

The Daily Roar

Daily Newspaper created by the Soldiers, for the Soldiers

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MULTI-NATIONAL DIVISION – BAGHDAD

SEPTEMBER 20, 2008

Gol set to take control of SoI

by **Sgt. 1st Class Christina Bhatti**
2nd SBCT PAO, 25th Inf. Div.

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – The Government of Iraq has pledged millions dollars to begin paying the Sons of Iraq (Abna al-Iraq).

Beginning October 1, American taxpayers will no longer foot the bill to support the SoI program that was instrumental in decreasing violence throughout the country.

The United States currently pays SoI members \$300 a month. By the end of November, the Iraqi Army will pay SoI members in Iraqi Dinar, said Maj. J.D. Highfill, deputy team leader, embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team Baghdad – 5, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team “Warrior,” 25th Infantry Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad.

Approximately 13,000 SoI members man checkpoints and keep watch in the 1,300 square miles of 2nd SBCT’s operational area. This means in that area alone, approximately \$4 million per month will now come from GoI funds instead of U.S. funds.

“When this happens across the country, this will mean a lot of money that stays in taxpayer pockets,” said Maj. Gus Waterhouse, a native of Ewa Beach, Hawaii, and civil affairs officer in charge, 2nd SBCT.

But as may be the case with most transitions, there are potential growing pains involved.

“This is not about the money,” Highfill said, adding the GoI has the resources to adequately and continually pay the SoI

members. Highfill said he’s more concerned with the massive administrative challenges the transition presents.

tively,” said Maj. Jim Craig, a native of St. Louis, Mo., operations officer for 2nd SBCT.

To mitigate this issue, U.S. Soldiers and IA soldiers are performing pay missions together to ensure the transition goes smoothly.

Though the GoI will face challenges, Waterhouse said this is a huge step forward for the government.

“They are becoming more involved in taking charge of their security issues – taking responsibility for those who help in security is step in the right direction,” he said. The key to success is the partnership between the U.S. Soldiers and the IA soldiers and a no-fail mindset.

“Like all things, we are doing this together, in full partnership with the IA,” said Craig. “The IA has no intention of letting this program fail, and neither do we. We will be with them every step of the way. We will not let these men fall through the cracks.”

Although the immediate future of the SoI is secure, the situation can still change. Transitioning the SoI in into the Iraqi Security Forces was a goal of Gen. David Petraeus, former commanding general of Multi-National Force – Iraq, but the Shiite dominated GoI has said it will only accept 20 percent of the mainly Sunni force into the Iraqi Police and Iraqi Army. The proposal is for the remaining 80 percent to be placed by the government into other meaningful jobs throughout the government.

Craig said the U.S. forces will work with the GoI to ensure a successful transition of the SoI members to ensure their futures.

“We will monitor this closely,” said Craig. “We will work with the local governments to identify jobs for them.”



by Spc. Ryan Moorcroft, 2nd SBCT, 25th Inf. Div.

Second Lt. Ashir of the Iraqi Army checks the identification card of a Sons of Iraq (Abna al-Iraq) member as he conducts a personnel accountability inspection at Combat Outpost Bassam, northwest of Baghdad, Sept. 18.

Suspected IED cell leader responsible for attacks captured

2nd SBCT, 25th Inf. Div.

BAGHDAD – A high-value suspect and his brother, both allegedly responsible for attacks against civilians, were taken into custody Sept. 18.

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment “Golden Dragons,” 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team “Warrior,” 25th Infantry Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, detained the suspect at approximately 11 p.m. north of Taji.

The suspected terrorist is an alleged IED cell leader in the al Abayachi area and is believed to be responsible for orchestrating an Aug. 10 suicide-belt improvised-explosive device attack in

Tarmiyah as well as multiple small-arms attacks.

The suspect is also alleged to have secured weapons for use against Iraqi Security and Coalition Forces.

“These two are suspected to be an integral part of an elaborate improvised-explosive device group. Having them off the streets provides an immediate security win,” said Maj. Jim Craig, operations officer for 2nd SBCT, 25th Inf. Div. “Sons of Iraq turned these two over to Coalition Forces in an effort to remove known criminals from their area. With actions like this, the Sons of Iraq continue to prove their value to their neighborhoods and to the country.”

Maintainers keep CAB war birds in tip-top shape

by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt

CAB PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Every time a Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldier hears the familiar sound of “thump, thump, thump” as helicopters rip through Middle Eastern skies, there is a team of maintainers ensuring troops continue to hear that familiar sound.

Staffed with everything from mechanics to electricians to avionics gurus, Soldiers of Company B, 404th Aviation Support Battalion, Combat Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, are the unsung heroes behind the mystic war bird’s flight and the service they perform.

Everyday, maintainers ensure the welcome sound of the Army helicopter never leaves the ears of troops operating on the ground – because the sound of a helicopter means something good is about to happen as they conduct their missions.

Maintainers from the more than 300-Soldier strong company keep the helicopters flying by enforcing phase maintenance at scheduled hours during a helicopter’s combat life. In addition, the Soldiers are supported by more than 100 civilian contractors, who have former Army maintainers in their ranks.

“Helicopters are not like cars, where you get it fixed and then drive off,” said Staff Sgt. Alan Garant, section sergeant and floor

supervisor for the Apache helicopter section from Fall River, Mass. “Here, everything is inspected and re-inspected, to include the tiniest screw, to make sure it is installed properly.

“The purpose of phase maintenance is to inspect the entire aircraft and check the wear and tear on the parts,” he said, smiling as he talked about his pride and joy, the Apache helicopter, in his thick Massachusetts accent. “Although every system has a backup, you want both systems to work. Everything is doubled on the aircraft. They even have two engines.”

Once the aircraft is scheduled for phase maintenance, it is brought into the service bay, stripped down, critical parts are inspected for wear and tear, worn or broken parts are replaced or repaired and the aircraft is inspected again. Maintenance flights are conducted to see how the new parts are performing, and then the aircraft is sent back into action.

Phase maintenance is conducted depending on the number of combat hours the bird has flown and the type of aircraft being serviced. At 500 hours, the Apaches are brought into the shop; every 200 hours, the Chinooks are parked in the maintenance bay; and every 360 hours, the Blackhawk and air ambulance helicopters are inspected and repaired from top to bottom.

“We do this to prevent damage to the aircraft and to periodically inspect it,” said Staff Sgt. James Ahn, section sergeant for the Chinooks, who hails from Tempe, Ariz. “We pretty much just keep the aircraft in the air to support the troops on the ground. This aircraft is a workhorse, with it constantly transporting supplies and personnel throughout Iraq.”

Since the CAB has taken over responsibility of the MND-B area of operations for aviation support nearly two months ago, the aviation unit has flown nearly 10,000 combat hours with its fleet of aircraft. In addition, fuelers from the brigade have pumped in nearly one million gallons of fuel into the thirsty beasts.

With a constant demand for aviation support and combat operations throughout Iraq, maintainers have the task of keeping the aircrafts running efficiently to support the mission and ensure the safety of its passengers.

“I troubleshoot the electrical system, and I repair them as needed,” said Spc. David Applegate, avionics mechanic from Houston. “The sole mission of our company is to keep these helicopters in tip-top shape. When the helicopters are in tip-top shape, the mission is in tip-top shape.”



by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Hunt, CAB PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

Spc. Charles Carrington checks through an Apache attack helicopter on Camp Taji Sept. 18.

Soldiers, ISF find multiple weapons caches

MND-B PAO

FORWARD OPERATING BASE FALCON, Iraq – Iraqi Security Forces working alongside Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers found multiple weapons caches throughout Baghdad’s Rashid district Sep. 17-18.

At approximately 6 p.m. Sep. 17, Iraqi National Police from the 1st Battalion, 7th Brigade, 2nd NP Division, found 83 TNT sticks and 22 fuses in the Zubaida community.

The NPs took the cache to a joint security station where Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, attached to the 1st “Raider” Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, MND-B, verified the contents and called an explosives ordnance disposal unit. At approximately 12:45 p.m. Sep. 18, NPs from the 1st Battalion, 5th

Brigade, 2nd NP Division, found a weapons cache in the Risalah community. The cache consisted of four 60mm mortar rounds, a 60mm mortar tube, three rocket propelled grenade launchers, five RPG rockets, two artillery rounds and a homemade improvised-explosive device.

Also, in Risalah, at approximately 5:15 p.m., NPs from the 3rd Battalion, 5th Brigade, 2nd NP Div., found a weapons cache.

Soldiers from Company C, 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, attached to the 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., confirmed ten 60mm mortar rounds, seven 81mm mortar rounds, two 60mm mortar tubes, 13 AK-47s, three RPG launchers, six RPG rounds and a can of homemade explosives.

A tip from a concerned Iraqi citizen led to the seizure of a weapons cache at ap-

proximately 5:30 p.m. in the Risalah community of southern Baghdad.

Working with NPs of the 1st Bn., 5th Bde., 2nd NP Div., Soldiers from Company B, 4th Bn., 64th Armor Regt., recovered three 60mm mortar rounds, two anti-armor RPGs, two 81mm mortar rounds, two RPG launchers, four anti-personnel mines, a grenade, an RPK rifle with scope.

“Iraqi Security Forces are doing an outstanding job of finding weapons caches throughout the Rashid district,” said Lt. Col. Paul Hossenlopp, deputy commander, 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div., MND-B. “The Soldiers of the Raider Brigade, working alongside their ISF counterparts, continue ongoing security operations to demonstrate their dedication for the safety of the Iraqi citizens in southern Baghdad.”



by Sgt. Zach Mott, 3rd BCT PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

Sharing laughs

Spc. Andrew Martin, a Doylestown, Pa., native, shares a laugh with a group of Iraqi men while on a patrol in the Sadr City district of Baghdad Sept. 18. Martin serves as a dismount for the Personal Security Detachment of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, deputy commanding officer.

Safety Sense

Burn-Out latrines can be found at many of our FOBs, COPs and JSSs. These can be a safe and effective method to dispose of human waste and are a way of life for many of us. However, if you are assigned to dispose of the waste, there are a few tips that you must keep in mind. Never use 100% MoGas for this procedure, mix fuel ratio 1Qt MoGas to 4Qts JP8. Always use caution, stand up wind and ensure that fire fighting capabilities are available i.e. fire extinguishers, shovel and water. Do not burn next to structures, tents, vehicles or sources of fuel and never add fuel to an already burning barrel or one that is still hot. Make sure that barrel has cooled down before placing them back into latrines. Additionally, any remaining ash should be buried. Always wear PPE to include gloves, goggles and a long sleeve shirt. And the last step is to wash your hands and clothing when finished.

BEETLE BAILEY BY GREG & MORT WALKER



WATER BLOTTER

HQ, MULTI-NATIONAL CORPS - IRAQ
 2145th Garrison Support Unit
 Garrison Command
 BAGHDAD, IRAQ
 APO AE 00342

**CONSERVE THE FORCE
CONSERVE WATER**

WATER BLOTTER

WATER BLOTTER

Do Your Part: We live in a desert environment. Water is precious and limited.

Follow these Rules:

1. Turn off water while brushing your teeth.
2. Turn off water while shaving.
3. Take 3-4 minute showers.
4. When using bottled water, mark your bottle and drink all of it before getting another.

Do Your Part. Water rationing is SOP and may minimize more stringent measures.

**The water you save today
can save you tomorrow.**

ENSURE WIDEST DISSEMINATION AND POST IN LATRINES AND SHOWERS

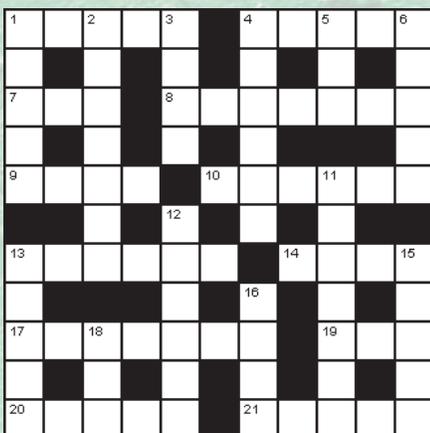
WATER BLOTTER

This day in history

1884: At its convention in San Francisco, California, the Equal Rights Party, formed to advocate for women's rights, nominates Belva Ann Lockwood for president of the United States.

1998: Ending a record streak of 2,632 consecutive games played, which lasted almost 17 seasons, baseball player Cal Ripken, Jr. of the Baltimore Orioles asks to be removed from the starting lineup.

Daily Iron Games



Across

1. Concern
4. Maxim
7. Fruit
8. Responded
9. Chess piece
10. Writer
13. Sagacity
14. Leave out
17. Decorate food
19. Beverage
20. Stitched
21. Travesty

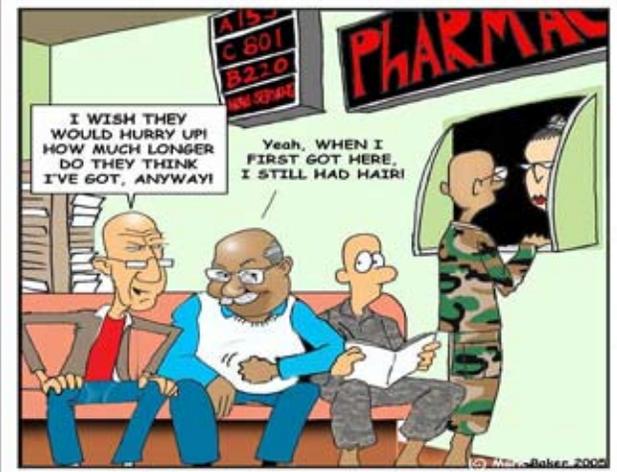
Down

1. Thin biscuit
2. Areas
3. Tall story
4. Counting device
5. Perform
6. Duck
11. Short-tailed burrowing rodent
12. Aped
13. Earnings
15. Search and find
16. Professional cook
18. Uncooked

Friday's Sudoku challenge results

5	9	8	3	2	6	4	1	7
6	3	4	1	7	9	2	8	5
2	1	7	8	5	4	3	9	6
8	5	9	6	1	2	7	4	3
1	6	3	9	4	7	5	2	8
7	4	2	5	3	8	9	6	1
9	7	1	2	6	5	8	3	4
4	2	6	7	8	3	1	5	9
3	8	5	4	9	1	6	7	2

Pvt. Murphy by Mark Baker



Daily Laugh

Real Stories of the Non-Technical

"Do you know anything about this fax-machine?"
 "A little. What's wrong?"
 "Well, I sent a fax, and the recipient called back to say all she received was a cover-sheet and a blank page. I tried it again, and the same thing happened."
 "How did you load the sheet?"
 "It's a pretty sensitive memo, and I didn't want anyone else to read it by accident. So I folded it so only the recipient could open it and read it."
 I recently saw a distraught young lady weeping beside her car. "Do you need some help?" I asked.
 "I knew I should have replaced the battery in this remote control door unlocker. Now I can't get into my car. Do you think that store would have a battery for this?"
 "Hmmm, I dunno. Do you have an alarm, too?" I asked.
 "No, just this remote," she answered, handing it and the car keys to me.
 As I took the keys and manually unlocked the door, I said, "Why don't you drive over there and check bout the batteries? It's a long walk."
 Tech Support: What does the screen say now?
 Caller: It says 'Hit ENTER when ready.'
 Tech Support: Well?
 Caller: How do I know when it's ready?
 One of our servers crashed. I was watching our new system administrator trying to restore it. He inserted a CD and needed to type a path name to a directory named "i386."
 He started to type it and paused, asking me, "Where's the key for that line thing?"
 I asked what he was talking about, and he said, "You know, that one that looks like an upside-down exclamation mark."
 I replied, "You mean the letter 'i'?"
 And he said, "Yeah, that's it!"

David Letterman's Top Ten Things You Don't Want To Hear From Your New Teacher

10. "My name is Mr. Parker...but if the feds ask, I'm Mr. Johnson"
9. "Sorry I'm late...some bullies threw me into a locker"
8. "Anybody need lottery tickets or cigarettes?"
7. "My system is simple...I assign grades by height"
6. "I will learn your names when I sober up"
5. "Science, scientology, what's the difference?"
4. "Today you'll be dissecting the person sitting next to you"
3. "Daddy is sleepy...wake me at 4"
2. "I'm gonna learn you all kinds of smart things"
1. "Show of hands...who has a single mom?"

LTG Timothy J. Maude 5K Memorial Run

~Proudly Hosted by the Multi-National Division-Baghdad GI~



FRODO BAGGINS

FRODO BAGGINS

When: 20 September 2008
 Where: "Z" Lake, Camp Liberty
 (Start/ End Point = 926th Engineer Parking Lot)
 (Division Loop Road to the Left of the MND-B HQ Bldg)
 When: Registration = 0600-0630 ~ Race Begins at 0630
 POC: MAJ Mike McGregor (242-4012 or michael.mcgregor@mnd-barmy.mil)

On 11 September 2001, LTG Maude was killed in the terrorist attack on the Pentagon. The purpose of the Lieutenant General Timothy J. Maude Foundation is to preserve the legacy of LTG Maude by continuing to take care of soldiers in America's Army. The Maude Foundation continues to define the parameters for taking care of soldiers. Currently they provide financial support for soldiers in the Army's Green to Gold program.


Hometown Briefs


Firefighters' names imprinted in stone

The Gazette

 Three of the nine firefighters who died last summer after charging into a burning furniture store in Charleston, S.C., will be among the 137 union firefighters honored Saturday in Colorado Springs.

Theodore M. Benke, Rodney B. Baity and James A. Drayton, swallowed by flames in the June 18, 2007, tragedy, will have their names etched in stone at the International Association of Fire Fighters Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial.

Thousands of people are expected for the solemn ceremony, beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday at Memorial Park, east of downtown on Pikes Peak Avenue.

The firefighters on the memorial - IAFF members from Canada and the United States - died in the line of duty or as a result of injuries or illnesses suffered as a result of their dangerous work.

No one from Colorado will be added to the black granite Wall of Honor this year. Local firefighters say that won't diminish the event's importance in their eyes.

"It's a brother- and sisterhood no matter where you live," said Mike Smaldino, president of the Colorado Springs Professional Fire Fighters Association, an IAFF chapter that has hosted the annual event since it began in 1986. "Whether you're in a small town or a huge city like New York, every death in the fire service is felt the same way."

The name of each firefighter will be read aloud, and Family members will be given an American flag in an engraved box. Bagpipers will play tributes and dozens of honor guardsmen will be on hand for the event.

Council gets tough on zoning

The Killeen Daily Herald

 The City Council approved an ordinance on Thursday to "modernize" its zoning and make it tougher for businesses to put just "anything" in the city.

"Basically we updated the entire ordinance," Fred Nash, Planning and Zoning Commission member, told the council on Thursday.

The zoning ordinance that Nolanville had before Thursday night was full of "alphabet soup," Nash said, explaining that it was littered with amendments and outdated information.

This new ordinance fixes a lot of problems Nolanville has seen, Nash told the council. It addresses how a developer should handle sidewalks, lighting and more.

"It holds the contractors a little more accountable," he added.

The council didn't ask many questions about the changes and approved it after asking if the public works manager, Robert Pea, had given his input on the matter.

The City Council also changed its business zoning to make it more restrictive.

"If (developers) want to put in a B4 or B3 business, then they will have to come before the City Council and the P and Z to be rezoned," Nash told the council.

This will prevent unwanted businesses from opening along U.S. 190, Nash said.

Also Thursday, the city tabled seven agenda items, including action on Police Chief Lester Hosley Jr.'s contract, citing a lack of information.

Kobayashi leads in recent donations

The Honolulu Star Bulletin

 City Councilwoman Ann Kobayashi pulled in the most money of the three top candidates for mayor during the past two weeks of the campaign, raising nearly \$18,300 by tapping into supporters that have contributed to her opponents.

Donors give before primary election

Kobayashi beat Mayor Mufi Hannemann, who still has the largest campaign fund at more than \$2 million, and Panos Prevedouros, according to campaign reports filed for Sept. 6-16.

Kobayashi's list of late contributors showed that she tapped longtime political contributors, including a one-time Hannemann ally.

About a third of the money Kobayashi raised in the past two weeks come from people with ties to Joe Pickard, the president of engineering firm Community Planning & Engineering who was once closely aligned with Hannemann. Pickard, his Family and employees donated \$5,000 to Kobayashi's campaign.

Charley's Taxi Radio Dispatch Corp., which has given money to Kobayashi before, donated \$1,000 to the councilwoman. The company's owner is Dale Evans, a vocal critic of the mayor's rail transit plan who recently also donated to Prevedouros' campaign.

Hannemann raised \$11,400 in contributions in addition to \$882 worth of food for a campaign rally.

Proposed project gaining support

The Town Talk

 For Procter & Gamble, the question of using an intermodal facility if it was located in Central Louisiana is followed by a simple, yet definitive, answer.

"There's a 100 percent chance we will use intermodal, if we have it here," said Bonnie Lemoine, a Procter & Gamble spokeswoman who's been heavily involved in stirring support for intermodal.

Currently, Procter & Gamble transports its merchandise by truck to an intermodal facility in Dallas for shipment to the West Coast. That's about 300 miles that the company could cut out.

Intermodal transportation plays off of travel options -- air, land, rail and water -- with the intent of reducing the cost of shipping for local businesses. Primarily, the system uses rail to increase efficiency.

Currently, the logistics of shipping accounts for 20 to 25 percent of a product's total cost. And by reducing that number, businesses such as Procter & Gamble will have a competitive advantage.

That figure and accompanying analysis are courtesy of Genesis Consultant, which was hired to study the feasibility of intermodal within Alexandria. Genesis' work was paid for by local businesses and a state grant maintained by the Central Louisiana Economic Development Alliance.

The study concluded that the area could support an intermodal facility in the form of an inland port, according to David Brandes with Genesis.

To make the project economically viable, Brandes figured it would need to handle (load/unload) 20,000 containers -- 20-foot storage units -- a year.

Brandes said that within the area, the inland port could generate an immediate 23,000 containers from a 50-mile radius.


Hometown Briefs


Freedom Riders reunion

The Tennessean



TSU gave honorary degrees Thursday to 14 Freedom Riders, former students who put their lives on the line in 1961 to protest racial segregation and paid the price when they were thrown in jail and expelled from school.

It was a joyous day for the 10 living Freedom Riders and the family members representing the deceased.

"I grew up on this campus," said Pauline Knight-Ofosu, an honorary degree recipient. "I grew up with an appreciation of the arts. ... At the time that I grew up, this might have been one of the few places that we could go and we could appreciate the arts and not be in a segregated area.

"All of this is just so fantastic. I don't know how I can stand it," she said.

When the ceremony was over, the reunion complete, they swayed to Tennessee State University's alma mater.

"Alma Mater, how we love thee, love thy white and blue," the former students sang of the university that once exiled them for their acts of courage and sacrifice.

The Freedom Riders rode buses through the volatile heart of the Jim Crow South to protest segregation in interstate transportation. A few months later, their actions caused President John F. Kennedy's administration to enforce earlier Supreme Court rulings banning segregation along America's bus and train lines.

TSU President Melvin Johnson said the students' "extraordinary achievements" were worthy of the belated recognition, which the Tennessee Board of Regents initially refused to grant.

Germany hesitates on new sanctions

The Local



Germany appeared reticent on Friday amid US and French calls for new United Nations sanctions to press Iran to comply with demands for halting its controversial nuclear program.

Foreign ministry spokesman Jens Plötner said Germany still aimed to reach a negotiated settlement with Tehran.

"A substantial offer from the EU is on the table. We are still in talks with Iran to receive a concrete and, we hope, positive response to this offer. This has until now still been lacking," Plötner said when asked about the calls for sanctions. "Should there be no progress on the negotiations track, the German government believes the UN Security Council will become more relevant again and discussions will have to be held on possible new resolutions," he said.

"This is not the track we are seeking – we want progress from negotiations. But unfortunately what we have seen until now has not made us optimistic."

Plötner said Berlin "deeply regretted" a report Monday by the International Atomic Energy Agency, the UN's atomic watchdog, stating that Iran had not frozen uranium enrichment activities as instructed by the United Nations. He said German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier had stressed the importance of settling the issue quickly during talks Monday with Iranian counterpart Manouchehr Mottaki.

Germany is one of six world powers attempting to convince Iran to halt sensitive nuclear work with an incentives package in exchange for full suspension of uranium enrichment.

Seat belt usage improves in Kansas

The Capital-Journal



State officials today said a visual survey of motorists indicates more people are using seat belts while riding in the front seat.

The Kansas Department of Transportation says 77.3 percent of drivers and front-seat passengers were buckled in during the 2008 "observational" survey. Last year, 75 percent were in compliance.

Kansas still ranks below the 2008 national usage rate of 83 percent.

Broader reliance on seat belts in Kansas saves lives, said Col Terry Maple, superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol.

"Any increase in seat belt usage by motorists traveling Kansas highways equates to fewer fatalities," he said.

The state's seat-belt rate has increased from 60 percent in 2001.

Nuclear plants may push TVA debt limit

The Montgomery Advertiser



The Tennessee Valley Authority's \$30 billion debt limit could be strained if the federal utility decides to build more nuclear plants.

TVA's debt now totals about \$25.2 billion. The agency has been able to cut its debt by more than \$2.5 billion since 1997. Still, this leaves less than \$5 billion for new capital projects.

Two former TVA chairmen, S. David Freeman and Craven Crowell, worry the federal utility will be forced to ask Congress to raise the debt ceiling if it decides to build new reactors at the Bellefonte site in Alabama and undertakes new pollution controls for its fleet of coal-fired power plants.

"It's not an immediate (issue), but I think it's going to have to be looked at," Chairman Bill Sansom told the Chattanooga Times Free Press. "Right now, we're trying to pay down as we build back and our debt is staying pretty even. But we're still working on nailing down our projections for the future."

Freeman helped convince Congress in 1979 to double TVA's previous debt cap.

FORT CHAFFEE : General rejects port bid

The Arkansas Democrat Gazette



Developing an intermodal river port in western Arkansas has taken one step forward and one back in recent days.

The step back came earlier this month when Arkansas National Guard Adjutant Gen. William Wofford rejected a proposal from the Fort Smith Port Authority to develop the port on the Arkansas River on or near Fort Chaffee.

However, a regional planning agency is beginning to draw up organizational plans for establishment of a regional port authority in western Arkansas.

In a Sept. 8 letter to Fort Smith Port Authority Chairman Rick Parrish, Wofford said a port at Fort Chaffee would compromise the unique nature of the river crossing training conducted at Fort Chaffee.

Fort Chaffee is one of two military installations in the country where the Army controls both sides of the river for river crossing training. The other is Fort Drum, N. Y.

Sports

Druckenmiller withdraws offer for Steelers

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH – A billionaire suitor withdrew his offer to buy a majority stake of the Pittsburgh Steelers on Thursday, saying the Rooney Family needs more time to consider its options about the future ownership of the team.

Stanley Druckenmiller issued a statement Thursday night saying he “removed himself from the process” and that it is clear that the Rooney Family, which owns the Steelers, needs more time to consider its options.

The Rooney Family approached Druckenmiller seven months ago about buying their shares of the team to help resolve estate planning and NFL ownership matters, Druckenmiller said.

At least three of the five Rooney brothers, sons of team founder Art Rooney Sr., want to sell their equal shares. Dan Rooney – who has run the team since the early 1970s

– also owns only 16 percent himself.

Druckenmiller said he made it clear throughout the discussions that if the Family could resolve its problems internally, he would step away.

“Based on recent developments, it has become clear that the Rooneys need substantial additional time to assess their options,” Druckenmiller said in a statement. “I do not wish to complicate these efforts, and I also do not want the lingering uncertainty about my possible involvement to become a distraction to my business and my Family.”

Earlier Thursday, Art Rooney Jr. said he expected a deal to sell the team be done soon.

“My feeling on that is, if you want to do something right, you don’t want to do it on a timeline,” Art Rooney Jr. said. “Although these things do stretch on, I thought we’d have some kind of understanding by the

preseason, and now we’re coming up on the third game of the season and you don’t want it to drag out.”

Rooney did not return messages seeking comment on Druckenmiller’s withdrawal.

“After all this time we put in it, it’s the appropriate time that we should start making a decision,” Rooney said.

At least three of the five Rooney brothers want to sell their equal shares in the team partly to avoid costly future inheritance taxes for their children and grandchildren. The McGinley Family, cousins to the Rooneys, owns the other 20 percent and is reportedly not interested in selling shares.

Dan Rooney and son Art Rooney II, the team president, are attempting to buy enough shares to be the primary owners. But their two previous offers are believed to be for less money than the other four Rooney brothers could sell for on the open market.



Friday's Answers:

Muhsin Muhammad led the NFL in receiving yards in 2004.

Michael Pittman was drafted by the Cardinals.

Trivia

NFL Hall of Fame: Mel Hein, Pete Henry, Cal Hubbard, Tim Mara and Jim Thorpe were all elected in the first year. With which team were they all associated?
A. Baltimore Colts B. Minnesota Vikings
C. New York Giants D. Cleveland Browns

The Dolphins punter went to UW Whitewater. What is his name?
A. Matt Turk B. Chad Stanley
C. Micah Knorr D. Hunter Smith

Where did Broncos WR Rod Smith play his college ball?
A. Alabama A and M B. Arkansas
C. Grambling D. Missouri Southern



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