win.

For one day the routine changed for the Company A, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment Paratroopers. The entire company was at the landing zone encouraging, and at times discouraging, their comrades during a combat athlete competition May 6 at Forward Operating Base Brassfield-Mora, near Samarra.

After five events, 3rd Platoon stood alone at the top of the standings. Following them in order were 2nd Platoon, 1st Platoon, Headquarters Platoon and members of the Battalion Headquarters.

The combat athlete competition consisted of events based on practical situations troops may face while out on their missions. Starting with the gunner down event, the pace was swift. Simulating a gunner being wounded, each of the five Soldiers rotated in the turret. To make the event more difficult, the Soldiers were forced to complete three rotations while in the gunner position.

Next, the teams moved to the M-2 assembly race. Racing up and down the landing zone with the awkward machine gun components slung over their shoulders, the paratroopers assembled and disassembled the weapon at the mid-point and at the end of the race.

The shuffling sound of Soldiers feet



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tony White/5th MPAD

Capt. Adisa King, commander, Company A, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, flips a tire over during a combat athlete competition May 6 at Forward Operating Base Brassfield-Mora, Iraq.

on the landing zone continued as each team flipped tires the length of the air pad. Eventually they moved to a litter carry race before concluding by pushing a 9,000 lbs. up-armored humvee and its more than 9,000 lbs. down the length of the airfield.

With the first place prize being a day at Contingency Operating Base (COB) Speicher, the ultimate change of routine for these Soldiers, the stakes were high.

Living at FOB Brassfield-Mora, the Paratroopers do not have common areas troops enjoy at other bases. One day at COB Speicher would be the closest thing to being at an Army post in the U.S. with restaurants and Post Exchanges available.

In the end though, 3rd platoon team consisting of 2nd Lt. Joshua C. Peyton, Sgt. Eldon Garhart, Spc. Eric Fair, Spc. Jacob Hicks and Spc. Jason Boe, took home the trophy and the day at COB Speicher. More importantly though, were the bragging rights they had over their fellow troops.

Questioned whether they hoped to win the next time there was a combat athlete competition, the winning platoon's Soldiers replied in candor, there is no hope. We are going to win every time.

We have been training a long time for this moment, one Soldier said nonchalantly. It was a very good victory,

a team victory. We were underdogs coming into this, but we really pulled through.

The competition started at 9 a.m., just a few hours after some of the troops had returned from a 48-hour sniper kill team mission in Samarra.

"The guys came back, took a little break and they wanted to compete," said Capt. Adisa King, Company A commander. "That's what it's all about. It helps the job. It changes up the rhythm big time, especially with the extension that we had. It changes up everything we are doing here."

"It's a real big team building thing, especially with the guys," King continued. "When you do competitions like these, the guys push a little further. You see with 3rd Platoon, they stepped it up real quick. We all just came together, bickering at each other, teasing. It brings out the competition in us."

King said he hopes the combat athlete competition will be something they can participate in again.

"We will probably have some more teams and add some events," King concluded. "We want to get the rest of the battalion here, see what the battalion commander is all about and see if he can hang with us."

Remembering those who served

Sgt. Joshua R. Ford

3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

COB SPEICHER, Iraq

- When Sgt. Alan D. Mettler was growing up, Memorial Day reminded him of the beginning of tourist season in his hometown of Put-in-Bay, Ohio.

On Sept. 11, 2001, Mettler saw the tragedies that happened in New York City and enlisted in the Army the next day.

"I saw an opportunity to protect my country and the people I love, so I joined," said Mettler.

Now that Mettler is older and has served in the military, Memorial Day helps him remember the stories about his late father and grandfather who both served their countries.

Mettler's grandfather was a spitfire-fighter pilot for the English royal air force and served in Africa.

His father served as an infantryman in 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, and was on stand-by for the invasion of Cuba during the missile crisis.

His grandfather disappeared in Africa during his service and when Mettler was three his father was killed in a plane crash while serving as a deputy sheriff.

Today Mettler is deployed to Iraq and following in his father's footsteps as an infantryman in the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

Like Mettler, Sgt. First Class Ray Hernandez, a noncommissioned officer who works in the 3rd Brigade's operations center, had family that served in the U.S. armed forces.

Hernandez's grandfather came to the United States from Mexico and soon after enlisted in the Army. He then served as



Photo by Sgt. Joshua R. Ford/3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

Two Paratroopers made the ultimate sacrifice for their country when their vehicle hit a land mine outside of Samarra, Iraq.

an infantryman in World War II.

These great men are the ones people need to remember on Memorial Day, said Mettler.

Pfc. George Lopez Jr. administration specialist, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 82nd Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, serves for his family.

"At first I joined because I wanted to accomplish something in my life. Now I serve for my family. It takes a lot to leave everything you love and serve but it is necessary."

Lopez is currently deployed and has a wife and four children in the U.S.

Mettler feels it is necessary to serve so others do not have to.

"I'm here because why should anybody else's son or daughter have to come (to Iraq)," said Mettler. "My family didn't want me to go to war but they are proud of me."

It is important on Memorial Day to remember those who serve and have served. And it is most important to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting their country and its way of life.

Transition team improves local police force

Staff Sgt. Tony White

5th MPAD

SAMARRA, Iraq—As Iraqis continue to assume greater responsibility for their own country the importance of Iraqi Police (IP) continues to grow. Police Transition Teams have been designated as the intermediate link between Coalition Forces and their Iraqi counterparts to cultivate this growth.

For the Soldiers of 128th Military Police Company this is the task they have faced everyday since arriving in theater nearly seven months ago. The company has elements in Samarra responsible for training the Iraqi Police. Although a daunting task because of recent car bombings at police stations in Samarra and Ashaki, these troops know they still have a job to do.

"If they show me that they are willing to help themselves, then I'm more willing to help them out," said Staff Sgt. Christopher John Hodge, a squad leader.

"This is not an overnight job," continued the native of Lawrenceburg, Tenn. "We realize this is going to take months and years, but we are getting there. We probably won't see it before we leave, but I know we have already made some improvements."

Formerly an air defense artillery unit, many of the Soldiers completed the military police training less than a year ago.

By combining their experiences from previous deployments with the insight

— see **POLICE**, page 5

Chief warrant officer makes history

Sgt. Joshua R. Ford
3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

COB SPEICHER, Iraq - Chief Warrant Officer Jacqueline Fitch found herself making history once again in the United States Army April 1 when she was promoted and became the first female CW4 in the Army's history to hold the position of battalion engineer technician for maintenance.

Two years ago the Cahokia, Ill., native accomplished a similar breakthrough when she was promoted to CW3 and before that had been the only female warrant officer in an engineer technician position.

Fitch is currently deployed to Iraq with the 3rd Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, and remembers being a little girl crawling under the family car with her father, helping him by bringing him tools.

"That's how I kind of learned what all the tools were called so when I went to (advanced individual training) I kind of had the advantage over a lot of people," said Fitch.

Fitch initially enlisted in the Army August 14, 1982, as a machine repair woman. When the Army got rid of the position she was forced to do something else. She then became a vehicle and power generator mechanic.

Because of the switch in jobs during the middle of her career, she has been around a lot of different equipment, which has benefited her being in the BSTB.

After her brigade went through modularity, Fitch had to adapt to working with engineer, communications and intelligence equipment. Some of the



Photos by Sgt. Joshua R. Ford/3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

Chief Warrant Officer Jacqueline Fitch, battalion engineer technician for maintenance, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, inspects a humvee May 14 at Contingency Operations Base Speicher.

equipment she had never worked with before.

"The diversity of what she operates underneath is something beyond most men and women in her position," said Maj. Jayson Gilberti, executive officer, 3rd BSTB, 3rd BCT, 82nd Airborne Division.

And since she arrived to the unit she has done an outstanding job, Gilberti added. If something is broken Fitch can fix it.

"When something is wrong I want to know what is wrong with it," said Fitch.

She describes herself as a do-it-yourself type of person.

"I have this overwhelming urge that I have to understand why something has happened. I have to know. I have always been that way. I want my Soldiers to

have that same appetite," Fitch said.

Fitch arrived to 3rd Brigade more than four years ago right after the brigade had re-deployed from Iraq.

"Coming into a new unit that had much cohesion from being deployed for seven months and being a woman, that was very challenging," said Fitch.

The challenge of being a woman in a high ranking position was overcome quickly due to her technical expertise on multiple mechanical systems.

"She is absolutely a trail blazer within her functional specialty as an engineer. She is definitely a role model for female officers and represents the very best that the warrant officer corps has to offer," said Gilberti. "She is the adaptable leader the Army is looking for."

Words count in defeating roadside bomb threat

Sgt. Joshua R. Ford
3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

TIKRIT, Iraq - Iraqis went about their daily business while Paratroopers from the 82nd Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, placed signs on the side of the road, warning the Iraqis of the roadside bomb threat that has taken the lives of so many U.S. service members and Iraqi civilians.

It also warned insurgents they will die if caught emplacing improvised-explosive devices.

The signs depicted a stick figure with a shovel digging into to earth crossed out and warned Iraqi civilians not to mess with objects on the side of the roads or dig on the side of the roads.

"The 3rd Brigade is trying to look at different methods to inform the Iraqi citizens of the threats that are out on the roads and to mainly make sure that the citizens know of the risks that are taken when traveling the roads in Iraq," said Ismael Rodriguez, targeting officer with Headquarters and

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POLICE

of those with law enforcement experience, these National Guardsmen are installing the fundamentals for a well-run police department in the area.

Recently, the team spent a day training with their Iraqi counterparts at the Ashaki precinct. "We gave the policemen a class on operations planning, from setting up the checkpoints to raiding a house," said Sgt. Raymond Grissett, a Police Transition Team leader. "We also taught them a class on room entry. Basically, we have a lecture for them, followed by a demonstration from our team. Then the police officers will take part in a practical exercise."

"Our main mission is to create a police department and teach the 'average Joe' police techniques," continued the native of Mobile, Ala. "We are trying to train them so they can protect themselves and have the proper equipment to protect themselves."

Breaking down into squads of 12 Soldiers, consisting of four teams of three, the Soldiers have established a bond with the Iraqi police officers which is essential to their short and long-term success.

"We have built a relationship with the IP," Hodge said. "They know us, and they trust us more. They know that we are there not to run the show, but to help them do it."

"The police officers tend to be grateful, at least the ones we have trained," Grissett concluded. "They are very interested in what we have been teaching them. They have been taking it in and hopefully they are using it."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tony White/ 5th MPAD

An Iraqi police officer pulls security at the Ashaki police station. The police station is one of several in the area being mentored a Police Transition Team (PTT) from the 128th Military Police. .



Photo by Sgt. Joshua R. Ford/ 3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

Six billboards were placed along roads in Iraq's Salah ad Din province May 15 to warn insurgents of the consequences if they place improvised-explosive devices on Iraq's roadways.

SIGN

Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division.

It is too early to tell if the billboards have been effective but Rodriguez is sure it will have some affect on the population where the billboards were placed.

"There are so many methods you can use to counter roadside bomb activity. You just have to use your imagination," said Rodriguez. "The insurgency uses dead animals to conceal improvised-explosive devices, so we have to use our imaginations to counter that."

Since the 3rd Brigade Combat Team has been conducting the counter improvised-explosive device operations they have seen a significant drop in effective

roadside bomb activity.

Other ways Paratroopers inform Iraq's citizens of the improvised-explosive device threat are through radio and television messages.

"The billboards are a pretty unorthodox approach to countering improvised-explosive devices and are one of the first steps in a bigger way to counter improvised-explosive device," said Rodriguez.

If the billboards have a strong affect on the population, Rodriguez plans on placing more in other areas where his unit operates.

"It will help the Iraqis have a better life here and it will help us have a better life back in the U.S.," said Rodriguez. "We are fighting the roadside bombs here so we don't have to fight them



Photo by Sgt. Joshua R. Ford/3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

The 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division celebrated “All American day” May 26 at the bases within the brigades area-of-operation. At battalion level Paratroopers competed in various sports events and at the end of the day had a barbeque.

Paratroopers celebrate “All American week” deployed

Sgt. Joshua R. Ford
3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

COB SPEICHER, Iraq

- Every year during the week before Memorial Day, the 82nd Airborne Division celebrates their heritage and mourns the loss of Paratroopers who gave the ultimate sacrifice while protecting freedom.

Paratroopers would start the week off with a four-mile division run. Through the course of that week units in the division would compete in various sporting events and winners of each event would be rewarded.

The week would end with a joint-readiness training exercise where hundreds of Paratroopers would exit aircraft and fill the skies over Sicily drop zone, while spectators awed at the site.

This year “All American week” was not as fast-paced as usual. The division’s headquarters was deployed to Afghanistan with one of its brigade combat teams, and two other brigade combat teams were serving in Iraq.

The 3rd Brigade Combat Team felt they had to carry-on the tradition of “All American week”.

“Instead of letting this week pass by without recognition, we decided to take a day out of our busy operational tempo and remember what it means to be a Paratrooper,” said Col. Bryan Owens, commander of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team.

Although the day didn’t include most of the events seen at the traditional “All American week”, Paratroopers still got to

compete against one another at a battalion level.

Softball and basketball were some of the sports played that day. The biggest event was the Warrior Stakes, which tested Paratroopers combat readiness with weapons assembly exercises and stress shoots with the M-4 rifle and the 9mm pistol.

“It was a lot shorter, but you still have the camaraderie going on. It was fun for a lot of people” said Cpl. Franklin Ferretti, human resource specialist, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd BCT, 82nd Airborne Division.

At the end of “All American day” all the battalion commanders that fall under the 3rd Brigade Combat Team gathered for a

commander’s conference and a barbeque. At the barbeque the winning teams of the Warrior Stakes from each battalion were presented with the Army Commendation Medal.

After the award ceremony Owens addressed his Paratroopers.

“I am very proud of every single Paratrooper in this Brigade, and I along with every Paratrooper, past and present, would like to thank you for your service and dedication,” said Owens. “This day is your day to reflect and remember what it means to be a Paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division and the United States Army.”

After the speech “All American day” ended with hundreds of Paratroopers singing the All American song together.

Paratroopers help Samarra after devastating attack

Sgt. Joshua R. Ford

3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

SAMARRA, Iraq - Samarra's hospital rooms were half-filled. The power faded in and out throughout the day but the water was running again.

Insurgents targeted Iraqi security forces and coalition forces with a suicide car bomb May 10. The blast killed nine Iraqi police and destroyed the police's headquarters building along with Samarra's main water pipeline, causing the majority of the city to lose running water.

Immediately after the attack Paratroopers with Company C, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, and Iraqi police went to work, securing the attacked site and doing what they could to repair the pipeline.

"We were working on (the pipeline) that afternoon to restore the services right after the suicide vehicle-borne improvised-explosive device went off. But (water) pressure of course had to be put back up, so it took a couple days," said 1st Lt. James Lowry, 3rd platoon leader, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division.

After the attack a 24-hour curfew was set, not letting anyone in or out of the city, in order to find the people responsible for the devastation.

Company C's Paratroopers patrolled the streets during the 24-hour curfew to let Samarra's citizens know why the curfew was set in place.

"There may be people who blame the government or coalition regardless of who had done it. Most people understand who did the attack. Most people understand who perpetrates car bombs and suicide bombers... it's not coalition forces and it's not the Iraqi security forces. But they just wanted their services back. They wanted their water," said Lowry.

Now the 24-hour curfew has been lifted and the Paratroopers are still engaging Samarra's citizens to see what they can do to help.



Photos by Sgt. Joshua R. Ford/ 3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

Paratroopers with Company C, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, patrol the streets of Samarra May 22, 2007, after insurgents destroyed the city's police station.

During a recent patrol the Paratroopers approached an Iraqi man washing his jeep. The man was happy to see his water services were working but complained about the power outages in the city.

"The water is fixed but the power still goes in and out," said Jasim Mohamed, who is a shop keeper in Samarra. "Power outages are normal though."

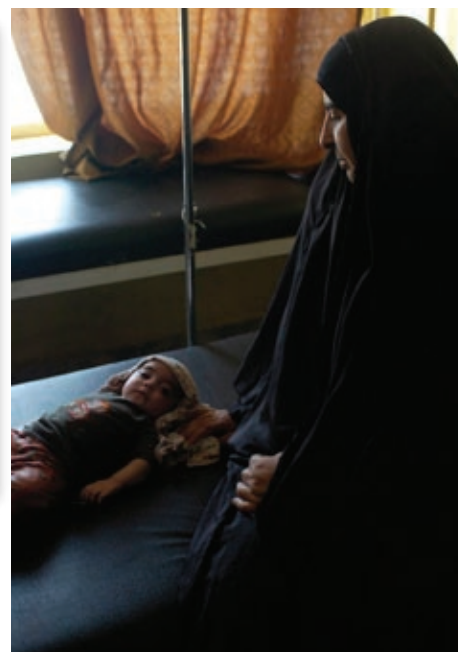
Samarra's hospital still suffers from power outages, but the problem falls out of coalition hands, said Lowry. It is up to the Iraqi government to fix the power issue in Samarra.

The attack was a blow to Iraqi security forces in Samarra. Some Iraqi police quit afterward but the police force still has the manpower to conduct independent operations throughout the city, said Lowry.

"It's definitely a morale blow," said Lowry. "I don't think they're done in Samarra. It will take a little time to re-grow. But one attack isn't going to destroy ISF."



An Iraqi man washes his car while a Paratrooper from Company C, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, talks to him about the water and power situation in the area May, 24 in Samarra, Iraq. Water services were disrupted when a suicide bomber damaged the main water pipeline in the city.

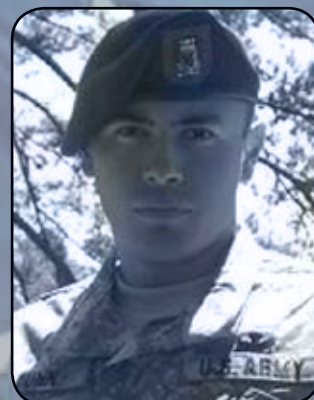


An Iraqi woman sits on a hospital bed next to a window May 24 in Samarra, Iraq. The power goes out frequently at the hospital after a suicide bomber damaged power services in the city.

IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE ...



1LT ANDREW J. BACHEVICH
KIA, 3-8 CAV
SAMARRA, IRAQ
JULY 8, 1979 - MAY 13, 2007



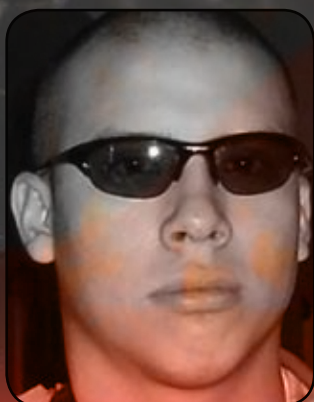
SGT CLAYTON DUNN II
KIA, 2-PANTHER
SAMARRA, IRAQ
NOV 2, 1984 - MAY 26, 2007



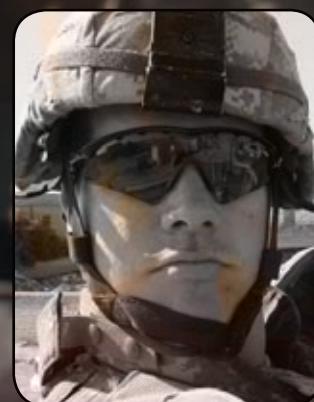
SSG TIMOTHY COLE
KIA, 5-73 CAV
AS SADAH, IRAQ
APRIL 26, 1979 - JUN 6, 2007



SRA WILLIAM NEWMANN
KIA, TF PANTHER
SALAH AD DIN, IRAQ
DEC 8, 1983 - JUN 7, 2007



SPC MICHAEL JAURIGUE
KIA, 2-PANTHER
SAMARRA, IRAQ
AUG 11, 1986 - MAY 26, 2007



SPC GREGORY MILLARD
KIA, 2-PANTHER
SAMARRA, IRAQ
APR 29, 1985 - MAY 26, 2007



SRA JASON NATHAN
KIA, TF PANTHER
TIKRIT, IRAQ
DEC 12, 1984 - JUN 23, 2007



CPL ERIC PALMER
DOW, 1-PANTHER
BAYJI, IRAQ
AUG 20, 1985 - JUNE 24, 2007

505th Parachute Infantry Regiment 82nd Airborne Division



**All the Way!!
H-Minus!!**

