



Local Muqtar meet in Diyala Province

**Story and Photos by
Pfc. Alisha Nye
14th Public Affairs Detachment**

A meeting of local muqtars, or village leaders, took place in a nahiya, an Iraqi subdistrict, called Buhriz, just south of Baqubah Aug. 23.

The meeting was the second of what is hoped to be many to take place in order to air grievances for the living standards of the local people and, ultimately, fix them.

“This meeting was the first time the muqtars really had a chance to lay out what their complaints are,” said Larry Henderson, the Embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team advisor for local muqtars and nahiya councils.

The muqtars made it clear during the meeting that their people were going without fuel, water and, most importantly, health care.

“It was kind of routine because we’ve heard the same type of things, the same problems occurring, basically, throughout Iraq,” Henderson said.

The meetings are the first of many steps to be taken to solve these problems, said Henderson.

“The reason this is step one is because all the emphasis been with the more populated areas,” said Henderson. “The nahiya council and nahiya service managers really haven’t been out to the rural areas because of security reasons. If the villages wanted services, people had to come to town for them. So, what the muqtars are saying now is, ‘Pay attention to us now. Now is the time to start doing stuff for us.’”

The next step is for the nahiya councils to follow through with the muqtars, Henderson said.

“They have to bring them in, find



The leader of the Buhriz nahiya council just south of Baqubah, Iraq, responds to the emotional grievances of a local muqtar, a village leader, who is tired of his people having no water and no fuel

out what each individual village or neighborhood needs and start to work on a plan on how they are actually going to start to get projects going,” said Henderson.

Henderson said, ultimately, the way for these projects to be successful is for the local people to stop relying on outside help, such as that from Coalition force, and start learning to do things more for themselves.

“In this situation, they’ve got to learn how to start handling things for themselves,” Henderson said. “My job is to coach them to learn how to have influences. So, they somehow have to learn how to take the complaints they have, learn how to package them so they can communicate it above and learn how to follow through and get aggressive

and assertive so that things start to get done.”

All of this, said Henderson, is a process that is unfamiliar to the Iraqi people.

“Iraqis have a way of negotiating a process that is foreign to us,” Henderson said. “In the United States, where we have public meetings and things, we’re used to speaking our minds. For an Iraqi, that’s not the case. Meetings like this one are completely foreign to them.”

Henderson expressed that things are to the point now where with a little effort, determination, and a fatherly push in the right direction, the Iraqi people will slowly come to rely more and more on themselves to fix the problems within their country.

“It’s a hard message,” Henderson said. “But there it is.”

Kurds remember victims of Al-Anfal during ceremony

**Story and Photos by
Sgt. Alfredo Jimenez Jr.
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History can never repeat itself.

When the Japanese military invaded Nanjing, China in 1937, it committed atrocities, such as mass murder, rape, looting and arson. Also, many civilians went missing and never found.

History can never repeat itself. While the world turned a blind eye to the West in the 40s, Nazi Germany invaded countries and massacred more than eight million Jews, homosexuals and gypsies. The atrocities included, mass murder, looting and painful medical practices. Also, many civilians went missing and never found.

History can never repeat itself. When Saddam Hussein wanted to rid himself of the Kurdish population in the late 80's, his regime conducted Operation Anfal, which targeted the Kurdish population in Northern Iraq.

The al-Anfal Campaign brought death and destruction to the Kurds by means of mass deportation, firing



A huge crowd gathered for the 20th anniversary of the Al-Anfal campaign run by Saddam Hussein's brutal regime where countless Kurds were murdered or went missing, in Dahuk, Iraq.

squads, concentration camps and chemical warfare. By the time the campaign finished in 1989, many Kurds died, many went missing and many were never found.

So when Maj. Gen. Mark P. Hertling, Multi-National Division North and Task Force Iron commander, arrived in Dahuk, Aug. 27, for the official Anfal ceremony

marking the 20th anniversary of the Kurd's darkest time in history, the already burgeoning crowd was eager to thank him personally for attending.

The crowd, mixed with old and young men, women and children, as a whole seemed glad such a towering figure could come and witness why this history can never repeat itself.

"It is a great honor, and my privilege to be part of this memorial," Hertling said. "As a soldier, I have seen – and studied – many instances of cruelty and suffering because of the evil nature of man."

Kurdistan's young generation could be seen listening intently as the old guard shook their heads in agreement as they knew too well the evil nature of a vicious dictator.

"I've walked through the memorial in Nanjing and through the camps of Auschwitz in Germany where millions were murdered," Hertling said. "And because of these camps and reminders, people in Japan and Germany are very different people today than they were 70 years ago."

The ceremony brought military



Kurdish troops portray Saddam Hussein's henchmen during the 20th anniversary of the Al-Anfal campaign run by the brutal regime, where countless Kurds were murdered or went missing, in Dahuk, Iraq.

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Physical therapy aids Soldiers in healing process

**Story and Photos by
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Teal Medical Facility, Troop Medical Clinic at Forward Operating Base Warhorse, in the Diyala Province, Iraq, houses some of the Army's finest Soldiers--Stryker medics.

Even the name of the clinic proudly displays the medics pride in all that they do, which is justly named in honor of Army Capt. John R. Teal, of Mechanicsville, Va.

Teal, who was assigned to 2nd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, based out of Fort Hood, Texas, lost his life Oct. 23, 2003, when an improvised explosive device exploded near his convoy in Baqubah, Iraq. Teal Medical Facility, TMC proudly

honors the sacrifices he made for his country.

Continuing service to country, Stryker medics see hundreds of patients a week, in particular, the Physical Therapy Clinic.

"We like to keep a relaxed environment," said Schuykill Haven, Pennsylvania native, Capt. Emily Stehr, a physical therapist with Med Troop, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, Regimental Support Squadron, referring to the comic book posters and "home" like environment that composes the clinic.

Keeping patients in a chill mode by keeping a relaxed environment is how the physical therapy medics like to run things, stated Stehr.

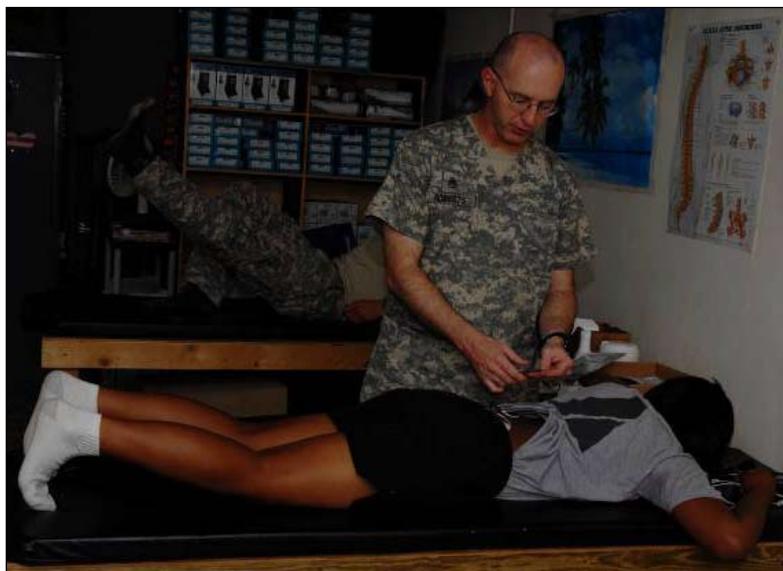
"Patients who are a lot happier, more optimistic and more relaxed, heal a lot better," Stehr stated. "I would like to think that the environment we have created here encourages that healing process. They are already stressed enough. We just want to put them in a chill mode so that they can heal themselves," Stehr added.

Helping patients is not limited to just the Soldiers though. According to Stehr, "We help both Soldiers and civilians because we have the availability to do it. Obviously our most important base is our Soldiers. But as long as they are getting seen and taken care of, and they are, we have the opportunity to see others," Stehr stated.

Therapy sessions at Warhorse are by appointment but the medics do accept walk-ins as well as same day services if a Soldier is coming from another base, stated Stehr.

"Soldiers could be sent to another facility to get better, but at Warhorse

we get the Soldiers the help they need without taking too much time away from doing their job or being away from home," added Stehr.



Staff Sgt. Monty Roberts, a physical therapist with Med Troop, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, Regimental Support Squadron, evaluates a female Soldier's back during a physical therapy session at the Teal Medical Facility, Troop Medical Clinic at Forward Operating Base Warhorse in the Diyala Province, Iraq, Aug. 27. Ankle and back injuries are the most common causes for Soldiers coming in for physical therapy sessions at the clinic, according to Roberts.



Santa Maria, California native, Spc. Cody Cornelson, a maintenance technician with 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, Regimental Support Squadron, comes in for his regular physical therapy sessions at the Teal Medical Facility, Troop Medical Clinic at Forward Operating Base Warhorse in the Diyala Province, Iraq. Cornelson sprained his ankle during a two-mile run on the FOB. Ankle and back injuries are the most common causes for Soldiers coming in for physical therapy sessions at the clinic, according to physical therapist, Staff Sgt. Monty Roberts with Med Troop, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, Regimental Support Squadron.

Patient flow varies throughout the week days, stated Hammond, Indiana native, Staff Sgt. Monty Roberts, a physical therapist technician with Med Troop, 2nd SCR, RSS.

"I get to see the patients day after day. They come in broke and over time we help fix them and get them back or close to where they used to be," Roberts said. "They might not be able to do everything that they were doing before but they are still contributing. For patients who could hardly walk a couple months ago, and today asking me if they can go out and run now, makes me feel comfortable that the therapy we are doing here is effective," Roberts added.

One Soldier in particular who has been going to the clinic is Spc. Cody Cornelson, a Santa Maria, California native with 2nd SCR, RSS.

"I started coming three days a week now for the past three weeks because I want to get better," Cornelson stated. "I used to fall over when I started walking but my ankle

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and local leaders, politicians and family members of victims together to memorialize what happened here.

The music playing was somber as Kurds reenacted events in a powerful, moving show, which included explosives, fire and singing.

Kurdish troops also took part in the event as they played the evil regime's henchmen. In a poignant routine, they took dresses and ripped them as women's shrieks blared through the speakers.

"I know it's good that we remember, and we pray, during this ceremony," Hertling said. "We remember those who died and we pray that all mankind does not allow these kinds of things in the future."

Near the end of the show, women dressed in black mourned over Kurdistan flag-draped coffins as the night enveloped them. Kurdish troops lined up, and a burning building flickered behind.

"It is through these kinds of memorial that we prevent it from overwhelming us," Hertling said. "All of us are Soldiers of the human race, and together, we must never allow an Anfal – or – any kind of atrocity like it – to threaten any race of people."

After the memorial, a little girl raced to shake hands with Hertling. But with his security team quick to whisk him away, she never made it. An older man, maybe her father, picked her up and both stared at the smoke billowing from the burning building.

History can never repeat itself.



Kurdish civilians portray their deaths during an Al-Anfal ceremony Aug. 27 in Dahuk, Iraq.

Therapy from Page 3

Sgt. Jeremiah Bull, a Kansas City, Kansas native with 4th Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, Regimental Support Squadron, has his shoulder evaluated by physical therapist, SSgt. Monty Roberts with Med Troop, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, Regimental Support Squadron at the Teal Medical Facility, Troop Medical Clinic at Forward Operating Base Warhorse located in the Diyala Province, Iraq, August 27. Bull comes in to treat the tendonitis in his rotator cuff of his shoulder, which causes him a lot of pain, said Bull.

and my knees are getting much stronger now since I have been coming to these physical therapy sessions. Now I can walk and bend over and my ankle and knee doesn't give out on me," Cornelson said.

According to Roberts most patients wait too long to seek help for injuries though.

"Back and ankle sprains are the most common injuries at Warhorse," Roberts said. "We get patients coming in too late with initial ankle injuries that were not bad enough to come in but because they pushed themselves so they could continue to work or go out on missions, now that patient has a back injury as well."

Most commands understand though, said Cornelson.

"My command gives me the time I need to take these physical therapy sessions so that I can get better," Cornelson stated. "My training consists of the alphabet, where I try to write out the letters of the alphabet with my foot. Also, I do balance exercises with a ball throwing it back and forth to the physician, calf raises and anything for my ankle."

The easiest way to prevent further injury is to come in as soon as possible, states Roberts. "Our patients try to tough it out as long as they can and end up suffering mentally, emotionally or physically."

Being able to contribute to the overall mission of the Army, even if they are not involved in the fight, is still equally important to Roberts though.

"I am glad about the kind of contribution that physical therapy is able to make," Roberts stated. "I'm not out there doing the patrols or kicking in the doors every day. My job is to take care of the guys who are doing that. If I can keep them healthy or help them get back out there, then that's the ultimate goal."

"I hang out with people who are in pain all day, trying to make them better," said Stehr. "Working with the Soldiers is an honor."

TEXAS



(ABC NEWS) A federal grand jury returned a three-count indictment against U.S. District Court Judge Samuel B. Kent, 59, for abusive sexual contact and attempted aggravated sexual abuse.

The alleged victim, identified only as "Person A" in the indictment, worked as a deputy court clerk assigned to Kent's court, the document says. A complaint against Kent filed with a judicial review panel in May 2007 identifies the woman as Cathy McBroom. During an alleged incident in March 2007, Kent "attempted to cause Person A to engage in contact between Person A's mouth and defendant Kent's penis by forcing Person A's head toward defendant Kent's groin area," the indictment charges.

Additionally, the court documents allege that Kent "did knowingly engage in sexual contact with another person without that other person's permission" by inappropriately touching the alleged victim "with an intent to abuse, humiliate, harass, degrade" during the March 2007 incident and another in August 2003.

The indictment says that all of the alleged incidents occurred at the federal courthouse in Galveston, Texas, where Kent and McBroom worked. The Justice Department said in a statement that the FBI is involved in the investigation.

"After a very difficult 17 months, I feel like I have finally been validated," McBroom said in a statement released by her attorney Rusty Hardin. "I have listened and read with horror as Judge Kent's

lawyer suggested that what happened to me was 'enthusiastically consensual.'"

"I am relieved to find that even federal judges are not above the law, and that sexual abuse in the workplace is never acceptable, no matter the status of the offender," the statement continued.

But Kent's attorney maintains that the relationship between the judge and his employee of six years was "completely consensual," and said in a statement that "Judge Kent is innocent of [the] charges."

"The first time she ever complained was when she was about to be fired," attorney Dick DeGuerin added. "Then she successfully avoided getting fired by making this [sic] outrageous claims that are not true. We will contest it and we will go to trial."

INDIA



(AFP) Thousands of Indian police and paramilitaries were Friday enforcing a strict curfew in Kashmir and intensifying a crackdown against Muslim separatists, officials said.

Security forces were out in large numbers on the streets of Srinagar and elsewhere in the disputed Kashmir valley, which has been the scene of weeks of violent protests, ordering locals not to leave their homes.

"A strict curfew is in force. Please stay indoors and don't come out for congregational prayers," police announced through vehicle-mounted public address systems while patrolling the streets of Srinagar.

Muslim leaders in Kashmir had called upon people to hold "peaceful

protests" on Friday to denounce Indian rule in Kashmir, as well as the arrest of senior separatists and their supporters.

An indefinite curfew was imposed in Kashmir on Sunday, with authorities hoping to prevent further anti-India protests.

Eight people were shot dead during the week for defying the crackdown, and several separatist leaders -- including the two most senior figures Syed Ali Geelani and Mirwaiz Umar Farooq -- have been detained.

Police officials say over 100 of their supporters have also been arrested. On Friday, police arrested a third veteran separatist leader, Shabir Shah, during a raid in the outskirts of Srinagar, a police official told AFP on condition of anonymity.

Shah, who has spent more than 20 years in different jails for espousing Kashmir's independence, had been in hiding since the crackdown started.

The last month has seen some of the biggest anti-India protests since an insurgency in the region began in 1989.

They were triggered by a state government plan made public in June to donate land to a Hindu shrine trust in the Kashmir valley. The decision was later reversed after massive Muslim protests, angering Hindus.

Since June, at least 39 Muslims and three Hindus have died in police shootings on protesters in the Kashmir valley and the mainly Hindu area of Jammu. On Wednesday, the United Nations' Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights called for a "thorough and independent" probe into the killings.

The UN organisation said it was "concerned about the recent violent protests in Indian-administered Kashmir that have reportedly led to civilian casualties as well as restrictions to the right to freedom of assembly and expression." India dismissed the comments as "unwarranted" and "irresponsible."



RACING

(LOS ANGELES TIMES) Phil Hill, a reserved Californian who became a gifted race-car driver and the only U.S.-born driver to win the Formula One international auto-racing championship, died Thursday. He was 81.

Hill died at Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula of complications from Parkinson's disease, said John Lamm, a close friend who is also editor-at-large of Road & Track magazine.

"It's a sad day," said Carroll Shelby, a close friend of Hill's who became a celebrated sports car builder after retiring from racing. "Phil was an excellent race-car driver with a unique feel for the car, and his real expertise was in long-distance racing."

Hill won the Formula One title for Ferrari in 1961. He also was the first American to win the 24-hour endurance race at Le Mans, France -- a race he would win twice again -- and he won the Sebring 12-hour race three times, among many other victories.

"Phil set the standard" for other American drivers who competed overseas, such as Dan Gurney and Mario Andretti, Shav Glick, the longtime motor sports writer for The Times, wrote in 2006.

Hill "also was a great representative of the sport," Glick wrote, adding that he was "quiet and not given to self-promotion. A very gracious man." Shelby, who won Le Mans in 1959, recalled Hill as a man with "multiple talents."

"Phil tuned pianos, he could take anything apart and put it back together, and he loved opera," Shelby told The Times.

Gurney, another friend of Hill's, said Hill "had pride in his accomplishments and abilities, but he didn't overwhelm you with it. He also loved the history and the allure of the automobile."

Hill won his Formula One championship in the season's penultimate race in Monza, Italy, after he had swapped the series lead all year with his Ferrari teammate Wolfgang von Trips of Germany.

In the same race, Von Trips died in a crash that also killed 14 spectators. As a result, Ferrari did not participate in the season's final race at Watkins Glen, N.Y., and Hill was unable to celebrate his championship in his home country.

Hill, despite driving with safety gear that paled by today's standards, never suffered a serious injury in his career. He retired from driving in 1967 at 39.

"I had an amazing amount of luck to race for 22 years and not a drop of blood or a broken bone," Hill once said. Then he quipped: "Maybe I wasn't trying hard enough."

But racing was not always easy for Hill. According to Formula One's website, Hill was "profoundly intelligent and deeply sensitive," a driver "always fearful and throughout his career he struggled to find a balance between the perils and pleasures of his profession."

At one point in the early 1950s, he stopped racing for 10 months because of stomach ulcers, but then returned and "by the mid-1950s he had become America's best sports car racer," the website said.

Philip Toll Hill was born in Miami on April 20, 1927, and was raised in Santa Monica.

His love of cars began at an early age and, when he was 12, his aunt bought him a Model T Ford that he would drive on private roads in Santa Monica Canyon.

He studied business administration at USC from 1945 to '47 but eventually dropped out because his passion was race cars.

Hill worked as a mechanic on other drivers' cars and, in the early to mid-1950s, drove in races in Santa Ana, Pebble Beach, Mexico and Europe and eventually joined the Ferrari team.

In September 1958, Hill finally got the ride he wanted in a Ferrari Formula One car, which would culminate with his world title.

The first of Hill's Le Mans victories also came in 1958, when he co-drove a Ferrari with Olivier Gendebien.

After retiring, Hill focused much of his attention on his lifelong love of classic automobiles, as well as his collection of player pianos and other antique musical instruments.

He was inducted into the International Motorsports Hall of Fame in 1991.

Hill is survived by his wife, Alma; a son, Derek, of Culver City; a daughter, Vanessa Rogers of Phoenix; a stepdaughter, Jennifer Delaney of Niwot, Colo.; and four grandchildren.

