

EXPEDITIONARY TIMES

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Vol. 1, Issue 23

Warrior Care

Balad hospital care 'good as it can possibly be.'

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One for the road

Spokane, Wash., Guard unit takes over convoy security mission

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Securing the population

2-320th Infantry says goodbye

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U.S. Army photo by Spc. Brian A. Barbour

Sgt. Jeremy Davidson from Cheyenne, Wyo. pulls security after dismounting from a patrol outside of Joint Base Balad, Iraq, Nov. 7th. Davidson, a member of 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 101st Airborne Division was a truck commander for his vehicle and was deployed to Iraq for nearly 15 months.

Eyes on: 330th Transportation Battalion

BY SGT. CRYSTAL REIDY
Expeditionary Times Staff

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq —

They have processed over 40,000 transportation requests in the past eight months and are responsible for transporting all food, fuel and vehicles across theater.

They are the movement control teams of the 330th Transportation Battalion, which are responsible for movement along Main Supply Route Tampa, de-

livering cargo to six hubs located between Mosul and Bucca.

"Nothing moves in Iraq without us having our eyes on it," says Sgt. Steven Ragan, a supply noncommissioned officer from Chesterfield, Va.

The MCTs process an average of 580 combat logistics patrols per week throughout Iraq and run approximately 172 theater CLPs to and from Kuwait.

MCTs are first contacted by units if they need something moved. These requests can be to move something as small as a footlocker or as big as 19 main battle tanks.

Maj. Carelia Scott-Skillern, an executive officer in the 330th

Transportation Battalion, says the battalion can't do anything without the MCTs. She says the MCTs are located at important points throughout Iraq, making command decisions about how to transport the cargo Soldiers need.

"We have commanders on the ground doing a phenomenal job," Scott-Skillern says. "We get feedback from the sustainment brigades about the excellent job they're doing," says Sgt. Terry Schmitt, a movement NCO for 679th MCT from Van Buren, Ark. The MCTs at Joint Base Balad push out 14,000 trucks a month

"The magnitude of the job

is amazing. We are responsible for everything the FOBs need to survive," says Capt. Catherine Sheads, the Highway Traffic Division Chief from Newnan, Ga. "If we don't keep an eye on the requests, a dining facility will go red and not have food for the Soldiers."

The operations day shift plans convoy movement request and the night shift supervises getting the convoys out on the road. The night shift tracks when convoys leave and arrive and report the road conditions to the convoys.

"There is always something new. Everyday there is something different," says Spc. Alejandro Romain, a movement

specialist from Rockville, Md. "You get to see all the movement and everything coming together. It's a good feeling to see 40 to 50 trucks roll out."

The 330th has also recently assumed command of the Sheriff Element, a monitored radio frequencies used to dispatch assistance to convoys. Sheriff reports the latest road conditions, threat conditions and coordinates vehicle dispatches.

"The MCTs and the Sheriff's office are in constant communication with each other in order to have the most up-to-date

See **TRANSPORTATION**,
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332 ESFS Blotter: 13 Nov. – 19 Nov.

UXO Finding:

A security contractor notified Security Forces of a UXO discovery at the incinerator pit. SF patrols arrived on-scene with fire and EOD. EOD personnel took control of the UXO for later detonation. SF response was terminated.

Alleged Theft of Private Property:

A civilian contractor entered the Eagles Nest stating his personal property had been stolen. The SF desk sergeant assisted the civilian completing a statement of incident. The civilian alleges his personal property was removed during a flight from Germany to Qatar. With no suspect, Security Forces could only take his information and brief him to relay the incident to his supervisor.

Article 128 UCMJ/Assault:

An Soldier entered the Eagles Nest stating he had been involved in a physical altercation with a civilian contractor. The incident occurred at Camp Victory, Kuwait. SF personnel had the complainant complete a statement of the events. The Soldier further stated he had suffered minor injuries during the altercation and had been treated at the AFTH. The Soldier was informed to brief his chain of command.

Stray Round:

A civilian contractor contacted Security Forces concerning a stray round impact in the KBR camp. SF patrols were dispatched to his location. Upon arrival, the patrolmen made contact with the contractor. The contractor led the SF patrolmen to his quarters and showed the patrolmen the damage to his ceiling. The patrolmen took a statement from the contractor concerning the events. SF response was terminated.

Minor Vehicle Accident GOV vs. POV:

A civilian contractor notified Security Forces of a minor vehicle accident that had occurred on Victory Loop. SF Patrols were dispatched to the scene. Upon arrival, SF patrolmen made contact with the vehicle operators who stated that operator #1 was towing a large piece of equipment that extended over the side of the trailer. Operator #2 struck the overhanging portion of the equipment causing damage to his vehicle. SF patrolmen accomplished statements with the vehicle operators and recorded the damage with digital photography. Both parties were informed to contact their chain of command concerning the accident.

Contact the Provost Marshal Office:

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Corrections

An article published in last week's paper about Airmen and Soldiers working at the hospital here incorrectly attributed a pulled quote to Capt. Luke Wheeler. The statement was actually made by Maj. (Dr.) Rich Barker, a psychologist with the Air Force Mental Health Clinic here.

The Expeditionary Times welcomes comments, suggestions and/or complaints about errors that warrant corrections. Please e-mail us at expeditionarytimes@iraq.centcom.mil

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EXPEDITIONARY TIMES

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Mission Statement: The Expeditionary Times Staff publishes a weekly newspaper with a primary mission of providing command information to all Servicemembers, partners, and Families of the 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) team and a secondary mission of providing a means for units on Joint Base Balad to disseminate command information to their audiences.

Gen. Jacoby visits JBB



Photo by Spc. Brian A. Barbour

Lt. Gen. Charles Jacoby, commanding general of I Corps and Fort Lewis, Wash., is greeted by Brig. Gen. Michael J. Lally, 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), after arriving by helicopter to Joint Base Balad, Iraq, Nov. 14. Jacoby, who will be assuming command of the Multi-National Corps - Iraq in spring 2009, visited during a leaders recon.

'HOOAH' SOLDIER OF THE WEEK



Photo by Pfc. Amanda Tucker

Sgt. Dustin Hagget, from Bountiful, Utah, with 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) Headquarters and Headquarters Company is congratulated by Brig. Gen. Michael Lally, 3rd ESC commanding general, for being selected this week's "Hooah Soldier of the Week".

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 (4155)
 5:30 P.M. GILBERT MEMORIAL (H-6)
 8 P.M. AIR FORCE HOSPITAL CHAPEL

PROTESTANT - GOSPEL

SUNDAY 11 A.M. MWR EAST BUILDING
 12 P.M. FREEDOM CHAPEL (WEST SIDE)
 12:30 P.M. GILBERT MEMORIAL (H-6)
 7 P.M. PROVIDER CHAPEL

PROTESTANT - CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

SUNDAY 9 A.M. MWR EAST BUILDING
 10:30 A.M. GILBERT MEMORIAL (H-6)
 2 P.M. CASTLE HEIGHTS (4155)
 7 P.M. FREEDOM CHAPEL (WEST SIDE)
 WEDNESDAY 8 P.M. GILBERT MEMORIAL (H-6)

PROTESTANT - LITURGICAL

SUNDAY 3 P.M. EPISCOPAL- LUTHERAN GILBERT CHAPEL (H-6)

PROTESTANT - SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

SATURDAY 9 A.M. PROVIDER CHAPEL

PROTESTANT - CHURCH OF CHRIST

SUNDAY 3:30 P.M. CASTLE HEIGHTS (4155)

ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

(SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION SAT. 4 P.M. OR BY APPOINTMENT)

SATURDAY 5 P.M. GILBERT MEMORIAL CHAPEL (H-6)
 8 P.M. FREEDOM CHAPEL (WEST SIDE)
 SUNDAY 8:30 A.M. GILBERT MEMORIAL CHAPEL (H-6)

11 A.M.

11 A.M.

MON-SAT 11:45 A.M.

THURSDAY 11 A.M.

MON, WED, FRI 5 P.M.

FRIDAY - HOLY HOUR 7 P.M.

LATTER DAY SAINTS - (LDS) - (MORMON)

SUNDAY 1 P.M.

3:30 P.M.

7 P.M.

JEWISH SHABBAT SERVICES

FRIDAY 6 P.M.

SATURDAY 8 A.M.

6 P.M.

ISLAMIC PRAYER

FRIDAY 12:30 P.M.

PAGAN/ WICCAN FELLOWSHIP

THURSDAY, SATURDAY 7 P.M.

HISPANIC PRODISTANT

SATURDAY 7:30 P.M.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

CALL PROVIDER CHAPEL

PROVIDER CHAPEL

AIR FORCE HOSPITAL CHAPEL

PROVIDER CHAPEL

AIR FORCE HOSPITAL CHAPEL

GILBERT MEMORIAL PROVIDER CHAPEL

PROVIDER CHAPEL

PROVIDER CHAPEL

PROVIDER CHAPEL

FREEDOM CHAPEL (WEST SIDE)

GILBERT MEMORIAL CHAPEL (H-6)

GILBERT MEMORIAL (H-6)

PROVIDER CHAPEL

EDEN CHAPEL

EDEN CHAPEL

EDEN CHAPEL

PROVIDER CHAPEL

PROVIDER CHAPEL

PROVIDER CHAPEL

**Please note, schedule is subject to change.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL:

GILBERT CHAPEL: 443-7703 PROVIDER CHAPEL: 433-2430 FREEDOM CHAPEL: 443-6303



Spc. Ashley Cribb, a Portsmouth, Va., native and Spc. Patrick McDonald, a Clarksville, Tenn., native are reverse osmosis water purification unit mechanics replacing a high pressure air dryer for a ROWPU. The high pressure air dryer pulls air out of water during

Spc. Audie Murphy, a Ventura, Calif., native and water purification specialist for the 20th Quartermaster Company from Fort Campbell, Ky., starts a reverse osmosis water purification unit. The ROWPU can purify 600 gallons of water per minute.

20th QM Co keeps water clean

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
PFC. AMANDA TUCKER
Expeditionary Times Staff

BALAD, Iraq - The 20th Quartermaster Company, from Fort Campbell, Ky., provides approximately 895,000 gallons of water a week to five forward operating bases with less than 20 Soldiers handling the reverse osmosis purification units, or ROWPUs.

When the 20th QM Co. re-

ceives a task list to open up a ROWPU site, a six-man team is sent to the assigned area with two units. The team will find a source of water and run tests before the water purification process is ever started. Preventative medicine specialists then check the readings to ensure the water is healthy and drinkable.

"The Soldiers don't want to come back. They like ... doing their job," said Sgt. 1st Class Luciano Reyna, an Austin native and the noncommissioned officer in charge of water purification operations.

Not only does the 20th QM

Co. provide water for the entire forward operating base they are assigned to, they also work with Iraqi Army at FOB Ashraf to enable the Iraqis to produce their own water.

Staff Sgt. Daniel Sanchez, section sergeant for water purification operations and San Fernando Valley, Calif., native and Spc. Gerald Mcvicker, a water purification specialist and a Mt. Pleasant, Penn., native for the 20th QM Co. explained how the process works.

First, water is sent into the ROWPU booster pump at 105 gallons per minute. The en-

gine inside the booster pump speeds up the water to 160 gallons per minute before sending it into the medium filter. As the water goes through the medium filter it passes through five filter elements: gravel, coarse gravel, garnet sand, fine garnet and silica sand. It then goes into another 30 to 40 inch filter that has membranes too small to allow salts or viruses through. The cleaned water collects in the middle and is shot through the product line, to be injected with standardized chlorine levels. The bad water, also known as brine water, is sent to the waste pond to

evaporate.

On average, a water purification team consists of one ROWPU mechanic and one to four water purification specialists. The unit rotates the Soldiers in and out of the FOBs with the Soldiers staying on Joint Base Balad.

"They work hard and take pride in what they do, for the simple fact that if they did not run it then no one's getting water that day," said 1st Sgt. Lisa Alvarez, the senior non-commissioned officer for the 20th QM Co. "That could mean they're not going to eat (or) they're not going to bathe."



Familiar faces in unfamiliar territory

BY 1ST LT. BRETT MONROE
1538th Trans. Co., 165th
CSSB, 1st Sust. Bde

CAMP TAJI, Iraq - When transporters from the 1538th Transportation Company, a National Guard unit from Elkhart, Ind., conducted their first combat logistics patrol mission Oct. 12, they were glad to see a few familiar faces in formation.

Under the direction of the mission commander Staff Sgt.

Terry Riggs, a Jeffersonville, Ind., native.

Soldiers from the 1538th Trans. Co. and other units around Camp Taji hauled cargo from the base to other locations in the Baghdad area.

Not only was this the first mission Riggs had led since the unit's transfer of authority from the 515th Transportation Company, it was also the first mission for some of the Soldiers on the convoy security element.

Although these Soldiers were new to the security mission, they were not at all new to Riggs and the other Soldiers of the 1538th Trans. Co.

The security element, commonly known as gun trucks, consisted of Soldiers from the 1538th Trans. Co. who were attached to the 1st Battalion, 206th Field Artillery, an Arkansas National Guard unit trained to conduct convoy security missions.

The gun trucks from the 1538th Trans. Co. have trained for their security mission since arriving on Camp Taji.

That night's mission was an important milestone in their training.

"It was a good mission. It was fairly uneventful. For our first mission together, Staff Sgt. Riggs did well," said 2nd

Lt. Jacob Kruer, the gun truck commander for the mission and New Albany, Ind., native.

For a gun trucker, "fairly uneventful" is a good night's work. This means no opposition was met and no IEDs or ambushes were encountered along the route.

In addition to the Soldiers on the security element, there were also other familiar faces included on the mission. In attendance were Soldiers from the 991st Transportation Company, an Army Reserve unit from Salisbury, N.C., who went through mobilization training at Camp Atterbury, Ind., alongside the 1538th

Trans. Co.

Even though the Soldiers of the 1538th Trans. Co. are divided among the transportation mission and the security escort mission, they will come together many more times over the next year to conduct combat logistics patrols.

Many of these Soldiers are on their second tour of duty and come from around the state of Indiana, surrounding states, and from as far away as Florida and New York. The 1538th Trans. Co. deployed in early September 2008 and is scheduled to return from Iraq in summer of 2009.



1-161st Infantry Regiment takes over convoy mission

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
SGT. CRYSTAL G. REIDY
Expeditionary Times Staff

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq –

Members of the 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment, a National Guard unit from Spokane, Wash., took authority from the 1st Battalion, 293rd Infantry Regiment here November 21.

The 1-161st will be tasked with conducting combat logistics patrols throughout parts of northern Iraq.

“The Soldiers are psyched,” said Lt. Col. Greg Allen, the Battalion Commander of the 1-161st. “They have been training for months for this mission and now they get to do it.”

As of Nov. 6, the 1-293rd completed over 1,100 convoys across nearly 1,300,000 miles, and earned 19 Purple Hearts, 186 Combat Infantry Badges and 161 Combat Action Badges.

Lt. Col. Gerald Hadley, the battalion commander of the 1-293rd, said that more CIBs and CABs would have been awarded, but the majority of the unit’s senior leaders already had them from prior deployments.

Allen, who is from Tacoma, Wash., said he wants to uphold the same success rate the 1-293rd has had in finding IEDs. The 1-293rd had a 47 percent find rate, he said.

“I told my Soldiers to listen to their counterparts during the transfer of authority,” Allen said. “Don’t try to fix something that’s not broken.”

Hadley, who is from Noblesville, Ind., credits his

unit’s success to the noncommissioned officers leading CLPs.

1st Lt. Chris Douglas, the executive officer for C Company of the 1-161st, said his unit will be successful because they have received great training from the 1-293rd. Douglas, who is from Seattle, Wash., said the 1-161st has received classes on escalation of force, electronic warfare systems and vehicle recovery.

“The 293rd has been awesome,” said Spc. William Wallace, a gunner from Bremerton, Wash. “They have been teaching us stuff outside the book; stuff they learned that will save our lives.”

Recently, gunners in the 1-161st received training on the M2 .50-caliber machine gun from 1-293rd Soldiers at a range on Patrol Base Love, a base near Balad that is shared by the Coalition Forces and the Iraqi Army.

The training also included familiarization with Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles and Armored Security Vehicles. Douglas said the training was good because 1-161st Soldiers didn’t have access to MRAPs or ASVs during pre-mob training.

The weapons familiarization was also good, Douglas said.

“It was good to come out and shoot our weapons systems,” Douglas said. “Every extra round our gunners can shoot makes us more confident.”

After meeting 1-161st Soldiers, Staff Sgt. Thuc Tran, a scout team chief for the 1-293rd, requested to extend with them. It was too late, however, for this request to be processed.

“I like this unit. They have a lot of experience between them,” Tran said. “They have



Members of the 1-161st Infantry Regiment, a National Guard unit from Spokane, Wash., test fires a .50 caliber M2 machine gun at Patrol Base Love near Balad, Iraq on Nov. 14th. The unit replaced the 1-293rd Infantry Regiment at Joint Base Balad on Nov. 21st.

a mixture of combat military occupational specialties like special forces, Rangers, and tankers.”

Douglas said that experience will help the battalion reach their operational goals to successfully move convoys all over Iraq and to bring everyone home safe.

“They know how to do their jobs, so we are not worried at all,” Douglas said.

As for Allen, he said he wants his unit to go home as better Soldiers.

“I want them to experience something they can give to the next group of Soldiers coming into the military,” Allen said.

Staff Sgt. Thuc Tran, a scout team chief for the 1-293rd from Fort Wayne, Ind., adjusts the ammo box carrier for a .50 caliber M2 machine gun during at test fire at Patrol Base Love near Balad on Nov. 14th. Tran is assisting members of the 1-161st Infantry Regiment, a National Guard unit from Spokane, Wash., who will take authority from the 1-293rd Infantry Regiment.



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Shoot house for ERB trainees refines close-quarters movement

BY U.S. AIR FORCE
CAPT. GREG HIGNITE
SOTF-C Public Affairs

Editor's note: Full identification of sources is withheld to protect the identity of those quoted in this article.

BAGHDAD, Iraq – With the kick of a door, a small team of Iraqi National Emergency Response Brigade trainees thrust into a mock structure clearing rooms and neutralizing threats as they emerge.

The trainees are part of Operator Selection Course 19, the process by which Iraqi instructors and their Coalition forces counterparts vet new candidates for the ERB, Iraq's

law enforcement agency with a reputation as an elite group. The trainees are currently in their last week of law enforcement training and are now dedicating several days of instruction to mastering close-quarters battle drills.

These drills are conducted in a shoot house, a structure that resembles a home or office with multiple doors, windows and hallways. The shoot house has a catwalk, which is advantageous to instructors and students who can use it to watch training from above.

"CQB training is the meat and potatoes of learning effective law-enforcement skills," says a Coalition forces ERB advisor. "A large amount of time is allotted for the trainees to learn CQB since as much as 50 percent of their real-world duties will involve similar operations."

"The shoot house trains us for a different type of fight," says an Iraqi ERB first sergeant. "This training is so important because it minimizes casualties during operations. The tight spaces require us to know what each member of our team will be doing."

What observers may find unique is that nearly every aspect of training at the ERB is managed and led by Iraqi instructors. During CQB drills, experienced Iraqi instructors drive training, enforce standards and make immediate corrections for trainees if they're not grasping the technique.

"The Iraqi instructors are excellent," says a Coalition forces Soldier monitoring training. "We provide oversight and fine-tune the training as needed, but for the most part these instructors run the day-to-day operation."

Iraqi instructors and Coalition advisors do not work alone in making sure training is the best possible. On several occasions, fellow trainees call out to each other to hold their rifle in the proper position or make the correct movements through the building. The collaborative learning environment results in high esprit de corps among the trainees with spontaneous clapping and cheering erupting from the shoot house when a team quickly and efficiently moves through a drill.

This ERB class began nearly a month ago and once comprised 217 men, but, due to the rigorous selection process, several candidates were eliminated of their own accord or were removed by the course cadre. Now, just 142 men remain with the hope of graduating.

This initial training program prepares eventual gradu-

ates to join their home units where they will receive more advanced law-enforcement training in marksmanship, urban movement and reactive sniper fire.

The ERB has a battalion in Baghdad as well as four regionally-based special weapons and tactics units in Mosul, Tikrit, Hillah and Kut. The ERB and SWAT units throughout Iraq operate unilaterally, developing their own intelligence on enemy forces, gathering warrants from Iraqi judges and independently conducting operations, according to ERB officials in Baghdad.

Trainees who graduate will add to the ERB force who, along with other provincial policing efforts, will enhance and further stabilize the nation for continued development, says a senior ERB official.

The 8th Ordnance Company supplies the force

STORY AND PHOTO BY
SGT. CRYSTAL G. REIDY
Expeditionary Times Staff

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – Soldiers from the 8th Ordnance Company, 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) are preparing to conclude a 15-month deployment here.

In the past year they have sorted over 42,000 short tons of munitions with a price tag of over \$1.6 billion.

The rockets, grenades and a variety of small-arms rounds are processed and then transported to twelve ammunition transfer holding points around Iraq and Afghanistan.

To put the amount of ammunition this unit processes in perspective, Sgt. 1st Class Joseph W. Martin, Core Storage Area noncommissioned officer in charge from Bronx, N.Y., said to imagine 2 football stadiums full of 2,100 storage containers full of ammunition.

Spc. Warren Williams, an ammunition specialist from Richmond, Va., said the ammunition supply points are important because if you don't

have ammo, you can't fight a war.

"We supply the force with ammo they need to fight," Martin said.

Martin said to process this much ammo they need to be organized. He said the first thing they did when they arrived in Iraq was to establish their own system.

"Everyone wants to put their stamp on things," Martin said. "When you put your ideas in place, and you see them working, it motivates you."

Martin said the process to receive mass amounts of ammunition is all about quality control.

Cpl. Marsha Lespiegle, a stock control clerk from Brooklyn, N.Y., said they have many verification systems to ensure quality. She said when the ammo comes from Kuwait, the orders go to stock control who receives the directives of where the ammo is coming from and going to.

Chief Warrant Officer Craig A. Hancock, the accountable officer from Killen, Texas, said after stock control the ammo goes to quality assurance ammunition surveillance, who inspects the ammo to ensure it is not a danger to the warfighter.

Lespiegle said the next step

is to pull the ammo from inventory and send it back to stock control for one last verification before it is transported by air or ground.

Hancock said the ammunition handlers process the ammo with a 99 percent accuracy rate on quarterly inventories.

"Inventory control is important because you do not want to short someone or give someone too much," Lespiegle said. "It's like money in the bank; if you withdraw too much, you will be taking from someone else."

Another mission of the 8th Ordnance is the collecting of residue from units, said Staff Sgt. Faith Mackey, the noncommissioned officer in charge from Greensboro, N.C. She said residue can be brass, ammo cans and any other products left over after a unit expends the ammo.

"Recycling (residue) saves the Army millions of dollars and keeps the excess trash out of the burn pit," Mackey said.

Brass is put on a sorting table and each piece is inspected for live rounds and sorted by caliber type, Mackey said.

A lot of residue yards are treated like junk yards, Martin said. The residue section



Spc. Kevin W. Dowdell, an Auburn, Ala., native and ammunition specialist for the 8th Ordnance Company, 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), sorts brass that has been turned in to the residue yard at Joint Base Balad Nov. 6th. The 8th Ordnance Company distributed and sorted over 42,000 short tons of munitions totaling over \$1.6 billion.

worked hard to organize this place since they arrived.

"When you see an organized yard like this," Martin said, "It says a lot about the Soldier working there."

Most recently the company sent five Soldiers out as a Logistics Transition Assistance Team. Capt. Michael W. Glenn, the company commander from Bronx N.Y., said the team is training the Iraqi Army ammunition supply techniques, including proper ammunition storage and accountability.

"We teach them not to just lock it up, but to lock it up properly. Certain ammo is not compatible with other ammo," Glenn said. "We hope teaching them will increase their safety and security as they take over securing Iraq."

Hancock said the company could not complete its mission without teamwork.

"No area works independent of each other," Hancock said. "We work as a machine, like an engine."



Photo by Alex Bennett, Muthanna Provincial Reconstruction Team



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. R.J. Gilbert

Dignitaries and senior leaders of the 7th Sust. Bde. stand together at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Al-Ashyabb primary school held Nov. 19th in the province of Dhi Qar. Seventy children arrived for the first day of school.

Children kneel on the dirt floor at the former Al-Ashyabb primary school located in the province of Dhi Qar.

New Iraqi school built in Al-Fawaz

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS KELLY JO BRIDGWATER
7th Sust. Bde.

AL-FAWAZ, Iraq – Soldiers from the 3^d Sustainment Command's 7th Sustainment Brigade gathered with local Iraqi leaders in the city of Al-Fawaz, to participate in a ribbon-cutting



ceremony of the village's newly built Al-Ashyabb primary school Nov 19.

Col. Mark Barbosa, 7th Sust. Bde. commander, met with Iraqi government, military and tribal leaders to celebrate the combined effort between Iraqi and Coalition forces to improve educational facilities within the region.

During the past ten months, the Fort Eustis-based brigade has worked with local officials to build schools.

Barbosa and the local dignitaries received a tour of the new school.

They met with teachers and distributed humanitarian assistance items to 70 students including school bags.

The school bags were filled with the necessary school supplies from papers and pens to folders and rulers.

Other donated items included soccer balls and over 100 pairs of new shoes.

Before the completion of

the new school, children sat in the few desks they had, while most sat on a dirt floor in a two-room schoolhouse.

"Thank you for helping to build this school for our children and for us. It is a great effort from the American side," said Sheikh Mohammed Al-tayh through an interpreter. "All of the people here want to thank the American Army for this job well done."

The two-story school contains multiple classrooms, an

office for the head master, a teacher's lounge and indoor restrooms.

"I'm overjoyed," said Contractor Mohammed Az-Zuhairi from the Al-Bayraq construction company. "I could not sleep at all last night due to the excitement over today's events. I'm happy to see the school opened at last."

Medics fast with hands, slow with minds

STORY AND PHOTO BY
SGT. KEITH M. ANDERSON
16th Sust. Bde.

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE Q-WEST, Iraq – The medics at the troop medical clinic here have an expression, "Be fast with your hands, but slow with your mind."



The expression, often repeated by Staff Sgt. Robert Norton, TMC noncommissioned officer in charge, 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, reminds Soldiers to work quickly, but carefully.

"You have to work quickly when someone is seriously injured, but you must go slowly in your mind to make sure you don't make any mistakes; and you have to be fast with your hands, because seconds matter. People can deteriorate quickly from seemingly non-serious wounds because the right life-saving steps aren't taken," Norton says.

The 31-year-old combat medic from Tallahassee, Fla., has seen a lot during his four deployments, but the most challenging medical trauma experience for him was when he had to provide treatment to a good friend who was injured in a car accident in the U.S..

"One of my NCOs got hit by a truck," Norton says. "He had massive trauma; just about every bone in his body was crushed."

Norton says he had to mentally detach himself to save his friend's life.

"I was thinking, 'I don't want to see this, but I have to do this,'" Norton says. "How do we see what we see and still be cool, calm and efficient? I wonder about that myself sometimes."

The pace in the clinic doesn't allow much time to prepare yourself.

Sgt. Evelyn Pollard, evacuation noncommissioned officer at the TMC, 16th STB, didn't have much time to prepare herself for combat medicine when she arrived in July 2008 to begin her first deployment.

"The first week we were here we brought in three Iraqis that had been injured during a VBIED (vehicle-borne improvised explosive device) attack," says the 25-year-old combat medic from Brooklyn, N.Y. "The most seriously injured Iraqi had shrapnel wounds over much of his body, a bone protruding from his leg, and was covered in blood. I think my training was good, but nothing prepares you for when it actually happens."

Pollard doubles as an information management officer for the clinic as well as a combat lifesaver instructor for the base. She doesn't get much free time but says the job is worth it.

"When someone comes back and says thanks for what you did — it's the greatest feeling in the world," Pollard says.

The married mother of one plans to reenlist so she will have the opportunity to go through a year-long Army nursing program.

Her husband Christopher, Jr., who works at Child and Youth Sports in U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg, Germany,



Spc. Joshua Ryan, a medic, with the 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, administers the influenza vaccine to Staff Sgt. Jacqueline Atkins, 574th Quartermaster Co., 16th STB, at the troop medical clinic at Contingency Operating Base Q-West on Nov. 10.

supports her.

"He misses the fact that I'm not there, but he knows this is important to me, so he supports me," she says.

The clinic is classified as "level 1-plus" and doesn't have a surgery ward and only minimal lab capabilities. The medics there don't have any challenge in staying busy though, Norton says.

"Last week we saw 444 Soldiers, contractors and local nationals, mostly stomachaches,

back pain and joint problems," he says. "With the nature of what we're seeing, and making sure we do the right thing for the patients, and the hours, we put in long days."

Norton, who originally wanted to be infantry, says he hasn't looked back.

"It's rewarding, because I think anyone can go out and shoot, maim, kill and blow things up, but it takes something more to save lives," he says.



ABOVE: The mayor of Dujayl, a small town in Iraq about 80 miles north of Baghdad, meets Lt. Col. John Dunleavy, the commander of the 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, to discuss how things are going in the town on Nov. 7. The meeting included an introduction of the new leadership that will be taking over when Lt. Col. Dunleavy and his unit heads home after almost 15 months here.



ABOVE: Sgt. Carmen Lozano of North Hollywood Calif., a combat medic in the 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, pets a dog at check point during a foot patrol outside of Joint Base Balad, Iraq Nov. 7. Lozano, one of the most decorated medics in 2-320th, has completed nearly 275 missions and has been involved in several IED attacks.

Securing the Population

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
SPC. BRIAN A. BARBOUR
Expeditionary Times Staff

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – The 2nd Squadron, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, from Fort Campbell, Ky., under the command of Lt. Col. John Dunleavy, left Iraq last week after completing an almost 15-month-long deployment here.

The unit has been replaced by the 3rd Brigade, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

The 2-320th FA arrived in Iraq in Sept. of 2007 with nearly 500 soldiers, including attachments from other units. The unit was given the mission of securing the population in the surrounding areas of Joint Base Balad.

During its mission, the 2-320th FA established a level of security for the people in the neighboring towns and villages around JBB.

“We had to show the population we were sincere about securing them ... We

had to show them we would go after the insurgent anywhere,” says Lt. Col. John Dunleavy, the commander of the 2-320th FA.

“When we first got here we were kicking in doors and hammering down on the insurgents,” said Sgt. Jeremy Davidson, a section leader for Lt. Col. Dunleavy’s personal security detachment. “Then the next day we would come back and ask the Iraqi locals what they needed and what we could do for them.”

Davidson, who is from Clarksville, Tenn., has deployed to Iraq three times the 2-320th FA. He said that since his unit came here, there has been a decrease in indirect fire and improvised explosive device attacks. Indirect fire attacks went from about 37 a week down to two a week, he said.

Davidson said the unit the 2-320th replaced over a year ago didn’t have the trust of the local population.

For the 2-320th, securing the population involved constant patrols and working with the Iraqi Police, the Iraqi Army, and group known as Concerned Local Citizens – a coalition between tribal Sheikhs that have united to help

maintain security.

“Those guys (knew) that if they ever ran into trouble, if they were getting shot up, if they ever needed assistance, that we would be there for them,” Dunleavy says.

Dunleavy says the hard work of his unit paid off.

“Things have changed for the better,” Dunleavy says. “There is a feeling on the street that security is good and that people are safe.”

“Things are a lot better than what the media says,” says Sgt. James Bradshaw, an S-1 noncommissioned officer for the 2-320th FA. Bradshaw, who is from Lexington, S.C., said that as his unit gained the trust of the locals, the locals revealed hidden weapon caches.

Living conditions for Iraqis in the area have also improved, Dunleavy says.

“The stores and markets are booming,” he says. “When you walk down the street you feel that things are better and that they are getting better and that there is a lot of hope.”



RIGHT: A member of the 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, walks past a checkpoint while on foot patrol in Dujayl, Iraq, Nov. 7. The 2-320th's mission was to secure the population around Joint Base Balad.



ABOVE: Members of the 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, walk the streets of Dujayl, Iraq, during a patrol Nov. 7. The unit's mission was to secure the population around Joint Base Balad.



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ee female combat
een through three



ABOVE: Lt. Col. John Dunleavy, from Washingtonville, N.Y., the commander of the 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, with two Iraqi children in the village of Jamboriah, Iraq, Nov. 7. Dunleavy, whose mission is nearing an end, will be heading home after almost 15 months here.



'Red Brigade' scheduled to leave soon

BY PFC. AMANDA TUCKER
Expeditionary Times Staff

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – The 55th Sustainment Brigade is scheduled to hold their transfer of authority with the 304th Sustainment Brigade, commanded by Lt. Col. Norman Green, on Dec. 11.

The 55th Sust. Bde. has served for two sustainment commands: 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), commanded by Brig. Gen. Gregory E. Couch and the 3^d ESC, commanded by Brig. Gen. Michael J. Lally.

"We are the first United States

Army Reserve sustainment brigade to mobilize over here," said Col. Therese O'Brien, the commander of the 55th Sust. Bde., based out of Fort Belvoir, Va.

The reservists deployed 185 Soldiers short of the usual requirement to accomplish their mission. The undermanned unit had two battalions, one combat sustainment support battalion and one security force infantry battalion task force, making their support operations undermanned in this area as well. Despite these barriers the 55th Sust. Bde. went above and beyond to accomplish their mission. As a result, Soldiers learned multiple jobs and responsibilities to fulfill their tasks.

The logisticians still managed to

provide support to more than 15 forward operating bases, 2,400 Soldiers and provided over 90 percent of all sustainment support in the Diyala province, which is located in eastern Iraq.

Col. O'Brien formed her own personnel security detachment so as to stay in close partnership with the 5th Motorized Transport Regiment and units supporting the 5th Iraqi Army Division.

"As a commander, I just think that it's imperative that you have situational awareness, and you can't get that sitting in here," O'Brien said.

O'Brien attended the first meeting held with an Iraqi Army division commander, his G-4, his brigade com-

manders, and their S-4s with the director of the electrical, maintenance and engineering directorate of the ministry of defense and other Iraqi general officers. The meeting concluded with the 5th IA making a large leap in standardizing operations.

During those months they conducted more than 3,200 combat logistics patrols. The Soldiers continued logistic operations even through periods of sandstorms and convoyed over 75 missions under red conditions, earning them the nickname the "Red Brigade."

Leaving theater, 55th Sust. Bde. Soldiers can leave confident with the work they accomplished.

TRANSPORTATION *Continued from Page 1*

information for the convoy commanders," Sheads says.

Part of getting supplies where they need to go involves working with local nationals to transport cargo.

1st Lt. Rich Daigle, movement control team 18 detachment commander for the 330th Transportation Battalion Movement Control Team says that for the past six months they have used the Iraqi Trucking Network to help move cargo. The ITN is an association of civilian Iraqi trucking companies the U.S. military uses to move assets across Iraq unescorted.

"The ITN allows Iraqis to move smaller missions like water, lumber and T-barriers without security escorts from the military," Daigle says. "The goal is to get them out there moving things and increasing their responsibilities."

Romain says he thinks about the cargo he helps send out. If its construction supplies being transported, it might be going out to help the locals to build a school or hospital.

"I like the feeling of being a part of that," Romain says. The 20 MCTs located all over Iraq have transported the cargo of 94 brigade-sized redeploying units, Sheads says. She is proud to be involved in such a big mission, she added.

"When I read in a newspaper about a unit re-deploying back to the states," Sheads says. "I think: We did that."



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Brian A. Barbour

A combat logistics patrol moves out from Joint Base Balad on Nov.12. Movement control teams with the 330th Transportation Battalion here have processed over 40,000 transportation requests in the past eight months.

Do you have a story idea?

Contact the Expeditionary Times
expeditionarytimes@iraq.centcom.mil



Air Force Maj. Lance Borup (left), a radiologist from Wichita Falls, Texas, and Maj. Hans Bakken (right), a neurosurgeon, review CT scans here at the Air Force Theater Hospital on Nov. 20. This is Bakken's second tour to Iraq.

Warrior care on Doctors' minds



Maj. Hans Bakken (center), a neurosurgeon, escorts visiting service members through the Hero's Highway at the Air Force Theater Hospital here Nov. 13. "I'm convinced that the warrior care we provide here is as good as it can possibly be," Bakken says. "If I were injured, this is the place I'd want to be."

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
SPC. KIYOSHI FREEMAN
Expeditionary Times Staff

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – A short covered walkway connects the helicopter landing pad with the building. Overhead, a huge, billowing American flag loops in and out of a metal framework, just below the canopy. There are only two ways to see it: if you're looking up at it or if you're being carried in.

This is Hero's Highway, and if a wounded service member is brought to the Air Force Theatre Hospital here, it's the first thing he or she might see as they are brought inside.

According to Air Force Maj. Deedra Zabokrtsky, a registered nurse and the officer in charge of ward nurses, patients who make it to Balad have a 98 percent survival rate, which she says is a well-known and comforting fact to wounded service members.

"There are people who are alive today because of what we're able to do for them here," says Maj. Hans Bakken, a doctor with the 207th Medical Detachment and a Decorah, Iowa, native.

One of only two neurosurgeons in Iraq, Bakken has played a significant part in saving the lives of service members, specializing in severe head trauma, one of the most common types of injuries in theater.

Bakken, who is on his second

voluntary deployment, says, "I think that the Soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines that are over here fighting deserve the best possible health care. I came in from the civilian sector, and that's why I wanted to come to Iraq ... I felt like I could make a difference."

Bakken says his number of patients has decreased to a fraction of what it had been during his last deployment in 2005, which had also been spent at Balad. He said this is partly due to Iraq's improving security situation and partly to ever-evolving tactical doctrines adopted by the armed forces.

Zabokrtsky says one of the things the hospital documents about a patient is what kind of armor protection the individual was wearing.

The results from these questions, reports, and after action reviews have led to improved armor and protective gear, she says, which only further increases a patient's survivability.

"It's the training for the folks on the frontline that's making a lot of the difference," Zabokrtsky says. Combat lifesaver training, individual first aid kids – everything comes together out in the field to save lives, she says.

Bakken says it's this level of care – the fact that medics and combat lifesavers are stabilizing patients out in the field, often under combat conditions – that is the most amazing.

"It works better than anything I've ever seen in the civilian world," he says.

This level of care continues when patients arrive here at the hospital.

From the moment a helicopter lands, only minutes elapse before a critical patient is prepped for the operating table, Bakken says.

According to Bakken, in the civilian sector the use of an operating room could cost approximately \$5,000 to \$10,000, regardless of the medical procedure being performed. An overnight stay in an intensive care unit would cost another \$2,000.

Here, however, cost is never a consideration for warrior care.

"One thing I like about the military is we don't really think about the financial aspect of what we do," Bakken says. "We get to do things that we think should be done, and not what a hospital administrator says."

Even working in joint environments with other services and new people, Bakken says everyone he has worked with has been outstanding; everyone shares the same overwhelming commitment to provide the best possible health care for wounded service members.

"I'm convinced that the warrior care we provide here is as good as it can possibly be," Bakken says. "If I were injured, this is the place I'd want to be."

Outside, the vacant landing pad is about to receive a visitor.

The doctors, nurses, physicians' assistants and medical technicians prepare to go back to work.

The steady thump-thump-thump of a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter announces the arrival of more patients, more heroes for the Highway.

Shout Outs!



Hello to Sgt. Jeff Dixon with the 2-149th from Texas. We love you!! Be safe!! We wish the best for all of the Soldiers and they are never forgotten in our prayers!

Love, Mom and Dad

HAPPY 12TH ANNIVERSARY!



Happy 12th Anniversary

Hurry home for the celebration!

I love you, Jeri

3^d ESC
Holiday Shouts Out Taping

HEART OF THE DRAGON

330th Trans.
 Date: 1 Dec 08
 Time: 0930 - 1100
 Location: In Front of Bldg 7510

ESC HQ
 Date: 2 Dec 08
 Time: 0700 - 0900
 Location: Patio off the Internet Café at the JOC

NEWS AROUND IRAQ

Al-Maleyia sewer system project underway

MOSUL, Iraq – A project to improve water drainage in the Al Maleyia neighborhood of Mosul is currently underway.

The storm drainage system will reduce flooding in the area and enhance the storm and sewer system in the neighborhood.

The Iraqi government-funded project includes the installation of new sewer pipes, manholes, retaining walls and drop inlets. The construction, which began in September and is scheduled to be completed in mid January 2009, will cost \$605,000 U.S.

“The Iraqi government continues to conduct projects such as this throughout the city and surrounding communities to improve the area’s infrastructure and the lives of the residents,” said Maj. Jonathan Simmons, civil affairs officer, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment.

IA Soldiers conduct Warfighter Training

NUMANIYA, Iraq – Iraqi Army soldiers began Warfighter Training at the Numaniya Regional Training Center in Wasit Province Nov. 1.

Soldiers from the from 2nd Battalion, 30th Brigade, 8th IA Division attending the course focused on platoon, company and battalion-level training, which developed into complex battlefield scenarios and security challenges.

“The training has been beneficial, testing our individual skills as well as how we work together as a unit,” said Wassam, an Iraqi Soldier, as he waited to take his turn with a shadowbox to practice his aim and shot-group placement with his newly fielded M-16 rifle.

He said aside from familiarizing and practicing with new weapons, the unit learned more about rifle marksmanship, tactical formations and movement, clearing buildings and objectives, maintaining and using humvees, and other tactics and procedures to better prepare them to do their jobs of keeping their country secure.

Land navigation and combat life saver courses were also conducted, as well as specialty courses such as mortar training, said Staff Sgt. Nick Schmidt, fire direction control chief attached to the 8th IA Div.’s training and advisory team.

“The training is similar to what we go through at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, Calif. prior to deployment,” said Schmidt.

The RTC allows the battalion to hone its overall battle skills and capabilities, he said. As the training escalates, each unit echelon learns how to better control the battlespace, facing the inherent challenges of communications and logistics.

“From the individual training all the way up through platoon, company and battalion training, the Soldiers can see how each part works toward the whole and how it all comes together,” said Schmidt.

The goal is to allow the different levels of command to work together more efficiently, so that less Coalition support is required for the Iraqis to conduct combat operations and maintain security in



Iraq.

“The idea is to make it so they can do what we can do— including military specialties— so they can work better beside us, and eventually without us,” said Schmidt.

Having arrived at the RTC for less than a month, Schmidt admitted that they are working through challenges, especially the language barrier; they work together at it, teaching each other and using interpreters. With the training team newly arrived, they are also in the process of evaluating the course for future improvements to the training.

Even with the challenges, the camaraderie is growing, and the U.S. Soldiers said they enjoy working with their Iraqi counterparts, who echoed the sentiment.

“We’re building good relations and I have outstanding job satisfaction here,” Schmidt said. “I get to apply my own mortar and combat skills and abilities, and I get teach them to others who are eager to learn.”

Schmidt and the other U.S. Soldiers are there mainly to advise and train the trainers, leaving the bulk of the training to the Iraqi officers and non-commissioned officers, said Lt. Mohammed, Special Forces Company, 2nd Bn., 30th Bde., 8th IA Div..

Mohammed, a former Iraqi Policeman, joined the Army two years ago and has trained with U.S. police and military transition teams since 2003.

“The U.S. Army is the best. We train with them, and we will also be the best,” said Mohammed, adding that he enjoys working with American Soldiers.

“We train together and fight together. We are just like a family. Thanks to the U.S.,” said Mohammed.

Within the next three months, six more IA battalions will conduct Warfighter Training at the RTC.

Mosul Public Service Academy expands to increase training

MOSUL, Iraq – Construction to increase the infrastructure for the Mosul Public Service Academy is underway in Mosul and upon completion will nearly double the training capacity.

The academy can currently accommodate about 500 recruits for the two-month course. The expansion and upgrades to the academy are scheduled to be completed in January 2009, which then will be able

to train up to 1,000 recruits per training session.

Capt. Tara Mahoney, provost marshal for the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, said the expansion is necessary to ensure the new police are trained and ready to move into the city and province, and have the required skills to accomplish their mission.

“There is a back log of untrained IPs,” she said. Because the academy provides training to all Iraqi Police in Ninewah and surrounding provinces, expanding the facility is needed to keep pace with the demand, she said.

There are three recruit training academies in northern Iraq. Along with the Mosul academy, two others are located in Kirkuk and Diyala provinces, she said. With so few training academies, recruits often have to travel to another province for training, which adds to the current extended waiting list for the recruits to attend the academy.

The construction for the MPSA is part of the \$18 million U.S. project that also includes the addition of the Mosul Police College to the campus. The MPSA will continue to train the police recruits who make up the force patrolling the streets, and the police college is the professional training program for the officers.

INPs respond to IED, provide medical assistance

BAGHDAD – Iraqi National Policemen responded to a roadside bomb blast Nov. 18 in southern Baghdad’s Rashid district.

INPs from the 3rd Battalion, 7th Brigade, 2nd NP Division, and Soldiers from Company A, 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, MND-B., arrived at the scene near an Iraqi primary school in the Masafee community at approximately 6 p.m. to find two wounded citizens, one a young girl.

The INPs immediately transported both wounded individuals to a nearby hospital for further medical treatment.

The Iraqi Security Forces held four individuals for questioning and released them from custody approximately 15-minutes later.

“The Iraqi Security Forces responded quickly and professionally to the scene to care for their fellow Iraqis,” said Maj. Dave Olson, spokesman 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Multi-National Division - Baghdad. “This despicable act by a cowardly enemy to place a bomb near a school left an innocent Iraqi girl hospitalized.”

The ISF are conducting an investigation to find the people responsible for the bombing.

MND-B Soldiers find hidden weapons during patrols

BAGHDAD –Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers seized caches in Baghdad Nov. 19 and 20.

While conducting a dismounted patrol northwest of Baghdad, Soldiers from Company C, 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, found a small cache hidden in a field at approximately 11:45 a.m. Nov. 19.

Their find consisted of three 122 mm high explosive rounds. An explosive ordnance detachment collected the rounds for disposal.

JB BALAD ACTIVITIES

INDOOR POOL

Swim Lessons:
 Mon., Wed., - 6 p.m.
 Tue., Thu., Sat., -
 6:30 p.m.
 Aqua Training:
 Tue., Thu., - 7:30 p.m.,
 8:30 p.m.

EAST FITNESS

CENTER

Open Court Volleyball:
 Sunday- 6 p.m.
 Aerobics:
 Mon., Wed., Fri.-
 5:30-6:30 a.m.
 Yoga Class:
 Mon., Fri.- 6-7 a.m.
 Step Aerobics:
 Mon., Wed., Fri.-
 5:30 p.m.
 Conditioning Training
 Class:
 Mon., Wed., Fri.- 7:15-
 8 p.m.
 Brazilian Jui-Jitsu:

Mon., Wed., Fri.-
 8-9 p.m.

Abs-Aerobics:
 Tue., Thu., 6-7 a.m.,
 5-6 p.m.
 Edge Weapons & Stick
 Fighting Combative
 Training:
 Tue., Thur., Sat., -
 8-10 p.m.

EAST RECREATION

CENTER

4-ball tourney:
 Sunday- 8 p.m.
 8-ball tourney:
 Monday- 8 p.m.
 Karaoke:
 Monday- 8 p.m.
 Swing Class:
 Tuesday- 8 p.m.
 Table Tennis:
 Tuesday- 8 p.m.
 9-ball tourney:
 Wednesday- 8 p.m.
 Dungeons & Dragons:

Thursday- 7:30 p.m.

Poetry Night:
 Thursday- 8 p.m.
 6-ball tourney:
 Thursday- 8 p.m.
 Caribbean Night:
 Friday- 8 p.m.
 Chess & Dominoes
 Tourney:
 Friday- 8 p.m.
 Salsa Class:
 Saturday- 8:30 p.m.
 Poker:
 Saturday- 7:30 p.m.

H6 FITNESS CENTER

Spin:
 Sunday- 9 a.m.
 Mon., Wed., Fri., - 2 a.m.,
 8 a.m. 2 p.m., 7 p.m.,
 9 p.m.
 Tue., Thu., - 5:45 a.m.,
 9 a.m., 8:30 p.m.
 Saturday- 9 a.m., 7 p.m.
 Boxing:
 Sunday- 4 p.m.

Tue., Thu., - 2 p.m.
 Boot Camp:

Sunday- 8:45 a.m.
 Tue., Thu., - 7 p.m.
 Power Abs:
 Mon., Tue., Thu., - 8 p.m.
 Friday- 9 p.m.
 CC Cross Fit:
 Monday-Saturday-
 10:30 p.m.
 Cross Fit:
 Mon., Wed., Fri., - 5:45
 a.m., 7 a.m., 3 p.m.,
 6 p.m.
 Tue., Thu., - 7 a.m.,
 3 p.m.
 Sunday- 5:45 a.m.,
 7 a.m., 3 p.m.
 P90x:
 Monday- Saturday- 4:30
 a.m., 4 p.m., 10 p.m.
 12 a.m.
 Soccer:
 Tue., Thu., - 8 p.m.
 Yoga:
 Wednesday- 8 p.m.
 MCAP Level 1:
 Friday- 8 p.m.
 5 on 5 Basketball:

Saturday- 8 p.m.

H6 RECREATION

CENTER

Bingo:
 Sunday- 8 p.m.
 Texas Hold'em:
 Mon., Fri., - 2 p.m.,
 8:30 p.m.
 8-ball tourney:
 Tuesday- 2 a.m.,
 8:30 p.m.
 Ping-pong tourney:
 Tuesday- 8:30 p.m.
 Spades:
 Wednesday- 2 a.m.,
 8:30 p.m.
 Salsa:
 Wednesday- 8:30 p.m.
 9-ball:
 Thursday- 2 a.m.,
 8:30 p.m.
 Karaoke:
 Thursday- 8:30 p.m.
 Dominos:
 Saturday- 8:30 p.m.
 Darts:
 Saturday- 8:30 p.m.

WEST RECREATION

CENTER

Green Bean Karaoke:
 Sun., Wed., 7:30pm
 9-ball tourney:
 Monday- 8 p.m.
 Ping-pong tourney:
 Tuesday- 8 p.m.
 Foosball tourney:
 Tuesday- 8 p.m.
 Jam Session:
 Tuesday- 7:30 p.m.
 8-ball tourney:
 Wednesday- 8 p.m.
 Guitar Lessons:
 Thursday- 7:30 p.m.
 Game tourney:
 Thursday- 1 p.m., 8 p.m.
 Enlisted Poker:
 Friday- 1 p.m., 8 p.m.
 Officer Poker:
 Saturday- 1 p.m., 8 p.m.
 Squat Competition:
 Saturday- 8 p.m.

WEST FITNESS

CENTER

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

6 on 6 volleyball
 tourney:

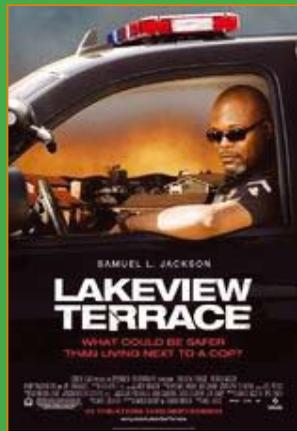
Friday- 7 p.m.
 Aerobics:
 Monday, Wednesday,
 Friday- 7 p.m.
 Body by Midgett Toning
 Class:
 Tue., Thu., - 7 p.m.
 Dodge ball Game:
 Tuesday- 7:30 p.m.
 Furman's Martial Arts:
 Mon., Wed., Sun., - 1 p.m.
 Gaston's Self-Defense
 Class:
 Fri., Sat.- 7 p.m.
 Open court basketball:
 Thursday- 7 p.m.
 Open court soccer:
 Mon., Wed., - 7 p.m.
 Zingano Brazilian Jui
 Jitsu:
 Tue., Thu., - 8:30 p.m.

CIRCUIT GYM

Floor hockey:
 Mon., Wed., Fri., -
 8-10 p.m

SUSTAINER REEL TIME THEATER

LAKEVIEW TERRACE



An interracial couple moves into their California dream home, only to find themselves the target of their volatile next-door neighbor -- a racist LAPD officer -- in this tightly wound thriller starring Samuel L. Jackson and Kerry Washington. Newlyweds Chris and Lisa seem like they have the perfect marriage and now, with their new home in the exclusive community Lakeview Terrace, the perfect life as well, but things soon turn ugly in the posh neighborhood when they begin to receive threats from their neighbor Abel, a middle-aged

LAPD officer who has obvious objections to the couple's interracial marriage. What starts as an attitude problem soon morphs into full-on harassment, and before long the couple finds that their worries go far beyond their property values -- or the encroaching California wildfire burning in view of their community -- as they begin to fear for their lives. ~ Jason Buchanan, All Movie Guide

BOLT

For super-dog BOLT (John Travolta), every day is filled with adventure, danger and intrigue - at least until the cameras stop rolling. When the star of a hit TV show is accidentally shipped from his Hollywood soundstage to New York City, he begins his biggest adventure yet - a cross-country journey through the real world to get back to his owner and co-star, Penny (Miley Cyrus). Armed only with the delusions that all his amazing feats and powers are real, and the help of two unlikely traveling companions -- a jaded, abandoned housecat named Mittens (Susie Essman) and a TV-obsessed hamster named Rhino (Mark Walton) -- Bolt discovers he doesn't need superpowers to be a hero.



Movie Times

Wednesday, November 26

5 p.m. Quantum of Solace (NR)
 8 p.m. Eagle Eye (PG-13)

Thursday, November 27

5 p.m. Bolt (PG)
 8 p.m. Quantum of Solace (NR)

Friday, November 28

2 p.m. Bolt (PG)
 5 p.m. Lakeview Terrace (PG-13)

8:30 p.m. Body of Lies (R)

Saturday, November 29

2 p.m. Quarantine (R)
 5 p.m. Body of Lies (R)
 8 p.m. Lakeview Terrace (PG-13)

Sunday, November 30

2 p.m. Body of Lies (R)
 5 p.m. Bolt (PG)

Monday, December 1

5 p.m. Eagle Eye
 8 p.m. Flash of Genius

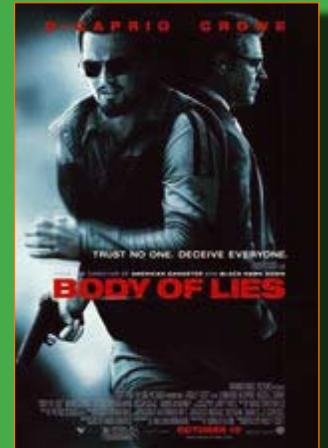
Tuesday, December 2

5 p.m. Beverly Hills Chihuahua
 8 p.m. Quantum of Solace

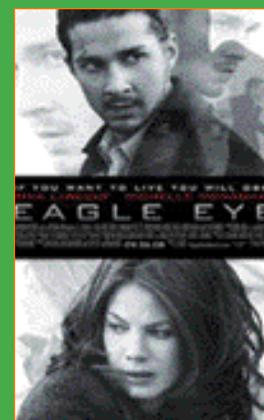
(Schedule is subject to change)

BODY OF LIES

Based on Washington Post columnist David Ignatius' 2007 novel about a CIA operative, Roger Ferris (Leonardo DiCaprio), who uncovers a lead on a major terrorist leader suspected to be operating out of Jordan. When Ferris devises a plan to infiltrate his network, he must first win the backing of cunning CIA veteran Ed Hoffman (Russell Crowe) and the collegial, but perhaps suspect, head of Jordanian intelligence. Although ostensibly his allies, Ferris questions how far he can really trust these men without putting his entire operation - and his life - on the line.



Eagle Eye



Jacob Shaw (Shia LaBeouf) and Rachel Holloman (Michelle Monaghan) are two strangers thrown together by a mysterious phone call from a woman they have never met. Threatening their lives and family, she pushes Jerry and Rachel into a series of increasingly dangerous situations - using the technology of everyday life to track and control their every move. As the situation escalates, these two ordinary people become the country's most wanted fugitives, who must work together to discover what is really happening - and more importantly, why.

STUPID STATE LAWS

Ever wonder just how dumb things can be? Does your state have dumb laws? Read on and find out. We at the Expeditionary Times will have a series of dumb and stupid laws for each state.

Many of the laws have been verified, but many have been taken from sources which do not include law citations. The laws cited below have been taken from news groups, web sites and city governments. Remember, something had to have happened to get these laws passed. Some laws have been repealed, but not all; some are still on the books.

UTAH

- It is illegal not to drink milk.
- It is a felony to persistently tread on the cracks between paving stones on the sidewalk of a state highway.
- No one may have sex in the back of an ambulance if it is responding to an emergency call.

Oregon

- One may not test their physical endurance while driving a car on a highway.
- An adult may not show a minor any piece of classical artwork which depicts sexual excitement.

Sudoku

The objective is to fill the 9x9 grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3x3 boxes contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.

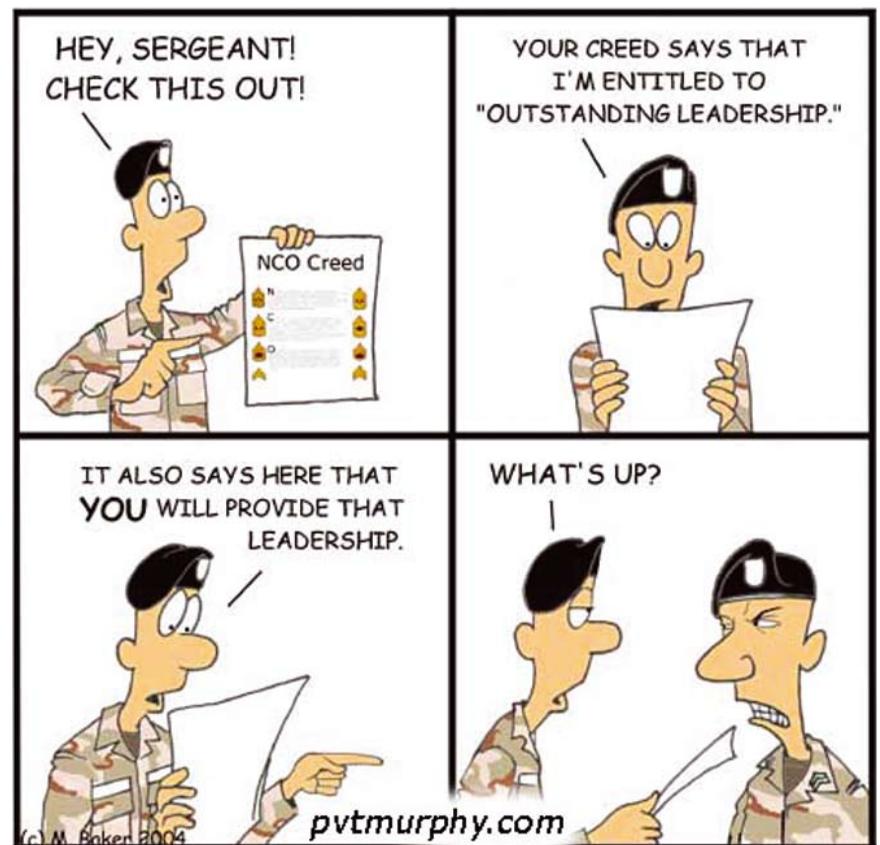
Level: Very Hard

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

Last weeks answers

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

PVT. MURPHY'S LAW



Iraq according to Opet



UPCOMING SPORTS ON AFN

Wednesday 11/26/08

Maui Invitational - Semifinal: Teams TBD, Live 3 a.m. AFN/sports
 ESPN2 Primetime College Football: Navy @ Northern Illinois, Live 3 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Maui Invitational - Semifinal: Teams TBD, Live 5:30 a.m. AFN/sports
 O'Reilly Auto Parts CBE Classic - Championship Game: Teams TBD, Live 6 a.m. AFN/xtra
 ESPN2 Primetime College Football: Navy @ Northern Illinois, Tape Delayed 11 a.m. AFN/sports
 NFL RePLAY - Game 1: Teams TBD * 90-Minute Fast-Paced Game of the week, Tape Delayed 5:30 p.m. AFN/sports
 New Jersey Nets @ Los Angeles Lakers, Tape Delayed 10 p.m. AFN/sports

Thursday 11/27/08

Boston Bruins @ Buffalo Sabres, Live 3 a.m. AFN/xtra
 NBA Wednesday: Orlando Magic @ Philadelphia 76ers, Live 3:30 a.m. AFN/sports
 Maui Invitational - Championship: Teams TBD, Live 6 a.m. AFN/sports
 Miami Heat @ Portland Trail Blazers, Live 6 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Chicago Bulls @ San Antonio Spurs, Tape Delayed 11 a.m. AFN/sports
 NFL RePLAY - Game 3: Teams TBD * 90-Minute Fast-Paced Game of the, Tape Delayed 3 p.m. AFN/sports
 NFL RePLAY - Game 4: Teams TBD * 90-Minute Fast-THANKSGIVING CLASSICS: Tennessee Titans @ Detroit Lions 8:30 p.m. AFN/sports

Friday 11/28/08

THANKSGIVING CLASSICS: Tennessee Titans @ Detroit Lions 12 p.m. AFN/sports
 ESPN College Football Primetime: Texas A&M @ Texas, Live 4 a.m. AFN/xtra
 NBA on TNT: New Orleans Hornets @ Denver Nuggets (JIP), Live 7 a.m. AFN/xtra
 NBA on TNT: New Orleans Hornets @ Denver Nuggets, Tape Delayed 11:30 a.m. AFN/sports
 THANKSGIVING CLASSICS: Arizona Cardinals @ Philadelphia Eagles, Tape Delayed 3 p.m. AFN/sports
 West Virginia @ Pittsburgh, Live 8 p.m. AFN/sports
 Colorado @ Nebraska, Live 11:30 p.m. AFN/sports

Saturday 11/29/08

ESPN2 College Football Primetime: Fresno State @ Boise State (JIP), Live 2:30 a.m. AFN/sports
 NBA Friday: Miami Heat @ Phoenix Suns, Live 4 a.m. AFN/xtra
 San Jose Sharks @ Dallas Stars, Live 4:30 a.m. AFN/primepacific
 ESPN2 College Football Primetime: UCLA @ Arizona State, Live 5:30 a.m. AFN/sports
 NBA Friday: Dallas Mavericks @ Los Angeles Lakers, Live 6:30 a.m. AFN/xtra
 NIT - Championship: Teams TBD, Tape Delayed 11 a.m. AFN/sports
 SEC on CBS: LSU @ Arkansas, Tape Delayed 2 p.m.

AFN/sports
 College Football: Teams TBD, Live 8 p.m. AFN/prime atlantic
 College Football: Teams TBD, Live 8 p.m. AFN/ports
 College Football: Teams TBD, Live 8 p.m. AFN/xtra
 College Football: Teams TBD, Live 11 p.m. AFN/prime atlantic
 College Football: Teams TBD, Live 11 p.m. AFN/sports
 College Football: Teams TBD, Live 11 p.m. AFN/xtra
 College Football: Teams TBD, Live 11:30 p.m. AFN/prime atlantic
 College Football: Teams TBD, Live 11:30 p.m. AFN/sports
 College Football: Teams TBD, Live 11:30 p.m. AFN/xtra

Sunday 11/30/08

College Football: Teams TBD, Live 4 a.m. AFN/prime atlantic
 College Football: Teams TBD, Live 4 a.m. AFN/sports
 College Football: Teams TBD, Live 4 a.m. AFN/xtra
 College Football: Teams TBD, Live 11 a.m. AFN/sports
 HBO World Boxing - Junior Middleweight: Paul Williams vs Verno Phillips, Tape Delayed 3 p.m. AFN/sports
 NFL Week 13: Teams TBD, Live 9 p.m. AFN/prime atlantic
 NFL Week 13: Teams TBD, Live 9 p.m. AFN/sports
 NFL Week 13: Teams TBD, Live 9 p.m. AFN/xtra

Monday 12/01/08

NFL Week 13: Teams TBD, Live 12 a.m. AFN/prime atlantic
 NFL Week 13: Teams TBD, Live 12 a.m. AFN/sports
 NFL Week 13: Teams TBD, Live 12 a.m. AFN/xtra
 AMA Motocross Lites: Steel City, Tape Delayed 3 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Houston Rockets @ Denver Nuggets, Live 4 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Old Spice Classic - Championship Game: Teams TBD (Orlando, FL), Live 4 a.m. AFN/prime atlantic
 NBC Sunday Night Football - Week 13: Chicago Bears @ Minnesota Vikings, Live 4:15 a.m. AFN/sports
 Week 13: Teams TBD, Tape Delayed 10 a.m. AFN/xtra
 NBC Sunday Night Football - Week 13: Chicago Bears @ Minnesota Vikings, Tape Delayed 2 p.m. AFN/sports
 Week 13: Teams TBD, Tape Delayed 6 p.m. AFN/xtra
 NBC Sunday Night Football - Week 13: Chicago Bears @ Minnesota Vikings, Tape Delayed 9 p.m. AFN/sports

Tuesday 12/02/08

NHL on Versus: Colorado Avalanche @ Minnesota Wild, Live 4 a.m. AFN/xtra
 ESPN Monday Night Football - Week 13: Jacksonville Jaguars @ Houston Texans, Live 4:30 AFN/sports
 Toronto Maple Leafs @ Los Angeles Kings, Live 6:30 a.m. AFN/xtra
 ESPN Monday Night Football - Week 13: Jacksonville Jaguars @ Houston Texans, Tape Delayed 1 p.m. AFN/sports
 Orlando Magic @ Boston Celtics, Tape Delayed 5 p.m. AFN/sports
 ESPN Monday Night Football - Week 13: Jacksonville Jaguars @ Houston Texans, Tape Delayed 9 p.m. AFN/sports



AROUND BALAD



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kiyoshi Freeman

ABOVE: Air Force Staff Sgt. Alaina Muehlhauser, a medical technician, poses with a photograph of the former hospital's emergency room, while standing inside the emergency room at the Air Force Theater Hospital on Nov. 13. In 2006, Muehlhauser worked inside the emergency room featured in the picture before the new hospital was built.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kiyoshi Freeman

ABOVE: Spc. David McGhee from B Company, 834th Aviation Support Battalion, sands a piece of lumber at the Self Help shop Nov. 22. McGhee and other Soldiers from the 834th ASB are building a podium for their first sergeant.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Mario A. Aguirre

ABOVE: Special Agent Joe D. Demalis, with the Air Force Office of Special Investigation, and Spc. Chad T. James, with the 74th Multi Role Bridge Company, demonstrate how to pass an opponent's guard in the No-Gi Jiu-Jitsu class instructed by James at the East Fitness Center on Joint Base Balad, Iraq, Nov. 19. The No-Gi Jiu-Jitsu classes are held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8 p.m. in the East Fitness Center.



LEFT: Instructors pose with the 21 graduating students of Modern Army Combatives Level II Class 04-08 here at the East Side Gym on Nov. 15. Attended by Soldiers with the 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), the students completed 80 hours of instruction over a two-week period. A train-the-trainer program, the graduating students are now certified and may assist with platoon-level combatives training.

U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kiyoshi Freeman