



www.taskforcemountain.com

February 13, 2009

## EOD member drops bomb on Guinness World Record



Photo by Sgt. Rodney Foliente

Navy Lt. Jonathan Kehoe, commander, Plt. 602, 63rd Bn., EOD Mobilization Unit 6, based out of Little Creek, Va., and attached to 2nd BCT, 4th Inf. Div., crosses the finish line in 10 minutes and 13 seconds for the Guinness World Record for the fastest mile in a bomb suit at Camp Echo. Kehoe comes from Leadville, Colo.

**SGT. RODNEY FOLIENTE**  
2ND BCT, 4TH INF. DIV.,



CAMP ECHO – Servicemembers and most runners probably would not be very impressed with a mile run in just over 10 minutes. But, add to the equation a 75-pound bomb suit made of stiff material, factor in the added heat from wearing it and add a pair of rubber over-boots; and it becomes a different story.

The heavy-plated bomb suit is designed to protect its wearer from an explosion. Its stiffness allows for enough dexterity and agility to accomplish their missions, but was

never designed for fast, sustained movement.

The average person would not even think of running in one. Then again, the average person runs away from bombs, while explosive ordnance disposal team members are willing to put themselves in harm's way for the welfare and safety of others. They can hardly be called average.

Navy Lt. Jonathan Kehoe, commander, Platoon 602, 63rd Battalion, EOD Mobilization Unit 6, based out of Little Creek, Va., and attached to 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, decided to run for a Guinness World Record for the fastest mile in a bomb suit at Camp Echo Feb. 2.

**See Record, page 3**

# Fuel, ammo specialists keep aircraft in the fight

CAPT. KATHERINE O. ZYLA  
TF 449



CAMP TAJI – A diverse group of Soldiers help ensure aviation crews are always ready to conduct show of force, reconnaissance and presence patrols throughout Multi-National Division - Center.

Soldiers of the Distribution Platoon with 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 4th Aviation Regiment are responsible for the battalion's fuel, water and ammunition.

The platoon is made up of petroleum supply and ammunition specialists as well as truck drivers, who are all critical to battalion operations.

"We are the unheard giant," said 2nd. Lt. James A. Barnett, Distribution Platoon leader. "Our helicopters fly missions every day to help keep guys on the ground safe; we help keep our air crews safe and operational by providing them with fuel and ammunition."

The Soldiers have pumped more than 830,000 gallons (\$1.76 million) of fuel, managed 48 Hellfire missiles valued at \$16.8 million and delivered more than 233 pallets of water, valued at \$1.5 million, in the eight months they have been in theater.

"The aircrews do not have the time to think about loading ammunition and fuel, or the effort it takes to arm the helicopter with missiles and get the helicopter where it needs to be. Our goal is to help them be fully functional," said Barnett, a Marietta, Ga., native.

Aviation operations are constant and the Distribution Platoon operates 24 hours a day.

Generally, the Soldiers work 12-hour

shifts, ensuring the AH-64D Apache Helicopters have fuel and ammunition and the battalion has water and chow.

The platoon's aviation fuelers pump approximately 300 gallons of cold gas per aircraft. Cold gas is pumped after pilots have completed a mission and the aircraft is shut down.

The fuelers are also capable of setting up a Forward Arming and Refueling Point and conducting hot-refueling missions, where the helicopter lands while remaining powered-up, gets refueled and back in the air within minutes.

The fuelers currently have a static set up, where they pump cold gas; however, they have the capability to be mobile, which offers aviation units flexibility.

"We can set up where the aircraft need us, to reach out and touch them," said Sgt. Michael T. Square, petroleum supply specialist and Moore, Okla., native "Without fuel, helicopters cannot fly – they turn into expensive paper weights."

The Apache's primary mission is to conduct rear, close and shaping missions as well as conduct distribution operations, precision strikes against relocatable targets and to provide armed reconnaissance when required.

"In the eight months we have been here, we have had no failed missions, every helicopter has received its ammunition and there has been good accountability," said Sgt. Johnathen D. Morgan, an ammunition specialist and an Everett, Wash., native.

The platoon focuses on cross training its Soldiers because they are called to do many different missions.

"We never know when one of our Sol-

diers could be tasked to set up a FARP, work at a different Forward Operating Base, etc.," said Barnett, "My guys still have to be able to meet mission requirements here because the battalion cannot conduct operations without fuel and ammunition."

The ammunition specialists and fuelers are not the only ones who have to cross train; the platoon's truck drivers have also learned how to re-fuel an aircraft.

"I have enjoyed learning something different, it makes the time go faster," said Staff Sgt. Phillip L. Parker, a truck driver, who is primarily responsible for picking up and delivering water and chow.

The Colombia, S.C. native also added, "Learning new skills, makes my job unique, and it gives us (truck drivers) an opportunity for a little friendly competition to see how much fuel we can pump compared to the fuelers."



Courtesy photo

A petroleum supply specialist with 1-4 Attack Reconnaissance Battalion refuels an AH-64D Apache Helicopter at Camp Taji. The fuelers are part of the battalion's distribution platoon and have pumped more than 830,000 gallons of fuel during their eight months in Iraq.

## THE Mountain View

**The Mountain View is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of The Mountain View are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 10th Mountain Division. All editorial content of The Mountain View is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Task Force Mountain Public Affairs Office.**

## TASK FORCE MOUNTAIN PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Commanding General - MAJ. GEN. MICHAEL L. OATES

Command Sergeant Major - COMMAND SGT. MAJ. JAMES W. REDMORE

### Editorial Staff

TF Mountain PAO — Lt. Col. Paul Swiergosz  
OIC, Command Information – Maj. Page Baldwin  
NCOIC – Staff Sgt. Dave Lankford  
Managing Editor – Sgt. Derek Smith  
Copy Editor – Spc. Josh LeCappelain  
Editor/Design – Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw  
Photo Editor – Pfc. Tyler Maulding  
Staff Writers – Sgt. Frank Vaughn,  
Spc. Darryl Montgomery, Spc. Tiffany Evans



### Contributing Units

172nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team  
2nd BCT, 4th Infantry Division  
4th BCT, 1st Cavalry Division  
41st Fires Brigade  
343rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment  
793rd Military Police Battalion  
Division Special Troops Battalion, 10th Mtn. Div.  
Task Force 449

Media queries please contact TF Mountain Public Affairs at MND-Center\_PAO@iraq.centcom.mil

# RECORD

From page 1

With a crowd of their Iraqi EOD counterparts, service-members and U.S. contractors cheering him on, Kehoe completed the mile in 10 minutes and 13 seconds, beating his target time by almost three minutes.

"We did some brainstorming and came up with the idea of setting the new Guinness World Record for the fastest one-mile bomb suit run. It's just a matter of whether the Guinness World Records will accept it or not," said Kehoe. He already holds one record for the fastest mile while carrying an egg on a spoon.

But the true purpose of the event was to draw a crowd for a fund-raiser benefitting the EOD Memorial and Scholarship Foundation and to commemorate fallen EOD members.

"We as a team decided we wanted to do something special for the EOD memorial," added Kehoe, who comes from Leadville, Colo. "The EOD memorial celebrates the lives of those (EOD members) who've made the ultimate sacrifice to bring the freedom that (many) take for granted every single day. It's a tribute to them and our way to give back to their Families and show them that we're thinking of them."

The memorial, located at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., was constructed in 1999 and features the names of the fallen EOD members since the declaration of World War II.

Kehoe and the rest of his team said they were glad to be able to help raise funds and honor the fallen in their own way. Some of them commented that although remembering their deaths is a somber time, remembering their lives and their selfless dedication should be something to celebrate.

Since many would consider the type of people who do what they do as different, why not do something different to honor their fallen; hence, the bomb suit run.

Members of the 8th Iraqi Army Division EOD were invited to the event as the guests of honor. They cheered him on with the rest of the crowd, one served as an official timer and some even ran part of the mile to show their support and encouragement.

The joint EOD teams have a great relationship, both working and professional, said Kehoe. Together they've detonated a dozen or more explosive devices since the unit arrived in Iraq three months ago.

Kehoe said he loves his job and is excited to be able to work with the Iraqi Security Forces and teach them the techniques to do their jobs better for their own safety as well as that of their co-workers and civilians. His unit has primarily been working with the 8th IA Div. EOD team and he really wanted to share the event with them.

"I've been very impressed with them and their ability to do EOD. They're professionals and the 8th Iraqi Army (Div. EOD team) is the team that all other Army units are looking to as an example of where they need to be."

Many of the IA EOD said they were honored to be a part of the event.

"It was awesome to get the IA EOD out here. We're building a great deal of trust and developing good relationships,"

said EOD 2 William Young, Plt. 602.

Kehoe trained for the event for two months, with EOD members from both nationalities encouraging and helping him during that time.

"People don't realize how much physical training we go through as EOD. He made us all proud. With the crowd cheering and all, it gave him a big boost. He surpassed what I expected," said Young, who hails from Belle Plaine, Kan.

Now it is just a matter of whether or not the Guinness World Records accepts his claim. Either way, to Kehoe it was worth it to continue building the relationships with the Iraqis,

get the Camp Echo residents out to honor the fallen EOD members and earn money for the memorial and scholarship funds.

"I just wanted to tell the family members of those who have given the ultimate sacrifice that we pray for you every day and we can never do enough to thank you," finished Kehoe.

*"I just wanted to tell the family members of those who have given the ultimate sacrifice that we pray for you every day and we can never do enough to thank you."*

— Navy Lt. Jonathan Kehoe  
2nd BCT, 4th Inf. Div.



Photo by Sgt. Rodney Foliente

Navy Lt. Jonathan Kehoe, commander, Plt. 602, 63rd Bn., EOD Mobilization Unit 6, based out of Little Creek, Va., and attached to 2nd BCT, 4th Inf. Div., runs for the Guinness World Record for the fastest mile in a bomb suit at Camp Echo. Kehoe comes from Leadville, Colo.

## Staff Section Round-up

# Rules, Standards and Policies

“What we’ve got here is a failure to communicate”...for those of us over forty this is a memorable line from a great movie, for some of the younger generation it may be a line from a Guns and Roses song, and for those who don’t get it you’re just young. To me it represents:

- every Soldier I see running on the incorrect side of the road in the morning.
- every Soldier I see coming out of the gym with their head phones on or dangling from the front of the PT shirt.
- every Soldier who wears their hat in the gym or can’t tuck in their shirt.
- every Soldier with their hands in their pockets.
- every Soldier who doesn’t salute or give a greeting “Climb to Glory” etc.
- every Soldier in the DFAC with a hat on (less the DFAC employees) or their green or black fleece unzipped.
- every NCO who has let them walk by without making a correction.

- every BLOG entry that says Soldiers have no standards in the “new Army” or blames the lack of standards on deployments.

I think you get the picture. Some days, I think it is time to make radical change, get rid of uniform standards. Think of the money we can save by not having to update AR 670-1. We’ve got civilian contractors and employees wearing every combination of the uniform as they please. The black and green fleece are as much for civilian wear as military and let’s face it, if Soldier’s got it issued they are going to wear it.

As Soldiers and Leaders our responsibility is to make corrections when we know any of the above are being violated. So next time don’t walk by. Professionally, make the correction and then go about your business.

If you want to know the title of the movie, find someone in your section who is 40 or over and ask, I would be hard pressed to believe they don’t know.

*Thanks, Your IG Team*

## 14 Soldiers compete for the title of Kalsu Idol

PFC. BETHANY L. LITTLE  
172ND INF. BDE



**FOB KALSU** – “American Idol” is the hit TV show in which contestants showcase their singing abilities in a competition for fame. Although FOB Kalsu isn’t Hollywood, 14 Soldiers had their chance to shine by singing their hearts out to win “Kalsu Idol” here Feb. 5.

Instead of Soldiers winning over the audiences, they had to win the hearts and votes of the judges.

Keeping in the spirit of the TV show, the judges depicted the original hosts of “American Idol.” The judges also volunteered to be the ones who would decide the fate of the contestants.

The competition began with a variety of songs, ranging from “Lady Marmalade” to “We Belong Together” to “Tom Sawyer.”

Following their performances, contestants faced the judges for praise or constructive criticism.

Comments such as “great job,” “keep up the hard work” and “this wasn’t the best song for your voice,” were some of the remarks

the judges made.

The top three singers, Air Force Tech Sgt. Chyrece Campbell, 1st Lt. Jasmin Smith and Staff Sgt. Joshua S. Green, performed one last song in a final round to decide who would become the Kalsu Idol.

Winning by one point and singing “Here Without You” and “La Bamba,” Green, a combat security detachment squad leader of the 204th Brigade Support Battalion became the Kalsu Idol.

“I’m pretty excited,” Green said. “I love to sing and tonight was about having fun, not winning.” As winner of Kalsu Idol, Green will have the opportunity to sing with Fresh, a band from Los Angeles, who will perform on FOB Kalsu Feb. 12.

“Tonight’s competition was exciting, but choosing the winner was a tough decision,” said Staff Sgt. Nicholas C. Guerrero, one of the judges and a native of Houston, Texas.

“This was a great experience for me and I’m glad I was a part of Kalsu Idol,” said Green.



Photo by Pfc. Bethany L. Little  
Staff Sgt. Joshua Green performs “Here Without You” during the competition for Kalsu Idol at the Blackhawk Inn dining facility.

# Headline Round-up

## World News:

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. - Two big communications satellites collided in the first-ever crash of two intact spacecraft in orbit, shooting out a pair of massive debris clouds and posing a slight risk to the international space station. NASA said it will take weeks to determine the full magnitude of the crash, which occurred nearly 500 miles (800 kilometers) over Siberia on Feb. 10. "We knew this was going to happen eventually," said Mark Matney, an orbital debris scientist at Johnson Space Center in Houston.

## U.S. News:

PHILADELPHIA - You might feel a little lost if you've bought a discount pass sold by Philadelphia's primary mass transit agency — it features a picture of New York City. The pass is marked with the logo for Philly Beer Week, a festival celebrating local breweries and taverns. The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority is selling the pass to discourage people from driving from one event to another during the festival. A spokeswoman for the agency, Jerri Williams, says transit officials liked the look of the pass but didn't realize the stock photo was of the wrong city. New passes are being printed.

## Entertainment:

LOS ANGELES - ABC says Nicollette Sheridan is leaving "Desperate Housewives." The 45-year-old Sheridan plays vamp Edie Britt on the comedy-drama about domestic life on Wisteria Lane. The network did not say Wednesday when Sheridan's role would end. Her departure was first made public by TV Guide magazine. "Desperate Housewives," a top 20 show and one of ABC's most successful series, stars Teri Hatcher, Felicity Huffman, Marcia Cross and Eva Longoria Parker.

## Odd News:

CAPE HAZE, Fla. - Authorities said they arrested a man who apparently forgot to fill up when he was robbing a gas station. The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office said a 23-year-old man used a Bowie knife to rob a Cape Haze gas station early Feb. 8. Deputies said the man pulled the 12-inch blade and demanded money. But when he left, a customer followed him and called 911. While deputies were looking for signs of the robber, a newspaper carrier told them that a man in a car matching the one from the robbery had run out of gas nearby.

## Quote of the Day

*"If it's a penny for your thoughts and you put in your two cents worth, then someone, somewhere is making a penny."*  
 — Steven Wright

S	4	3						2
			6				1	7
u		9		3				
d	6		3		8			
	9			4				7
o	8	7		6	5	2		4
k			9					
				5	1		9	
u	3	8				9		

For the answer to today's puzzle, go to:



[www.taskforcemountain.com](http://www.taskforcemountain.com)

## AROUND THE COMMUNITY

### Lion's Den

Feb. 13  
 Texas hold'em @ 8 p.m.  
 Fridays  
 "Gospel Hour: Moments of Joy"  
 @ noon

### Fishbowl Gym

Feb. 13  
 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.centcom.mil

### Babylon Theatre

Feb. 13  
 W @ 4 p.m.  
 Quantun of Solace @ 7 p.m.  
 The Express @ 9:30 p.m.  
 Feb. 16  
 Newcomers Brief @ 1 p.m.  
 Feb. 17  
 Fire Warden Course @ 1 p.m.  
 Feb. 18  
 Fire Extinguisher Class @ 1 p.m.  
 Feb. 20  
 Town hall meeting @ 1 p.m.