

AnacondaTimes

JANUARY 16, 2008

PROUDLY SERVING LSA ANACONDA



Web Image

They go where others fear

Mortuary Affairs Soldiers awarded for service

Page 4



Web Image

40 years later dream lives on

Soldiers reflect on MLK's influence in their lives

Page 8



Photo courtesy of Army.mil

106th favorite team wins big

High school football team best in Kentucky

Page 15



Photo by 1st Lt. Jonathan J. Springer

Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Howard, the platoon sergeant for 3rd Platoon, Alpha Battery, 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) stops to shake hands with a young Iraqi boy in Dor Al Sinah, Iraq, Dec. 20. Dor Al Sinah is a small village that has about 600 residents and lies just south of Balad, Iraq. 3rd Platoon, Alpha Battery, conducted a civil military operation in the village and dropped off hundreds of humanitarian aid supplies to the residents there.

“Automatic” Soldiers give to Iraqis during holiday season

by 1st Lt. Jonathan J. Springer

2-320th Field Artillery Regiment

DOR AL SINAH, Iraq – Recent initiatives to incorporate Concerned Local Citizens have dramatically changed how small units conduct combat operations. With security and stability spreading throughout the country of Iraq, many units are taking advantage of the improved conditions here and are leveraging civil military operations (CMO) into their combat strategy as a means to continue improving the nation of Iraq.

Bridging the gap between

“The biggest threat to the enemy in this fight is not a weapon, but when a Soldier gets out of a vehicle and talks to the local people. We are doing this throughout our area of operations, and I am very proud of the tone and stance our Soldiers have shown in all our operations thus far.”

Lt. Col. John Dunleavy
2-320th FAR.

Coalition Forces and the Iraqi populace can be a difficult task. But, for one unit, the task of integrating civil affairs (CA) into their counterinsurgency (COIN) plan is one of their top priorities, and is a challenge they are ready to take on.

December 20, Alpha Battery, 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment (FAR), 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), conducted its first full-scale civil affairs operation in the village of Dor al Sinah, Iraq.

“This is just the first of many CA missions we will be doing in Dor al Sinah and this area,” said Capt. Adalberto Rodriguez, the commander of Alpha Battery. “I am really looking

See CMO, Page 7

Resolutions: seek legal counsel first

by Capt. Donald G. Wolfe

316th ESC Consolidated Legal Center

A lot of people make New Year's resolutions such as to lose weight, quit smoking, save more or pay down debt. These are all good resolutions and will lead to a successful 2008 and beyond, but consider adding some legal resolutions to your list.

First, if you do not have a will or have had a major change in your life such as the birth of a child, marriage/divorce, change in beneficiaries, change in trustee/executor, change in state residency or material change in assets, you should strongly consider stopping by legal assistance to update your will. No one knows when their time will come, but you and your family can rest comfortably knowing that should something happen, things will be handled in a manner you wish.

In addition to updating your will, you should consider reviewing the need for a power of attorney. Prior to deploying, a lot of us executed a power of attorney. Now that you have been deployed for some time and now know what can and can not be done while in theater, consider

terminating extraneous power's of attorney. For those with a general power of attorney, consider replacing it with a special power of attorney that addresses those things that you are unable to do while in theater.

If you recently got divorced, filed for or are in the process of filing for divorce, stop by your JAG office to make sure your divorce is final, ready to be filed or proceeding in a timely manner. Many states have strict rules as to when a divorce is final, and until your divorce is final UCMJ prohibitions on extra-marital sexual relations still apply. Moreover, while filing for divorce In Propria Persona (for oneself) is common, the process of filing can be confusing, which JAG can assist with. Similarly, how a case proceeds to final judgment can often be bewildering. Should you not actively pursue the matter, the court may dismiss your case without issuing a divorce decree. Each jurisdiction has its own rules as to the format of filings, when filings must be made, when and how notices must be given and a myriad of other rules which could significantly impact your case. Your local JAG can guide you in the process and may save

you a lot of time, money and hassle.

If you are experiencing financial problems, ignoring them will not make them any better. If you have been screening your calls, avoiding opening mail and trying to decide which bills to pay this month, it is time to get your financial house in order. It may come as a surprise, but most creditors are willing to work with you and may even understand your financial hardship. By dealing with your financial challenges head-on you can alleviate a lot of stress, pressure and headache. Before contacting your creditors, you will want to make sure you have a reasonable action plan of how you are going to reform your credit situation. Be realistic with your budget and do not forget to include some "me money" that can be spent on whatever you want, including emergencies. If you make your budget too rigid there is a good chance you will fall short of your financial goals.

With careful planning and an eye towards the future, you can make 2008 a great and rewarding year. Best of luck and Happy New Year!

For more information, contact your legal office.

Provost Marshal Office: Weekly police blotter

Week of Dec. 30- Jan. 5

The PMO conducted: (229) security checks, (89) traffic stops, issued (59) DD Form 1408 Armed Forces Traffic Ticket, registered (124) vehicles on the installation, (3) weapons and (18) Common Access Cards were reported lost.

The PMO is currently investigating: (4) Larceny Government/Personal Property cases and (2) General Order #1 violations.

PMO Recommendations:

Remember to maintain your situational awareness. From watching for UXOs where you walk to tripping hazards, to being aware of who is around you. If you see anything suspicious, report it through the proper channels. If you see a crime being committed, report it to PMO im-

mediately. If you see a civilian/foreign national without a badge displayed, ask them to display their badge according to MNF-I policy. Let's work together to keep LSA Anaconda a safe place!

Crime Prevention: Turn on exterior pod lights. This simple act during the hours of darkness can deter predators. Your lights may not only protect you, they may also help someone else. Safety is everyone's responsibility, so help protect your fellow Soldier, Airman, Marine and Sailor!

Lost and Found: To find out if your lost item has been turned into PMO, contact PMO/Investigations at 443-6105.

by: Air Force Staff Sgt. Mirta Jones, PMO



Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Mirta Jones

PMO Airman 1st Class Ricky Gorman helps Pfc. Brian W. Sherrod fill out a report for a Larceny of Personal Property.

ANACONDA TIMES

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

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402nd Army Field Support Brigade
20th Engineer Brigade
213th Area Support Group
1/82nd Brigade Combat Team
3rd Sustainment Brigade
7th Sustainment Brigade
507th Corps Support Group
1st Sustainment Brigade
CJSOTF-AP

Mission Statement: Produce a weekly newspaper that provides the command leadership team a means of disseminating command information to servicemembers on Logistical Support Area Anaconda and subordinate 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) units throughout Iraq. Contents of the paper will target enlisted servicemembers, officers, and civilian staff as well as primarily highlight the mission and experiences of 316th ESC units and personnel, with a secondary objective of detailing the activities of the LSA Anaconda community.

When weather gets cold things could heat up

To keep soldiers both warm and safe this winter and in all cold weather environments, follow these tips:

- Operate all heaters and stoves in accordance with the applicable technical manual.
- In the event of a tent fire or suspected presence of carbon monoxide, the first and most important task is to evacuate the tent.
- Heating shelters at night requires that a soldier in each shelter be on duty as a fireguard at all times when other soldiers are sleeping in the tent. A fireguard can make use of the time by cleaning his weapon and equipment, washing and shaving, and preparing hot drinks for sentries outside.
- Do not wear wet clothing while sleeping in sleeping bags in an effort to dry them.
- Do not pile combustible materials such as grass and pine needles on the tent floor for insulation, as they can catch flame easily.
- Stoves in tents with wooden floors must be placed in sandboxes.
- Always use the specified type of fuel for the heater or stove you are using.
- Each heating device and all its components must be inspected and cleaned thoroughly before storage and use. Special attention should be paid to checking for leaking valves, holes in gas cans and proper assembly.
- Secure stovepipe opening covers with tie tapes so the covers will not contact the stovepipe.
- Use enough stovepipe sections so that one complete section is above the highest point of the tent. Ensure that stovepipe sections are vertical

and do not contact any part of the tent.

- Be sure to leave enough air space between the tent wall and the heater or stove — if heating devices are situated too closely to the tent wall, they can ignite the tent.
- If the flame is accidentally extinguished, wait until the burner cools before relighting. An explosion could occur.
- Fuel should not be taken inside a tent warmed by fire. The fuel can for the heater must be located outside the tent as far from the tent as the fuel hose allows.
- Do not exchange the heater unit fuel can unless the heater is turned off.
- Do not smoke or drop cigarette butts around combustible materials or go to sleep with a lantern or candle burning.
- Do not open a stove or heater while it is still hot, even after a flame-up has subsided. Fresh air will feed a fire and reignite it.
- Adding water to a gas fire will cause the fire to flame up and spread.
- Do not remove a hot stove or heater from the tent; hot surfaces can contact tent flaps and set them aflame.
- Even in extreme cold, do not operate heaters at full capacity. An overheated stovepipe could ignite the tent, and high temperatures can warp grates and damage other components.
- Provide sufficient ventilation for fresh air to enter the tent at all times.
- Ensure fire extinguishers are available in every tent that has a stove

or heater.

- Have a fire plan ready and rehearsed.
- Ensure emergency agencies such as fire departments and paramedics have access to all structures using heaters and other flame sources.
- The practice of hitting a stovepipe and pouring in a little water to clean out soot is extremely dangerous; throwing blanks into a burning stove to clean out carbon buildup in the stovepipe is even worse.
- Do not touch heater or stove metal parts when temperatures are below freezing without protective gloves. Skin may freeze upon contact and cleave from the flesh.
- Use caution when handling sharp-edged pipes to avoid cuts. In any dangerous situation, the first response is to save soldiers' lives — soldiers lose their lives in inches and seconds. In a tent fire, there are no seconds to spare.



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. Castle Heights Chapel (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. Castle Heights Chapel 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 5 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MEETING

Sunday 2 p.m. MWR-West Side

LATTER DAY SAINTS-(LDS)-(MORMON)

Sunday 1 p.m. Provider Chapel
 3:30 p.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

Mortuary Affairs Soldiers awarded for care of departed

by Staff Sgt. Dave Lankford

Anacanda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq – Soldiers of the 54th Quartermaster (QM) Company's Mortuary Affairs Detachment received the thanks of a grateful command in an award ceremony here Jan. 4.

Fallen servicemembers are no longer buried overseas the way they were for much of American history. Therefore, the responsibility of returning the remains of war fighters killed around the world to the United States now falls on the members of mortuary affairs collection points.

This is without a doubt the most thankless job in the military. While every servicemember has benefited from the many services provided by their fellow Soldiers, such as medical, financial or administrative, it would be safe to say that no warrior wishes to cross the path of mortuary affairs. In a time of war, however, it is one of the most important jobs in the military.

"After the trigger puller, it's probably the most important job down range," said Col. Jack E. Lechner, 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) (ESC) chief of staff.

Families want their loved ones returned to American soil. This is why the military is still scouring the battlefields of Korea and Vietnam looking for the remains of those missing or killed in action.

"That's American culture," said Lechner. "Families need closure."

Staff Sgt. Terry Lee, the Mortuary Affairs Collection Point noncommissioned officer in charge, said the reason she chose mortuary affairs is because she felt the job could be done better.

"I was recalled back into the Army in 2003 by the 729th Transportation Company out of Fresno, Calif. and deployed to Iraq. About 30 days prior to redeploying I lost a close friend," said Lee.

During a convoy Oct. 26, 2005, the 729th entered an ambush. IEDs and rocket-propelled grenades (RPG) exploded while automatic weapons opened fire. In the command vehicle, Sgt. James "Ski" Witkowski, used his body to block an RPG which landed near his turret to minimize the blast and keep it from falling inside. He died instantly, saving the lives of his comrades.

"He was always smiling, never complained. He was the type of Soldier that lifted you up when you were down," said Lee.

Lee now runs the very same mortuary affairs collection point she visited after Witkowski's death. Though she felt the operation was run pro-



Photo by Staff Sgt. Dave Lankford

Staff Sgt. Terry Lee, 54th Quartermaster Company, is awarded the Bronze Star at a ceremony here Jan. 4 by Brig. Gen. Gregory E. Couch, the 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) commanding general, for her outstanding performance as noncommissioned officer in charge of mortuary affairs.

fessionally at the time, she saw vast room for improvement. She knew she was the person who could make a difference.

The changes she has made become immediately apparent upon entering her area of operation. The Soldiers in her charge display professionalism on par with elite units such as the Old Guard. Many of her Soldiers are fresh out of advanced individual training but exhibit a level of military bearing far above the norm.

Lee and her team reduced the time it takes to process and evacuate a fallen Soldier from Balad to Kuwait from 24 hours to just 12. Lee also supervised the first ever Army/Marine mortuary affairs joint training experience in Iraq, whereby Soldiers and Marines specializing in mortuary affairs worked side-by-side learning about one another's procedures and establishing best practices.

Dignity, honor and respect are a way of life for these Soldiers when dealing with the remains of the departed. However, witnessing the grief of survivors is often the most difficult, and sometimes painful, part of the job, said Spc. Adam Jakes, a mortuary affairs specialist with the 54th QM Co.

"We transport the remains of local Iraqis to the ECP

(entry control point) to be returned to their families. Seeing their grief first hand isn't easy. That's probably the hardest part of the job," said Jakes.

Pfc. Bryant Ouch, a 54th QM Co. mortuary affairs specialist, has been interested in mortuary affairs since the seventh grade. For him the hardest part of the job is inventorying personal effects.

"When you come across a family picture or a Father's Day card you can't help but to see a personality in

the remains. It makes it very hard," said Ouch.

"We in the 13th CSSB (Combat Service Support Battalion) are honored to have had such a great mortuary affairs team assigned to the Battalion. It not only takes strong leadership and strong Soldiers but also a very special warrior to do what they do. Staff Sgt. Lee and her Soldiers have done an exceptional job at taking care of our fallen comrades. They are by far the most professional mortuary affairs team I have ever worked with," said Lt. Col. Tim Sullivan, the 13th Combat Service Support Battalion commander.

Lee also gives much of the credit for her success to the 316th ESC. "A group like this can't succeed without support, and we've had great support," she said.

All of the members of the mortuary affairs team find the work difficult, and they all have their own ways of relieving the stress inherent in such an emotionally demanding occupation. The one thing they all agree on is that they could not do it without each other.

"I hand picked my Soldiers, and I couldn't have done it without them," said Lee. "I would gladly come back and do it all again, but not without my team."

151st Infantry medics certify CLS



Photo by Spc. Jerry Peavey

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Sgt. Richard Powell (center) and Cpl. Daniel Edwards (right), two of the medics for Fox Company, 151st Infantry, demonstrate the process of administering saline fluid on a dummy arm during a Combat Lifesaver Course in Camp Liberty, Iraq. In order to surpass the standards set for combat readiness, Fox Company has set a goal to certify all of its Soldiers as combat lifesavers.

Running for a reason: Army captain helps wounded warriors

by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

Anaconda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq- Capt. Michael W. Glenn will tell you he is an ordinary man, but he is one man on an unusual mission. He ran 100 kilometers in 12 hours, 30 minutes and he had 30,000 reasons to run them.

An able-bodied athlete and commander of the 8th Ordnance Company (Ord. Co.) currently serving here, Glenn was so moved by a documentary about disabled veterans he decided to run 100 kilometers nonstop to raise funds for severely injured veterans.

"Over 30,000 Soldiers have been wounded during Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. They continually rise to face their own personal challenges on a daily basis and demonstrate their exceptional mental fortitude," said Glenn.

He had previous experience running ultra-marathons and decided running 100 kilometers for the Wounded Warrior Project would be an apt way for him to show he cared.

The Wounded Warrior Project is a nonprofit organization that addresses the needs of severely injured

"These heroes have given so much for their country in a time of war. I feel it is the least I could do while deployed to participate in an event to support these troops in their recovery."

Capt. Michael W. Glenn
8th Ord. Co.

service men and women by providing unique, direct programs and services in which the injured help and assist each other while enlisting the public's aid.

At the heart of Glenn's "Resolution Run," as he titled it, was a desire to connect with injured servicemembers, show them they were not forgotten and that their service was worthy of being honored, said Glenn.

So on Jan. 1 as the sun rose over the track at Holt Stadium here, Glenn hit the pavement and from dawn till dusk he didn't stop until his goal was complete. Dozens of supporters cheered him on as he finished the race.

"During these difficult times in which our nation's founding principles have been challenged, many American Soldiers answered the call and on the way get injured," said 1st Lt. Jorge Velez, the executive officer with the 8th Ord. Co. "All of us have a moral obligation and duty to those Soldiers and I believe that inspired my commander to perform one of the most challenging things I have ever seen in my life," said Velez.

He ran alongside Glenn for more than 10 miles and also donated money to the cause.

"These heroes have given so much for their country in a time of war. I feel it is the least I could do while deployed to participate in an event to support these troops in their recovery," said Glenn.

Glenn hopes to raise \$5,000. If you would like to donate to his project, please go to www.kintera.org/autogen/home/default.asp?ievent=257045 or contact Glenn at michael.glenn@iraq.centcom.mil.

Donations are being accepted through Feb. 1. For more information about the Wounded Warrior Project go to: <http://www.wounded-warriorproject.org/>

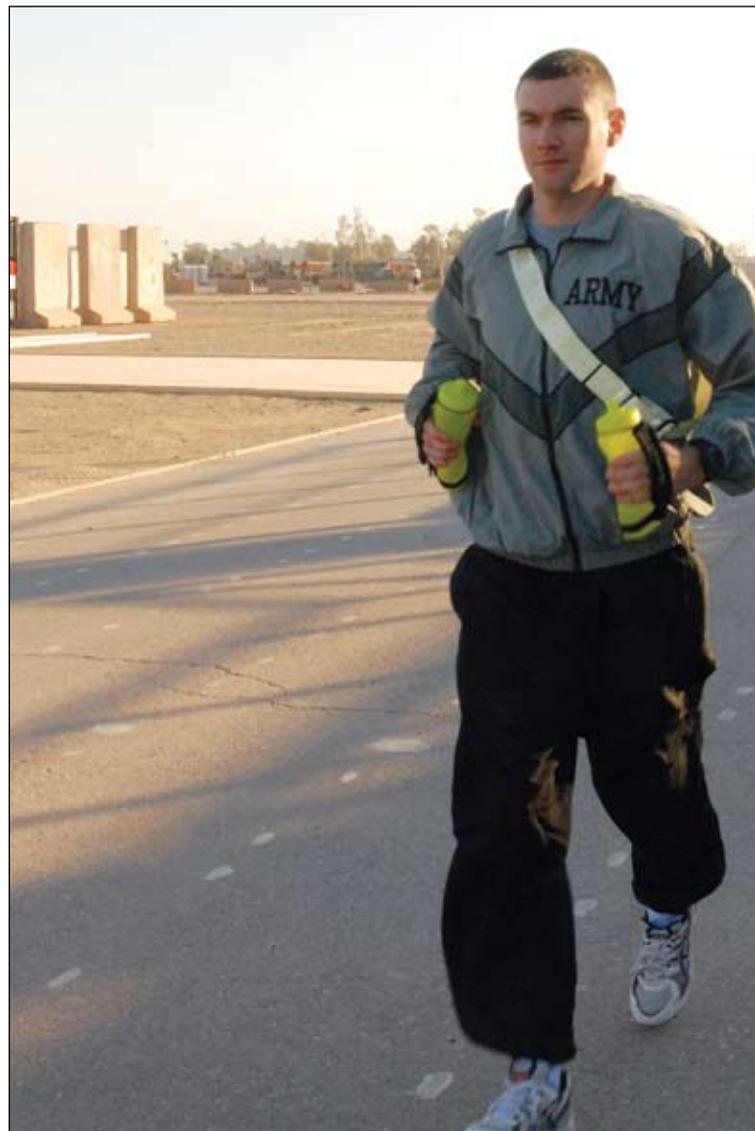


Photo by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

Capt. Michael W. Glenn, commander of the 8th Ordnance Company, trains for the Resolution Run. Glenn ran 100 kilometers in less than 12 hours, 30 minutes Jan. 1 to raise money for disabled servicemembers through the Wounded Warrior Project.

Pennsylvania tech school sends Soldiers banner



Photo by Spc. Thomas Keeler

Sgt. Lon Lo, a mechanic with the 118th Maintenance Company, staples a banner of appreciation to the front of the first sergeant's office above the shop floor at the 118th Maintenance Company motor pool Jan. 4. The banner was sent by students and staff of Rosedale Technical Institute of Pittsburgh, Pa., in appreciation for service of Reserve and National Guard Soldiers currently serving in Iraq. The 118th Maintenance Company, from California, serves under the 213th Area Support Group and the 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), both of which are headquartered in Pennsylvania.

Do you or someone you know have an interesting story to tell?

Does your unit serve a special function others may not be aware of?

At the Anaconda Times, we want to tell YOUR story, so email us and we'll do the rest.

anaconda.times@iraq.centcom.mil



Engineering assistants help FOB quality of life

by Staff Sgt. Travis Edwards

332nd Air Expeditionary Wing

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq—Airmen here are helping their Army brethren everyday in different parts of Iraq, improving their quality of life by creating the blueprints for what may be the next place the Soldiers rest.

Those Airmen are the engineering assistants of the 732nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron (ECES) Detachment 6. They're filling "in-lieu-of" taskings, augmenting the 20th Army Engineering Brigade, by designing everything from bridges to buildings.

Along with designing critical construction projects, the Airmen perform other jobs that go along with their field of expertise.

"We do drafting, surveys, mapping, GeoBase (an advanced digital mapping system) and construction assurance, which is like quality assurance," said Staff Sgt. Frank Castelluccio, a 732nd ECES Det. 6 engineering assistant and noncommissioned officer in charge of the three-man shop.

They are currently engineering the layout, design and dimensions for a \$625 million bridge on the Tigris River. Once complete, the bridge will give convoys an alternate supply route, reducing the "high threat" path by nearly 130 miles.

"The Army needed a bridge



Air Force Photo by Staff Sgt. Ishanti Holmes

Staff Sgt. Frank Castelluccio, a 732nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron engineering assistant, sets up a handheld surveying machine to prepare for a topographical survey here. The survey was used to map out the joint drainage layout. Castelluccio is deployed from Kadena Air Base, Japan.

put on the Tigris River to make their routes easier and shorter to the other FOBs [forward operating bases]," said Senior Airman Renardo Sanders, a

732nd ECES Det. 6 engineering assistant and bridge master designer.

Sanders said he used computer aided design, or CAD

program to help map and draw in lines to represent the new roads and routes to the bridge.

"To do this job, you need to know math -- trigonometry is commonly used," said Castelluccio. "And although most of what we do is now computerized, we need to know how to do it manually in case our systems crash."

But before they even start an outline, there is a crucial step in making sure the designs are dimensionally and mathematically correct -- surveying.

"Surveying is the beginning stage for planning future development of an installation," said Staff Sgt. Ishanti Holmes, a 732nd ECES Det. 6 engineering assistant. "The data collected from land surveying is key to plan anything from escape routes for fire evacuation to bus stops for transportation."

The surveying here and at the FOBs consists of operating manual and electronic surveying equipment. With this equipment, they can collect, convert and present field-survey data for civil engineering projects.

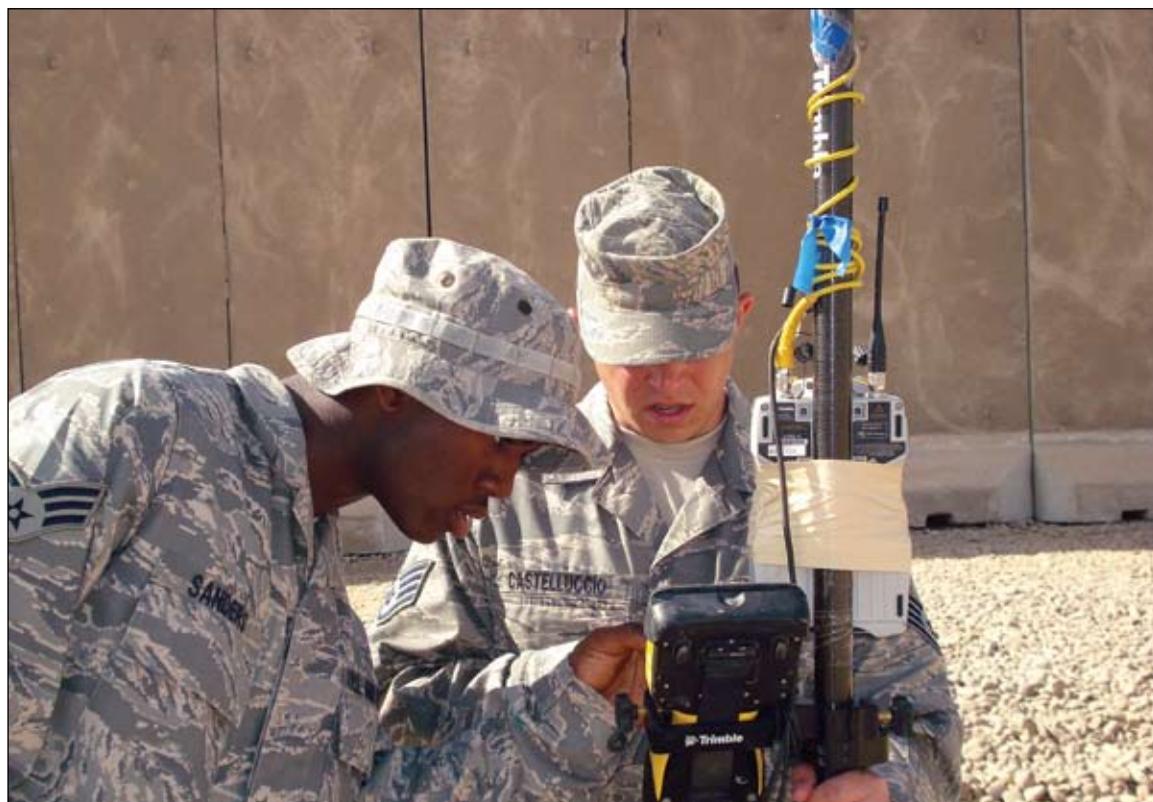
"I like going off base to the FOBs and seeing that I am actually doing something positive and making a difference for the Soldiers."

Senior Airman Renardo Sanders
732nd ECES Det. 6

For example: With a topographical survey, they can map out a drainage layout and with the Global Positioning System they can update the base map on a regular basis, which is crucial to the installation, said Holmes.

Since their role here is to support the Army, these Airmen move from the more secure confines of the base to help FOBs and patrol bases in Iraq.

"I like going off base to the FOBs and seeing that I am actually doing something positive and making a difference for the Soldiers," said Sanders. "It's a good feeling, I know I'm helping."



Air Force Photo by Staff Sgt. Ishanti Holmes

Senior Airman Renardo Sanders, left, and Staff Sgt. Frank Castelluccio, both 732nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron engineering assistants, set up a handheld surveying machine to prepare for a topographical survey here. The survey was used to map out the joint drainage layout. Castelluccio is deployed from Kadena Air Base, Japan and Sanders is deployed from Beale Air Force Base, Calif.



Photo by 1st Lt. Jonathan J. Springer

Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Howard, the platoon sergeant for 3rd Platoon, Alpha Battery, 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) stops to talk with a young Iraqi girl in Dor Al Sinah, Iraq.

CMO, from Cover

forward to seeing the great progress we can make in this village with the help of these fine Soldiers and with Coalition Forces in the area.”

Being a small village with roughly 600 people, Dor al Sinah lies just south of Balad, and is as remote and primitive as they come in Iraq. Like most towns in Iraq, the village needs fresh water, a medical clinic, a school, and consistent electricity.

“These types of missions really help foster great relationships between village leaders and Coalition Forces here,” said Rodriguez. “It’s a win-win situation for all of us.”

During its first CA mission to the town, Soldiers from Alpha Battery focused on humanitarian aid and brought the people hundreds of shoes, clothing, hygiene and sanitary items, toys, books, and of course, soccer balls for the kids. Rodriguez said his battery will focus future missions on assisting the local government in getting the town a medical clinic and fixing up the elementary school for the children.

“It’s very shocking to know that some people here don’t have the means to have certain things like we have back in the states,” said Rodriguez. “But, it’s this battery’s priority to help out as many people as we can while we are deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.”

Planning for a civil affairs mission takes many long hours and plenty of late nights to make the operation a success.

“When we conduct our planning for operations, we evaluate every means that will attain a desired effect based on the particular situation we are facing. Civil affairs operations are one of the actions we use,” said Lt. Col. John Dunleavy, the battalion commander for 2-320th FAR.

Dunleavy said what makes CMOs so special is there emphasis on the local community.

“COIN operations must have a focus on the people; they are the most important ingredient. CA missions show the people that, although we are always prepared to engage in the ‘lethal’ fight, the Soldiers that serve here truly care about the people and want to facilitate in improving their lives.”

Taking the “non-lethal” fight to remote areas of

the country is integral in the success of Coalition Forces in Iraq today.

“The biggest threat to the enemy in this fight is not a weapon, but when a Soldier gets out of a vehicle and talks to the local people. We are doing this throughout our area of operations, and I am very proud of the tone and stance our Soldiers have shown in all our operations thus far,” said Dunleavy.

Muhammed Kamiz Sqar, an 18-year old male from the village, said this was the first time he saw Coalition Forces come into the area and help out as much as 3rd Platoon, Alpha Battery did during this CMO mission.

“I have never seen the U.S. military come into my village and help out as much as they have today,” said Sqar through an interpreter. “Today, you all are now my friends and my village thanks you very much. This means the world to me and to my family and friends to receive all of these gifts.”

Though today’s CA mission was an enormous success for the Soldiers of Alpha Battery, this is just one of many missions the unit will execute during their scheduled tour here.

“We are here for 15 months and one act alone will not be long term. Through continued engagements, evaluations, listening to local leaders and facilitating discussions that try to resolve security, economic development and governance, we can have the lasting effect we desire,” said Dunleavy.

Dunleavy went on to comment about the patriotism, valor, focus and compassion every Soldier in his battalion has for their mission and the people of Iraq.

“If the American people could see what the average Soldier does here everyday it would amaze them. They put themselves in very dangerous situations and overcome that, and show such tremendous character. It is very inspiring,” Dunleavy said.

Rodriguez agreed with Dunleavy and said it’s amazing to know what good his Soldiers had done during this civil military operation, and also the good they continue to do on a day-to-day basis in his battery’s area of operation.

“I’m so proud of my guys; they are always ready for anything that is thrown their way. I’ve been so blessed with their devotion to duty and their sacrifice to their mission,” said Rodriguez.

After handing out the last of the supplies to the people of Dor al Sinah, Spc. Jason Leaders, a 3rd Platoon Soldier, said it made him feel great to know he and his fellow Soldiers made a difference for the better in a town that was thousands of miles away from his own.

“I think what we did today was a great thing. I really think we made a difference here today,” said Leaders.

Dunleavy also added that during this time of the season when Soldiers are away from family, friends and loved ones, performing missions like these can be difficult.

“I would like to take this time to acknowledge, especially during this holiday season, all the families of these Soldiers back at home. Separation from family is hard and it is even harder when you know your loved one is in harm’s way. These spouses and parents are so supportive. I would just like to thank them for the sacrifice they are making that is so often overlooked. They are a true blessing,” Dunleavy said.

Employing the principles of COIN operations and interacting with the people of Iraq through civil affairs missions is just another vital tool in the fight against terrorism in Iraq today. Alpha Battery’s continued hard work and dedication in support of OIF and integration with the local populace will allow future units and the people of Dor al Sinah to reap the benefits of the unit’s hard work and selfless service for years to come.



Photo by 1st Lt. Jonathan J. Springer

Sgt. Michelle Graves, part of the civil affairs team attached to Alpha Battery, 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, hands out supplies to villagers of Dor Al Sinah. Some of the humanitarian aid handed out during the mission consisted of shoes, shirts, jeans, winter jackets, scarves, hygiene items, toys, board games, and of course, soccer balls for the children.

Dr. King's dream still makes

How have you implemented Dr. King's dream into your life?

"In the Army we learn to work as a team, no matter what race you are. I try to apply the same thing to my life"

Spc. Ashley Garrison, 240th Engineer Company

What do you know about Dr. King?

"He lived in a very dangerous time and knew the difference between right and wrong and wasn't afraid to show it."

Spc. Ryan Porter, 106th Transportation Battalion

How has Dr. King's dream impacted your life?

"He gave me equality. I can follow my dreams whenever I want and no one is going to stop me just because I'm Latina."

Spc. Maricela Hernandez, 118th Maintenance Company

How has Dr. King's dream impacted your life?

"We have a better future than they did in Dr. King's day. He has opened many doorways for all African Americans."

Tech Sgt. Lashinya Crivens, Det.1, 332nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group

How has Dr. King's dream impacted your life?

"I can do anything I want in life. I can pick a goal, strive for it and achieve it."

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Horace Griffith, Navy Customs Battalion

What do you know about Dr. King ?

"He was a leader of men and women, not of just one race, but a leader of a civilization of changes in perspectives in the world."

Staff Sgt. Christopher Lowe, 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)

What do you know about Dr. King?

"Dr. King was a civil rights leader who believed in equality for all Americans and was assassinated for that dream and that dream lives on today."

Staff Sgt. Robert Moss, 118th Maintenance Company

How have you implemented Dr. King's dream?

"I treat everyone as an equal regardless of color"

Sgt. Rufus McNeil, 63rd Expeditionary Signal Battalion

How has Dr. King's dream impacted your life?

"He led up to what society is today. He once said 'You can't drive out the dark with darkness,' and those words have..."

Coast Guard Petty Officer 1st Class Brad Dawson, Navy Customs and Border Protection

impact 40 years after death



ization in a time

into your life?
or of skin, and I show them respect.”
al Battalion

ut hatred with hate and
been brought to life.”
s Battalion

Putting their lives at stake to serve steak

Grateful civilians travel to war zone bringing gourmet food to hungry

by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

Anaconda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq- Why would four civilians spend \$32,000 of their own money to leave the good old U.S.A. on Christmas Day to come to war?

"To grill steaks," said Tom Anton, founder of Cooks from the Valley, a group comprised of men from Bakersfield, Calif. who spend their own money and time going to military installations in combat zones and stateside to grill premium steaks for servicemembers.

"We appreciate you for everything you sacrifice, including your own safety and comfort, to keep our homeland safe. Grilling up a delicious steak is the least we can do," said Anton.

The group of four left at 3 a.m. Christmas Day bound for Iraq with 545, 12 oz. steaks for one, night-time barbecue held at the Air Force Theater Hospital (AFTH) Dec. 27. And they were no ordinary steaks. The group brought Harris Ranch Natural Black Angus Beef from the San Joaquin Valley of central California, the kind served in upscale restaurants.

In the 25 years the group has operated, they have grilled countless steaks, more than 76,000 since 2001 alone, said Anton, a busy lawyer who was working on cases until midnight the night before his flight to Iraq. Anton and other group members pay their own transportation to and from military sites and pay all costs associated with the beef.

The steaks are a hit with troops.

"This is the best meal I have had the entire time I have been here," said Air Force Lt.

"We appreciate you for everything you sacrifice, including your own safety and comfort, to keep our homeland safe. Grilling up a delicious steak is the least we can do."

Tom Anton
Cooks from the Valley

Col. Jodi Volmert, a flight surgeon with the 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group Contingency Aeromedical Staging Facility. "It was moist, medium rare and perfectly seasoned. Talk about a morale booster," said the Vestal, a N.Y. native.

So grateful was Volmert, she sought out the cooks to thank them personally.

Staff Sgt. Marvin Reyna, a medic from San Antonio, Texas with the 15th Military Intelligence Battalion and an emergency room volunteer at the AFTH wanted to say, "I love you," to the cooks after eating one of the medium-rare steaks, he said.

"It was totally tender and juicy; a damn fine meal," Anton said.

"Every time I finish one of these (barbecues) I say, 'ok that's it, I swear to God, I can't do this anymore' and then I think, 'I have just got to get the guys together and go out and do it all over again for you,'" he said.

The Cooks from the Valley plans to go to Kuwait in the spring to continue to show their support and appreciation to servicemembers.



Photo by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

Tech Sgt. Darlene Santana, (center) the diet therapy NCOIC at the Air Force Theater Hospital, grills steaks with Rocky Spencer, (right) Renee Favors, the program manager with Morale, Welfare and Recreation, (left) and Jeff Peterson (far left) Dec. 27.



Web Image

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY CELEBRATION- JAN. 15

1:30 p.m. Glory Road
at Sustainment Theater

7 p.m. Evening Ceremony
at MWR East

All DFACs will be showing
Dr. King during dinner

24th Finance Co. serves Soldiers in 2008



Photo by Pfc. Andrea Merritt

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Pfc. Princess Trimble, a clerk for Det. D, 24th Finance Company, assists a customer who wants to take money off of his Eagle Cash Card. The 24th Finance Co. replaced the 15th Finance Battalion in mid-December. Can customers still expect the same great service? "Yes, by (our Soldiers) paying attention to detail and focusing on mutual respect and professionalism," said Capt. Jayson Sanchez, the officer in charge of Det. D, 24th Finance Company here.

Living the dream

by Maj. Christopher E. West

316th ESC PAO



Web Image

The teachings, essential writings and contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. are many and the mere mention of his name often garners admiration and respect from most people. Although his life was unexpectedly cut short by the fatal sting of an assassin's bullet one vernal evening in April 1968, his legacy and vision for a more humane world continues to live on.

A product of the racially segregated South—along with its visionary hypocrisy, Jim Crowism, and regional traditionalism—Dr. King did not let the negativity of his upbringing define, diminish, or destroy the content of his character. One could argue that the framing of his famous "I Have a Dream" speech commenced long before he etched those life-changing words on paper one sultry August day in 1963. To be frank one could say that those words were the result of his education, his experiences, and his beliefs. Like a tragic hero doomed to an eternal fate, Dr. King answered a divine call to duty to help unfetter and uplift the downtrodden and the detested by appealing to the moral conscience of America...a nation so conceived in liberty and dedicated to the bold proposition of equality.

When Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke those words on the steps of the Lincoln Memori-

al over 40 years ago, he knew that his dream was something he could not claim alone. He knew that his dream had to be shared with all who would lend an ear to hear and a mind to it put into action. Like an architect that lays out the design for a new trendsetting metropolis, Dr. King knew that his revelation which he articulated to our nation and to the world would be the blueprint for racial atonement and reconciliation. It would be the social litmus test that demonstrated that we as a human race could live, work, and endeavor to love one another regardless of our ethnocentric attitudes, class, caste, race, or ethnicity. That is what living the dream is all about—having the opportunity and unlimited freedom to achieve one's goals in life through hard work, mutual respect and sheer determination. Thank you Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for showing us, through your words and by your example, how to live the dream!

Airmen secure hydraulic pump



Air Force Photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua Garcia

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq – Tech Sgt. Dale Thul and Staff Sgt. Bobby Hausermann, both 332nd Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron aircraft ground equipment maintainers, secure tubing to a hydraulic pump on a hydraulic test stand here, Jan. 5. The hydraulic test stand uses hydraulic pressure to inspect moving parts on an aircraft. Thul is deployed from Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. and Hausermann is deployed from Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany.

America's warrior

by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

A snapshot of servicemembers in the Global War on Terrorism

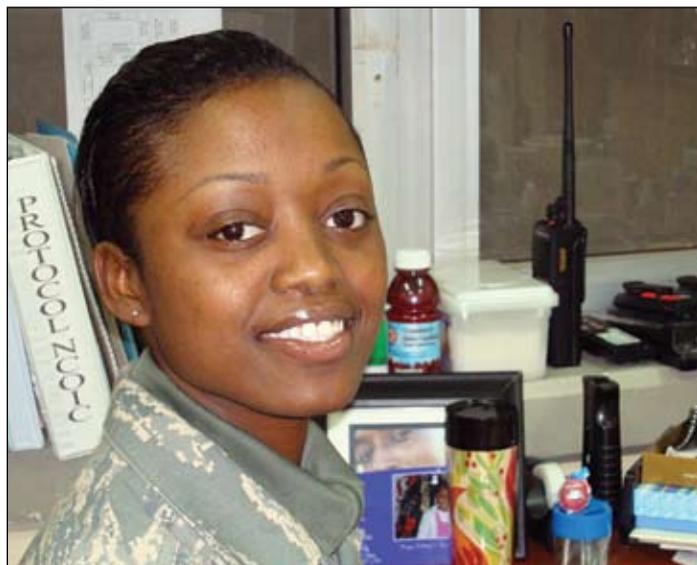


Photo by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

Full name and rank: Staff Sgt. Keyonna Dione Carter.

Unit: 332 Air Expeditionary Wing protocol.

Job Title: Wing Protocol noncommissioned officer in charge.

Time in service: 7 Years.

Age: 25.

Hometown: Washington D.C.

Family: Three brothers and two sisters.

Pastimes (Hobbies): Dancing, playing softball, reading, volunteering in the community, and being around family and friends.

Life-changing event/moment: A life changing event in my life was joining the Air Force.

Lesson Learned: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

The person I admire the most: My mother.

Why I joined the military: I joined the military because I always knew that, in life, I

wanted to help people and what better way to do that than to join the military where I can contribute in helping and defending our nation.

If I wasn't in the military I would be: Some where helping people.

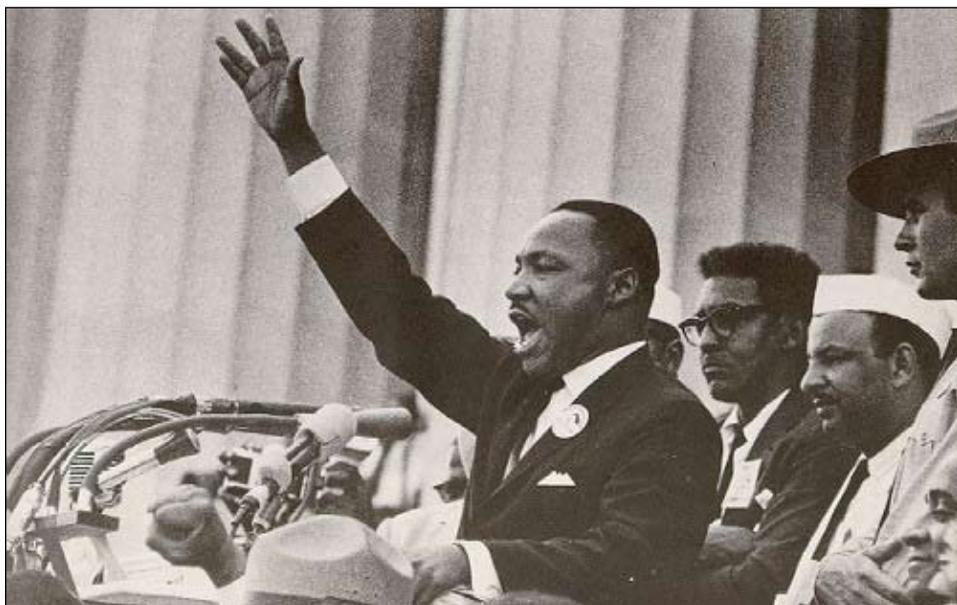
What makes a good Airman: Adhering by our core values; integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do.

What makes a good leader: Someone who is wise enough to lead, strong enough to defend, and yet humble enough to listen to their followers; (Someone who is) open to suggestion, and is willing to change and adapt to any given situation.

Motivations in life: God and family.

Goals: My goal is to become a certified paramedic and get my nursing degree.

Best part of my life: Family and friends.



Web Image

MLK's mission: Peaceful opposition to tradition

by Spc. Delbert Goedeken

755th Chemical Co.

When Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was just a boy on the streets of Atlanta in the early 1930s, he may not have known his role in the changes to society he would later come to bring about. He did know about the Jim Crow laws and the disrespect received by his family would influence his decision to enroll in a seminary and lead those in the community to a change. A change where people such as Rosa Parks would no longer have to move to the back of the bus.

His power however did not come from being a black man or a community leader but from being an educated man in society with the drive and desire to change the world around him.

Dr. King visited with Mahatma Gandhi in India in 1959 and stated: "Since being in India, I am more convinced than ever before that the method of nonviolent resistance is the most potent weapon available to oppressed people in their struggle for justice and human dignity."

It was through the principles of non-violence and peaceful demonstration that Dr. King set out to accomplish his goals and thus the goals for the human race.

He did not see us as a society divided by colors and cultures but rather as a people of diversity which must be respected and celebrated in every way possible.

He encouraged the blending of many cultures for the increased educational possibilities that exist within each human being. As he said in his "I have a Dream" speech, "Now is the time to open the doors of opportunity to all of God's children. Now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood."

It was this brotherhood Dr. King wanted to see, a brotherhood that all of mankind could share and not mire in a sea of distrust.

On Jan. 21, we remember the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the methods he stood for. Not those of violence and hatred, not even below the surface, but of a deeper feeling of equality and love.

Though we come from all different backgrounds and may still hold certain stereotypes about each other, we must abandon those feelings and remember we are all human beings of one race on this Earth. We must share not only the land, but we must understand and respect the ideas and beliefs of all people.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day may be only once a year and might be looked at by some as simply a day off from work; however, take this "day off" and remember a man who stood for something, for truth and a belief that all men are created equal and should not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

Local Iraqi discovers EFP at major intersection

by Maj. Virginia A. McCabe

1st BCT, 82nd Abn. Div.

SUQ ASH SHUYUK, Iraq – A local Iraqi man reported a possible explosively formed penetrator (EFP) to troopers located near a combat outpost at a main highway intersection.

Soldiers from 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, with the help of the local Iraqi, found the device just south of the combat outpost. 1st BSTB recovery security team cordoned the area until the special weapons exploitation team arrived to con-



Web Image

duct an analysis. Upon further analysis, the device was confirmed as an EFP with a video recording device located in the surrounding area. The device consisted of one 14-inch diameter EFP.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lewis E. Shadle

Rockets discovered by troopers from 1st BSTB, 1st BCT, 82nd Abn. Div. thanks to a tip from a local shepherd.

Paratroopers discover rockets thanks to tip

by Sgt. 1st Class Gary L. Qualls, Jr.

1st BCT, 82nd Abn. Div.

SUQ ASH SHUYUK, Iraq – Paratroopers in Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division discovered and thwarted 21 107mm rockets here set to launch towards their command outpost thanks to a tip from a local shepherd Jan. 6.

The shepherd told the Paratroopers he heard and saw a rocket launch. The element then

moved to investigate and found the rockets set to launch. With the imminent danger of the rockets, the Paratroopers were ordered to move back and engage the rockets with MK-19 rounds to knock them off their launchers to eliminate the threat to the combat outpost. Air support from an Air Force F-16 followed up hitting the rocket site with 1,000 20mm rounds and one 500 lb. GBU-12 bomb drop.

The incident continues to be investigated.

Do you have a story idea?

Contact the Anaconda Times

anaconda.times@iraq.centcom.mil

Upcoming sports on AFN

Wednesday 1/16/08

Montreal Canadians @ New York Islanders live 3:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Ohio State @ Michigan State live 3:00 a.m. AFN/sports
 Kentucky @ Mississippi State live 5:00 a.m. AFN/sports
 Dallas Stars @ Anaheim Ducks live 6:00 a.m. AFN/xtra

Thursday 1/17/08

Duke @ Florida State live 3:00 a.m. AFN/sports
 Chicago Bulls @ Miami Heat live 3:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
 North Carolina @ Georgia Tech live 5:00 a.m. AFN/sports
 Texas A&M @ Texas Tech live 5:30 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Utah @ San Diego State live 7:30 a.m. AFN/xtra



Friday 1/18/08

Cleveland Cavaliers @ San Antonio Spurs live 4:00 a.m. AFN/sports
 Phoenix Suns @ Los Angeles Lakers live 6:30 a.m. AFN/sports
 Arizona @ Stanford live 7:00 a.m. AFN/xtra

Saturday 1/19/08

Florida Panthers @ New Jersey Devils 3:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Portland Trail Blazers @ Miami Heat live 3:00 a.m. AFN/sports
 Golden State Warriors @ Chicago Bulls live 5:30 a.m. AFN/sports
 Chicago Blackhawks @ Colorado Avalanche live 5:30 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Niagara @ Canisius live 8:00 a.m. AFN/xtra

Sunday 1/20/08

Oregon State @ Washington live 2:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Kansas @ Missouri live 4:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
 New Jersey Nets @ Los Angeles Clippers live 6:30 a.m. AFN/xtra
 BYU @ Utah replay 9:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
 LSU @ Vanderbilt replay 11:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Notre Dame @ Georgetown replay 2:00 p.m. AFN/xtra
 Miami @ North Carolina State replay 4:00 p.m. AFN/xtra
 San Antonio Spurs @ Houston Rockets replay 6:00 p.m. AFN/xtra
 AFC Championship: Teams TBD live 9:30 p.m. AFN/sports

Monday 1/21/08

NFC Championship: Teams TBD live 1:00 a.m. AFN/sports
 Toronto Maple Leafs @ New Jersey Devils live 1:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
 New Jersey Nets @ Phoenix Suns live 4:00 a.m. AFN/xtra

Tuesday 1/22/08

Washington Capitals @ Pittsburgh Penguins live 3:30 a.m. AFN/xtra
 San Francisco @ Gonzaga live 8:00 a.m. AFN/xtra

SUSTAINER REEL TIME THEATER

(Schedule is subject to change)

Wednesday, Jan. 16
 5 p.m. August Rush (PG)
 8 p.m. Hitman (R)

Thursday, Jan. 17
 5 p.m. This Christmas (PG-13)
 8 p.m. The Bucket List (PG-13)

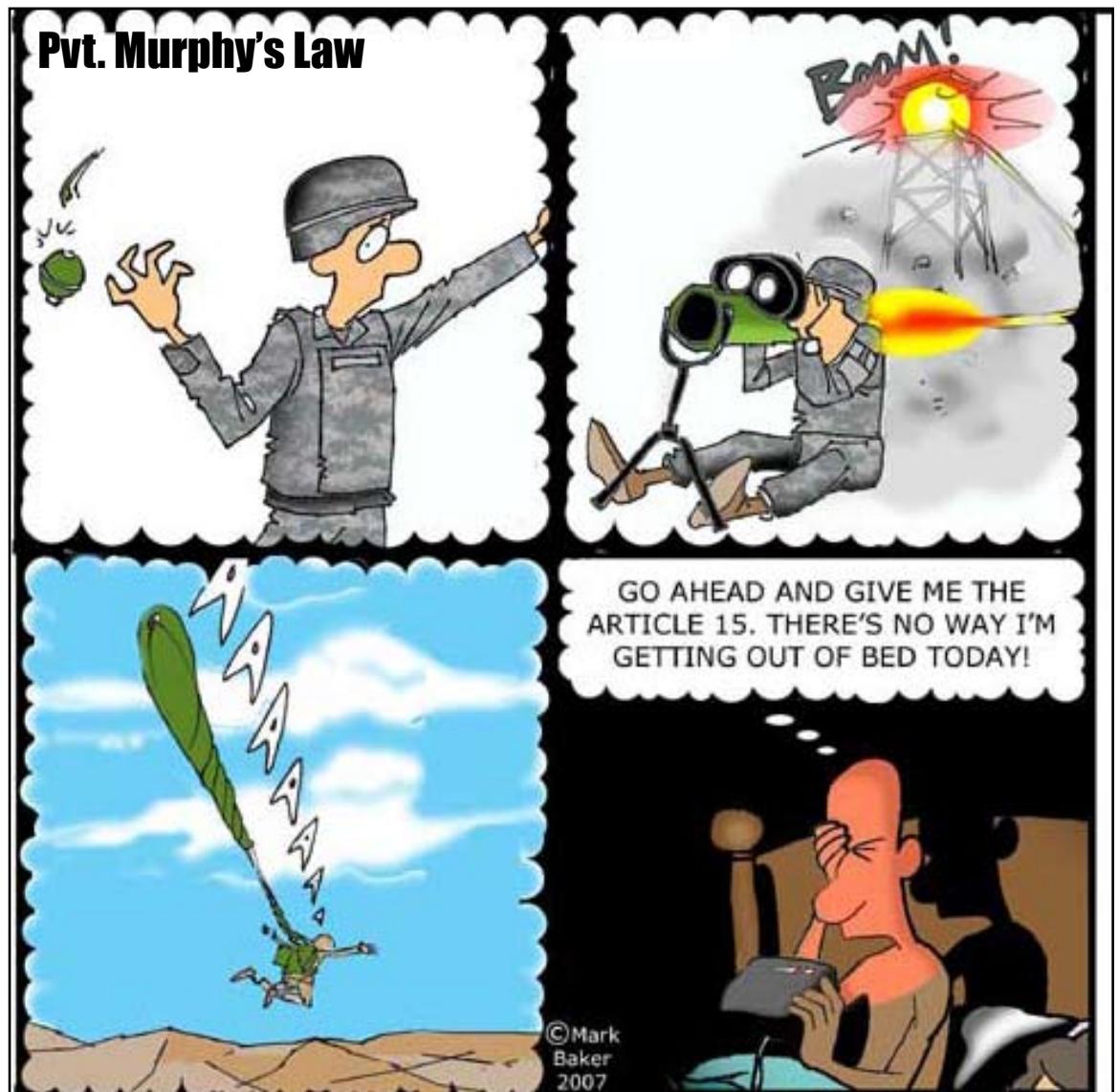
Friday, Jan. 18
 2 p.m. Enchanted (PG)
 5 p.m. Cloverfield (PG-13)
 8 p.m. First Sunday (PG-13)

Saturday, Jan. 19
 2 p.m. Cloverfield (PG-13)
 5 p.m. First Sunday (PG-13)
 8 p.m. The Mist (R)

Sunday, Jan. 20
 2 p.m. First Sunday (PG-13)
 5 p.m. The Mist (R)
 8 p.m. Cloverfield (PG-13)

Monday, Jan. 21
 5 p.m. Enchanted (PG)
 8 p.m. First Sunday (PG-13)

Tuesday, Jan. 22
 5 p.m. Cloverfield (PG-13)
 8 p.m. The Mist (R)



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ANACONDA ACTIVITIES

INDOOR POOL

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

Swim Lessons

-Beginners: Tuesday - 7 p.m.

-Intermediate: Thursday- 7 p.m. *Must sign up with instructor.

-Advanced: Saturday - 7 p.m. *Must sign up with instructor.

Time Trails- 50m, 100m, 200m: Friday - 8 a.m. & p.m.

EAST FITNESS CENTER

Basketball League: Monday-Friday - 7 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.

CIRCUIT GYM

Floor hockey: Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 8 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.

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- 7 p.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.

Dungeons & Dragons: Saturday- 8 p.m.

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

Karaoke: Wednesday - 8 p.m.

Hip-Hop Dance Class: Saturday- 9 p.m.

Ice Ball Tourney: Thursday- 4 p.m.

Jam Session: Tuesday, Thursday- 7:30 p.m.

Open Mic Night: Sunday- 8 p.m.

Ping pong/Foosball: Tuesday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Spades, Chess and Dominoes: Friday - 1 & 8 p.m.

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

Game Counsel Tourney: Thursday- 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.

Dodge ball Game: Tuesday- 7:30 p.m.

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

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

High Impact Step Aerobics: Tuesday, Thursday- 7 p.m.

Open court basketball: Thursday- 7 p.m.

Power Abs Class: Saturdays- 8 a.m. & p.m.

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

WEST SIDE

CHESS CLUB

WHEN: EVERY FRIDAY

WHERE: THE WEST SIDE MWR

TIME: 1 and 8 p.m.

For More Info: Emily.McGovern@kbr.com

Army launches new recruiting ads during All-American Bowl

by Elizabeth M. Lorge

Army News Service

SAN ANTONIO, Texas- U.S. Army Accessions Command launched five new recruiting ads during the Army All-American Bowl Saturday.

The ads feature real Soldiers doing their jobs and the voice of actor Gary Sinese, said Col. David Lee, deputy chief of staff for strategic communications, marketing and outreach at Army Accessions Command.

"We've got one that's titled 'Look Up' that stars a Hispanic Soldier," he said. "It shows the different experiences that a Soldier can have from combat operations to peacekeeping, and shows that a Soldier can gain respect for all the different missions that he does and the wide breadth of things that you do in the Army."

Other commercials featured former Soldiers talking about life after the Army and Reserve troops doing both their civilian and military jobs.

Accessions Command also updated GoArmy.com Thursday with new videos and interviews with Soldiers speaking about their experiences in the Army. The updated site includes videos that show the basic-training experience on a weekly basis.

The All-American Bowl, an annual East-West matchup of the nation's top high-school football players, is one of the Accession Command's top outreach events.

The 150-city selection tour for the football players and U.S. Army All-American Marching Band members allowed recruiters to tell almost a million

students and influencers all about the Army, according to Tom Tiernan, the chief of outreach and event marketing at Accessions Command. Recruiting Command also holds a national center of influence tour, which brings educators and other influencers to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and allows them to interact with Soldiers and Army leaders.

"The game is a cog. It's the center of the wheel around which everything else is built. It's a nice tie in," Tiernan said.

"It's not so much a recruiting effort as an opportunity to educate people about the United States Army," said Lee. "There's a lot of people who don't understand what the Army does. Everybody thinks the Army is just Iraq or Afghanistan, but we have a lot of other missions all around the world. There are 150 jobs in the United States Army."

The Army isn't trying to recruit the players, most of whom have full football scholarships to top universities; but recruiters talk to the many students who don't have such opportunities about the educational opportunities the Army offers through the Reserve Officers Training Corps or under the G.I. Bill. Under the Partnership for Youth Success, recruits who enlist with certain specialties are guaranteed priority job interviews with some of the country's top employers.

More importantly, each athlete is paired with a combat veteran who has received the Silver Star, Bronze Star or Purple Heart, and has the opportunity to see what true heroism is up close. According to Lee, the players and heroes often develop relationships that last for years.

"Meeting our Army heroes is definitely an extreme



Photo by Accessions Command

Soldiers conduct combat operations in 'Look Up,' a new recruiting ad airing during Saturday's All-American Bowl game in San Antonio, Texas. U.S. Army Accessions Command premiered five new ads during the game, which aired at noon Central time on NBC.

highlight of being out here," said West team quarterback Dayne Christ, a Player of the Year finalist. "Getting to know these guys is a very humbling experience. All these honors and accolades that we're nominated for out here, they're really meaningless in the grand scheme of things. It really means a lot to me, and I know these other guys, to be able to sit down with such courageous individuals who truly epitomize the word hero."

The bowl airs at noon Central time on NBC on Saturday. For more information about the All-American Bowl, visit www.usarmyallamericanbowl.com. For more information about the Soldier heroes, visit www.army.mil/allamericanbowl/2008.

Football championship for Fort Campbell, 106th Trans Bn

by Spc. Thomas Keeler

Anaconda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq – As the NFL's New England Patriots continue their run for the Super Bowl with a perfect 19-0 season, another remarkable football season ended Dec. 8 back at Fort Campbell, Ky.

After losing their first two games, the Fort Campbell High School football team – the Fighting Falcons – won 13 consecutive games, including five in the playoffs, to win the Kentucky 2007 Class 2A KH-SAA (Kentucky High School Athletic Association) Commonwealth Gridiron Bowl by a score of 21-7 over the perennial football powerhouse Newport Central Catholic.

It was the school's best finish since 1995, when the school reached the semifinals and finished with a 12-2 record. Fort Campbell last won the class state championship in 1979, while Newport Central Catholic had won previous two championships, in 2005 and 2006.

Fort Campbell High School enrolls students of parents stationed at Fort Campbell with the 101st Airborne Division. The 106th Transportation Battalion (106th Trans. Bn.), which is deployed here in support of the 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), falls under the 101st.

"Because of the 106th support, we have been able to do amazing things for the students," said Michelle McCullough, a teacher at Fort Campbell High School.

"The 106th helped set up, chaperone, and work our Class Olympics day last May," said



Courtesy Photo

The Fort Campbell Fighting Falcons, a team composed of students whose parents are stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky., and deployed overseas, hoist their state championship trophy Dec. 8 after winning the Class 2A Commonwealth Gridiron Bowl 21-7 over Newport Central Catholic. It was Fort Campbell's first championship since 1979.

McCullough. "They helped considerably when we asked for help during Homecoming Week in October.

McCullough says she has no reservations about calling the battalion for help.

"The 106th always comes through for us," she said.

"We work parallel in support with the principal, faculty, and PTA in support of the students," said Capt. Jennifer

Kemp, the battalion rear detachment commander with the 106th Trans. Bn. Kemp said every one of the 600 Soldiers in the battalion, both deployed and in the rear, has put some effort or volunteered their time towards the sponsorship.

The battalion's sponsorship goes beyond athletics, said Kemp, and into activities such as providing transportation for students, supplying manual labor at the school, and "our favorite morale booster, professional DJ support at pep rallies," she said.

The disc jockey, Staff Sgt. Clifton Vail, an instructor at Fort Campbell's noncommissioned officer academy, has "boosted the school spirit in our school to a level I have not seen in the 10 years I have been teaching at FCHS," said McCullough.

"These kids have gone out there, despite all the distractions, and showed they could focus on something and accomplish great things."

Lt. Col. Christopher Croft
106th Trans. Bn.

Lt. Col. Christopher Croft, the battalion commander of the 106th Trans. Bn. here, chairs the sponsorship committee when he's not deployed. Croft estimates that about a third of the players on the football team has at least one parent who is deployed.

"These kids have gone out there, despite all the distractions, and showed they could focus on something and accomplish great things," he said.

Croft is also father of the football team's starting quarterback – C.J. Croft, who is a senior this year. C.J. passed for 143 yards and two touchdowns in the championship game.

"When he does well, I feel like I've done well," said Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Pope, the first sergeant with headquarters and headquarters detachment of the 106th Trans. Bn. Pope was a collegiate quarterback himself and also played professionally in the Canadian Football League. Pope has spent time

with the younger Croft both on the field and off.

"He's got the grades to go with it, he's just an all-around good kid," said Pope.

Croft agrees.

"I thought the quarterback did a great job," he said. "But it wasn't so much the touchdown passing. It takes a whole team to do things. It takes a line, it takes the quarterback, it takes the receiver, it takes the running back."

And therefore, it's the relationship between the school and the 106th Trans. Bn. that makes this championship even more special for the Soldiers both deployed here and back in the rear.

"The 106th is just magnificent," said McCullough. "I can't express in words how much we, the school, depend on them and their support."

"I feel blessed that we have them in our corner to make the students' educational experience a better one," she said.



Photo by Spc. Thomas Keeler

Lt. Col. Christopher Croft, commander of the 106th Transportation Battalion, recounts Fort Campbell's championship game during a break at his office Jan. 4.

Anaconda residents get fit with aerobics



Photos by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

(Above) Spc. Tommitrea Minniefee, an automated logistics specialist with the 546th Area Support Medical Company, executes leg and hip lifts as part of the core strengthening portion of the aerobics class.

(Below) A Soldier breaks a sweat while doing upper body exercises with free weights.



Photo by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

An aerobics enthusiast feels the burn during an extensive ab work-out routine which is part of the aerobics class held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the East Fitness Center here.



Photos by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

(Above) Sgt. Maj. Deborah Carolina-Godbolt, the G-5 plans sergeant major for the 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) and native of Stafford, Va., stretches her lower back and hamstrings as part of the cool-down portion of the hour-long aerobics class held at the East Fitness Center here.

(Below) Capt. Colette N. Foster, the support operations officer in charge for the 13th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, and native of Richmond, Va., instructs members through the strength training with weights portion of the aerobics class held here. Foster has been the aerobics instructor for the class since September and will continue to do so until her redeployment.

