

AnacondaTimes

JULY 18, 2007

PROUDLY SERVING LSA ANACONDA



Photo by Sgt. Michael Connors

Celebrating Independence

Soldiers celebrate Fourth of July with five-kilometer fun run.

Page 4

Following supply circle

Follow along as the 13th SC(E) seamlessly moves supplies behind the scenes.

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Web Image

Cappuccino anyone?

Field-expedient barista does everything but grow the coffee beans.

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Tony Lindback

Spc. Terry Murphy, fire support specialist, driver of an ASV, D Battery, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, pops his head out while doing radio checks before leaving the wire.

Soldiers clear deadly roads to protect logistic convoys

by Staff Sgt. Tony Lindback

Anaconda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq—Combat logistics patrols are responsible for the bulk of supply delivery throughout Iraq. Ensuring safe passage of these CLPs through territory riddled with improvised explosive devices is the job of Soldiers like those in D Battery, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, here.

Ensuring a CLP's ability to deliver what servicemembers need is a task the 1-5 FA has taken on while being managed by the 734th Transportation Battalion, which reports to the

13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary). Failing to protect trucks carrying supplies could result in servicemembers unable to perform missions—or worse, eat. The mission D Battery had the night of June 28 did not start off any different than usual, though every mission has its own identity.

Precombat checks and precombat inspections were completed by the Soldiers in the 2nd squad, 1st platoon, in time for a mission brief. During the brief Soldiers were told the night's mission, and discussed tactical training procedures. After Staff Sgt. Joshua Holthus, the convoy commander, answered

a few questions, it was time to mount the vehicles and prepare to move out.

The mission for the six gun trucks changed before even leaving the gate. They would not be escorting a convoy to Camp Speicher like they had been told. Instead they were tasked with a route clearance mission to Speicher where they would meet up with a convoy of civilian contracted truckers.

Levels of excitement rose in the Soldiers when they heard about the change and started talking about how much faster the trip could be without having to escort trucks. That excitement was quelled when

the gun trucks encountered a 'sweeper team' checking the route.

Sweeper teams are teams of combat engineers who check supply routes for IEDs. Using specialized trucks and equipment, the sweeper teams hunt out and neutralize threats.

Though the sweeper teams slowed the movement on the road, Holthus said "We like to do our thing at our speed, but we have to let the sweeper teams do their job. It makes it safer out on the roads."

With several sweeper teams on the road the journey took about double the time Sol-

See CLP, Page 3

CSM Corner

As transfer of authority season draws to a close and the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) approaches the end of its tour here in Iraq, I want to applaud all the non-commissioned officers and officers of the command team.

You have done a superb job transferring authority to the new brigades. I have not seen any decrease in productivity.

Missions continue uninterrupted and Soldiers in the sustainment brigades and their subordinate units have not

skipped a beat.

This smooth transition would not have been possible without the coaching and mentoring given to Soldiers by NCOs in the field.

Your leadership and the dedication of you and your Soldiers to the mission have been at the heart of our success.

I can also not forget the contributions by the Air Force and Navy.

I could not have asked for a better relationship and team-

work between our services to ensure operational needs were met.

Lastly, keep family and friends back home in your thoughts and prayers, as I know they have done for us.

I know we all look forward to being with them again soon.

See you on the high ground.

- Command Sgt. Maj. Terry Fountain, 13th SC(E) command sergeant major



Courtesy Photo

Soldiers spread word on rewards program

by Sgt. Luis Delgadillo

Anaconda Times staff

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq— Psychological operations Soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade Combat Team dropped leaflets from a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter for villagers in the vicinity of Arab Jabour July 6.

The information on the leaflets included announcements promoting a weapons reward program.

Residents can utilize this program to help Coalition troops eliminate al Qaeda from Arab Jabour. Maj. John A. Brock, 2nd BCT information operations officer, says that the intent of the reward program is to gather information that will lead to the seizure of weapons, explosives caches or high value target locations in exchange for monetary compensation or items of equal value.

Brock, a native of New Orleans, said that people in Arab Jabour can provide information through a tip line.

The program is part of a multifaceted effort taken by 2nd BCT Soldiers to root out al Qaeda resources and eliminate al Qaeda's use of the region as a thoroughfare for weapons into Baghdad.

Other leaflets dropped included curfew notice reminders, the announcement of the capture of one of the 3rd Inf. Div.'s 15 wanted individuals, and a warning to residents of Arab Jabour not to use the Tigris River.

"I think there are a lot of good people up there who want a good life"

Maj. John A. Brock
2nd BCT, 3 ID

Along with an information campaign, Soldiers of the Guardian brigade are also conducting patrols in the region, steadily denying safety to insurgents.

Brock said that the focus isn't just on any one individual who might come forward with intelligence, but that the focus of the program is on the entire community.

"I think there are a lot of good people up there who want a good life," he said.

Though success is not guaranteed, Maj. Daniel Canales, civil affairs officer for the 2nd BCT, says residents in the region are ready to be rid of al Qaeda insurgents.

Canales, who is originally from Point Pleasant, N.J., says the hope in Arab Jabour is that the program mimics the success of similar programs throughout Iraq.

"The key thing there is they've had some false starts before and they need an Iraqi government and a Coalition presence that stays for a while," said Canales.



Photo by Sgt. Luis Delgadillo

Staff Sgt. Shawn Wenninger, noncommissioned officer in charge of information operations for 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division distributes leaflets. The information circulated by Wenninger announces the details of a reward program.

Correction: July 4 Anaconda Times

Article on page 2:
Leadership engagement

Maj. Robert Crouch should be identified as the 13th Sustainment Command DMC Deputy SPO.

If you find any errors in fact in the Anaconda Times please contact us via e-mail:

anaconda.times@balad.iraq.centcom.mil

ANACONDA TIMES 13th SC(E) Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Michael J. Terry

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CLP, from Cover

diers were used to. Uniforms dripped with sweat as Soldiers were exposed to the summer heat combined with the heat produced inside vehicles.

As hot as it was, there was constant communication between the trucks as the Soldier's displayed continued vigilance of their surroundings. Every pothole, every person on the side of the road, every vehicle seen by the gun trucks was observed and checked for threats, then communicated to those on the mission.

"Pothole left – clear – stay right," "two dismounts to the left," and "bongo truck – northbound lane – two passengers," – were just some of the radio chatter that let Soldiers in the rear know what those in the front were seeing and how to react.

Arrival at Speicher was a relief. Soldiers took time to get out of the vehicles, take off body armor, stretch aching muscles, eat and relax as the convoy commander got the details regarding the convoy to be escorted.

Soon it was time to get the gear back on and prepare to move out again.

Outside the wire the interval from lead to trail vehicle was a few thousand meters, amplifying the need to sustain good communications.

Soldiers in the third gun truck were talking about how good the CLP was doing on time on the trip back to Logistical Support Area Anaconda, and even had a piece of wood in the truck to knock on so not to jinx themselves.



Six gun trucks of D Battery, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, were lined up and double checked before starting a route clearance mission from Logistical Support Area Anaconda to Camp Speicher.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Tony Lindback

However, the tribute paid to the old wives tale did not pay off.

Boom! An IED rocked the otherwise still night, and the convoy came to a halt.

"Fives and 25s," could be heard on the radio, telling everyone to be vigilant and check their area for other threats.

Tensions were a high at that moment, but the communication remained calm, concise and professional.

The fives and 25s revealed what looked to be a secondary IED. Air support and Explosive Ordnance Disposal were called in. The truck hit by the device was checked. The voice on the radio said

the driver was okay – a little shaken up, but okay, and the truck was still operational.

Air support arrived at the scene not long after the halt. Hearing was the only sense that announced their arrival. Cloaked in darkness, they were a force to be heard, not seen.

Communication with the air support was as effortless as one guy in a truck turning to another and talking. A target was identified and Hellfire rockets hit hard to ensure no trigger-man could detonate a secondary device. Cheers were heard throughout the gun trucks.

Above the cheers, however, were words of concern

from the trail vehicle gunner, Spc. Corey Eggers who was very close to the rocket impacts.

"Trigger-man must have been really close because those Hellfire's were really loud. They landed right next to us... they were really loud," said Eggers.

With a few jokes, the Soldiers continued to do their business protecting the load. The area was cordoned off from all traffic and continuously monitored for threats.

It was no small amount of time before EOD arrived on the scene. The sense of relief when they did may have been more of a 'light at the end of the tunnel' for the halt, than

it was for the safe removal of the suspected secondary device.

After EOD cleared the area, another voice came on the radio signaling it was time to roll and the convoy moved out. With only one truck having a mechanical problem, the rest of the trip was rather uneventful.

Assistant convoy commander, Staff Sgt. Paul Martin, said "Even though we sometimes have to protect junk being hauled off, we enjoy what we do."

Martin also spoke about what helped his unit prepare for IED hits.

"One of the beneficial things we've had was the IED lane Anaconda has – probably one of the best IED lanes we've seen," he said.

Everyone made the trip to and from with no injuries. The Soldiers met in their area of operation afterward to do an after action review in true Army fashion. One of the 'sustains' that was brought up was the radio communication. The radio communication was so good the battalion commander, who was riding along on the mission, praised his Soldiers in the AAR saying it was the best display of communication he had seen.

Such dedication to the logistics mission keeps the constant life-blood of supplies flowing to camps and servicemembers throughout Iraq. No matter if it is toilet paper, ammunition, or anything else servicemembers need, it is likely brought in by truck. The only way to make sure it gets where it needs to be is to protect the load.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tony Lindback

(Above) All traffic comes to a halt as the gun trucks from the D Battery, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, approaches a 'sweeper team' hunting for improvised explosive devices along the route from Logistical Support Area Anaconda to Camp Speicher. In the distance, on the right, the specialized trucks used by sweeper teams can be seen using a mechanical arm to inspect a possible threat.

(Left) Cpl. Jonathan Simpson, a cannon crew member, gunner in a M1114, D Battery, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, stands in the gun turret long enough to scan his field of fire for possible threats

Combat Stress Control

113th Medical Company (CSC)

433-2402

Individual counseling by appointment or walk-in

Command referrals

Services for combat and operationally stressed soldiers

RELAXATION TECHNIQUES

MONDAY TO SATURDAY

3:30 TO 4 P.M.

STRESS MANAGEMENT

MONDAY AND THURSDAY

10 TO 11 A.M.

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ANGER MANAGEMENT

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

11 A.M. TO NOON

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WEDNESDAY

3 TO 3:30 P.M.

SATURDAY

10:30 TO 11 A.M.

SLEEP HYGIENE

MONDAY AND THURSDAY

6 TO 6:30 P.M.

GOAL SETTING

MONDAY AND THURSDAY

11 A.M. TO NOON

DEPRESSION AWARENESS

WEDNESDAY

2 TO 3 P.M.

SATURDAY

10 TO 10:30 A.M.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

10 TO 11 A.M.

RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

WEDNESDAY

9 TO 11 A.M.

for more information,
email:

melissa.kale@us.army.mil

433-2402

Anaconda celebrates Independence Day with early morning fun run

by Sgt. Michael Connors

Anaconda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq—Even without fireworks, the 4th of July 5K Freedom Run at Holt Memorial Stadium here was a blast for the more than 700 servicemembers who participated.

“At home we’d probably be looking forward to the fireworks ... let’s pray that we don’t have any fireworks this morning,” said Col. Christine Gayagas, deputy commander, 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), as she addressed the runners before the race on the United States’ 231st birthday.

Gayagas thanked servicemembers in her remarks.

“It took a whole lot of years for the United States to become what it is today, and you are in a historic phase of Operation Iraqi Freedom, helping the Iraqi people to seek a similar cause,” she said. “Thank you for what each of you do for this cause.”

Gayagas concluded her remarks with historical information on the National Anthem, before a group of servicemembers sang it a cappella.

The “Star-Spangled Banner” was written by Francis Scott Key while he was held captive by the British in the War of 1812.

“This song commemorates



Photo by Sgt. Michael Connors

Staff Sgt. Vito Fatutoa, operations NCO, HHC, 163rd Military Intelligence Battalion, runs along side Staff Sgt. Joshua Sekutera, supply sergeant, B Company, 163rd Military Intelligence Battalion, who proudly carries the American Flag during the 4th of July five-kilometer run here.

the U.S. flag that was visible by the light of the rocket’s red glare and the bombs bursting in air,” she said. “The view of this flag through the night of bombs bursting inspired him and provided hope to the United States as it defended Fort McHenry.”

Maj. Cynthia Lerch, 4th Corps Materiel Management Center S-3, organized the fun run with help from Capt.

Robert Vandertuin, Morale, Welfare and Recreation officer in charge, 657th Area Support Group.

“This is something the SC(E) wanted to do—some type of organized event before we left theater—and this is our freedom run,” said Lerch.

Though it was a fun run, times were announced as competitors crossed the fin-

ish line.

Anaconda’s preeminent runner, 1st Lt. Anthony Calingo, 368th Cargo Transfer Company, finished well ahead of the field at 16:15.

Staff Sgt. Kyla Boersma, 734th Transportation Battalion, lead the females, turning in a 20:44.

“I’m just happy to do an-

See 5K, Page 12



Photos by Sgt. Michael Connors

(Above) Runners woke up at the crack of dawn to show their patriotism at the 4th of July five-kilometer held here.

(Left) Maj. Cynthia Lerch, 4th CMMC S-3 (left); Col. Christine Gayagas, 13th SC(E) deputy commander (middle); Maj. Vernon Jakoby, 4th CMMC executive officer (right) salute the flag during the singing of the “Star-Spangled Banner” preceding the 4th of July 5K Freedom Run here.

Wing provides combat airpower during Operation Arrowhead Ripper in Baquba

by 1st Lt. Shannon Collins

332nd Air Expeditionary Wing

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq — F-16s and A-10s from the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing here continue to provide airpower support for U.S. Army, Marine and coalition ground troops during Operation Arrowhead Ripper in Baquba, Iraq.

About 10,000 Soldiers with a full complement of attack helicopters, close air support, Strykers and Bradley Fighting Vehicles, are participating in and supporting Operation Arrowhead Ripper throughout Diyala Province.

Throughout the last two weeks, the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing's F-16s and A-10s have joined the coalition effort to target enemy fighters by conducting systematic, deliberate clearing of weapons caches, bomb factories and terrorist safehouses.

F-16 Fighting Falcons conducted shows of force for ground forces near Baquba July 1. An F-16 dropped a GBU-12 on a house suspected of being booby-trapped with an IED June 30. The house and IED were destroyed by the bomb. The pilots watched over ground forces clearing a two block area. A-10 Thunderbolt IIs from Al Asad Airfield dropped GBU-12s on a building there as well June 30. The bombs destroyed the building where insurgents were hiding. The A-10s then strafed enemy targets hiding in a palm grove with cannon rounds.

The F-16 and A-10 units are led by Brig. Gen. Burton Field, 332nd AEW commander.

"I'm very proud of the support our Airmen have provided



Photo by 1st Lt. Shannon Collins

Airman 1st Class Mark Drennen, a 332nd Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron weapons load team member deployed from Misawa Air Base, Japan, removes the safety pin on an F-16 Fighting Falcon 20mm gun before a combat mission here. The 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing has three F-16 squadrons, consisting of active duty Airmen, Air National Guardsmen and Air Force Reservists. The wing's F-16s are currently playing key close air support and show of force roles in Baqubah for Operation Arrowhead Ripper.

to our Army and Marine brothers and sisters," he said. "We're helping the people of Iraq take back their country from the terrorists."

In addition to providing reconnaissance, shows of forces and nearly around-the-clock armed overwatch for coalition ground forces June 20 to 23. The F-16s dropped GBU-12s and GBU-38s on IED factories and emplacements, and an A-10 dropped a GBU-12 on an

IED location. Joint terminal attack controllers coordinated the attacks and confirmed the direct hits.

Capt. Pete Johnson, 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division Air Liaison Officer, works with terminal attack control teams consisting of JTACs and tactical air command and control specialists.

"There are four battalions of Soldiers on the objective the entire time without interruption," he said. "On many occasions, the JTACs were able to leverage close air support to enable the fight to go forward. We employed munitions 49 different times so far during the operation. This has been a huge enabler."

Johnson, deployed from Ft. Lewis, Wash., said having F-16s and A-10s provide 24-hour CAS coverage "is a huge help to the overall fight.

"This operation is enormous in scope and could not have been handled successfully without coordinated fires -- this being CAS, artillery and

attack aviation," he said. "The JTACs continue to be a critical link in the kill chain."

Johnson was previously stationed with one of the 332nd AEW's F-16 units.

"Although I was never fortunate enough to deploy and fly a combat sortie with them, I felt honored to be able to provide terminal attack control as a JTAC to them," he said. "On a previous visit to Balad, I promised them first class CAS control, and I like to think that my Airmen were able to deliver. The infantrymen of the Arrowhead Brigade are acutely aware of the presence and contributions of the United States Air Force on a daily basis during this operation."

The operation was launched by Task Force Lightning to eliminate al Qaeda terrorists in Iraq. Included in this operation are more than 1,000 Iraqi Army soldiers and a comparable number of Iraqi police.

"These criminals will know no safe place to hide in Diyala," said Army Brig. Gen. Mick Bednarek, Deputy Com-

mand General for Operations, Task Force Lightning and Multinational Division North, in a Multi-National Corps-Iraq press release. "The people of Diyala are tired of the terror and violence these al Qaeda thugs have brought to their province and are cooperating with us in order to root them out."

As the Soldiers moved through Baquba and the surrounding areas, they discovered at least two weapons caches containing assault weapons, grenades, rocket launchers, large and small caliber ammunition and explosives. Ground forces also coordinated a precision-guided munitions strike to destroy a known al Qaeda weapons cache located inside a safe house, and reported a large secondary explosion due to the munitions the terrorists stored inside.

As the coalition forces continue the ground mission, the Airmen from Balad Air Base, located about 40 miles north of Baghdad, continue to launch a significant amount of Air Force



Photo by 1st Lt. Shannon Collins

Airman 1st Class Mark Drennen, a 332nd Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron weapons load team member, checks the fins of an AIM-120 AMRAAM Missile on an F-16 Fighting Falcon before a combat mission here.

Apache pilots evacuate wounded Soldier in Ramadi firefight

by Staff Sgt. Lorin T. Smith

36th Combat Aviation Brigade PAO

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq— Apache pilots from Company B, 1st Battalion, 149th Aviation Regiment (Attack), 36th Combat Aviation Brigade and Company A, 2nd Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment, 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, engaged several Anti-Iraqi Forces personnel and heroically saved a critically-wounded Soldier's life during a firefight in Ar Ramadi, Iraq, June 30.

Two Attack Weapons Teams (with two AH-64 helicopters making up a team) flew to Ramadi in support of Coalition Forces in search of insurgents and weapons caches.

The teams reached Ramadi and received notice that Coalition Forces were taking heavy small arms fire from enemy forces.

In order to maximize the helicopters' time in the air over a potential target, one team immediately went to the Ramadi Forward Arming and Refueling Point and the other Attack Weapons Team flew into the fight to engage the enemy.

They engaged Anti-Iraqi Forces with 30 millimeter cannon fire and neutralized the enemy. The team then proceeded to support other Coalition Forces who were engaged by AIF personnel using two tractor trailers as cover. They engaged the AIF personnel with 30 millimeter cannon fire and 2.75-inch rockets.

The crew took small arms

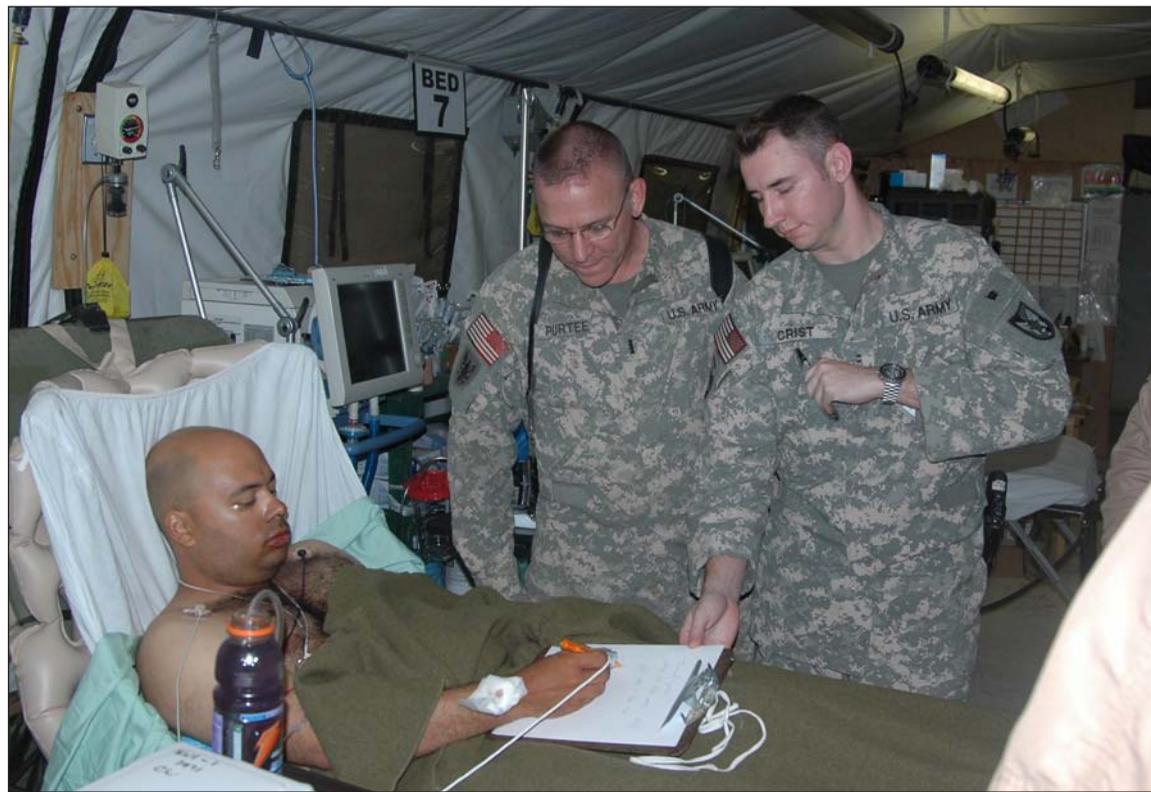


Photo by Maj. Gregory T. O'Connor

Chief Warrant Officer Allen Crist and Chief Warrant Officer Kevin Purtee, Company B, 1st Battalion, 149th Aviation Regiment (Attack), 36th Combat Aviation Brigade, checks on the medical condition of Spc. Jeffrey Jamaeldine, Company C, 1st Battalion, 77th Armor, after an unusual Casualty Evacuation in Ar Ramadi, Iraq.

fire and multiple enemy rounds to their aircraft. Despite the small arms fire, the Attack Weapons Team successfully destroyed the tractor trailers, which had secondary explosions, indicating to the crew that the trailers were possibly used as Vehicle-Born Improvised Explosive Devices.

The crew stayed on station with the Coalition Forces until fuel levels became critically low, at which point the team returned to the FARP to refuel.

Due to battle damage sustained, the Apache team per-

formed a battle handoff to the second Attack Weapons Team and flew back to LSA Anaconda.

The second team entered the engagement area in Ramadi and received notification that Coalition Forces were still taking heavy enemy fire.

The Attack Weapons Team shot hundreds of 30 millimeter cannon rounds and multiple 2.75-inch rockets, and expended all of their ammunition. As the team returned to the FARP to rearm and refuel, the ground forces commander

informed the crews that he was in the process of coordinating a Medical Evacuation to transport wounded Soldiers off the battlefield to include one critically-wounded.

Approximately 40 minutes later, after rearming and refueling, the team went back to the Area of Operations and was informed that the MEDEVAC aircraft had not yet arrived.

Due to the critically-wounded Soldier and despite continued enemy activity with the possibility of significant small arms fire attacks, the Company

B aviators made the decision to land and extract the critically-wounded casualty with the Apache helicopter.

While the Company A crew provided overhead security in this enemy-contested area, the Company B crew landed within two kilometers of the enemy position.

Upon landing, the Co-Pilot/Gunner jumped out of the aircraft and helped load the injured Soldier into the front seat without further injury.

Despite the knowledge of heavy small arms fire and surface-to-air fire events in the area and in complete disregard for his own safety, the Co-Pilot/Gunner strapped himself onto the left side of the aircraft and hunkered down on the wing.

The Pilot flew to Camp Ar Ramadi medical pad, where emergency medical personnel provided treatment. The team went back to the fight and continued to provide aerial support for Coalition Forces.

Upon successfully neutralizing the AIF, the crew broke station and returned to LSA Anaconda.

Due to the extent of the battle damage, one AIF personnel was confirmed Killed In Action, but multiple AIF personnel were killed in conjunction with ground forces.

No further battle damage assessments could be made at this time. The wounded Soldier has been transferred to LSA Anaconda and is in stable condition.

Worship services

PROTESTANT – TRADITIONAL

Sunday 9:30 a.m.
USAF Hospital Chapel
9:30 a.m. Provider Chapel
10 a.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)
5 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)
7:30 p.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel

PROTESTANT – GOSPEL

Sunday 11 a.m.
MWR East Building
11:30 a.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)
2 p.m. Air Force Hospital

7 p.m. Provider Chapel

PROTESTANT – PRAISE & WORSHIP

Sunday 9 a.m. MWR East Building
9 a.m. Eden Chapel
7 p.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)
7:30 p.m. Eden Chapel

PROTESTANT – SAMOAN CONGREGATIONAL

Sunday 4 p.m.
Provider Chapel

PROTESTANT – CONTEMPORARY

Sunday 10 a.m.
Town Hall (H-6)
Wednesday 8 p.m.
Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Sunday 9 a.m.
Signal Chapel

NON-DENOMINATIONAL SPANISH

Sunday 2 p.m.
Freedom Chapel (West Side)

LATTER DAY SAINTS (LDS)

Sunday 1 p.m.
Provider Chapel

4 p.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)
4 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

Saturday 5 p.m.
Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)
8 p.m. Provider Chapel

Sunday 8:30 p.m.
Freedom Chapel (West Side)

9 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

11 a.m. Provider Chapel

11 a.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel
Mon-Fri 5 p.m.

Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday 2 p.m.
Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

ISLAMIC PRAYER

Friday 12:30 p.m.
Provider Chapel

PROTESTANT-LITURGICAL

Sunday 7 p.m.
Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)
Wednesday 8 a.m.
Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

FRIDAY SHABBAT SERVICE

Friday 7 p.m.
Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

13 SC(E) units fuel fire as surge turns up heat

by Staff Sgt. Tony Lindback

Anaconda Times staff

AL TAQQADUM, Iraq— As the increase of American forces adds pressure to anti-Iraqi forces, demand for fuel to support operations also increases.

Soldiers here, who fall under the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), are ramping up operations and capability to meet the need.

Maj. Don Wols, support operations officer, 264th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, said the current fuel storage capability will increase drastically in the near future.

Executive Officer, Maj. Jeffrey Kemp, 264th, said the growing need for fuel will be met by TQ expanding its fuel farm enabling them to have a small surplus of fuel on hand when there is a delay or shortage of fuel coming in from neighboring countries to the west.

Things that could kink the hose, Wols said, could be “Any kind of lines of communication interdiction, anytime a critical bridge might be blown or a critical road might become untrafficable, a political move that shuts off a border crossing, or simply a need to divert forces to another area – an-



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tony Lindback

(Above) Sgt. Jacob Hamersly, motor transport operator, 40th Transportation Company, 264th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), hooks up a hose to download fuel from a tanker to a fuel farm at Camp Falluja.

(Below left) Marine Cpl. Nicholas J. Muzloff, bulk fuel specialist, Combat Logistics Battalion Six, Camp Falluja, helps hook up and download fuel from a 40th Transportation Company tanker to the fuel farm. The fuel being downloaded supports the surge as well as other ongoing operations in the area.

other mission.”

Soldiers in the 40th Transportation Company, a unit under the control of the

264th, are the ‘green fleet’ fuel haulers for TQ.

Called green fleet because they are military, they work with ‘white fleet’, civilian contracted tankers, to transport approximately 1.3 million gallons of fuel from TQ to places like Falluja, Ramadi and Baghdad where it is used for ground vehicles, aircraft and generators.

Sgt. Jacob Hamersly, motor transport operator, 40th TC, said, “The military runs off vehicles... So you got to have fuel for vehicles.”

Making sure coalition forces have the fuel to get the job done has had Hamersly, a native of Norfolk, Va., on the road for 30,000 miles delivering fuel in the three months he has been in country.

The fuel is used to support joint operations and often has Hamersly working side by side with Marines to ensure proper downloading of the bulk fuel delivery.

Marine Cpl. Nicholas J. Mulzoff, bulk fuel specialist, Combat Logistics Battalion Six, Camp Falluja, said he is in the fuel yard every other day, except for Sundays, receiving fuel.

He also said the fuel is used for all operations in the area of operation.

“The JP-8 is for all the generators on Camp Falluja, and all the vehicles that go in and out of Camp Falluja,” he said.

For the most part, JP-8 is the single battlefield fuel, said Wols.

JP-8 powers nearly every tactical vehicle and is used in aircraft as well and is the

bulk of the fuel the 264th is stockpiling and transporting.

Soldiers of the 264th are ensuring the delivery of fuel needed to support ongoing operations throughout the Multi-National Forces-West region and Baghdad.

Hamersly said, “If we don’t push the fuel units can’t complete their mission. We push the fuel – they get the job done.”



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tony Lindback

Pictured is one of many fuel storage containers located in Al Taqqadum, Iraq. With another expansion in the works, the capacity will grow substantially.

Following the circle of supply

A day in the life of a part in

story and photos by Sgt. Michael G. Connors

Anaconda Times Staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq— The motto of the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) is “Phantom Support” because the intent is to move supplies seamlessly behind the scenes.

To understand logistics, let’s look at how a Hawker battery (National Stock Number 6140-01-485-1472) for a five-ton truck moves all the way through the supply chain from start to finish.

Why a Hawker battery to illustrate the supply chain? Sgt. Gregg Irvin, Unit Level Logistics System-Ground operator, 758th Maintenance Company, said he frequently orders this battery for the motor pool he works in.

Irvin said the part is not always in stock and sometimes takes a few weeks to arrive, meaning it is probably moving through the entire supply chain to get to him.

However, regardless of the part, the supply system is the same, said Chief Warrant Officer Paul Orthel, Iraq theater class 9 manager, 4th Corps Materiel Management Center.

“Whether it’s a million dollar Chinook engine or a 10-cent fuse, the request and flow of the parts is basically the same,” he said.

The first step in the supply process for the Hawker battery is DA Form 5988-E. A mechanic uses this form to annotate any faults with a vehicle and any parts needed to fix the fault.

In our example, the battery is deficient, so the mechanic inputs its abbreviated NSN on the 5988-E. Irvin looks at the 5988-E and sees that he needs to order the battery.

Then Irvin uses ULLS-G, a software program, to create a supply request in which he inputs the NSN for the battery. Once a day before 10 a.m., Irvin takes a floppy disk with his requests in ULLS-G format to the Class 9 Supply Support Activity here. The Class 9 SSA is, in other words, a repair-parts yard. Some units here use file transfer protocol to digitally send supply requests to the SSA instead of the disk drop-off option.

An employee at the Class 9 SSA takes Irvin’s disk and inputs the request for the battery to the Standard Army Retail Supply System 1, a logistics computer system. Once the request is inputted to SARSS-1, it is automatically inputted to SARSS-2 as well, a logistics computer system at the next stage of the supply chain.

“They’re very friendly and helpful at the SSA,” said Irvin. “They offer you water, ask if you need help carrying your parts out to your vehicle. The level of customer service is far

beyond what you’d get anywhere in the states even if you’re paying for it.”

SARSS-1 checks to see if the battery is in stock at the Class 9 SSA. If the battery is not in stock, then SARSS-2 checks the Forward Redistribution Point here. The FRP is a supply yard consisting of excess supply.

If the FRP does not have the battery, then the request goes from SARSS-2 up through various logistics computer systems including the Defense Automated Addressing System. DAAS distributes the request to one of many National Inventory Control Points. The NICP computer system checks all of its depots worldwide for the battery.

Assuming the battery is at one of the depots, a material release order would be cut for the item.

Then the battery is shipped from the depot to a designated Consolidation and Containerization Point.

All supply items get an air eligibility code to determine the method of shipment. The battery is packed or palletized based on the code. (Most supply items are flown into theater.)

From the CCP, the battery is most likely flown to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey. Once the item is flown to the air base, it is probably transferred to a different aircraft for a flight to an Aerial Port of Debarkation (in this case, Balad Air Base).

Once at Balad, the battery is moved by truck to the Class 9 SSA, where Irvin picks it up. He brings it back to the motor pool, and voila, the part is ready for the mechanic to install in a five-ton truck.

The standard for customer wait-time for a part from the Class 9 SSA is 15 days, said Chief Warrant Officer Herman Perkins, class 9 accountable officer here, 758th MC. Perkins’ goal, though, is an average of 10 days.

However, out of the over 9,000 parts that the Class 9 SSA stocks, only about 500 are not currently on hand. That means the majority of requests are filled right away, usually in one day.

“We do a good job at getting customers what they need,” said Perkins. “Actually we’re very good at getting customers what they need.”

“Whether it’s a million dollar Chinook engine or a 10-cent fuse, the request and flow of the parts is basically the same.”

CWO Paul Orthel
4th CMMC



Web Image

Supply... in 'phantom support' system



1
Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Casto, 758th Maintenance Company, picks up parts at the Class 9 Supply Support Activity here.

2 Staff Sgts. Anthony and Cynthia Martinez, 324th Integrated Theater Signal Battalion, drop off their supply requests at the Class 9 Supply Support Activity here.



3 Chief Warrant Officer Herman Perkins, class 9 accountable officer here, works in his office at the Class 9 Supply Support Activity.

4 A Hawker battery installed in a five-ton truck. The battery is a common item ordered by motor-pool supply clerks



5 Five-ton truck is once again mission capable after receiving battery.

Lattes in Iraq: Not Average Joe's cup of joe

by Staff Sgt. Tony Lindback

Anaconda Times staff

AL TAQQADUM, Iraq— Being offered a cup of joe by a Soldier is not out of the ordinary. Not even in Iraq. Being offered a latte, cappuccino, espresso or a mocha is.

Coffee is more than a beverage to Maj. Jeffrey Kemp, executive officer, 264th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, here.

“Maj. Kemp, along with several other entrepreneurs, started this deployed coffee making pastime two years ago at LSA Anaconda,” said Maj. Don Wols, support operations officer, 264th CSSB. “It was a hit and definitely gave folks something to talk about other than work.”

Kemp has more money invested in equipment and raw coffee beans from all parts of the world than some people have in their first cars.

For him, there is more to coffee than dumping grounds into a filter and letting the instant-drip machine do the rest.

“I’ve always liked coffee, but I never had this, you know, anything like this,” said Kemp.

What he was referring to was the coffee bean roaster he uses to bring his assortment of beans to the right roast for his taste.

The roaster Kemp uses was donated for use during the deployment, though he said he is thinking of buying



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tony Lindback

Maj. Jeffrey Kemp, executive officer, 264th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, pours coffee beans into a roaster.

the piece of equipment with an estimated worth between \$6,000 and \$7,000 at the end of his deployment.

“When people ask for coffee beans from Maj. Kemp, they are always shocked when he asks them how they want

them cooked,” said Wols.

When Kemp is not making coffee, he is managing bulk fuel storage and delivery.

Ironically, that is the same thing Kemp said is the biggest challenge for him to overcome with roasting coffee

— getting fuel for the roaster.

Propane is not as easy to get here as it is in the U.S. he said.

Once he found a propane tank he ran into other obstacles like hooking up his machine. It was designed to be used with propane tanks in the U.S., not tanks used in Iraq.

“That was my hardest challenge once getting into country, because it’s totally different than the ones in the states. The nozzle is a lot different than in the states,” said Kemp.

With the connection hurdle overcome there is only one other issue to resolve — finding a steady source of propane.

“I was able to get it refilled in Balad, but we don’t go to Balad anymore. So, I have to rework that and try to figure out how to get propane here to keep this going,” he said.

Having enough coffee roasted to last between shortages of propane, Kemp is able to put his \$900 espresso machine in his office to good use.

Of course, that is only after grinding the beans to the

“When people ask for coffee beans from Maj. Kemp, they are always shocked when he asks them how they want them cooked.”

Maj. Don Wols
264th CSSB

right consistency in his \$400 grinder.

The unlikely barista can be found making tasty concoctions in his office and has even filled the special requests from Brig. Gen. Michael Terry, commanding general, 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), who Kemp said likes lattes.

“What kind of coffee do you like? Brazilian? South American? African,” asked Kemp. “Ethiopian is really a good coffee. Kenyan is a good coffee and Brazil... And I also have Guatemalan. Guatemalan really tastes good in the espresso machine we have down in the coffee house. It really does well in that one — but, whichever one you want. It’s all good. It’s all good.”



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tony Lindback

Maj. Jeffrey Kemp, executive officer, 264th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, prepares a cup of coffee brewed from the beans he roasted, ground and put through his espresso machine.

Qarghuli village residents lead troops to caches

Multi-National Division – Center
2nd BCT, 10th Mtn. Div. PAO

QARGHULI VILLAGE, Iraq— Residents of a village south of Baghdad, long a terrorist hot spot, led U.S. forces to major weapons caches near their town July 6.

Soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) out of Fort Drum, N.Y., were taken to a series of 12 caches – and insurgents responsible for them – by local villagers.

A local man who claimed to have knowledge of a large cache complex approached the patrol and walked the Soldiers from site to site, pointing out each cache. He then took the patrol to two men, whom he said were responsible for collecting and hiding the weapons.

One cache contained a rocket-propelled grenade launching kit – still in the box; six fuses for 82mm mortars, an 82mm round prepared as an improvised explosive device, two resealable plastic bags containing maps, books and a guard roster, a set of ballistic eyeglasses, two bags of homemade explosive, a rocket launcher with two tubes, a rocket engine, a videotape, and photos.

Another contained nine 60mm mortar rounds with 11 fuses, about 55 blasting caps, a block of HME, seven empty 60mm mortar shells, an RPG fuse, 18 feet of detonation cord, a ten-pound bag of black powder, and 28 rocket tips.

Another contained nine 120mm mortar rounds, two



U.S. Army Photo

Soldiers from Company C, 4-31 Inf., 2nd Brigade, 10h Mountain Div., dig for buried mortar rounds. They were led to the series of 12 weapons caches by a local informant in Qarghuli Village, Iraq near the site of the May 12 attack. The caches contained mortars, rockets and IED making materials.

AK-47 rifles, two 105mm rounds, 20 pounds of HME, 20 AK-47 magazines, and several mortar fuses.

Another held 61 60mm rounds, five 120mm rounds and seven charges for the 120mm rounds.

An extensive cache contained a 107mm rocket, five hand grenades, a video camera, a 105mm round rigged as an IED, three grenade fuses, a front plate to a radio, two handheld walkie-talkies, 66

sticks of dynamite, 20 pounds of black powder, 20 blasting caps and 20 pounds of HME, 20 feet of detonation cord, a pressure plate for an IED, a sniper instruction CD, a long-range cordless telephone and a homemade boat with two paddles.

Another contained 43 mortar fuses, two AK-47 magazines, 18 load-bearing vests, a cellular telephone and battery, and 10 mortar primers.

The explosives were de-

stroyed by explosive ordnance disposal teams; several other items were seized for further examination.

The area where the caches were found is approximately one kilometer from the site of the May 12 attack where four U.S. Soldiers and an Iraqi soldier were killed and three U.S. Soldiers were captured. One of the Soldiers was later found dead in the Euphrates

River, the remaining two are officially listed as “missing-captured.”

Residents, fed up with the violence plaguing their neighborhood, have repeatedly revealed al Qaeda-affiliated terrorists in the area to patrolling Soldiers.

Two Iraqis associated with the caches were detained by the Soldiers and taken into custody for questioning.



U.S. Army Photo

Soldiers from Company C, 4-31 Inf., 2nd Brigade, 10h Mountain Div. walk away from a controlled detonation.



U.S. Army Photos

Soldiers from Company C, 4-31 Inf., 2nd Brigade, 10h Mountain Div. were led to a series of 12 weapons caches which contained mortars, rockets and IED making materials.





Photos by Sgt. Michael Connors

(Above) Three "Spartans" (background) with cardboard shields run in the 4th of July 5K Freedom Run here. During the race, one fell behind and was heard saying, "Ahh-Woosh! Do not leave me my fellow Spartans!"

(Lower left) First Lt. Anthony Calingo, 368th CTC, finishes the 4th of July 5K Freedom Run here with the top time of 16:15.

(Lower right) Staff Sgt. Kyla Boersma, 734th TB, approaches the finish line at the 4th of July 5K Freedom Run here. She was the top female, finishing with a time of 20:44.

5K, from Page 4

other race on the 4th of July," said Calingo. "Every year on the 4th I try to run a race, so I'm happy to continue the tradition."

Calingo said that his time was a little bit off his best but that it was a pretty good time for him.

He endorsed the flat course for yielding an enjoyable,

smooth run.

Boersma had her career-best run, but she did it for more than the top finish.

"I try to get involved in all the stuff here," said Boersma. "It keeps your mind off going home, keeps you busy."

Boersma partly attributed her success to the running club here and invited all servicemembers to join.

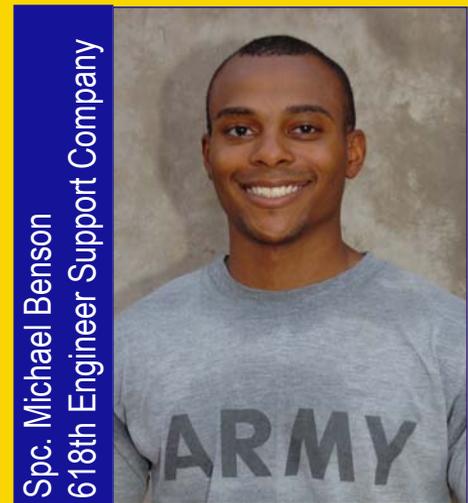
The club meets on the Holt Memorial Stadium track Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7:30 p.m.

Derch added that all the staff in her section had been wonderful in helping her make this event happen.

In addition to fun, participants received a free t-shirt commemorating the run and enjoyed refreshments after the race.



On the street with Sgt. Jasmine Chopra
"What is your favorite exercise?"



Spc. Michael Benson
618th Engineer Support Company

"Benching, because it works the chest and you need a lot of power to develop it."



Spc. Mary Liken
22nd Personnel Services Battalion

"The treadmill, because it makes me sweat, and I feel really good after I'm done."



Capt. William Woods
13th SC(E)

"Abdominal exercises. I used to never have abs till I started working out in August 06. Now you can wash clothes on my abs."

Shout outs from home

William G. Perry

Hey Pappy, How are you doing? All is well back home. We miss you very much and are ready for your return so we can all get together again and stay up late singing songs that we all know. It will happen, I guarantee it. Hang in there tiger. Love you and miss you. Nick

Bradley Dees

Hi Daddy, Pumpkin butt!! I miss you big bunches and can't wait to see you again. I'm being a good big sister and I'm excited to start kindergarten at the end of this month! I wish you could come with me on my first day of school! I love you, silly goose!!
Love,
Tayla

Stephen Brucken

We LOVE and MISS you.

Hope you had a good birthday. Wish you were here, we would of done a barbecue for you. Everything is good here. Can't wait for you to come home. We have a pool now for you to play in. Your truck is doing fine.
Love always,
Wendy Aimyee here in Kansas

LB Pace

We think about you everyday! The "kids" miss Uncle Will. We are ALL so very PROUD of you! Walk tall little brother! Can't wait till you are home. Miss you so much!
Mooches!
Love,
Sister

Bradley Dees

I just wanted to let you know we're all thinking of you. Two years sure is a long time away from the person you love, isn't

it? Regardless, Tayla, Logan, and I will always remain waiting for your safe return. We are so proud of you and appreciate the sacrifices you've made for us. I love you....
Semper Fidelis.
Much Love and Aloha,
Carlyn

Luis Delgadillo

We miss you very much and are following your stories very closely. We are proud of everything you are doing. Stay safe and Alert.
Love,
Mariela, Frank and your big sis

Bryan Boykin

Well, things are really heating up here in Arizona, 116 today. Wish you were home here with your family. We miss you.
Love,
Dad

Chad Fritz

Hi honey!
We miss and love you so much. Can't wait til you get home.
Love you always
Chrissy, Arianna and Corbin

Bradley Dees

Hi A-Da!!
I'm growing up so fast and can't wait to finally spend time with you.
I love you!
Logan (AKA. Buddha!)

Kalen Smith

I am so determined to wait for you. I cannot ever see myself wanting to share with anyone else, what I share with you. You mean a great deal to me and I think we belong together forever! I am crazy, madly in love with you.
Love,
Ben

Want to see your shout-outs here?

Your family can E-mail us at:



anaconda.times@balad.iraq.centcom.mil



SUSTAINER REEL TIME THEATER

(Schedule is subject to change)

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Wednesday, July 18 | |
| 5 p.m. | Transformers (PG-13) |
| 8 p.m. | The Invisible (PG-13) |
| Thursday, July 19 | |
| 5 p.m. | Spiderman 3 (PG-13) |
| 8 p.m. | Transformers (PG-13) |
| Friday, July 20 | |
| 2 p.m. | Georgia Rule (R) |
| 5 p.m. | Lucky You (PG-13) |
| 8:30 p.m. | Harry Potter (PG-13) |
| Saturday, July 21 | |
| 2 p.m. | 28 Weeks Later (R) |
| 5 p.m. | Harry Potter (PG-13) |
| 8 p.m. | Spiderman 3 (PG-13) |
| Sunday, July 22 | |
| 2 p.m. | Harry Potter (PG-13) |
| 5 p.m. | Georgia Rule (R) |
| 8 p.m. | The Condemned (R) |
| Monday, July 23 | |
| 5 p.m. | Lucky You (PG-13) |
| 8 p.m. | Harry Potter (PG-13) |
| Tuesday, July 24 | |
| 5 p.m. | The Condemned (R) |
| 8 p.m. | Harry Potter (PG-13) |

http://jennypouse.com

Jenny, the Military Spouse

The Hierarchy of Duration

LAST WEEK'S MINUTES, LADIES
DH IS COMING HOME TOMORROW. FINALLY!! I CAN'T WAIT!
I KNOW. CONGRATULATIONS.
AWWWW, SWEETIE. HOW LONG HAS HE BEEN GONE?
TWO WEEKS.
TWO WEEKS??
HAHA HAHA HAHA HAHA
DON'T WORRY. HE'LL BE GONE LONGER NEXT TIME.
GEE, I HOPE SO!

http://www.pvtmurphy.com

Pvt. Murphy's Law

SPIRIT OF THE BAYONET!
KILL!
SPIRIT OF THE BAYONET!
KILL!
RED, RED BLOOD MAKES THE GRASS GROW GREEN, DRILL SGT!
I BET THIS PARTICULAR RITUAL WOULD GIVE PETER JENNINGS A CONNIPITION!

Spc. Brian Wilson, 206th ASMC

Back of the Formation

HEAD UP TO CHOW AND GET FOOD FOR THE WHOLE OFFICE
13 PEANUT BUTTER SANDWICHES, WITH MAYO, DEEP FRIED, WITH PIZZA SAUCE
OUI, MONSIEUR
NEVER AGAIN, PRIVATE
SWEET
Your Country Needs Sugar

July 18

Spades & Ping Pong
2 a.m. and 8 p.m., H6 MWR

Dance Aerobics
5:30 a.m., East Fitness Center

9-Ball Tourney
3 p.m. and 8 p.m.,
East MWR

Spin Class
3:30 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Aikido
5-7 p.m., East Fitness Center

Step Aerobics
5:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Hawaiian Dance Practice
6 p.m., MWR Circuit Gym

Open Volleyball
7 p.m., East Fitness Center

Aerobics
7 p.m., West MWR

Green Bean Karaoke
8 p.m., West MWR

Cardio Funk
8 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

8-Ball Tourney
8 p.m., West MWR

Floor Hockey
8 to 10 p.m., MWR Circuit Gym

Salsa Dance Class
8:30 p.m., West MWR

Martial Arts
9 p.m. West MWR

July 19

9-Ball Tourney
2 a.m. and 8 p.m., H6 MWR

Spin Center
6 a.m., H6 Fitness Center

Tae Kwon Do 1
8 - 9 a.m., East Fitness Center

Aikido
10:00 a.m. to noon., East Fitness
Center

Korean Martial Arts
4:30 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Intermediate Swim Lessons
6 p.m., Indoor Pool

ANACONDA ACTIVITIES

Your one-stop connection to activities around LSA Anaconda
to add your activity to the event calendar, email anaconda.times@balad.iraq.centcom.mil

Country/Western Dance Class
7 p.m., East MWR

Tae Kwon Do 2
7 - 8:30 p.m., East Fitness
Center

Pilates
7:30 p.m., West Fitness Center

Water Aerobics
7:45 p.m., Indoor Pool

Console Game Tourney
8 p.m., West MWR

Dodgeball League
8 p.m., Circuit Gym

Karaoke Night
8:30 p.m., H6 MWR

July 20

Dance Aerobics
5:30 a.m., East Fitness Center

Spin Class
3:30 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Step Aerobics
5:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Open Volleyball
7 p.m., West Fitness Center

Friday Night Spikes
7 p.m., East Fitness Center

Hip-Hop Dance Class
7-11 p.m., East MWR

Self Defense Class
7:30 p.m., West Fitness Center

Hip-Hop Coffee Shop
8 p.m., West MWR

Scrabble Tourney
8 p.m., West MWR

Chess Tourney
8 p.m., West MWR

R&B Music Night
9:30 p.m., H6 MWR

July 21

Pilates
11 a.m., West Fitness Center

Boxing
3 to 4:30 p.m., West Fitness
Center

Aikido
5-7 p.m., East Fitness Center

Aerobics
7 p.m., West MWR

Salsa Dance Class
7 p.m., East MWR

Tae Kwon Do 2
7 - 8:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Country/Western Dance Class
8 p.m., West MWR

Texas Hold'em
8 p.m., West MWR

Bingo Night
8:30 p.m., H6 MWR

Wrestling
9 p.m., West Fitness Center

July 22

Spin Class
1:30 a.m., H6 Fitness Center

Aikido
10 a.m. to noon, East Fitness
Center

Magic, The Gathering
11 a.m., West MWR

Boxing
3 to 4:30 p.m., West Fitness
Center

Poker
7 p.m., East MWR

Poetry Night
7 p.m., East MWR

Swing Dance
7:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Gaston's Self Defense
7:30 p.m., West Fitness Center

Green Bean Karaoke
8 p.m., West MWR

Spades, Dominoes & R&B
8 p.m., West MWR

Abs Salute
8 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Salsa Dance Class
8:30 p.m., H6 Recreation

July 23

Texas Hold'em
2 a.m. and 8:30 p.m.
H6 MWR

Dance Aerobics
5:30 a.m., East Fitness Center

Tae Kwon Do
8 to 9:30 a.m., East Fitness
Center

Spin Class
3:30 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Step Aerobics
5:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Aerobics
7 p.m., West MWR

Boxing
7:30 to 9 p.m., East Fitness
Center

Cardio Funk
8 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

9-Ball Tourney
8 p.m., West MWR

Karaoke
8 p.m., East MWR

Poetry Jam
8 p.m., West MWR

Floor Hockey
8 - 10 p.m., MWR Circuit Gym

Martial Arts
9 p.m., West MWR

Martial Arts
9 p.m., West Fitness Center

July 24

8-Ball Tourney
2 a.m. and 8:30 p.m.
H6 MWR

Aikido
10 am to noon, East Fitness

Center
Spin Class
3:30 and 8:30 p.m., H6 Fitness
Center

Korean Martial Arts
4:30 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Kung Fu
7 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Tae Kwon Do 2
7p.m. - 8:30 p.m., East Fitness
Center

Pilates
7:30 p.m., West Fitness Center

Foosball/Ping Pong
8 p.m., West MWR

Combative Training
8:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Martial Arts
9 p.m., West MWR

Martial Arts
9 p.m., West Fitness Center

July 25

Spades & Ping Pong
2 a.m. and 8 p.m., H6 MWR

Dance Aerobics
5:30 a.m., East Fitness Center

9-Ball Tourney
3 p.m. and 8 p.m.,
East MWR

Spin Class
3:30 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Aikido
5-7 p.m., East Fitness Center

Step Aerobics
5:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Open Volleyball
7 p.m., East Fitness Center

Aerobics
7 p.m., West MWR

Green Bean Karaoke
8 p.m., West MWR

Cardio Funk
8 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

8-Ball Tourney
8 p.m., West MWR

Floor Hockey
8 to 10 p.m., MWR Circuit Gym

Do you have a story idea?

Contact the Anaconda Times

anaconda.times@balad.iraq.centcom.mil

Images from 'outside the wire'



Navy Photo by MC2(DSW/SW) Christopher Perez

Iraqi Army soldiers along with Coalition Forces conduct demolition training using various types of explosives in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Navy Photo by MC2(DSW/SW) Christopher Perez

Coalition forces and Iraqi Army return to Camp Sheejan/Couragous after receiving enemy fire in the Suwayrah province during a patrol.



Navy Photo by MC2(DSW/SW) Christopher Perez

(Above) Coalition Forces and Iraqi Army soldiers patrol the town of Samrah and inspect their local school house for future projected improvements during Operation Iraqi Freedom. (Below) Coalition Forces and Iraqi Army soldiers visit a local water pump station that was recently attacked by insurgent militias during Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Navy Photo by MC2(DSW/SW) Christopher Perez

An Iraqi Army soldier takes a minute to cool down while visiting local water pump station that was recently attacked by insurgent militias during Operation Iraqi Freedom.



'Idol' Josh Gracin visits Anaconda



Photos by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

(Above) Many fans of country music singer and former Marine, Josh Gracin were disappointed when they were told that Gracin's scheduled concert had been cancelled, but a mechanical problem forced the aircraft he was traveling in to land in Balad and Gracin requested that he be allowed to perform. "I am honored to sing for you," said Gracin to his fans. "There is nowhere I wouldn't go to support you," he said.

(Below) Gracin performed for hundreds of servicemembers at the Red Tail Recreation Center at Balad Air Base. Gracin rose to fame when in 2003, he competed in American Idol, the televised singing competition. Gracin has released two albums, Josh Gracin, in 2004 which hit Gold and All About Y'all in 2007.



(Above) Gracin performed for servicemembers at the Red Tail Recreation Center at Balad Air Base Thursday July 5.

(Left) Fans vied for position as Gracin threw towels with his name on them into the audience at the Red Tail Recreation Center.

(Below) Fans cheered as Gracin sang at the Red Tail Recreation Center. Gracin said he was grateful for the experience of getting to perform for servicemembers and wanted them to know that he supports them. "No matter what you see or hear on TV, never stop believing in yourself and your mission," said the former Marine.

