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the STATIC LINE





the **STATIC LINE**



On The Cover:

Paratroopers from 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, cross a fence while searching a palm grove for insurgents and weapons recently during Operation Minotaur in Qubbah, Iraq.

U.S Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. JoAnn S. Makinano

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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.

Paratrooper awarded Silver Star



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael J. Carden/3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

Maj. Gen. Benjamin Mixon (right), commander, 25th Infantry Division and Multi-National Division - North, speaks about the heroism of Capt. Brennan Goltry, platoon leader, 2nd Platoon, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, during a ceremony July 31 at Patrol Base Olson in Samarra, Iraq. Goltry was awarded the Silver Star, two Purple Hearts, and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Staff Sgt. Michael J. Carden
3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

PB OLSON, Iraq – An 82nd Airborne Division Paratrooper was awarded the nation’s fourth highest decoration, the Silver Star, July 31 at Patrol Base Olson in Samarra, Iraq, for valorous actions during a near ambush February 2 in Samarra.

Capt. Brennan Goltry, 27, 2nd Platoon leader, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, joins a coveted list of Silver Star recipients, including Senator John McCain and Audie Murphy. He’s the first from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team and sixth 82nd Airborne Division Paratrooper to receive the Silver Star amidst the global war on terror campaign in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The sun had just set on Goltry and his platoon’s routine mounted patrol in Samarra. He noticed the brightness of the full moon as his convoy turned south on 20th Street, because it gave the enemy an advantage of extra visibility on the U.S. patrol, he said.

The five up-armored humvees progressed south, when they began taking automatic weapons and sniper fire from the south and west.

“It was an ‘L-shaped’ ambush,” said the Bakersfield, Calif., native. “(Insurgents) engaged, we identified every position we could, and returned fire.”

The lead humvee was disabled immediately, so Goltry had his driver pull their vehicle perpendicular and in front of it to provide cover. Goltry spotted a shooter to his right, opened his door, and returned fire. He received two gun shot wounds to his left leg but continued fighting until the shooter was killed.

Goltry took cover and gathered his men; like him, some of them were wounded. It is unknown how many attackers were involved, but Goltry led his men south on foot with suppressive fire and basically ran through the objective until the enemy was constrained. The ability to gain fire superiority allowed for his more seriously wounded Paratroopers to receive medical care.

“I’m real proud of my men,” Goltry said. “They fight real hard for me, and they’ve saved my (rear) more than once.”

Goltry’s commander and fellow Paratroopers said this was just another day for him. He’s a tough, no nonsense type of leader,

see **Award**, page 3

'Operation Ithaca' surprises, pummels, al Qaeda forces

Gerry J. Gilmore

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON - American and Iraqi military forces broke up al Qaeda operations in the Diyala River valley during 'Operation Ithaca,' conducted July 12 a U.S. military officer said.

Operation Ithaca targeted Sunni-backed al Qaeda forces in and around the villages of Haimar, Abu Nasim and Jamil, located about 20 kilometers north of Baqubah, the capital of Diyala province, said Lt. Col. Andrew P. Poppas, commander of the 82nd Airborne Division's 5th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment

The operation was a great success and caught al Qaeda "completely by surprise," Poppas said, noting U.S. ground troops were inserted into the battle space at multiple landing zones by helicopter.

Meanwhile, Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt II "Warthogs," Army attack helicopters, and Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon fighters fired on the insurgents from the air, Poppas said. And unmanned aerial vehicles kept an eye on insurgent movements during the battle, he added.

Each of the aircraft was assigned "very specific, detailed areas" for engaging the al Qaeda forces, Poppas said. This way, the enemy lost the ability to control the battle and was blocked by coalition air or ground troops at every turn.

"In a direct firefight, American Soldiers are going to win every time," Poppas said, noting there were no U.S. casualties during the operation.

Twenty-nine al Qaeda operatives were killed and 23 others were captured during the operation. Also, three enemy weapons caches were discovered and a safe house was destroyed. Additionally, eight Iraqis who'd been held hostage by the insurgents were freed.

Local Iraqis, fed up with al Qaeda, had delivered hand-written maps and other information about the enemy that were used during pre-operational planning, Poppas said.

"We had some very specific intelligence that was provided to us from the local populace," Poppas said. Unmanned aerial vehicles and other means were used to confirm the information.



1st Sgt. Timothy Methany of Troop B, 5th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division leads his Soldiers on a patrol July 12, in Al Haymer, Iraq.

Ongoing surge operations in and around Baghdad are putting the squeeze on al Qaeda and other insurgent groups, causing them to flee Iraq's capital city to places like Baqubah to the north, Poppas explained.

The insurgents "have got to go somewhere" out of Baghdad, Poppas continued, noting his forces were positioned to intercept and deal with such relocations.

Poppas said his troops have worked closely with 5th Iraqi Army Division Soldiers.

"We do all of our patrols combined," Poppas said of his unit's relationship with local Iraqi troops. "My experience with the Iraqi army units that I have fought alongside personally (with) is excellent." Poppas said his Soldiers' morale is excellent, citing their "impressive" and "phenomenal" performance during Operation Ithaca. Their battlefield prowess is the result of training as a unit for more than two years, he said. "You deny the enemy's ability to react to you, because you're on top of them," Poppas pointed out.



Photos by Senior Airman Steve Czyn/406th Space Communications Squad

Capt. Stephen Dobbins commander, Troop B, 5th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division briefs his Paratroopers July 12 on Forward Operating Base Warhorse before going on a mission in support of Operation Ithaca.

AWARD

but at the same time, though one may never see it, he's extremely compassionate about his platoon, said Capt. Buddy Ferris, commander, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

"Here in Iraq, he's excelled at everything he's done," said Ferris, who has worked with Goltry since October 2005. "I'm happy he's been recognized, but this is the type of stuff he does everyday. It's not the first time he's been shot, and it's not the first time he charged the enemy."

Goltry attributes his leadership to the men of his platoon, whom he said he's fortunate enough to have trained with for 11 months at Fort Bragg, N.C., and fought along side of for a year in Samarra. There have been no surprises to them because of their training, and they're used to roughing it, he said.

"This deployment is pretty much exactly how I expected it to be," Goltry said. "We did everything in training that

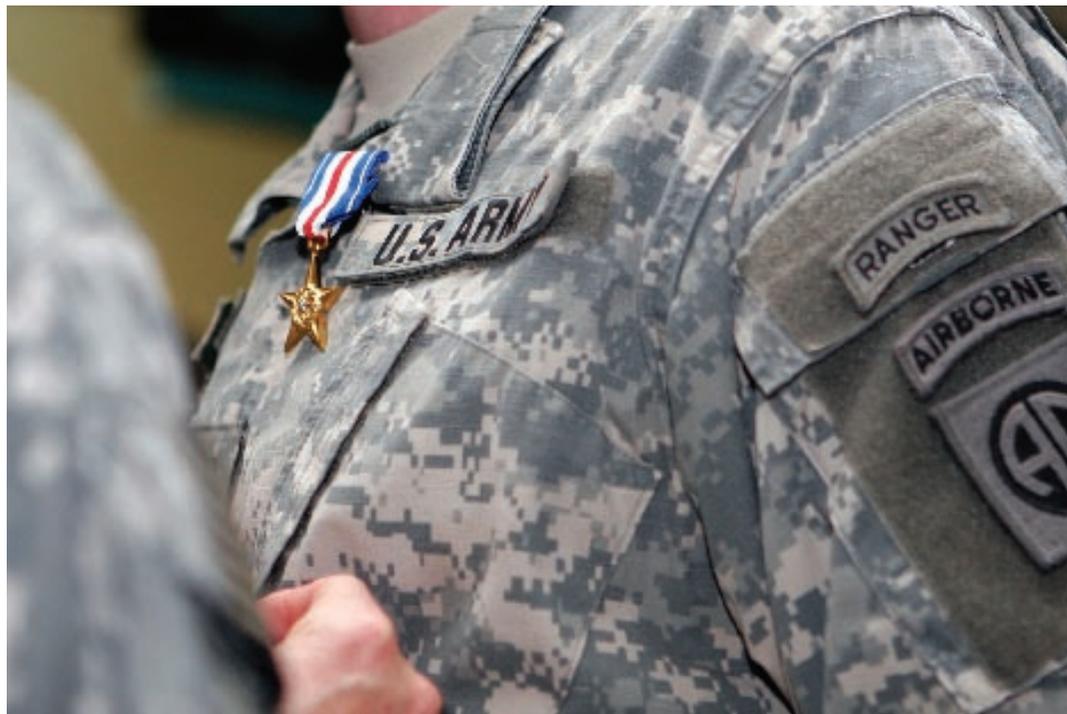


Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael J. Carden/3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

The nation's fourth highest decoration, the Silver Star, was awarded to Capt. Brennan Goltry, 2nd Platoon leader, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, during a ceremony July 31 at Patrol Base Olson in Samarra, Iraq. Goltry is the sixth 82nd Airborne Division Paratrooper to be awarded the Silver Star in support of the global war on terror in Iraq and Afghanistan.

we do here right now – air assaults, cordon and knocks. We've done all the shooting and everything required of us here."

"It's just another day to me and my platoon; we're used to roughing it," Goltry continued. "That's how we train, that's

how we fight, and that's how we stay safe in this country."

During the ceremony, Maj. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, commander of 25th Infantry Division and Multi-National Division – North, presented Goltry with the Silver Star as well as two Purple Hearts –

one of which was for injuries received during the February 2 attack – and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Goltry is expected to be awarded a third Purple Heart for injuries he sustained during a May 6 insurgent attack on the Samarra Police Station.

Operation opens route, secures towns

Pfc. Ben Fox

3BCT, 1st Cavalry Div PAO

ANBAKIA, Iraq - Two key towns were held captive by a terrorist threat in the Diyala province, effectively blocking a supply route for many citizens in the Diyala River Valley.

As the anti-Iraqi forces continued to terrorize the towns, many of the citizens were displaced and became refugees in the nearby town of Anbakia, overpopulating the town and creating an even further shortage of food and services.

That all changed July 22 with Operation Olympus. Early in the morning, Iraqi Army Soldiers on foot, and teams of paratroopers from the 5th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment, attached to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, air assaulted into the towns and completely destroyed the terrorist cells within.

"Our operation attacked these two villages that were harboring these terrorists, isolating them and bringing overall combat power to destroy them," said Lt. Col. Andrew Poppas, the 5-73 Cav. commander.

"This was a number of campaigns in an overall campaign plan to bring safety and security to the Diyala River Valley," said Poppas.

"Previous intelligence-driven operations have been specifically directed at destroying anti-Iraqi forces in this region," he said. "We have been extremely effective... at destroying the enemy in order to supply safety and security to the area."

The operation also focused its efforts on Anbakia, the town that held all of the refugees. The operation emplaced a civil

— see **OLYMPUS**, page 4

OLYMPUS

military operations team to deliver initial supplies and services, such as food and medical specialists, said Poppas.

The number of refugees stressed the town's already meager rations and capabilities to address the population's needs, he said.

Capt. Henry Shih, the brigade surgeon for 3BCT, held a combined medical engagement in the town with Lt. Wassim from the Iraqi Army.

"It was very good to have Lt. Wassim seeing patients so they could see the face of the Iraqi Army," said Shih.

Shih said Wassim did a good job because he had knowledge of medicine and was in good spirits. He also served partially as an interpreter for Shih because he knew English.

The patients the combined force treated had problems ranging from diabetes and heart problems to rare chronic and congenital illnesses, said Shih.

The IA medic also helped the local population with the Coalition's overall goal.

"We are trying to push them to be more reliant on the Iraqi Army for security and other services," said Shih. "They will have to be more independent when we leave."

The mission was an example of the IA and 5-73's ability to handle complicated multi-faceted operations.

"Simultaneous kinetic operations



Capt. Henry Shih, brigade surgeon for 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, checks the heartbeat of an Iraqi man who complained of a heart murmur during Operation Olympus, July 22 in Anbakia, Iraq.

have been conducted with non-kinetic operations aimed at establishing effective, representative local governments, repairing and rebuilding physical infrastructure of local communities and the establishment of basic services necessary for all communities," said Poppas.

In addition to the combat, food and medical support provided, 5-73 Cav. also cleared the entire route connecting these towns.

"This operation is indicative of the duality of a mission profile in which

we have anti-Iraqi forces which try to attempt to deny freedom of movement for coalition forces and freedom of movement along the entire route," said Poppas.

On their way up to Anbakia, the CMO team conducted route clearance, removing IEDs, barriers, and illegal check points in order to allow Iraqis to use the main road to travel between Baqouba and Khalis, said Poppas.

The residents of Anbakia have been loyal supporters of the Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces, which is part of the reason help was sent to them specifically with their refugees.

"The town had been friendly to Coalition Forces," said Shih.

"They help us, so we help them," he said. "We will continue to work with them and not just abandon them."

"Our deliberate destruction of anti-Iraqi forces throughout the entire region has set conditions for the repatriation of these dislodged individuals," said Poppas.

The mission ended by setting up ISF security positions in the towns and along the routes.

"The combined might of Iraqi and American power" reduced the problem set to one that the ISF can easily maintain, said Poppas.

"The establishment of Iraqi Security Forces will allow for long-term safety and security, and freedom of movement in the entire region," he said.



Photos by Pfc. Ben Fox/3BCT, 1st Cavalry Div PAO

An Iraqi man unloads a bag of rice from a container full of food rations that were delivered by Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces July 22 to the town of Anbakia, Iraq.



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

Lt. Col. Hamed Jasim, commander, 4th Battalion, 1st Brigade, 4th Division, walks through the ranks of his soldiers inspecting weapons and uniforms July 29 at an Iraqi army base in Balad, Iraq.

Commander does job the way it should be done

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

BALAD, Iraq - More than 100 Iraqi soldiers waited on the parade field double checking their uniforms and weapons before their commander arrived for the inspection.

It was something the Iraqi soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 1st Brigade, 4th Division, did six days a week.

When the commander arrived he took accountability of his units and then did a thorough inspection of each of his Soldiers.

The commander's executive officer followed behind during the inspection jotting down notes on a pad of paper to keep track of the troops that went to formation with a dirty weapon or the wrong uniform.

Later the commander would look back on those notes and give extra duties to soldiers that failed to follow his simple orders.

Lt. Col. Hamed Jasim, battalion commander, has served in the Iraqi army for more than 23 years and believes holding a higher standard for his troops will instill discipline and help protect Iraq.

He fought against the Iranians in the Iran-Iraq war and against U.S. forces in Operation Desert Storm and the initial invasion of Iraq in March 2003 as a field artillery officer.

Now the Balad native fights terror along side the U.S. with 822 Iraqi soldiers under his command.

Although he is an artillery officer, he has been trained to lead

any type of soldier, from infantrymen to support troops.

"Lieutenant Colonel Hamed has really embodied what we would like to see the Iraqi army look like," said Lt. Col. Kevin Dunlop, commander, 3rd Combined Arms Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division.

"One of the more rewarding experiences I have had here is working with (Jasim)," said Dunlop.

Jasim's battalion operates in and around the Balad area and works with the 3rd Combined Arms Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, based out of Forward Operating Base Paliwoda.

Jasim has led the soldiers for more than three years now and said it has been one of his toughest challenges since he has been in the military.

The war in Iraq now is a different war than the others, said 43-year-old Jasim.

He has many logistical problems that make the job harder but has managed to work around them and accomplish his missions in Balad, said Dunlop.

"My soldiers are fighting multiple insurgent forces. They come to Iraq from Syria, Iran and all over the middle-east to fight us," said Jasim.

If 4th Battalion had the support to go after all of the terrorists in Iraq Jasim would not think twice about it, he said.

see **JASIM**, page 6

U.S. troops help rebuild force in Bayji

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

BAYJI, Iraq - Bayji lost more than 20 Iraqi police June 25 to a car bomb filled with 1,500 pounds of homemade explosives. After the attack many policemen stopped going to work, in fear that they might be killed as well.

Now Paratroopers from Company C, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, and Soldiers from 303rd Military Police Company, a reserve unit out of Jackson, Mich., are working to fill the ranks of the Iraqi police force in Bayji as well as stand up a localized force in the city.

The force will have to start rebuilding from scratch because the attack destroyed all of the Bayji police supplies and training records, said Spc. John Green, military policeman and native of Cleveland, Ohio, 303rd Military Police Company.

A lot of the Iraqi police assets were destroyed during the attack. The only things salvaged were more than five rifles, a pistol belt and three patrol vehicles.

The police force had just received more than 20 patrol vehicles two months prior to the attack.

“(The police) are



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

Spc. John Green, military police officer, 303rd Military Police Company, a reserve unit out of Jackson Mich., teaches Iraqi police officers how to react to a car bomb attack June 19 at the joint security station in Bayji, Iraq.

slowly starting to return to work,” said Sgt. Molly Black, administrative noncommissioned officer, 303rd Military Police Company. “And the reason they are coming back is to make Bayji safer.”

“A big part of the training is just building up their confidence again. Trying to make it so they are not so afraid and convince them that it is not certain death every time they go on a patrol,” said Green.

Capt. Timothy Peterman, commander, Company C, is

creating a new force in the city with a tactic that has successfully been used in other parts of Iraq.

“Right now circumstances are so dire that (leadership) has authorized us to conduct negotiations at our level to hire local security forces,” said Peterman.

The local security force will consist of one commander for each of Bayji’s 12 neighborhoods. Each commander will have 100 volunteer fighters from his neighborhood under his command.

Each neighborhood leader will be elected by Bayji’s city counsel.

The volunteer force for each neighborhood will be trained by U.S. Soldiers and Iraqi police in Bayji. The force should be stood up by the beginning of August 2007.

“With the attack here three weeks ago, that was enough of an igniter to push us to that next level, these people are just sick and tired of the violence that Al Qaeda and the Islamic State of Iraq bring here,” said Peterman.

JASIM

“I am always very proud of my country,” said Jasim. “I have great hope for Iraq to be safe.”

Jasim is capable of running his own show in Balad, said Dunlop. Jasim’s soldiers are disciplined and ready to take

the fight to the enemy.

The citizens of Balad are also very supportive to what 4th Battalion does, said Jasim.

The citizens have informed soldiers from the 4th battalion about weapon cache

locations and the whereabouts of insurgents.

“The people want insurgents to leave Balad,” said Jasim.

4th Battalion and 3rd Combined Arms Battalion’s

success in Balad over the past 10 months comes from treating the Iraqi people in the Balad area with dignity and respect, said Dunlop. The battalions will continue to do so, making it easier for Iraqi and U.S.

USO comedy tour goes to FOB Paliwoda

Sgt. Joshua R. Ford

3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

FOB PALIWODA, Iraq - Soldiers carried their lawn chairs to the basketball court July 29, to get a seat for the first USO show that had traveled to Forward Operating Base Paliwoda, near Balad, Iraq, in more than a year.

More than 100 Soldiers from the 3rd Combined Arms Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, sat



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

Spc. Scott Artal, communications specialist, Headquarters and Headquarters company, 3rd Combined Arms Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, gets a photo signed by Dave Lease after Lease and other comedians performed a USO show July 29 at FOB Paliwoda, near Balad, Iraq.

anxious at the change in their regular routine.

Comedians Dana Eagle, Mimi Gonzales and Dave Lease joked about relationships, graffiti in bathroom stalls and childhood. The comedians also expressed their appreciation to the troops for the sacrifices they make being deployed and away from their families.

“We are thinking about you guys and appreciate what you do,” said Eagle.

Lease declared his cowardice after he thanked the Soldiers for what they are doing in Iraq saying he could never do what a U.S. Soldier does.

“If I ever got captured I would tell the enemy everything,” Lease said jokingly, getting a laugh out of the crowd.

Before the show the comedians were taken to the base’s firing range where they shot the M4 carbine, the Barrett .50-caliber sniper rifle and the shotgun.

During the show Gonzales began making fun of Lease because she shot much better than he did.

Gonzales has a little more experience with the military than most comedians who travel around Iraq entertaining the troops. She has been performing on USO tours for more than seven years and has been to Afghanistan, Iraq and Kosovo. The Detroit, Mich., native says some of her finest work has come from making U.S. Soldiers laugh.

“I enjoy working with the military and will continue to do so,” Gonzales said.

At the end of the show the comedian trio autographed photos of themselves which they handed out to the troops.

“It was good to change-up the day-to-day routine,” said Scott Artal, communications specialist, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Combined Arms Battalion. “It was a funny show, and I had a good time.”

Fertilizer Plant in Bayji recieves \$6.6 million

Sgt. Joshua R. Ford

3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

BAYJI, Iraq - Paul A. Brinkley, Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Business Transformation, and Brig. Gen. Francis Wiercinski, 25th Infantry Division Deputy Commanding General of Support, presented a check for more than \$6 million to Hamed Hamood Shekti, governor of Salah ad Din province, and Amed Abdulah, plant director for the Bayji Fertilizer Plant Aug. 7, 2007, in Bayji, Iraq.

The money will be used to hire personnel and buy equipment to re-open the fertilizer plant, as the economic reward is part of a country-wide push, giving money to different organizations in Iraq to build the country’s economic infrastructure.

“I have had the opportunity to visit this factory on two occasions prior, and each time I was very much aware of the opportunity that exists here to restore economic vitality

within Salah ad Din province, the workers in this factory and the agricultural sector in this area,” said Brinkley.

“I am convinced based upon my visits with the leadership of this factory, seeing the exports that used to take place here, the profitability that existed in this factory; that this enterprise can once again be a vibrant, thriving business that helps sustain economic growth across all of northern Iraq and the agriculture sector,” said Brinkley. “We have one objective and that is to restore full production to this facility.”

The fertilizer plant opened in 1989 but has been unsteady in its production of urea-based fertilizer. For nearly 20 years, the plant’s production and revenue has shown inconsistency because of the national government’s inability to fund it. The aftermath from the Iran-Iraq War – which lasted from 1980 to 1988, 12 years of U.N.

see **CHECK**, page 8

Soldier DJs for comrades downrange

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

FOB PALIWODA, Iraq - When Soldiers deploy so do their hobbies. Flying toy helicopters and acoustic guitars are just some of the things Soldiers see others fiddling with on their off time.

When Spc. David Colclasure, multi-systems operator with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Combined Arms Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, decided to bring his hobby, it included a \$10,000 insurance plan for the amount of equipment that would come to Iraq with him.

Colclasure, a Marrion, Ill., native, said when he is not trying to solve communication problems on Forward Operating Base Paliwoda he is fusing different beats to songs or creating his own music.

Sitting behind more than \$5,000 worth of mixers and computers is where Colclasure spends his off time.

He was a disc jockey in the

U.S. and has continued to DJ for the Soldiers in his unit.

At every USO show or unit event, a Soldier can see Colclasure mixing away behind his equipment.

"It started when I was a kid going to dances," said Colclasure. "I was interested in how it worked so I started learning more about it."

After school he would go home and play music, constantly looking for different beats and rhythms to work with.

One day his father gave Colclasure his old stereo equipment that Colclasure had been asking for. Once Colclasure had his father's old equipment he started performing at parties. Now he is in charge of all sound entertainment for USO and ceremony events for his unit.

"Right now I have a 22 inch rack, 60 different types of lights, two big band speakers, and two 22 inch subwoofers," said Colclasure.

"Sometimes it seems like we are at an actual show because of the way (Colclasure)



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

Spc. David Colclasure, multi-systems operator, 3rd Combined Arms Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, sits behind his disc jockey equipment during a USO show July 29 at Forward Operating Base Paliwoda, near Balad, Iraq.

tunes people in and out," said Scott Artal, communications specialist, 3rd Combined Troops Battalion.

Colclasure wants to continue being a DJ because he enjoys entertaining people.

"Back home I (DJ) for the kids. I'll play the chicken dance song and musical chairs, the kids usually like. That's the fun part," said Colclasure.

"Music has always been a motivator for people. That is how you set moods. If you are playing sad music people will remember sad moments. If you are playing love music you are thinking about your first girlfriend or your wife. If you are in a bad mood and you start playing some up beat music people will usually get in a better mood," said Colclasure.

CHECK

sanctions imposed on the country after the Persian Gulf War, and the past five years of transition from Saddam Hussein's regime hindered the plant's success.

In 2003 the plant took a major dive in production meeting only 18 percent of its annual maximum production, which is 500,000 tons of fertilizer. By 2006, the plant's production had decreased to only 2 percent of its yearly goal.

"Today is a great day for Salah ad Din," said Hamed. "It is a very important day for the whole country."

Brinkley is expects to present an additional \$4 million from Iraq's Agriculture Ministry to the fertilizer plant at a future date, he said.



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

Amed Abdullah, director of production for the Bayji Fertilizer Plant holds a check for more than \$6 million, which was presented by Paul A. Brinkley, Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Business Transformation, Aug. 7 in Bayji, Iraq. The facility will use the money to buy new equipment and hire employees.

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

For The Fallen

*With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
America for her dead across the sea.*

*Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.*

*Solemn the drums thrill: Death August and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.*

*There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.*

*They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.*

*They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe,*

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.*

*At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.*

They mingle not with laughing comrades again;

They sit no more at familiar tables of home;

They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;

They sleep beyond America's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,

Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,

To the innermost heart of their own land they are known

As the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,

Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,

As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,

To the end, to the end, they remain.

-Laurence Binyon

505th Parachute Infantry Regiment 82nd Airborne Division



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

