

AnacondaTimes

NOVEMBER 14, 2007

PROUDLY SERVING LSA ANACONDA



Photo by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

PMCS ensures survivability

Soldiers conduct checks before hitting the road

Page 8



Photo by Spc. RJ Gilbert

New SB takes over mission

7th SB replaces 82nd SB, continues mission

Page 12



Photo by Pfc. Andrea Merritt

Soldiers take care of Iraqis

Iraqi fuel convoy is sustained by 1st SB Soldiers

Page 15



Photo by Spc. Jaime Avila

Lt. Col. Gregory M. Barrow, commander of the 3rd Battalion, 144th Infantry Regiment., enjoys a festive floral activity with children at the Muhammad Al Mushad school opening.

School opening brightens future

by Spc. Jaime Avila

1st BCT, 82nd Abn. Div.

MUHAMMAD AL MANSHAD, Iraq – The children of Iraq are the future and a leading factor in developing the country. The opening of a new school is always a sign of aspiration for Iraq and her people.

“For the children and parents it means hope, hope for the children’s future... education is the key to them having a quality and prosperous future,” said Lt. Col. Gregory M. Barrow, a Fort Worth, Texas native and commander of the 3rd Battalion, 144th Infantry Regiment.

In addition to giving the children optimism for their

“I thought it was absolutely incredible. I was impressed by the presentation that the principal, teachers and school children put on. You could see the pride in their faces and how excited they were to show off their school and what they have learned.”

Capt. Ryan E. Thompson
116th BSTB

future, this event also helps them see that Iraq and Coalition Forces are trying to make their future better. It shows them how a government is supposed to work for them.

“More than anything, I think this gives the children the chance to see how the

system is supposed to work with a direct impact on them. I also hope that they can see that having a clean, functional school helps them learn and enjoy going to school,” said Capt. Ryan E. Thompson, a Richmond, Va. native and commander for Company A, 116th Brigade Special

Troops Battalion (BSTB).

Soldiers from Company A, 116th BSTB, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division recently had the opportunity to help with the opening of a school in Muhammad al Manshad, Iraq.

“I thought the school opening was a success. It displayed how with the cooperation of the local government, the sheiks, school officials and the assistance of coalition forces, they can produce a quality end result, which these children will be able to enjoy for several years,” said Barrow.

The opening of this school

See **SCHOOL**, Page 11

Obtaining legal assistance on LSA Anaconda

by Spc. William Estrada

316th ESC SJA

Your spouse found the house of your dreams, you found the vehicle of your dreams, or you simply want to receive your tax return before you redeploy. These are a few of the matters with which Legal Assistance, located in the Consolidated Legal Center, can help you. Legal Assistance takes care of over 9,500 clients a year, including executing powers-of- attorney, wills, providing consumer protection, financial liability investigations of property loss rebuttals, notaries, advice about divorce, and many other legal issues that may arise for deployed servicemembers and their families.

Many Soldiers may be unaware that the legal assistance office is able to support them on issues that are happening over 8,000 miles away. Con-

sumer protection is extremely important for the young Soldier who is deployed because they do not want poor credit haunting them when they redeploy. Legal Assistance can assist with creditors that neglect or fail to properly apply the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act.

Roughly half of the clients that come through the legal assistance office are in need of a power of attorney. A power of attorney gives their agent back home the ability to take care of legal matters on their behalf. Powers of attorney vary anywhere from vehicle possession, to temporary custody of a child, clearing or signing for government quarters, or anything else that you may need to accomplish back home. The powers granted in a power-of-attorney can be powerful and can easily be abused. This is especially

relevant to people who grant their agents a general power of attorney. More often than not, the damage has already been done before the power of attorney is revoked. As a result, individuals sometimes lose all of their hard earned assets. This is why servicemembers are briefed on the powers that a general power of attorney allows before we prepare one.

Another service we offer is free notary service. Our paralegals and attorneys are authorized to notarize documents. You may schedule an appointment or walk-in.

Even though, as a Soldier, you are entitled to an 18 month tax extension while deployed overseas, you may still want to file your tax return. Beginning in February, the Consolidated Legal Center will offer a tax center for those who want to file for the



Courtesy photo

(From left to right) Sgt. 1st Class Michael Powell, noncommissioned officer in charge of Legal Assistance, Spc. William Estrada, paralegal from Legal Assistance, and Capt. Adam Hill, Chief of Legal Assistance.

2007 tax year. Refunds will be directly deposited into your savings or checking account and will be one less worry upon redeployment. Last year, the tax center filed over 500 returns. More infor-

mation on the opening of the Tax Center will be revealed in the beginning 2008.

Take advantage of what the 316th ESC Consolidated Legal Center has to offer, we will do our best to assist you.

Provost Marshal Office: Weekly police blotter

Week of Oct. 20- 26

The PMO conducted: (179) Security Checks, (27) Traffic Stop, issued (18) DD Form 1408 Armed Forces Traffic Ticket, registered (81) vehicles on the installation, (28) Common Access Cards were turned in to PMO, and (1) Lost weapons were reported.

The PMO is currently investigating: (1) Assault case, (5) cases of Larceny Government Property, and (1) General Order-1 Violation.

PMO Recommendations: LSAA Regulation 190-5; Failure to yield right-of-way at traffic circles: At traffic circles vehicles already in the circle shall have the right-of-way over

vehicles approaching and entering the circle. Give way to the vehicles on your left, when entering a traffic circle.

Failure to obey stop sign: The driver of a vehicle approaching an intersection on a roadway controlled by a stop sign shall, stop the vehicle even with the stop sign. Before proceeding, the driver shall yield the right-of-way to the driver of any vehicle approaching the roadway from either direction. Vehicle tires must come to a complete stop at the posted stop sign; however, there is no pre-determined momentary pause; the vehicle must stop, and then proceed.

by: Air Force Staff Sgt. Mark Hill, PMO



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Neil K. Simmons

PMO investigators destroy hundreds of bottles of Alcohol seized at an entry control point, to include contraband such as Steroids, Marijuana, weapons, illegal ammo, alcohol and pornographic material.

ANACONDA TIMES

316th ESC Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Gregory E. Couch

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20th Engineer Brigade
213th Area Support Group
1/82nd Brigade Combat Team
3rd Sustainment Brigade
82nd Sustainment Brigade
507th Corps Support Group
1st Sustainment Brigade
CJSOTF-AP

Fallen OSI agents honored

by Senior Airman Terri Barriere
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq- A memorial service was held here Nov. 4 to honor the lives of three Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) agents who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom.

Airmen and Soldiers gathered to pay their respects and celebrate the lives of Master Sgt. Thomas A. Crowell, 36, of Neosho, Mo.; Staff Sgt. David A. Wieger, 28, of North Huntingdon, Pa.; and Department of the Air Force Civilian Nathan J. Schuldheiss, 27, of Newport, Rhode Island, who were killed in the line of duty when their vehicle struck an improvised explosive device Nov. 1.

Chaplain Maj. David Allen urged those in attendance to "mourn the life of the three special men who willingly laid down their life for our freedom; mourn their life and honor their sacrifice."

"They laid down their lives for friends, family and people who might never even know their names, but we won't let their life go unnoticed," he said.

As the chaplain spoke to the room of grievors, he assured everyone it was perfectly okay to cry.

"Tears are not a sign of weakness but a sign of love," he said. "They are a way of expressing our sorrow for those who have fallen in combat. We lived with them, worked with them and fought with them and this has shaken us not just physically but emotionally."

AFOSI agents came from throughout the area of responsibility to show their support and pay their final respects to their fallen team members.

Brig. Gen. Dana Simmons said words could not pay proper justice to the agents, whose efforts, he said, undoubtedly saved lives.

"The past few days have been really tough for us -- tough for us as an Air Force -- as we all lost three very special family members," the general said. "It'll never be easy. The pain will linger, it may diminish, but it will always be present."

He called the men extraordinary, saying they could have chosen something less dangerous but instead chose the path of honor and sacrifice.

"Each time the nation has called, OSI and the Air Force have responded," he said. "Brave Airmen continue to step forward. Today is the time for tears. Tomorrow we will refocus efforts and continue to carry the standard and traditions of these men."

During the ceremony, detachment members reflected on the lives of their fellow agents. Special Agent Ryan Smith, AFOSI Expeditionary Detachment 2411, remembered the men.

"Working with a small team is unique," he said. "We live and work out of the same facility and we are around each other 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week. We became a family. We had our moments, but we were a family. Nate was always the man with the plan; Dave always made fun of the man with the plan and Tom was the voice of reason -- he executed the plan. But when it was game time, they performed."

He described them as men who exemplified the Air Force's

core values and promised to carry on with the courage and valor they displayed.

It wasn't the only promise made to the three agents and their families during the ceremony.

General Simmons made two more commitments.

He promised to "never forget what they did for us -- the United States Air Force," and vowed to catch the "cowards who did this to them."

"We must continue this fight," the general said. "They

gave their lives for it and now we are the ones who will continue it, who will honor their sacrifice and continue."

Though there to give honor to his fallen troops, the general said it's he who actually felt the most honored.

"I am a lucky Air Force officer," he said. "Every single day I have the honor of serving in the company of magnificent people, Airmen and Americans. I am truly honored and humbled to have known them and been their commander."



Air Force Photo by Maj. John Sheets

Brig. Gen. Gregory E. Couch, commanding general for the 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), and Command Sgt. Maj. Stacey E. Davis, command sergeant major for the 316th ESC, presented the fallen agents with coins as they paid their respects during the memorial service.

Worship services

PROTESTANT – TRADITIONAL

Sunday 7:30 a.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel
9:30 a.m. Provider Chapel
10:30 a.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)
11 a.m. Chapel Heights(4155)
5:30 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)
7:30 p.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel

PROTESTANT – GOSPEL

Sunday 11 a.m. MWR East Building
Noon Freedom Chapel (West Side)
2 p.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel
3:30 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)
7 p.m. Provider Chapel

PROTESTANT – CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Sunday 9 a.m. MWR East Building
10 a.m. TOWN HALL(H-6)
2 p.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)
2 p.m. Chapel Heights(4155)
6:30 p.m. Eden Chapel
7 p.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)
9:30 p.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)
Wednesday 8 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

PROTESTANT – LITURGICAL

Sunday 9 a.m. EPISCOPAL Freedom Chapel
11 a.m. LUTHERAN (Chapel Annex)
3:30 p.m. EPISCOPAL (Tuskegee H-6)

PROTESTANT --MESSIANIC

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

PROTESTANT—PRAYER SERVICE

Saturday 7 a.m. Signal Chapel

PROTESTANT—SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Saturday 9 a.m. Provider

PROTESTANT—CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

(Sacrament of Reconciliation 30 min prior to Mass)

Saturday 5 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)
8 p.m. Freedom Chapel(West Side)
9:30 p.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel

Sunday 9 a.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)
11 a.m. Provider Chapel

Mon-Fri 11:45 a.m. Provider Chapel

Mon-Sat 5p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MEETING

Sunday 2p.m. MWR-West Side

LATTER DAY SAINTS-(LDS)-(MORMON)

Sunday 1 p.m. Provider Chapel
3:30p.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)
7 p.m. Tuskegee (H-6)

JEWISH SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday 7 p.m. Signal Chapel

ISLAMIC SERVICE

Friday Noon Freedom Chapel (West Side)

PAGAN/ WICCAN FELLOWSHIP

Thursday 7 p.m. Eden Chapel

BUDDHIST FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday 7 p.m. Eden Chapel

Red Cross helps Soldiers serving in Iraq

by Spc. Thomas Keeler

Anaconda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq – Despite a few recent, minor changes, the American Red Cross is alive and well here.

What was previously known as the Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Services (AFES) will now be known as Services for Armed Forces (SAF). And though the Red Cross has slightly modified the services they provide to military members and their families, its core mission will not change.

“The purpose for all the offices brought into theater is to provide emergency communications,” said Michelle Mays, Red Cross team leader here. “That’s why we’re brought in.”

The Red Cross, however, will no longer provide a Health and Welfare follow-up for family members in the U.S. who are worried and have been out of contact with their servicemember for an extended period of time. Also, the Red Cross will no longer verify extended family relationships for commanders concerning emergency leave requests.

“If someone other than their parent raised them, that should ideally be reflected in their military records, which oftentimes it’s not,” said Mays.



Photo by Spc. Thomas Keeler

Red Cross station manager Greta Schmitt fields a call from a Red Cross chapter in the U.S. Four workers staff the Red Cross office on New Jersey Avenue here.

“I enjoy my job because I’m helping Soldiers. We’re doing something important for those that are out there.”

Pfc. Samantha Sandt
213th ASG

Mays says the four-person staff processes more than 200 messages a week for LSA Anaconda, most of which are initiated in the U.S. The state-side Red Cross chapter takes the original message and contacts the Red Cross in Iraq.

One of the four Red Cross

station managers then receives the message, usually by phone, and contacts the Soldier’s brigade unit here in theater.

“We receive the Red Cross messages, and then battalion will put together an emergency leave packet and send it back to brigade through email,” said Pfc. Samantha Sandt, a human resources specialist with the 213th Area Support Group who processes emergency leave requests.

The 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) G1 shop maintains an on-call schedule for emergency messages that need immediate attention.

“In one case, we needed a

person out by 12, and it was 11:30, and we got it done in just a few minutes,” said Sandt.

The American Red Cross maintains three offices in Iraq: one at LSA Anaconda, one in Baghdad, and a third in Tikrit. There is also one office each in Kuwait and Afghanistan.

Tours for Red Cross workers last four and a half months. The next rotation of workers will arrive the second week of November, and after a few days

of overlap, Mays and her colleagues will leave Iraq and return to their prior Red Cross positions.

Red Cross staffing decisions and operations are based

on after action reviews completed by each outgoing team. Mays’s rotation was the first four-person rotation since the office was established in 2003. Previously, the office was staffed by three workers.

Red Cross messages often bear bad news, such as illnesses, incarcerations and deaths. Conversely, the Red Cross does not provide casualty information to families.

Occasionally a birth announcement is passed through the channels, and it’s these messages that remind the Red Cross workers the job they are doing is essential.

“The birth announcements are the ones we fight over,” said Mays. “Always good to give happy news.”

“I enjoy my job because I’m helping Soldiers,” said Sandt. “We’re doing something important for those that are out there.”

Important changes in Red Cross services

- Red Cross will no longer provide Health and Welfare follow-ups.
- Red Cross will no longer verify extended family relationships for commanders.



Photo by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

Spc. Jessica Chayer, a generator mechanic with 2nd Battalion, 147th Assault Helicopter Battalion, repairs the engine of a utility vehicle here. Chayer relinquished her Minneapolis Aquatennial Queen of the Lakes title earlier this year after learning her National Guard unit was going to be deployed.

From crown to combat helmet

by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

Anaconda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq- When you hear the word “Soldier” and images of flowing gowns and diamond crowns probably do not come to mind. Yet for Spc. Jessica Chayer, a generator mechanic with 2nd Battalion, 147th Assault Helicopter Battalion (2-147), a crown and a combat helmet are both head gear she wears proudly.

The 22-year-old Robbinsdale, Minn. native relinquished her Minneapolis Aquatennial Queen of the Lakes title earlier this year after learning her National Guard unit was going to be deployed.

The competition Chayer won is an annual pageant and scholarship program that judges contestants on a variety of criterion including poise, professionalism, public speaking ability, education, extra curricular activities and appearance.

“It was an honor to win, but I have

to admit, I didn’t really think I would,” said Chayer. She competed against 49 other winners of city pageants.

Chayer did not grow up competing in pageants. She grew up playing sports and volunteering at nonprofit organizations including Habitat for Humanity. She decided to enter the competition after her sister had won similar competitions. The scholarship money was also a motivation, said Chayer, a senior and sociology major at Augsburg College in Minneapolis.

Though Chayer has had to take a leave of absence from college, relinquish her title and leave her husband of nine months behind in Chamblin, Minn., she is content with her decision to serve.

“I made a commitment to being a Soldier. I am honoring that commitment by being here in Iraq,” said Chayer as she repaired the engine on a utility vehicle.

“It was a natural choice to join the National Guard because I grew

up with it,” she said. Chayer’s father served in the National Guard for more than 20 years.

Although her Army buddies sometimes tease her for having won Aquatennial Queen of the Lakes, it’s all in good fun, said Sgt. Breanna Larson, also a generator mechanic with 2-147 from Brooklyn Park, Minn.

“It’s easy to see why she won,” said Larson. “She is an awesome person and has a great attitude. As a mechanic she is knowledgeable and when she doesn’t know how to do something, she asks, ‘how can I do it?’ She’s a motivated Soldier.”

Being a Soldier and a queen of a pageant, just goes to show how diverse and multi-talented Soldiers are said Chayer. Competing in pageants and being a Soldier might seem like polar opposites, but they are really not, she further remarked.

“Both offer excellent opportunities for personal growth, education and leadership development.”

Congressman Tim Murphy visits Soldiers in Iraq



Photo by Spc. Jay Venturini

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq - Congressman Tim Murphy, (R) Pennsylvania 18th District, talks to Staff Sgt. Mellissa Amos, a 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) distribution management noncommissioned officer and Hershey Pa. native. Murphy met with several Soldiers from Pennsylvania and discussed the different concerns of Soldiers have for his homestate.

Leadership course clarifies services roles in joint environment

by Spc. Jay Venturini

Anaconda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq – Whether you are a Soldier, Airman, Sailor, Marine or Coast Guardsman serving here, you are sure to see members of the other services on a daily basis. However, do you know what each service brings to the overall mission in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom?

Well for a few fortunate Airmen, the answer became clearer at the Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) Leadership Course hosted by the 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron (ESFS) Oct. 25.

The five hour course for Air Force NCOs helps them become familiar with the missions and equipment of other services. The course was offered twice, once in the morning and once late at night. About 100 NCOs attended.

“The main goal of the class was for our NCOs to gain a deeper understanding of theater operations for our sister services,” said Air Force Master Sgt. April Spiczka, LSA Anaconda garrison first sergeant and a Long Island, N.Y. native. “It offered speakers from the Army, Navy and members of the flight crews who talked about their experiences outside the wire.”

“The class was very informative,” said Air Force Staff Sgt. Kevin Cain, Detachment 1, 332nd Expeditionary Missions Support Group (EMSG) S-3 noncommissioned officer in charge and a Pacific, Mo. native. “With this being my first deployment, I learned a lot about what the different services’ missions are outside the wire. It was a great class.”

Speakers from the Army and Navy, as well as Air Force F-16 pilots, talked about their different missions inside and outside the wire and how a typical day goes. They also talked about the different equipment they use. For instance, the Army speaker went into detail about the many parts of the interceptor body armor and why each component is important.

“I really got a good feel for what a day is like for these guys,” said Cain. “It really broadened my horizons to what really goes on around here.”

Other speakers included Air Force Brig. Gen. Burton M. Field, the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing (AEW) commanding general and Chief Master Sgt. Paul Wheeler, the 332nd AEW chief master sergeant.

“It was great to see the different view points on leadership,” said Tech. Sgt. Janet Crosswell, the 332nd EMSG operations NCO and a St. Louis, Mo., native. “It was great that we had one-on-one time with the E-8s and E-9s and got their views on leadership.”

Plans are to have similar classes in the future due to the turnout and success of the initial classes.

“We have heard nothing but positive feedback from everyone we’ve talked to. It was a great success,” said Spiczka.

“They definitely should have more classes,” said Crosswell. “Every Airman would benefit from this class.”



Air Force Photo by Master Sgt. Christopher A. Hernandez

Cpl. Todd Ryan, 1-9 Field Artillery, describes in detail all the gear modeled by Pfc. Jerami Jackson, 1-9 Field Artillery. The soldiers provided a unique Army perspective to the combat environment from within the realm of Quick Reaction Force operations to a group of over 100 Air Force noncommissioned officers.



Scheduled activities for National American Indian Heritage Month

Nov. 17
Fry bread Social
Outdoor pool
at 6 p.m.
(NO SWIMMING)

Nov. 25
5k Run
Holt Stadium
starting at 6 a.m.

Nov. 30
Social gathering
MWR East
from 2-6 p.m.

Thursdays in November:
Movies with American Indian themes will be played every Thursday at the MWR Building

Dining facilities will have Native American displays and foods throughout the month of November.

*If you are interested in future activities or would like to volunteer during American Indian Heritage Month, please contact Staff Sgt. Kurt W. Chebatoris at DSN (318) 433-2011 or via email: kurt.chebatoris@iraq.centcom.mil



Pocket change makes difference in children's future

by Sgt. Brandon Little

12th Combat Aviation Brigade

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq - Mahatma Gandhi once said, "if we are to teach real peace in this world, and if we are to carry on a real war against war, we shall have to begin with the children." Though the Soldiers of the Operational Support Airlift Command (OSAC) here may not be students of the spiritual leader from India, they have displayed a clear understanding of his teachings through their actions.

Over the last several months of their deployment Sgt. Sheri Warner and Sgt. Joseph Garland, both flight operations specialists with OSAC, organized a campaign to collect money for school supplies in the form of AAFES pogs (paper coins redeemable for AAFES merchandise) and pocket change.

"A group of Soldiers were sitting around talking about what to do with the pogs that were accumulating in our wallets. We all agreed we wanted to go outside the wire and help the communities but our jobs do not allow for that, so we chose to raise money to help in the only way we could," said Warner.

According to Sgt. 1st Class Leona Propson, a 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)(ESC), Civil Military Operations (CMO) noncommissioned officer, it all started a few months ago when Warner came to the office with a box of school supplies for the local school children.

"She told me that she was collecting money and pogs to go and buy some more school supplies," said Propson. "Last week she came by with cash, pogs, and change. She apologized because she didn't have the time to go and purchase the supplies, but wanted us to have the money. The total was \$540.70."

Garland was one of the first in Warner's unit to help move the collection drive along. He said his love of children motivated him to make this project one of his top priorities.

"When we first arrived in Iraq I wanted to do my small part in nation building. Back in the United States I am very



Photo by Staff Sgt. Derrick Mims

Sgt. Sheri Warner, a flight operations specialist with the Operational Support Airlift Command here, is presented with a certificate of appreciation Oct. 29, by the 316th ESC civil military operations officer in charge, Maj. Albert Augustine.

active in not-for-profit organizations to assist impoverished people. I wanted to do my part over here. I am a firm believer that if you can change the heart and mind of a child you shape the future for years to come," said Garland.

Propson said the donation will greatly help the civil affairs mission in the area but more importantly will be a great help to the local children.

"There are not enough school supplies for the teachers to give to their students. At this time they rely on donations. With this generous donation, this will help some of the local teachers with their school programs and the children with their assignments," she said.

Garland said he would like to see this become a yearly tradition and Warner agrees.

"Sometimes the things we see as small and insignificant can change the world for a child. Our whole unit just wanted to help out in some small way so that hopefully the Iraqi children get some of the same opportunities

that our children at home in America receive. I know there are numerous units out there that have done similar things in the past, I hope our story sparks an idea in another Soldier so that we can continue to support the work of our civil affairs," she said.

On Oct. 29 Garland and Warner were awarded certificates of appreciation by Maj. Albert Augustine, 316th ESC CMO officer in charge, which were signed by the 316th ESC Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Gregory E. Couch.

"It is not about the money but the character and leadership displayed by these two NCOs. Their actions help the 316th ESC and the G9 complete its civil military operation mission. To win this war we need every leader, every unit and every Soldier stepping up and helping the Iraqi people make this a safe and thriving nation," said Augustine. "Everyone talks about heroes. There are actions taken by Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and Marines everyday that are worthy of that status. Today both Sgt. Garland and Sgt. Warner are my heroes."

Date: Nov. 21, 2007

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Location: Sustainer Theater

Bazaar opens on LSAA



Photo by Staff Sgt. Dave Lankford

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq - The new indoor Turkish bazaar opened here on Halloween day. The bazaar took nine months to construct and features a variety of vendors offering items such as clothing, jewelry and rugs. Garrison Commander Col. Ralph Romine and Senior Vice President of AAFES, Mr. Jack Morris were in attendance to cut the ribbon at the new facility.

Task Force XII learn more about self-defense

by Sgt. Brandon Little

12th Combat Aviation Brigade

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq- Army Pvt. Coinal Calderon struggled with every ounce of strength in her body to wiggle free from her attacker, who was much stronger and nearly twice her size.

She resisted his advances, for what seemed to her like eternity, until he finally realized she would never submit. Fortunately for her, this time it was just a training scenario.

Calderon was just one of many female Soldiers in Task Force XII who received training to fend off an attacker during a three day class on sexual assault prevention.

The class, which lasted three hours each day, was taught here by a combatives level three instructor, Chief Warrant Officer Apollo Simmonds, a UH-60 Black Hawk pilot in Charlie Company, 7th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment, said Capt. Heidi Ridenhour, the organizer of the class.

"I organized this class because there was a report that said a female here escaped from her attacker because she had a knife," said Ridenhour, the commander of Delta Company, 5th Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment. "Since then, I've heard some of the female Soldiers carry around knives to defend themselves, and that could get them into a dangerous situation if they don't know how to use it."

The first two days of class,



Photo by Staff Sgt. Derrick Mims

Pvt. Coinal Calderon, a supply clerk in Delta Company, 3rd Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment, defends herself against an attacker during a sexual assault prevention class.

Simmonds provided the Soldiers with information and statistics on sexual assault.

"He really did his homework," said Ridenhour. "He provided us with a lot of knowledge; like the fact that the majority of the time victims knew their attackers"

Day two consisted of Sim-

monds and the class discussing different types of situations in which these attacks occurred.

"I thought it was really interesting," said Calderon, a supply clerk in Delta Company, 3rd Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment and, at 5 feet tall and about 115 pounds, the smallest Soldier in the class. "I got a

"I thought the class was successful, and the lessons the Soldiers learned will stick with them. We can't prevent them from being attacked, but I feel more confident that they have the tools to resist an attacker."

Capt. Heidi Ridenhour
5/158th AVN BDE



Photo by Staff Sgt. Derrick Mims

A female Soldier in Task Force XII tosses Chief Warrant Officer Apollo Simmonds, the instructor of her sexual assault prevention class, as he attempts to attacker her from behind.

little bit more knowledge about how to deal with different situations."

During the class, they also got information about the use of other self-defense items such as a knife or a whistle.

Simmonds showed how carrying a knife does not guarantee safety by having the Soldiers attempt to pull a pen from their pocket while being attacked, said Ridenhour.

The final day combined the knowledge taught on days one and two, with a few defensive moves that can be used to repel attackers.

"It didn't teach them exactly how to fight," she said. "Instead, it taught them how to maneuver away from an attacker."

The students were taught how to react in situations, like while watching TV, when they are attacked by someone they know. They also practiced situ-

ations where the attacker was a stranger.

Even though Calderon is small, she was out there defending herself and throwing people around just like everybody else, said the 6-foot-1-inch Ridenhour.

"I really liked the throwing part, that was my favorite part of the class," said Calderon. "I've always been into that type of thing."

Although many of the Soldiers found the class fun and entertaining, the true purpose of this class was to teach the skills needed to help prevent them from becoming a victim of sexual assault, said Ridenhour.

"I thought the class was successful, and the lessons the Soldiers learned will stick with them," she said. "We can't prevent them from being attacked, but I feel more confident that they have the tools to resist an attacker."

Road warriors conduct checks,



CAMP AL TAQADDUM, Iraq- Spc. Robert Vandervort, a combat logistics patrol member, checks a machine gun on a humvee. Vandervort is with Alpha Company, 3rd Battalion, 116th Infantry Regiment.



Photo sby Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

(Above) Sgt. Howard Henshaw, the renovation and utilization noncommissioned officer in charge with the 488th Quartermaster Company, checks to make sure the handle on the door of the vehicle he operates is fully mission capable. Broken door handles could impair Soldiers' ability to escape vehicles.

(Top) CAMP AL ASAD, Iraq- Spc. Robert Holliday, a gunner with Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 116th Infantry Regiment, checks the oil from an armored security vehicle he operates. Just like Soldiers, vehicles need fluids to survive.



ensure maximum survivability



Photo by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

Matt Vanderveel, an infantryman with the 116th Infantry Regiment, inspects the M2 Bradley as a gunner most nights on patrol here.



Photos by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

(Above) CAMP AL TAQADDUM, Iraq- Sgt. 1st Class Robert Fracker, an infantryman with Alpha Company, 3rd Battalion, 116th Infantry Regiment, inspects the interior equipment of his humvee here before departing on a combat logistics patrol. (Left) Spc. Christopher Tulloch, an infantryman with Alpha Company, 3rd Battalion, 116th Infantry Regiment, conducts a radio check. Tulloch serves as the truck commander and radio operator of an armored security vehicle.



PMO destroys contraband found on Anaconda



Photos by Sgt. 1st Clas Neil K. Simmons

(Above) Tech Sgt. Eric Adams, investigator with the Provost Marshal Office, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, smashes contraband alcohol at the burn pit here Oct. 27.
(Center) Tech. Sgt. Kevin Copeland, Provost Marshal Office investigator, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, throws boxes of contraband into a burn pit here.

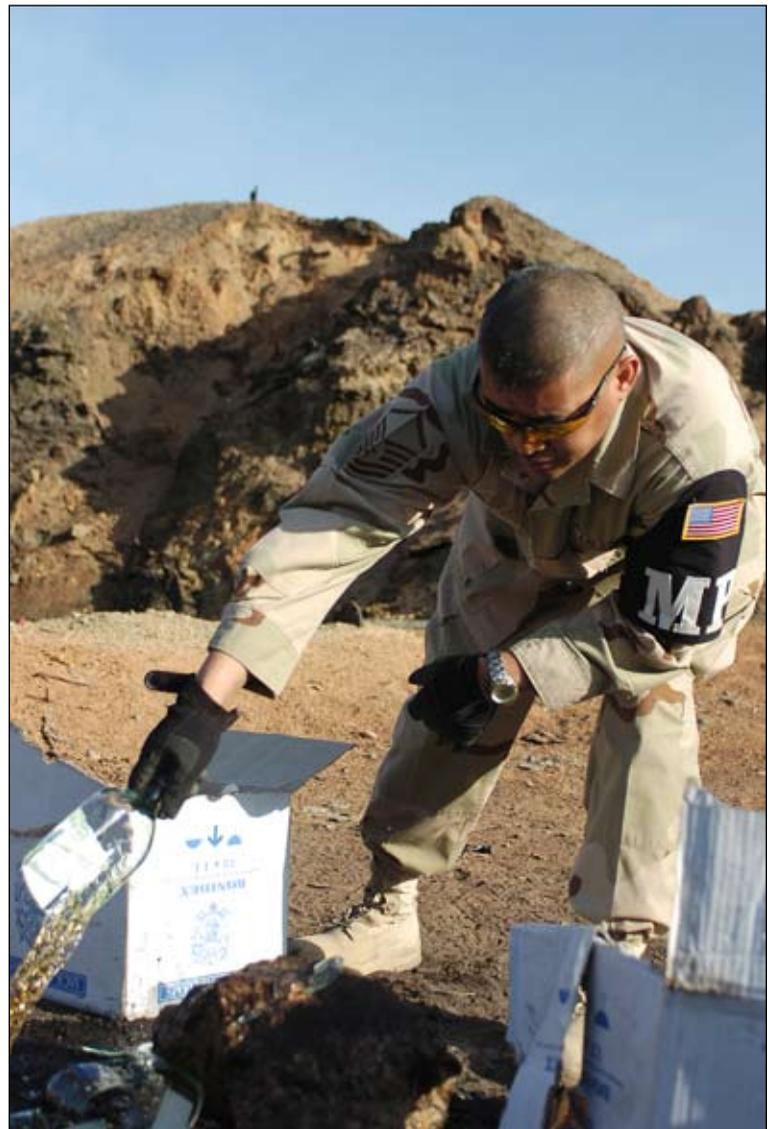


Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Neil K. Simmons

(Above) Air Force Master Sgt. Isaac Resurreccion, operations noncommissioned officer, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, breaks a bottle of alcohol over a rock.
(Below) Tech. Sgt. Kevin Copeland, Provost Marshal Office investigator, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, unloads bottles of contraband alcohol for disposal.

IT'S JUST NOT



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Neil K. Simmons

Tech. Sgt. Kevin Copeland, Provost Marshal Office investigator, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, empties contraband alcohol disguised as water.



WORTH IT!





Photo by Spc. Jaime Avila

A small Iraqi boy sings for Coalition Forces at the new school opening ceremony.

SCHOOL, from Cover

gives the children of Muhammad al Manshad an education to look forward to in a new school.

"I think it certainly is a step in the right direction. The fact that the local population asked for this project, conducted the construction work and had so many of the local sheiks in attendance, demonstrated that they truly are trying to make a difference in this particular area of operations," said Thompson.

The Iraqi people took the lead in this project, showing Iraq is becoming a more independent and resourceful country.

"Alpha Company, 116th BSTB, who is attached to us, has been assisting and facilitating the contracts and the construction of that school, but it is a 100 percent funded and built Iraqi project," said Barrow.

Thompson and his men also helped with opening of the school by providing security while the children, school personnel and Soldiers attended the school's opening ceremony.

"I think it is important to remember why we are here in Iraq. Our purpose is to help provide security so that Iraq can build their government and eventually take over all of the functions of government that is expected

of them. Any helping hand we can give them is always encouraging," said Thompson.

During the ceremony, children sang songs, read poems and handed cake and candy to the Soldiers and guests in attendance.

"I thought it was absolutely incredible. I was impressed by the presentation that the principal, teachers and school children put on. You could see the pride in their faces and how excited they were to show off their school and what they have learned. It was done very well and it was very rewarding to see that kind of progress in this area," said Thompson.

Basketball jamboree honors fallen American Indian Soldier



Photo by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq- Staff Sgt. Natassia Davis, human resources sergeant with the 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) competes in the Spc. Lori Piestewa Memorial Basketball Jamboree Oct. 28.

A member of the Hopi tribe, Piestewa was the first woman killed in the 2003 Iraq war and is the first Native American woman to die in combat while serving with the U.S. military. Piestewa was a natural athlete and the basketball jamboree is one of many events here planned to celebrate Native American Heritage Month.

America's warrior

by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

A snapshot of servicemembers in the Global War on Terrorism

Full name and rank: Tech. Sgt. Yolanda Lynne Tagoai.

Unit: 332nd Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron, Munitions Flight.

Job Title: Munitions Accountability specialist.

Time in service: 21 years.

Age: 39.

Hometown: Farmington, New Mexico.

Tribe: Navajo.

Family: Husband, Nato and three kids.

Pastimes: Spending time with my husband and kids, jogging and sewing.

Life-changing event/moment: When I married my husband...and the birth of my son and two daughters.

The person I admire the most: My grandfather who fought as a Navajo Code Talker and helped our Nation in battle.

Why I joined the military: To start another stage in my life and to further my education.

What makes a good Airman: One who has values

and integrity.

What makes a good leader: A good leader is someone who focuses on the mission and takes care of his/her people.

Goals: To retire and spend all my days being a mother to my kids and a wife to my husband.

Hardest part of my job here: The constant change in manning and limited resources available to do my job.

Best part of my life: Knowing that I have my husband to lean on and talk to and having three wonderful kids!

****National American Indian Heritage Month:** Honoring warriors past and present.

In honor of National American Indian Heritage Month, we are recognizing servicemembers with Native American heritage on the Month of November.



Photo by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra



Photo by Spc. RJ Gilbert

Cpt. Daniel A. Fishback, 7th Sustainment Brigade, Headquarters and Headquarters Company commander is flanked by his Soldiers during the transfer of authority Ceremony held on Camp Adder, Iraq, Nov. 4.

7th SB begins logistics mission

by Spc. RJ Gilbert

7th Sustainment Brigade

CAMPADDER, Iraq — A transfer of authority ceremony took place Nov. 4 between the 82nd Sustainment Brigade (SB) and the 7th Sustainment Brigade (SB) at the Ziggurat here.

This event heralded the official beginning of the 7th SB's "resolute warriors" tour of duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 06-08, while the "paratroopers" of the 82nd SB relinquished command and bade farewell.

The 7th SB commander reminded the Soldiers and onlookers why Soldiers do their duty.

"We do it because we are told to do it. We do it to be a part of something bigger. We do it because we are making a difference," said Col. Mark Barbosa, 7th SB commander.

"It's like the one word on the state flag of Rhode Island which says, 'hope.' I've been all over the world and I don't care what anybody says. I've seen it. We provide hope to those in Iraq and around the world who haven't had hope for many decades," said Barbosa.

Barbosa also spoke lauding the 82nd SB for their impeccable performance in Iraq and their assistance during the transition, while promising to maintain the consummate standard of professionalism.

"I can't imagine it being more thorough or professional. I know your team put many hours in this and I feel very comfortable that it just could not have been done any better. You have built an incredible reputation across the theater; and those efforts, I assure you, will continue on

"We do it to be a part of something bigger. We do it because we are making a difference."

Col. Mark Barbosa
7th SB

my watch," said Barbosa.

During their tour in Iraq that lasted from September 2006 to November 2007, the 82nd SB drove over 2.3 million miles, delivered over 33.8 million gallons of JP8, 10.5 million gallons of DF-2, and 1.7 million gallons of MO-GAS in support of MND-C/CS/SE customers. In regards to munitions the 82nd delivered some 3,200 STONs. They also planned and coordinated 5 aerial deliveries and coordinated for 512 detention containers to Kuwait, which helped reduce costs by over \$155,000.

With the retiring of the 82nd SB's colors their commander spoke reverently and retrospectively about the job his brigade had performed in this Global War on Terrorism.

"In 24 years of service I have never been so proud as to stand in the ranks of such an 'All American' Team," said Col. Stephen R. Lyons, commander of the 82nd SB. The command was comprised of units and Soldiers from across the United States and bound by ideals that moved us beyond our diverse backgrounds and lifted us above our own interests and inspired by a common desire to defeat tyranny and oppression, said Lyons.

Upcoming sports on AFN

Wednesday 11/14/07

College BB: NIT Season Tip-Off: Teams TBD live 3:00 a.m. AFN/sports

Detroit Red Wings @ St. Louis Blues live 3:30 a.m. AFN/xtra

College BB: NIT Season Tip-Off: Teams TBD live 5:00 a.m. AFN/xtra

College BB: Teams TBD live 6:30 a.m. AFN/xtra

College BB: Teams TBD live 8:30 a.m. AFN/xtra

Los Angeles Lakers @ San Antonio Spurs replay 11:00 a.m. AFN/sports

College FB: Toledo @ Ball State replay 9:00 p.m. AFN/sports

Tuesday 11/15/07

College BB: North Carolina @ Davidson live 3:00 a.m. AFN/sports

College FB: Akron @ Miami (Ohio) live 3:30 a.m. AFN/xtra; replay 9:00 p.m. AFN/sports

Los Angeles Lakers @ Houston Rockets live 5:00 a.m. AFN/sports; replay 11:00 a.m. AFN/sports

College BB: Teams TBD live 6:30 a.m. AFN/xtra

Friday 11/16/07

College BB: Teams TBD live 3:00 a.m. AFN/xtra

San Antonio Spurs @ Dallas Mavericks live 4:00 a.m. AFN/sport

College FB: Oregon @ Arizona live 5:00 a.m. AFN/xtra; replay 11:00 a.m. AFN/sports

Chicago Bulls @ Phoenix Suns live 6:30 a.m. AFN/sports

College BB: Teams TBD replay 5:00 p.m. AFN/sports

Saturday 11/17/07

Houston Rockets @ San Antonio Spurs live 4:00 a.m. AFN/sports

College BB: Teams TBD live 5:00 AFN/xtra

Detroit Pistons @ Los Angeles Lakers live 6:30 a.m. AFN/sports; replay 11:00 a.m. AFN/sports

College FB: Hawaii @ Nevada live 7:00 a.m. AFN/xtra; replay 2:00 p.m. AFN/sports

College FB: teams TBD live 8:00 p.m. AFN/sports

College FB: teams TBD live 8:00 p.m. AFN/xtra

College FB: teams TBD live 11:30 p.m. AFN/sports

College FB: teams TBD live 11:30 p.m. AFN/xtra

Sunday 11/18/07

College FB: teams TBD live 4:00 a.m. AFN/sports

NFL FB: Teams TBD 9:00 p.m. AFN/sports

NFL FB: Teams TBD 9:00 p.m. AFN/xtra

Monday 11/19/07

NASCAR Nextel Cup Series: Ford 400 live 12:00 a.m. AFN/xtra

NFL FB: Teams TBD live 12:00 a.m. AFN/sports

Chicago Bears @ Seattle Seahawks live 4:15 AFN/sports; replay 3:00 p.m. AFN/sports; replay 9:00 p.m. AFN/sports

MLS Cup: Teams TBD replay 11:30 a.m. AFN/sports

Tuesday 11/20/07

Tennessee Titans @ Denver Broncos live 4:30 a.m. AFN/sports; replay 3:00 p.m. AFN/sports; replay 9:00 p.m. AFN/sports

College BB: Princeton @ Duke replay 11:00 a.m. AFN/sports

Do you have a story idea?

Contact the Anaconda Times

anaconda.times@iraq.centcom.mil

Gansler Commission cites systemic problems in Army contracting

by Lee McMahon and Gary Sheftick

Army News Service

WASHINGTON- Not enough people, too little training and an antiquated system. Those are the key findings in a report released today on Army contracting in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait.

Secretary of the Army Pete Geren appointed the "Special Commission on Army Acquisition and Program Management in Expeditionary Operations" in mid-September to review contracting linked to the war effort. He appointed former Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Dr. Jacques Gansler to head the six-member commission.

The commission's findings, delivered Nov. 1, provided the "blunt assessment we asked for and needed," Secretary Geren said, adding that it also provided a plan for the way ahead.

Gansler said the first steps are to hire more contracting officers and to train them properly. While the workload in contracting actions has increased more than 350 percent in the last 12 years, he said the Army's contracting-oversight workforce has been almost cut in half.

"First and most important is the people," Gansler said. He recommended adding 400 Soldiers and 1,000 civilians to the Army contracting force, and another 583 Army personnel to fill positions in the Defense Contract Management Agency.

He also recommended establishing an Army Contracting Agency and adding five generals to the Army contracting force, to give it stature and importance. In the 1990s, he said the Army had five generals on the contracting force, and now there are none.

Geren pointed to post-Cold War cuts to the Army acquisition budget as the reason for an undersized acquisition workforce today.

"This workforce has not been adequately expanded, trained, structured or empowered to meet the needs of our warfighters, now or in the future," said Geren.

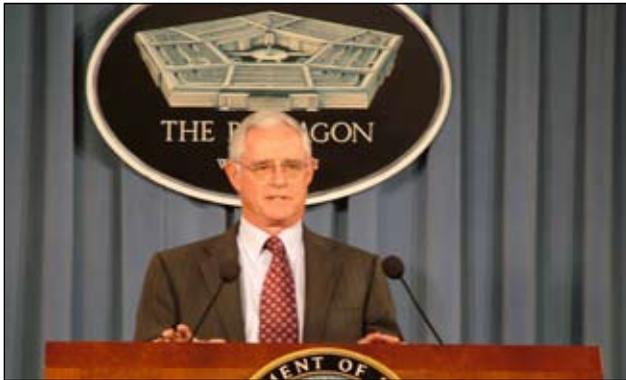


Photo by Gary Sheftick

Dr. Jacques Gansler reported findings of his six-member special commission today, recommending that the Army hire almost 2,000 additional contracting officers and provide more training to its acquisition workforce.

"We also need to do a better job in training our commanders on their responsibilities for requirements definition and contractor performance."

Gansler pointed out that only 36 percent of those with contract oversight in Iraq and Kuwait are certified. He recommended training, especially in expeditionary contracting. He said expeditionary contracting is more demanding, because the needs of the operational commander are often immediate.

"We must recognize that expeditionary contracting is different," said Gansler, explaining that products must often be purchased quickly from host-nation countries. "This means where it's appropriate, getting it right off the fields."

He said this may mean Congressional relief from U.S. labor statutory provisions such as Buy American, the Berry Amendment and Specialty Metals. He said some such relief has already been provided in Iraq, but it is needed for the next contingency.

He said Congress also needs to change Civil Service provisions to ensure that contracting officers who volunteer to go to a war zone do not lose their life insurance and medical benefits.

The commission outlined four areas as critical to future success:

- (1) Increased stature, quantity and career development for contracting personnel -- both military and civilian, particularly for expeditionary operations;
- (2) Restructure of the organization and responsibility to facilitate contracting and contract management;
- (3) Provide training and tools for overall contracting activities in expeditionary operations; and
- (4) Obtain legislative, regulatory, and policy assistance to enable contracting effectiveness, important in expeditionary operations.

The commission also followed investigations and audits that identified contractors and government contracting officials for corrupt activity related to contingency contracting. As of Oct. 23, 83 Army criminal investigations relating to contract fraud in Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan were ongoing. While the cases vary in severity and complexity, most involve bribery. There are confirmed bribes in excess of \$15 million, according to the Army Criminal Investigation Command.

So far 23 U.S. government employees, both military and civilian, have been charged or indicted in federal court. Contracts valued at more than \$6 billion have been affected.

Gansler said that many of those who committed fraudulent acts were not actually contracting officers, but personnel who were asked to oversee contracts as a secondary responsibility.

With training, management and oversight, fraud is less likely to occur, said Gansler.

"The overwhelming majority of our contracting workforce, civilian and military, is doing an outstanding job under challenging circumstances," said Geren. "But, we must do a better job resourcing and supporting them in their critical work. We will take the steps necessary to ensure that we execute our responsibility effectively, efficiently and consistently with Army values."

(Schedule is subject to change)

SUSTAINER REEL TIME THEATER

Wednesday, Nov. 14	
5 p.m.	Sydney White (PG-13)
8 p.m.	The Kingdom (R)
Thursday, Nov. 15	
5 p.m.	The Kingdom (R)
8 p.m.	Bee Movie (PG)
Friday, Nov. 16	
2 p.m.	Good Luck Chuck (R)
5 p.m.	Eastern Promises (R)
8 p.m.	Fred Clause (PG)
Saturday, Nov. 17	
2 p.m.	The Game Plan (PG)
5 p.m.	Fred Claus (PG)
8 p.m.	Eastern Promises (R)
Sunday, Nov. 18	
2 p.m.	Fred Claus (PG)
5 p.m.	Good Luck Chuck (R)
8 p.m.	The Game Plan (PG)
Monday, Nov. 19	
5 p.m.	Eastern Promises (R)
8 p.m.	Fred Claus (PG)
Tuesday, Nov. 20	
5 p.m.	Fred Claus (PG)
8 p.m.	Good Luck Chuck (R)

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(C) M. Baker 2003

ANACONDA ACTIVITIES

INDOOR POOL

1-Mile practice day: Saturday- 9 a.m. and 8 p.m.

100-meter IM, 50-meter Free, 50-meter Back Competition: Monday- 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

Swim Lessons

-Beginners: Tuesday – 7 p.m.

-Intermediate: Thursday – 7 p.m.

-Both: Sunday – 7 p.m.

Aqua Training: Tuesday and Thursday – 7:45 p.m.

Crazy Distance Day: Friday – All day, all levels

Endurance and pacing: Wednesday- 4 p.m.

EAST FITNESS CENTER

Basketball League: Monday-Friday – 7 p.m.

Body Curl Contest: Saturday – 7:30 p.m.

Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu: Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 8 p.m.

Kyu Kyu Kempo: Sunday- 2 p.m.

Modern Army combatives: Tuesday and Thursday- 8:30 p.m.

Open court volleyball: Sunday- 6 p.m.

Shotokan Karate Do:

Thursday- 6:45 p.m., Saturday- 8:30 p.m. and Sunday-

5:30 p.m.

Soo Bahk Do: 6 p.m.

Step Aerobics: Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 5:30 p.m.

Wrestling & physical fitness class: Tuesday- 6 p.m. and Saturday- 7 p.m.

Swing dance: Sunday- 7:30 p.m.

EAST RECREATION CENTER

8-ball tourney: Monday- 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

9-ball tournament: Wednesday- 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Game Console Tourney: Thursday- 8 p.m.

Country Dance Class: Thursday- 7 p.m.

Dominoes: Friday- 8 p.m.

Hip Hop Dance Class: Friday- 8 p.m.

Karaoke: Monday- 8 p.m.

Model building: Sunday- 1 p.m.

Poetry/ open mic: Sunday- 7:30 p.m.

Poker tourney: Sunday- 6 p.m.

Salsa dance class: Saturday- 8:30 p.m.

Swing dance: Tuesday- 7p.m.

Ping pong tourney: Tuesday- 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

WEST RECREATION CENTER

8-ball tourney: Wednesday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.

9-ball tournament: Monday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Command and Conquer: Thursday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Dungeons & Dragons: Saturday- 8 p.m.

Friday nights in Balad: Friday- 8 p.m.

Foosball: Tuesday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Green Bean karaoke: Wednesday and Sunday- 8 p.m.

Hip Hop dance lessons: Saturday- 9 p.m.

Ice Ball Tourney: Thursday- 4 p.m.

Ping pong tourney: Tuesday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Salsa dance class: Thursday- 8:30 p.m.

Spades, Chess and Dominoes: Friday – 1 p.m.

Texas hold 'em: Saturday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.

WEST FITNESS CENTER

3-on-3 basketball tourney: Saturday- 7:30 p.m.

6-on-6 volleyball tourney: Friday- 7 p.m.

Aerobics: Monday,

Wednesday, Friday- 7 p.m.
Body by Midgett Toning Class: Tuesday, Thursday - 7 p.m.

Furman's Martial Arts: Monday, Wednesday, Sunday- 1 p.m.

Gaston's Self-Defense Class: Friday, Saturday- 7 p.m.

Open court basketball:

Thursday- 7 p.m.

Open court soccer: Monday, Wednesday - 7 p.m.

Zingano Brazilian Jiu Jitsu: Tuesday, Thursday- 8:30 p.m.

CIRCUIT GYM

Floor hockey: Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 8 p.m.

NEW Salsa Nights

Attention all dancers! Salsa classes have changed... please check the schedule below and plan accordingly.



Wednesday- H-6 Recreation Center at 8:30 p.m.

Thursday- West MWR at 8:30 p.m.

Saturday- East MWR at 8:30 p.m.

Now that you know where to go break out your dancing shoes, bring a friend and prepare to dance Salsa, Merengue and Bachata.

See you there!



December 13th

LSA Anaconda's Collage of Talent HOLIDAY SHOWCASE

We are looking for:
Dancers, Singers, Martial Artists, Bands, DJ, and ALL performers in general

Rehearsals @ East MWR, (1800-2000)
Nov. 14, 15, 19, 23, 28, 29
Dec. 3, 7, 10, 12

POC: LTC Kelly Grumelot
Email: kelly.grumelot@traq.centcom.mil



Football championship hopefuls take it outside



Photo by Spc. Jay Venturini

Spc. Darryl Malufau, a member of the 126th Finance Company, breaks away from a defender during a flag football game at Killeen Field here. With over 15 flag football teams broken into two conferences, the top teams from each conference will ultimately compete to be crowned the undisputed champion sometime in late November.

1st SB Soldiers sustain Iraqi drivers with food, water

by Pfc. Andrea Merritt

1st Sustainment Brigade

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Soldiers from the 1st Sustainment Brigade helped sustain an Iraqi fuel convoy during its stop here by bringing food, water and ice to the drivers Oct. 19 and Oct. 22.

The convoy was a joint effort between the Army, Marines, the Iraqi Army and local nationals.

The Marines provided route clearance and the Iraqi Army pulled security as the drivers, who are local nationals, transported fuel to different locations throughout Iraq.

It was the Army's job to handle lodging for the Marines and Iraqi soldiers as well as to provide food for the local nationals driving the fuel trucks the day they left for the convoy and the day they returned.

After their mission, which lasted about three days, the drivers lined the fuel trucks along the side of the road and rested.

Some of the drivers could be seen lying in a bed hanging above the seats in the cabs of their trucks.

As the 1st SB Soldiers pulled up in a five-ton truck filled with boxed meals, bags of ice and water, the drivers climbed out of their beds to collect their share.



Photo by Pfc. Andrea Merritt

Soldiers from the 1st Sustainment Brigade hand out food, water and ice to a driver of a fuel convoy with the help of an Iraqi soldier Oct. 22 on Camp Taji. The convoy transported diesel, motor gasoline and kerosene fuel to different locations throughout Iraq.

The Soldiers rode down a line of 120 trucks, which was about a mile long, and handed out the goods with the help of a two Iraqi soldiers.

"We had to feed close to 300 people," said Master Sgt. Oscar Bonilla, the noncommissioned officer in

charge of the 1st SB Iraqi Security Forces section. "We handed out six pallets of water, 62 boxes of meals and 300 bags of ice."

"Missions like this greatly improve American-Iraqi relationships. It changes the overall vision of the Iraqis toward the U.S. Army," Bo-

nilla concluded.

Without question, good will gestures like these will help to win the hearts and

minds of the Iraqi people and strengthen their desire to become a more self-reliant nation.



Photos by Pfc. Andrea Merritt

(Above) Soldiers from the 1st SB load ice into a five-ton truck so they can distribute it to drivers of an Iraqi fuel convoy. The 1st SB provided six pallets of water, 300 bags of ice and 62 boxes of food to the drivers before they left for the convoy.

(Right) Spc. Diana Guerra, a supply specialist with the 1st SB, and an Iraqi soldier hand water to drivers of a fuel convoy. During the convoy, Marines cleared the routes and the Iraqi soldiers pulled security as the drivers transported fuel from an oil refinery to different locations throughout Iraq.



Track meet heats up Holt Stadium



Photo by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

(Above) Capt. Camille Morgan, the signal officer in charge for the 32nd Multi-functional Medical Battalion, throws the ball during the shot put portion of the track meet held here at Holt Stadium. (Below) Air Force 1st Lt. Dominique Boivin with the 332nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group, gains speed and strength to throw the discus as far as she could to win the discus competition during the track meet held here Nov. 4.



Photo by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

A participant in the male 100-meter dash, takes a moment to mentally prepare himself before the start of the race.

Track meet sponsored by:

**32nd
Multi-functional
Medical
Battalion**



Photo by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

A participant in the female long jump competition leaps to the farthest point possible to attempt to win the competition held here.



Photo by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

2nd Lt. Nathan Flores, 213th Area Support Group liason officer, passes his competition to win first place for the 5-mile event. Flores was also Anaconda's Army 10-Miler first place winner.