



The Mountain View



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Soldier Edition

February 12, 2009

An issue dedicated to Soldiers' stories

MNF-I CSM visits Warhorse Soldiers



Photo by Sgt. Rodney Foliante

Command Sgt. Maj. Lawrence Wilson (right), MNF-I senior enlisted leader, pounds fists with a Soldier during a coin ceremony for 2-8 Inf., 2nd BCT, at Camp Echo.

4TH BCT, 1ST CAV. DIV.



CAMP ECHO – Command Sgt. Maj. Lawrence Wilson, Multi-National Forces – Iraq senior-enlisted leader, visited with Soldiers and senior brigade non-commissioned officers from 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, in Diwaniya Feb. 7.

Wilson presented a number of Soldiers with coins during his visit, spending time with each of the brigade's three battalions in the area.

He applauded the efforts of the Soldiers in working to professionalize the Iraqi Security Forces. He said the ISF security for the elections ensured a safe opportunity for the Iraqis to vote and demonstrated the ISF capability to

maintain security, which is a testament to the work of the U.S. and Coalition Soldiers in helping the Iraqi Army and Police to get to that level.

Wilson emphasized the importance of helping one another, especially those that may be undergoing personal issues or troubles back home. He stressed

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Deployed father, Son aviators spend time together

By SPC. TIFFANY EVANS
MND-C



CAMP VICTORY – Two generations of Army pilots were able to spend time together in Iraq, though they served in different units.

Chief Warrant Officer Tom Driscoll, a native of Winthrop, Maine, and Capt. John Driscoll II, a native of Gloucester, Maine were both stationed in Tallil, Iraq from June until September of this year.

Tom, a medical evacuation pilot with Company C, 1st Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment, last saw his son Thanksgiving, 2007 before running into him at Tallil.

“While I was at Camp Adder, my father and I were able to hang out at lunch, dinner and occasionally after work,” said John, G-3 Air battle major, 10th Mountain Division. “We were able to spend Father’s Day and my birthday together while I was there.”

While the son was working in the command section at Camp Adder, his father lived at Sparrow Hawk, ready for any mission that may arise.

“John had the nice chow hall, air-conditioning and bed while I was sleeping on a cot at a forward site eating rations,” Tom said. “In September, I moved to Camp Delta in Wasit Province to take a spot for another pilot on mid-tour leave.”

In October, John took a three day break to visit his father at Camp Delta, the visit may be the last chance they will get to see each other in Iraq.

“At Delta, we were able to hang-out, relax and chat with my mom, wife and kids on a web camera with both of us present,” John said. “One day, we took



Courtesy Photo

Capt. John Driscoll II and Chief Warrant Officer Tom Driscoll pose by the Camp Adder sign in June. John is a native of Gloucester, Maine, and G-3 Air battle major for the 10th Mtn. Div. Tom is a native of Winthrop, Maine, and MEDEVAC pilot with Company C, 1st Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment.

a long bike ride around the camp’s perimeter and took lots of pictures together to send home to our Family.”

They explored old bunkers and bombed out hangers while on the ride. Mostly, they hung out at the MEDEVAC living area with fellow Soldiers from Maine.

“I play guitar, and both John and I sing; so we recorded some kid’s songs for his twins Hannah and Eve, 3, and his new baby, Lillie, 6 months,” Tom said. “Also, I took several photos of

John playing for the girls. They think that we are in the desert trying to rescue ‘The Princess.’ The twins are into Barbie Doll princesses, and my son concocted that story to help explain his absence.”

John will try to attend his father’s going away ceremony here in December if the mission permits. If not, they will see each other on John’s mid-tour leave at Lillie’s Christening.

“This is both my father’s and my second deployment, but the first time we’ve been in country together,” John said. “It’s been surreal being able to physically be in the same location in a war zone as father and son.”

Not many people get the opportunity to serve in war time with their fathers, let alone be in the same theatre and get the chance to be in the same location, said John.

“It’s been a very unique and emotional experience. It made both of us proud,” John said. “Looking back, it will make a great story to tell the Family, and even further in the future, when I tell my grandchildren stories about Iraq and how their grandfather and great-grandfather served together in Operation Iraqi Freedom.”

Tom is very proud of his son for carrying on the Family tradition of military service.

“My dad was a B-17 bomber pilot in World War II flying missions with the 8th Army Air Force from England over France and Germany. He was 21 at the time of his combat missions,” Tom said.

“My son, a third generation Army pilot, is named after his grandfather and proudly carries on our Family’s military heritage.”

THE Mountain View

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Task Force 449



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Senior NCO makes difference in Bedouin community

CAPT. ROBIN WORCH
4TH BCT, 1ST CAV. DIV.



COB ADDER – At least once each week, a small group of Coalition Soldiers drives past a diminutive Bedouin school in southern Iraq's Dhi Qar Province.

Recently, that group, led by Command Sgt. Maj. William May, 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division senior enlisted leader, delivered bottled water, soccer balls and school supplies to the children who spend their days in the almost barren classrooms of the school.

"I couldn't believe that these children were living out here in this area and drinking river water," said May, from Monument Beach, Mass. "I decided that it was about time someone paid attention to this and did something."

The school, made of three mud-hut rooms, houses the province's Ministry of Education as well as the elementary school for all the children in the local area. The building is maintained by only four faculty members who also provide instruction for all levels of primary education.

The school's principal and primary instructor said this was a great day for the Bedouin children, who live in an Iraqi community of families who tend to move around the desert tending



Photo by Capt. Robin Worch

2nd Lt. Christopher Doyle, a native of Parker, Colo., assigned to the 2nd Bn., 12th Cav. Regt., 4th BCT, 1st Cav. Div., delivers bottled water to children at a small Bedouin school near COB Adder.

sheep or camels.

The kids rarely receive any visitors; especially U.S. Soldiers bearing donations of water and school supplies.

According to the principal, the 2nd Bn., 12th Cav. Soldiers gave the chil-

dren an unforgettable experience.

May has future plans for the area and the school, which include water purification and more school supplies, and possible expansion of the school house itself.

CSM

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that Soldiers needing assistance should seek it. The Army provides many avenues to help those Soldiers. Seeking help is not a sign of weakness and there is a great deal of strength within the Army that Soldiers in need can lean upon, he said.

"We can help those folks; Soldiers taking care of Soldiers. We all have jobs to do. We've got to look at our Soldiers and our buddies. This is who we depend upon. This is who we trust," said Wilson. "Take care of each other. Whatever rank you are, we need you to look out for each other. I need your help so we can help each other and get back home to our families."

He surprised many Soldiers because he took the time from his busy schedule to talk to them individually, asking about their families, their service and taking an interest in their personal lives.

He joked with them, gave high fives, bumped fists and gave opportunities for Soldiers to ask him any questions

they might have.

"It helped to hear that we're doing a good job and that the elections went really well. He also let us know that the transfer to the Iraqi government is going well, which means that we might not have to come back out here again," said Spc. Sean Glynn, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Special Troops Battalion, 2nd BCT combat medic.

"He pumped up the morale of the Soldiers and kept touching upon how important our families are to the military," said Glynn, who comes from Cape May, N.J.

"The impact of his visit was very positive on the Soldiers. He came down here in good spirit and I think he conveyed why we're here very well. With this being the Year of the Noncommissioned Officer, his message was to push the young NCOs forward to do what they are trained to do: accomplish the mission and take care of Soldiers," said 1st Sgt. Perry Reed, Co. B, 2nd Combined Arms Bn., 8th Infantry Regiment, 2nd BCT.

"It was good for the Soldiers to have him visit. The Soldiers appreciated it and I appreciated it at my level," said Reed, who comes from New Haven, Conn.

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Angels
Beak
Beguiling
Bird
Black
Bleak
Burning
Bust
Chamber
Croaking
Darkness
December

Door
Dreams
Dreary
Ebony
Entrance
Eyes
Feather
Fiend
Flitting
Flutter
Fowl
Ghastly

Grim
Heart
Horror
Lattice
Lenore
Lore
Maiden
Melancholy
Midnight
Mortal
Mystery
Nameless

Napping
Nepenthe
Nevermore
Ominous
Pallas
Pallid
Perched
Placid
Plume
Plutonian
Prophet
Quaff

Quoth
Radiant
Rapping
Raven
Rustling
Shadow
Shutter
Soul
Tapping
Visitor
Weary
Wind

AROUND THE COMMUNITY

Lion's Den

Feb. 12
Karaoke @ 8 p.m.
Fridays
"Gospel Hour: Moments of Joy"
@ noon

Fishbowl Gym

Feb. 12
Full Body Aerobics @ 6 a.m.
Feb. 14
Valentine's Day fun run.
Registration from 7 a.m. - 8 a.m. Race start @ 8 a.m.
March 27
Relay for Life HOPE Ceremony
@ 8 p.m.
March 28
Cancer awareness 5K/10K walk run. Free t-shirt and continental breakfast. Race begins @ 7 a.m.

Freedom Chapel

Violin teacher needed. Contact Col. Andrew Baan (Andrew baan@iraq.centcom.mil) for more information.

Liberty

Feb. 22
Sweet 16 5 K Run. Race begins at "Z" Lake @ 7 a.m. FREE T-shirts to the top 115 finishers. POC: Spc. Daniel Balderas 485-0411 or daniel.balderas@iraq.cent-com.mil

Babylon Theatre

Feb. 16
Newcomers Brief @ 1 p.m.
Feb. 17
Fire Warden Course @ 1 p.m.
Feb. 18
Fire Extinguisher Class @ 1 p.m.

The Norris Roundhouse

"Chuck Norris destroyed the periodic table, because he only recognizes the element of surprise."

