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March 7, 2009

Operation Elmoski brings joy to Iraqi children



Photo by Sgt. Josh LeCappelain

Maj. Jeff Robertson, 2nd Bn., 8th Inf. Regt. surgeon, hands an Iraqi girl a doll in Diwaniya. Nearly 350 stuffed animals were distributed by Iraqi Soldiers to sick children at the Diwaniya Women's and Children's Hospital during the first part of "Operation Elmoski. The joint patrol then headed to the al-Jamhorya Primary School for Boys, where it distributed more than 500 additional toys.

SGT. JOSH LECAPPELAIN
2ND BCT, 4TH INF. DIV.



CAMP ECHO – Iraqi Army Soldiers, supported by their Coalition counterparts from 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, delivered items

to children and families in Diwaniya recently.

Nearly 350 stuffed animals were distributed by Iraqi Soldiers to sick children at the Diwaniya Women's and Children's Hospital during the first part of Operation Elmoski. The joint patrol then headed to the al-Jamhorya Prima-

ry School for Boys, where it distributed more than 500 additional toys.

The stuffed animals were donated by the 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment Family Readiness Group and sent to their chaplain's office, according to

See **ELMOSKI**, page 2

ELMOSKI

From page 1

Capt. Kevin Peek, 2nd Bn., 8th Inf. Reg. chaplain and a native of Decatur, Ga.

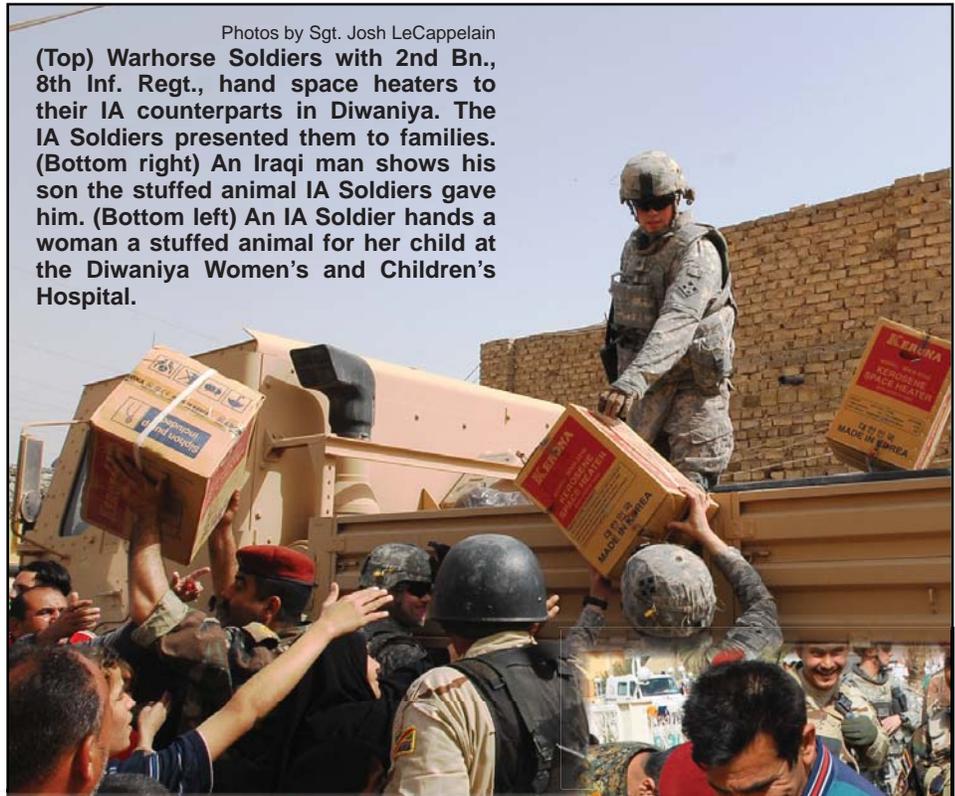
The mission concluded in a small neighborhood, where IA Soldiers handed out 250 blankets and 50 space heaters to Iraqi citizens.

Maj. Jeff Robertson, 2nd Bn., 8th Inf. Reg. surgeon, said the purpose of the mission was two-fold.

“First, it helps the citizens of Diwan-
iya see the Iraqi Security Forces sup-
porting them,” said Robertson, a native
of Spokane, Wash. “The main thing is
for them to get along with their neigh-
bors here. The limelight needs to be
shined on them, to let the locals know
they are here to offer them their ser-
vices. Additionally, we try to take any
chance we can to work with them to
further security,” continued Robertson.
“Everything that happens here now oc-
curs by, with and through the IA. We’re
just pumped to be here, helping them.”

Photos by Sgt. Josh LeCappelain

(Top) Warhorse Soldiers with 2nd Bn.,
8th Inf. Regt., hand space heaters to
their IA counterparts in Diwan-
iya. The IA Soldiers presented them to
families. (Bottom right) An Iraqi man
shows his son the stuffed animal IA
Soldiers gave him. (Bottom left) An
IA Soldier hands a woman a stuffed
animal for her child at the Diwan-
iya Women’s and Children’s
Hospital.



THE Mountain View

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Task Force 449



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U.S. Servicemembers become American citizens

SPC. DARRYL MONTGOMERY
MND - C



CAMP VICTORY – U.S. Servicemembers from all over the world gathered together in the rotunda of the Al Faw Palace here on March 3 to take part in a ceremony they will not soon forget.

Two hundred fifty Servicemembers, representing 65 countries but fighting for one, took the oath of allegiance during the ceremony and officially became United States citizens through naturalization.

“American citizenship means that we each commit ourselves to our community, our state, and to our country,” said Multi-National Corps - Iraq Commanding General Lt. Gen. Lloyd Austin. “What it means to be American is hard to put into words; it isn’t our race, or our birth or education, or even our citizenship, but it’s our shared feeling.”

Once the Soldiers recited the oath, they were each presented with a certificate showing their citizenship through naturalization and given a U.S. flag to commemorate the day they became Americans.

Sudan native Spc. Wilson, 10th Mountain Division, said he is excited to become a citizen of the U.S. and that he has been waiting for this day for a long time.

“I know it has been a long journey for each of you, but today you have arrived,” Austin said in his address to the Soldiers. “Today you start your new

journey as Americans, and I want to congratulate you for this great achievement.”

Now that Wilson has the privileges of being an American, he wants to get a passport and return to Sudan and see his family for the first time in 17 years. He also said his quality of life has improved greatly in the last eight years he has spent in the U.S., and plans to further it even more by enrolling in school

to get a higher degree of education.

“As men and women in uniform, and as citizens of our great nation, I wish you all well in your future endeavors and I encourage you to fully enjoy the privileges of citizenship that you have so rightfully earned,” Austin concluded.

“May God bless you and your families, and may God continue to bless our great nation.”



Photo by Spc. Darryl Montgomery

Soldiers being naturalized stand at attention while waiting to be called to receive their certificate of naturalization. Two-hundred and fifty Soldiers took the oath of allegiance to become United States citizens at Al Faw Palace here March 3.

**Is there
someone
you'd like to
say hello to
at home?**



**If you are
interested in
taking part in a
live hometown
interview contact
Sgt. Kristen King
at kristen.king@iraq.centcom.mil**

Staff Section Round-up

Chaplain's Family Life Minute

This message is for singles.

As you prepare for life back in the good ol' USA, you may have plans upon your return. Some plans may include visiting family back home. Others may intend to go on a nice peaceful vacation. Some may even sit and do absolutely nothing.

The opportunity to do those things is well-deserved. If you have no one to come home to, find a way to relax responsibly. Find good friends to be around, and do activities that are fun, relaxing and not destructive. We have come too

far to lose someone at home station.

Going back home allows us to reflect on what we have accomplished over the year that we have been here. We reflect on the good and tough times that all of us have experienced.

However, even as we go home, the duty to look out for our buddy never ends. So singles, look out not only for yourselves, but also for your buddies as we "climb to glory."

Ch. (Maj.) Paul Ramsey
MND-C Family Life Chaplain

AAFES ready to serve in Basra

CAPT. JEFF JOHNSON
MND-SE



BASRA – Coalition forces can now shop for American goods in Basra with the grand opening of a newly completed 5,000 square foot Army Air Force Exchange Service store here March 2.

The \$1.7 million exchange, located on the Basra Contingency Operations Base, was welcomed by more than 100 servicemembers after months of anticipation.

"This is a great day for Soldiers who have been anxiously looking forward to its arrival," said Col. David Clark, Deputy Commander, Title 10, 10th Mountain Division, prior to cutting the ceremonial ribbon.

The new facility will offer clothing, electronics, food and other goods to troops in the area.

"It means a lot, having better access to food and supplies," said U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Lester Cape, a member of the 557 Red Horse Engineer Wing.

This new store is the cornerstone to an extended food court and morale area which will include Pizza Hut, Burger King and a Green Beans

coffee house. The two Subway sandwich shops on the COB will remain in place.

The official transfer of authority in Basra from British to U.S. control will take place in late March.



Courtesy photos

(Top) Patrons flock into the new AAFES in Basra during its Grand-Opening March 2. (Bottom) Col. David Clark, Deputy Commander, Title 10, 10th Mountain Division, cuts the ribbon, officially opening the new AAFES in Basra during the Grand-Opening March 2.

Headline Round-up

Health News:

TRENTON, N.J. - A Supreme Court ruling March 4 that federal approval of a drug is no protection from lawsuits in state courts could make drugmakers more cautious about safety issues and may lead them to halt development of some medicines and even pull others off the market. Drug industry analysts said the ruling, upholding a \$6.7 million jury award against Wyeth, will make drugmakers scrutinize safety issues of all experimental drugs in development, as well as existing products. "They will weigh how prevalent the side effect is, how serious the side effect is, versus the number of people benefiting from the drug and the amount of money being made by the drug," said Erik Gordon, an analyst and professor at University of Michigan's Ross School of Business.

Entertainment:

NEW YORK - Actors Robert De Niro and Al Pacino are teaming up in a lawsuit against a movie distributor and a watch company they say used their likenesses without permission. De Niro and Pacino said in the lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Manhattan March 4 that they never authorized a commercial tie-in between Tutima watches and the movie "Righteous Kill." They sought unspecified damages. The actors recently starred in the movie distributed by Overture Films LLC. The lawsuit names Overture and Tutima USA Inc. as defendants. In a statement, Overture said: "We are surprised by this action as Overture Films has not received any communication on this matter for months from Pacino, De Niro or their representatives. We take lawsuits very seriously and our legal team is addressing the issue."

Quote of the Day

"In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life. It goes on." -Robert Frost

ACROSS:

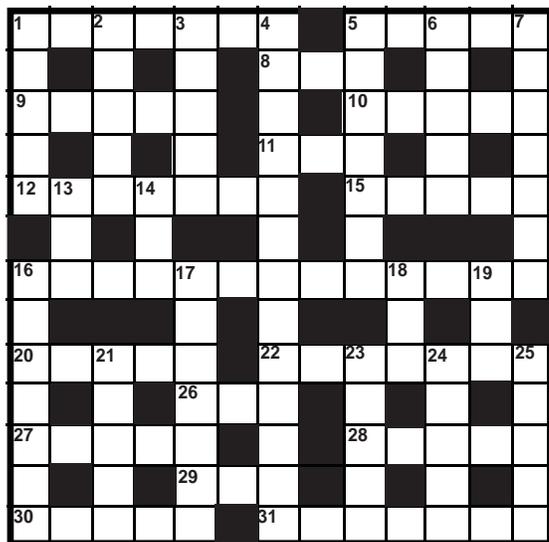
1. Where you go after High School
5. The "Funnies" in the newspaper
8. To be born
9. The sleuth. ___ Drew
10. Someone who rides
11. Plural of Ovum
12. Either end of a yard of a square sail.
15. Lou Bega's hit or a fast ballroom dance
16. Math term. Not by graphically but ___
20. A Competitor
22. Don't get trapped in one of these in

DOWN:

26. Slang for a guy's ejaculation
27. Language or speech
28. Fruit of an oak tree
29. Woman of the church
30. comfortable
31. A table where you hold tea

DOWN:

1. A bribe every child will behave for
2. Someone who rather be alone
3. The linguistic form from which another form is historically derived
4. To include entirely
5. Made of clay
6. Shows respect to an elder woman
7. Type of quick glance
13. ___ for one and one for ___
14. Something you do to your hair
16. A type of fake fingernail
17. Usually has a beautiful view
18. Multiply, subtract, divide, ___
19. Get this in Hawaii
21. The thing that kills you from a snake bite
23. Type of antelope
24. take this with a camera
25. Songs; also can be done on your radio



AROUND THE COMMUNITY

Lions Den

March 7
10th Mountain Division Salsa Band @ 9 p.m.
Fridays
"Gospel Hour: Moments of Joy" @ noon

Fishbowl Gym

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.
April 11
Pirate's Cove Run 5K/10K. Registration begins @ 7 a.m., race begins @ w8 a.m. T-shirts awarded to top finishers.

Slayer

March 7
Camp Slayer Fishing Tournament, Operation Catch Fish, at Slayer Lake @ noon. For details visit <https://corps.intranet.iraq.centcom.mil/Pages/Default.aspx>.

Victory

March 8
Lifting competition at Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Physical Fitness Center. POC: MA2 Amber Mathwig, amber.mathwig@iraq.centcom.mil
March 9
Purim Megillah reading, Victory Chapel @ 8 p.m.

Liberty

March 14
Jacksonville River Run 15K at Z Lake. Registration begins @ 6 a.m. Contact Jeffrey Heise for more information, jeffrey.heise@iraq.centcom.mil.

Babylon Theater

March 17
Fire Warden Class @ 1 p.m.

Solution Saturday

Saturday, Feb. 28

B	R	A	M	B	L	E		L	A	C	E	S		
L		G		R		A	L	I		U		A		
U	N	I	F	I	E	S		L	A	B	E	L		
R		N		L		T	E	A		I		O		
B	A	G	E	L				C	A	C	A	O		
	D		R							L		N		
A	S	I	A						S	E	T	S		
M		N							E		E			
E	A	S	E	L				G	A	S	E	S		
R		U		I	L	L		E		C		E		
I	G	L	O	O		E	V	E	R	E	S	T		
C		T		N	E	T		S		N		A		
A	S	S	E	S				S	P	E	C	T	R	E

from Puzzler's Cave: The Online Crossword Community

Monday, March 2

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

Tuesday, March 3

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

Wednesday, March 4

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

Thursday, March 5

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

A	H	B	A	T	T	E	R	O	U	T	F	I	E	L	D	E	R	O	T	
Y	R	O	T	I	R	R	E	T	L	U	O	F	R	E	N	N	U	R	D	
O	G	H	E	A	E	B	D	R	A	O	B	E	R	O	C	S	T	T	G	
L	E	A	I	A	V	E	B	R	E	O	A	H	C	A	O	O	C	A		
A	I	A	A	V	E	B	R	E	O	A	H	C	A	O	O	C	A			
A	G	R	C	G	E	R	T	F	G	D	T	M	E	L	W	O	R	H	T	
U	E	L	E	R	I	S	F	U	B	I	D	O	N	G	O	E	E	R	F	K
T	E	L	E	R	I	S	F	U	B	I	D	O	N	G	O	E	E	R	F	K
Y	R	O	T	I	R	R	E	T	L	U	O	F	R	E	N	N	U	R	D	
P	E	I	D	T	I	N	U	C	E	E	S	C	F	A	U	O	L			
E	R	B	I	H	I	E	H	N	T	L	L	T	L	L	R	B	L	E	L	
P	E	I	D	T	I	N	U	C	E	E	S	C	F	A	U	O	L			
N	O	E	T	N	I	P	R	G	F	F	P	L	L	O	F	W	O			
A	R	L	H	I	T	E	I	T	A	N	T	L	I	U	A	E	P	O	S	T
L	Y	H	P	L	R	S	M	I	A	A	U	O	T	N	T	O	R			
T	N	S	D	E	B	E	T	E	V	A	F	O	S	C	N	K	L	R	E	P
N	A	F	L	O	F	O	U	L	T	I	P	E	G	G	H	A	A	I	P	
L	O	I	F	I	V	O	T	F	O	O	T	R	U	T	E	B	K			
Y	H	E	W	R	I	T	F	A	I	R	B	A	L	L	D	Z	R	E		

from LiveWire Puzzles

Friday, March 6

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

To find out the answer to each day's puzzle right away, go to:



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