

EXPEDITIONARY TIMES

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Vol. 2, Issue 11

Re-tention!

Sustainers host

Fort Jackson trainers

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Combating Stress

1835th Med. Det. helps

Soldiers cope with

combat stress

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CAB

Complications

Officer receives CAB four years later.

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Joint Base Balad Tax Center

Taxes are prepared and filed for all Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines and Coast Guard, as well as DOD/DA/DAF Civilians; and for those filing a Form 1040EZ, 1040, or 1040A, as well as Schedules A, B, C and D.

The JBB Tax center is open from Feb. 2 to April 30, 2009; Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 0800-1700 hrs; Saturday: 1600-2300 hrs; Closed: Wednesday and Sunday

The center is located at: 332 EMSG Building (Mission Support Group/JBB Info Center), directly across the street from DFAC 2

For more information, e-mail: Tech Sgt. Jerol Boyce at jerol.boyce@blab.afcent.af.mil, Spc. Jaclyn Mims at jaclyn.mims@blab.afcent.af.mil or call DSN: 443-8304 or stop by during business hours.

Personnel may be referred to a paid preparer for any tax returns that are complicated, or involve filing multiple forms and schedules.

“Sex Signals”

tours Iraq

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

Amber Kelly and Kyle Terry from Catharsis Productions perform for Soldiers during the play “Sex Signals” at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, March 9. The play, which uses improvisational comedy, audience interaction, and education to engage audiences, was hosted by the 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) as part of sexual assault prevention training.

Iraqis invest in future at Balad economic seminar

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

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – Coalition forces and members of the Balad Provincial Reconstruction Team hosted the first Iraqi banking and finance conference here for Iraqi business investors, future entrepreneurs and local government leaders March 4.

In addition to city managers from the cities of Yethrib, Ishaki and Dubuiya, Soldiers from 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) and the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment were joined by approxi-

mately 80 local Iraqi businessmen to discuss how investors can invest, develop businesses and build local economy in and around Balad.

Amir Abdul-Hadi, the Mayor of Balad district, stated there are many profitable projects but that investors’ money and business knowledge are needed to increase growth.

“We will support you (business leaders) with the security issue,” Abdul-Hadi said. “We’re going to support you with anything you need to build your business or factories for the sake of developing this area.”

Joe Pinon, Balad Satellite Provincial Reconstruction Team Leader, said he meets every day with Iraqi investors wanting to invest in businesses and people with business ideas



Amir Abdul-Hadi, the Mayor of Balad district, speaks to Iraqi business leaders during the first Iraqi banking and finance conference hosted by Coalition forces and members of the Balad Provincial Reconstruction Team at Joint Base Balad on March 4. The purpose of the conference was to discuss how investors can find businesses to invest in to develop the local economy in the Balad district.

See BANKING CONFERENCE,
Page 7

332 ESFS Blotter 9 Mar. – 15 Mar.

UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE:

The reporting party telephoned the law enforcement desk and reported a suspicious package at the empty lot adjacent to Bldg # 8760. A patrol was dispatched along with fire department. The patrol examined a large amount of debris and found approximately 30-40 82mm artillery shells that were possibly unexploded. Explosive Ordnance Disposal responded via a call from the fire dept. EOD inspected the artillery rounds and determined them to be fully detonated and safe.

MEDICAL EMERGENCY:

The reporting party radioed the Joint Defense Operations Center and reported a medical emergency at the Yuksel camp. The RP advised of a victim experiencing chest pains. A patrol was dispatched along with medical. Medical decided to transport the victim to the Air Force Theater Hospital for further evaluation.

ARTICLE 128/ASSAULT:

The reporting party telephoned the law enforcement desk to report an assault occurring at Delta 7 Entry Control Point. The patrols were dispatched to the scene. A patrol made contact with suspects #1 and #2. Both personnel were separated and apprehended. A patrol transported both suspects to the law enforcement desk. After being advised of his rights suspect #1 stated he choked suspect #2 in self defense and intended on choking him until he passed out. Suspect #2 was advised of his rights and stated suspect #1 struck him in the face and chest. Witnesses to the incident stated they saw the altercation but did not know which person had started it. Both subjects were released to their company first sergeant.

VEHICLE MISHAP:

The reporting party walked into the law enforcement desk to report a vehicle mishap that had occurred on Victory Loop. Eagles Nest personnel assisted him in completing a written statement. He stated he was traveling southeast on Victory Loop when a rock hit the driver side, lower corner of the windshield. The damage to the vehicle consisted of a hole one inch (1") in diameter and cracks on the driver side lower corner of the windshield.

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OPERATIONS SECURITY (OPSEC)



HEADQUARTERS

MULTI-NATIONAL CORPS IRAQ

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

APO AE 09342



PROPERLY DISCARDING UNSERVICEABLE UNIFORMS

PURPOSE: To direct all service members and civilians in possession of armed forces or security uniforms to properly dispose of uniforms. To keep US armed forces and coalition security officer uniforms out of the hands of the adversary.



BACKGROUND: An OPSEC Officer reported large numbers of uniform items discarded in open trash receptacles during unit redeployments. Subsequently, several TCN employees collected serviceable discards, including US Army uniforms. The observer collected the uniforms from the TCNs and informed the unit's leadership accordingly. The adversary can easily obtain and don a uniform and forge a badge to gain access to a military base. This successful practice remains a threat by insurgents who frequently revert to proven TTPs.

APPLICABILITY: All uniformed personnel in theater.

DISCUSSION: MNC-I C4 Policy states that uniforms must be turned in to the Central Issue Facility (CIF) when ordering new items or discarding old items. Personnel will contact their unit supply personnel to coordinate uniform turn-in. DoD and contractors authorized to wear uniforms of the armed forces will return all OCIE and TA 50 back to the CONUS CRC or DMOB stations.

RECOMMENDATION: Unit Supply officers proactively plan for service members' turn-in of uniforms in conjunction with redeployment preparations. CIF personnel at VBC and Balad are standing by to support. Major Subordinate Command OPSEC Officers will increase awareness of the uniform turn-in policy and procedures and adhere to TrashINT practices to assess OPSEC readiness. Leaders at all levels will ensure compliance.

DANIEL B. ALLYN
Brigadier General, USA
Chief of Staff

ENSURE WIDEST DISSEMINATION AND POST ON BULLETIN BOARDS

OPSEC HASH 09-01

OPERATIONS SECURITY (OPSEC)

EXPEDITIONARY TIMES

3rd ESC Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Michael J. Lally

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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 3rd 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.

**BEYOND THE ADMONITION TO
"PRAY FOR YOUR ENEMY"**

"Trauma Call – Trauma Call," announced the hospital speakers at the Air Force Theater Hospital, Joint Base Balad, Iraq, last month.

The call sent a flurry of staff toward the ER where we commonly see patients of all kinds: U.S. servicemembers, civilians and even enemy combatants. No matter who arrives for treatment, our doctors will scrub the same way, ER techs will prepare the same homemade blankets, and nurses will lay out the same delicate instruments.

I've seen our staff work on our servicemembers, and I've seen them work on enemy combatants. Each time I see the latter, I'm reminded of Jesus' commandment to "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

This trauma call would bring at least two wounded. One patient, a U.S. Soldier, had a bullet lodged in his head. The other patient – as yet unknown – entered our ER with a tourniquet skillfully applied to his leg wound.

Since the Soldier was critical, he was immediately treated by a trauma team composed of disciplines too numerous to name -- doctors, nurses, pharmacists, surgeons, administrators, and technicians from every department.

The Coalition traumas arriving during the last six months had a 97.7% survival rate. They have that opportunity for life because our medical staff is willing to attempt what seems impossible. They define the words "heroic efforts" as they push beyond the limits of civilian medicine.

In this case, our Soldier sustained an injury that would cause most stateside hospitals to initiate comfort measures and ready the family for a death.

Not here. Not this hospital. Not this staff.

The Soldier was wheeled out of the ER and into the operating room where our neurosurgeon searched for the bullet. When she found it, she announced what she likely

knew before surgery: The fragmented bullet made surgery impossible. The Soldier would not make it.

At that point, I was summoned to a place I'd never been – the OR. I put on a mask and entered the room to see the remnants of this heroic effort: tubes, IVs, bags of blood, bandages, and pharmacological equipment and monitors strewn about the room.

What I'll remember most are the bloody footprints made by a harried staff.

"Chap," called our trauma doctor Maj. Joseph DuBose, "he's not going to make it. Can you say a few words?"

My audible prayer was short, but my internal prayer had as much to do with our reaction toward the person in the OR next door as it did this man.

For you see, the staff knew the man in the adjoining OR – the one with the bullet in his leg – had likely caused this carnage. Now that man was receiving the best medical care possible from the same people who were grieving the loss of a fellow servicemember.

You learn a lot when you care for your friends, but you learn a great deal more when you care for your enemy. As I heard one of the doctors say, "This is Geneva Convention 101" – in reference to the Geneva Convention requirement to treat wounded combatants.

Jesus summed it all up in the Sermon on the Mount: "You're familiar with the old written law, 'Love your friend,' and its unwritten companion, 'hate your enemy?'"

"I'm challenging that," Jesus flatly stated. "I'm telling you to love your enemies...If all you do is love the lovable, do you expect a bonus? Anybody can do that. If you simply say hello to those who greet you, do you expect a medal? Any run-of-the-mill sinner does that." -- *The Message, Matthew 43-44a, 47.*

This trauma team didn't settle for "run-of-the-mill."

And just so you know, neither did the fellow Soldiers of the Soldier who died; they were the ones who skillfully applied the life-saving tourniquet to the enemy combatant.

Hooah of the Week



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

Staff Sgt. Jacqueta A. Turner is congratulated by Brig. Gen. Michael J. Lally, the commanding general of 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), for being selected as this week's "Hooah of the Week." Turner, who is from Washington D.C., is a member of the 4th Force Support Squadron based at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., and is attached to the 3rd ESC where she is the protocol noncommissioned officer in charge. Johnson received the award for her work as lead protocol representative during a visit from the 13th Pre-deployment Site Survey Team earlier this month.



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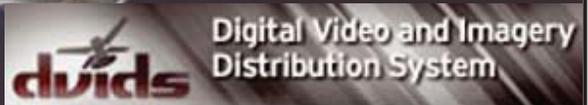
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Honoring a brother's sacrifice

BY STAFF SGT. DILIA AYALA
332nd AEW Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – June 23, 2007, marks a day that changed the Nathan family forever.

On this fateful day, Senior Airman Jason Nathan made the ultimate sacrifice when an improvised explosive device detonated and struck his vehicle while on patrol in Baghdad, Iraq. Now, nearly two years later, another member of the Nathan family is honoring his military commitment serving as a weapons loader here.

Staff Sgt. Joe Nathan Jr. is currently deployed here as part of the 332nd Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Tiger Aircraft Maintenance Unit, from the 482nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla.

"I volunteered to come over here," said Nathan. "I'm here to help with the protection of my country, doing my duty and what is being asked of me to serve my country.

"My plan is to retire," added the sergeant. "I wanted to deploy so I could have the experience. Also, I wanted to do my part. I think my brother would be proud of me."

His selflessness and dedication to the Air Force have not gone unnoticed. His superiors appreciate his commitment to the fight.

"Staff Sgt. Nathan was one of the first volunteers for this deployment, despite the tragic events involving his brother less than a year prior," said Chief Master Sgt. Gregg Miller, 332 EAMXS Tiger AMU superintendent. "He was briefed that no one would consider questioning why he did not volunteer to deploy to Iraq. Yet he still insisted on deploying with his load crew and the unit supporting Air Expeditionary Force 7/8. I see this as an act of extreme patriotism and as the epitome of the USAF Core Value, 'Service before Self.'

"Nathan is an outstanding NCO, whose professionalism, integrity, dedication and work ethic is above reproach," continued the Homestead, Fla. native. "He stays busy not only at work, but in his off-duty time, he is active with physical fitness. He's a respectful individual to everyone around him regardless of their ranks and is referred to as the person with a smile."

Being deployed here has been bittersweet for the Macon, Ga., native.

"It was hard for me to come over here right now," said Nathan. "Mostly because of my family; it's hard on them, especially hard on my mom because of what happened to my brother.

"I feel proud to be over here because I'm honoring my commitment to the military," continued Nathan. "Some days, I think about my brother a lot like when I see the security forces getting ready to go out, and I get to see what my brother was doing. I hear about them going 'outside the wire' and pulling patrols and at times it's hard. I guess as time goes on, it gets a little bit easier. I just pray to God and ask him to help me keep my head up and have faith that everything is going to be alright."

Like Nathan, his deployment to Iraq, as a result of his brother's death, has had a strong impact on his family.

"My mom says she's alright, but I know she's not," he said pensively. "My sister and my wife are there to give her support. She works every day so that she can keep her mind occupied. My two younger brothers are growing up and they didn't get to spend that much time with Jason. They are getting better at sports and he's not here to see them.

"Also, I have my two kids now," Nathan continued. "He met my first son when he was just a baby. However, my son will never know his uncle personally, but I will be able to tell him about him. My family is very proud of me. Even though they don't like it, they un-



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Tiffany Trojca

Staff Sgt. Joe Nathan Jr., 332nd Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Tiger Aircraft Maintenance Unit weapons loader, inspects an F-16 Fighting Falcon after its return from a mission, Feb. 23. As an F-16 weapons loader, Nathan is responsible for loading missiles onto the F-16 Fighting Falcon, as well as performing post-load inspections on the weapons. Nathan is deployed here from the 482nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., and is a native of Macon, Ga.

derstand it's part of my job to deploy."

Nathan first joined the Air Force six years ago, serving four years active duty before becoming a member of the 482nd AMXS. Nathan said his goal for this deployment is to further his job knowledge.

As an F-16 weapons loader, Nathan is responsible for loading missiles onto the F-16 Fighting Falcon, as well as performing post-load inspections on the weapons.

"I want to learn as much as possible about my job," he said. "I want to learn more from my crew and pick up as much experience as I can on the F-16, because I wasn't trained on the F-16. I was trained on the B-1 Lancer. Every day is another opportunity to learn something new. I'm an Air Force Reservist, so back home at Homestead, I will learn something and then it will be a whole month before I get to go back and learn some more. Being here, I get more information, and I learn more."

"(Nathan) has a very positive and

professional attitude as a member of the unit, as well as being stationed here in Iraq where he is learning new aspects of his career field and growing as a young adult," said Miller, who is also deployed here from Homestead ARB, Fla.

Although, his life has changed and his family will always miss his younger brother, Nathan has faith that things will continue to get better for him and his family.

"I'm always a positive person and try not to look at the downside," Nathan said. "I think that everything happens for a reason. No matter what happens, you just have to keep your head up and keep things going, and keep God first.

"I know that my brother was a man of God, and I know that he is in a better place. He served his country to the fullest and I want to do the same. If he did it, I can do it. I want him to be proud of me just as much as I am proud of him. I'm serving my country. That's what I signed up for."

Ali Base servicemembers experience piece of history

BY STAFF SGT. KENYA SHILOH
407th AEG Public Affairs

ALI BASE, Iraq – Less than two miles outside the front gate lies an area of historical and biblical significance - a place where the man considered the father of all nations, Abraham, used to call home. This place houses a temple nearby called the Ziggurat of Ur.

The city of Ur (Ur of Chaldeans) is located in the southern area of Iraq and was first identified in Genesis 12:28 of the Bible. It is considered the most ancient city within Sumaria and later Babylonia.

The Sumerians were credited with inventing beer, irrigation, the wheel and the first written language.

"The Ziggurat was originally a place of worship for the Sumerians who built it about 4,000 years ago," said Chaplain (Maj.) Kevin Lockett, 407th Air Expeditionary Group chaplain. "This was the place civilization, as we know it, began. This was the time when people evolved from individual families who survived as hunters and gatherers into communi-

ties where they relied upon each other as farmers, craftsmen and tradesmen. This was one of the first cities known to exist."

According to Lockett, Abraham, the son of a wealthy merchant, was thought to have lived there during his childhood and part of his adulthood before traveling to Canaan.

Now, servicemembers, Department of Defense civilians and contractors have the opportunity to experience that history by taking a tour of the Ziggurat and Abraham's home with the 407th AEG Chaplains Office. The tour, which averages about 30 people, began several Air and Space Expeditionary Force cycles ago under the guidance of the Chaplain Corps.

During the special tour, servicemembers can expect to visit the Ziggurat of Ur, the oldest-known standing archway in the world, a royal palace and tombs of the members of the third dynasty of Ur, and the home of Abraham. However, time is running short; the tours will most likely be discontinued this month.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Marasky

Staff Sgt. Ariel Sauvey, 407th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron, takes in the view of the ruins of King Shulgi's palace from atop the Great Ziggurat of Ur recently. The Ziggurat construction was finished in the 21st century B.C. by King Shulgi in the ancient city of Ur, which is near An Nasiriyah in present-day Iraq. Sauvey is deployed to Ali from the 78th Operations Support Squadron, Robins Air Force Base, Ga., and hails from Greenville, Ohio.

Sustainers host Fort Jackson trainers

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

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – The career counselors of the 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) and the Mobile Retention Team, from Fort Jackson, S.C., hosted a retention class for noncommissioned officers from Kuwait and Iraq here March 3 - 7.

The retention training was attended by 165 NCOs from more than 40 bases located around the theater. This training focused on their duties and responsibilities as retention NCOs. The 40-hour training touched on key elements of the regular career counselor course offered in the states.

Brig. Gen. Michael J. Lally, the 3^d ESC commanding general, said to the Soldiers at the graduation of the five-day training that the training would make them great retention NCOs. He said it would also make them better NCOs because one of the primary jobs of an NCO is to develop junior NCOs.

"You guys are where the rubber meets the road because this is a volunteer army," Lally said. "One of the reasons volunteer armies work is because of career counselors and retention NCOs."

Master Sgt. Adam J. McKinney, the senior career counselor with 3^d ESC,

said the MRT teaches a lot about retention but it also invigorates the retention NCOs at the unit and battalion levels to assist their commanders in reaching retention goals.

"This course motivates them (NCOs) and gives them confidence to go out and talk to Soldiers," McKinney said. "Having those Soldiers getting involved will invigorate any retention program."

Sgt. Johnathan S. Weintraub, a personnel action center NCO with the 317th Maintenance Company said the training was very informative. He is glad he learned how to process Soldiers paperwork the right way.

"Now I don't have to always go to someone else for help," Weintraub said. "I can help Soldiers myself."

McKinney said this is the second time the MRT has conducted training in a deployed combat environment.

"We are here to support Soldiers, deployed or not," McKinney said. "The retention mission doesn't stop because you're deployed."

The instructors of the retention class are from the recruiting and retention school at the Soldier Support Institute. McKinney said they are the reason the training was so successful.

"These are top-notch instructors," McKinney said.

Staff Sgt. Michael C. Duncan, a nuclear, biological and chemical NCO with the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 553rd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, said he



Sgt. 1st Class Nakia T. Nelson, with the Mobile Retention Team, speaks during the retention class for noncommissioned officers from Kuwait and Iraq on Joint Base Balad March 3 - 7. The training was hosted by 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) and the Mobile Retention Team.

enjoyed the instructors and the class forum because it was interactive. He also said he liked that the class had attendees from many other units.

"It's always good to get face to face and network with people to see what other units are doing for their Soldiers," Duncan said.

McKinney said he wants the retention NCOs to understand the mission

will take care of itself as long as they take care of their Soldiers. He said if everybody is doing the right thing for the Soldier, the Soldier will stay in the Army.

"I love at the end of the week of training, they (attendees) really want to do this job," McKinney said. "They see retention is really important."

Medical detachment combats stress

BY MAJ. CHRISTOPHER EMMONS
123rd MPAD Commander

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – In order to be successful in their missions, Soldiers deployed throughout Iraq deal with combat stress daily whether they perform their duties inside or outside the wire.

The 1835th Medical Detachment (Combat Stress Control) here helps Soldiers find positive ways to cope with that combat stress and reduce incidence of suicide through their work at the Patriot Clinic here.

Maj. Larissa G. Coon, Patriot Clinic occupational therapist officer describes combat stress as "dealing with one of the top life stressors while in a combat or deployed environment."

"This combat stress can be identified through dramatic changes in habits or routines," Coon said.

Coon, a resident of Goodland, Kan., designed and implemented many of the stress coping programs available here.

She said some of the top stressors that people deal with in their lives are:

a job change, a divorce or marriage, the birth or adoption of a child, the death of a family member or close friend, or major purchases like a house or a car.

Coon said these stressors are challenging for anyone to cope with, but when the stressor is combined with a deployment, the stressor for a Soldier is magnified many times over.

When these triggers occur, the affects on a Soldier can be seen in several areas.

Soldiers may become angry at everything, have a change in sleeping habits or become withdrawn from contact with family, friends, or coworkers, Coon said.

The combat-stressed Soldier may have a change in eating habits, or may no longer be interested in activities that once brought them pleasure, she said.

Coon said battle buddies and unit leaders need to watch for any dramatic and significant changes in a Soldier's behavior; it could indicate the need for a "buddy check."

"Change is the main clue – the key," she said.

Coon explained that combat stress should not be mischaracterized as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

PTSD is a long-term mental health diagnosis where dramatic changes in a person's habits or routines continue for six months or longer.

A 2003 Army Medical Command report on mental health indicated that forward deployed behavioral health units experienced more than a 95% rate of return to duty status for Soldiers who sought combat stress treatment. The report indicated that almost half of the Soldiers surveyed reported not knowing how to obtain their mental health unit's services.

The presence of combat stress control units here in Iraq now reflects the efforts the Army has taken to make these services readily available to service members.

There are currently five clinics that offer stress coping programs to service members needing them. These clinics in Iraq are located at Joint Base Balad, Contingency Operating Base Speicher, Camp Liberty, Camp Taji and Forward Operating Base Diamondback.

There are behavioral health assets dispersed across Iraq in more than 25 locations.

Coon said an overwhelming majority of the service members visiting the clinic come voluntarily with only

1 percent of Soldiers being command referred.

When a battle buddy accompanies a fellow Soldier to the Patriot Clinic for assistance, the clinic has no obligation to report the visit to the Soldiers command. The only time this happens is when there is a fear for the immediate safety of the Soldier.

Coon said that Soldiers exhibiting combat stress do not all need to be treated as being a risk of suicide.

"Sometimes they just need someone, like their battle buddy, to offer some help," she said.

Coon said the help a Soldier needs might not be anything more than hearing a buddy's offer of advice or guidance to some of the resources to help them handle an issue.

The Soldier talking about the stressors they are experiencing can do a lot to relieve some of the pressure they are dealing with alone, Coon said.

If a Soldier needs additional help, Coon listed some other resources besides the clinic where Soldiers can turn to. Such resources are the Judge

Combat lifesavers are a necessity

BY STAFF SGT. KEIR D. ALEXANDER
UPAR, 10th Sust. Bde.

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Combat lifesaver: Two small words, but a great task and a humbling responsibility.

In January 2009, four Soldiers of the 374th Financial Management Company, 10th Sustainment Brigade Troops Battalion, 10th Sustainment Brigade, participated in a CLS class instructed by Sgt. Nicholas Canale, a Fort Carson, Colo., native, and Staff Sgt. Jeremy G. Green, also a native of Fort Carson,

Soldier serves to keep his Family safe

BY 1ST LT. CHARLES MILLER
UPAR, 185th Armor Battalion

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE SPEICHER, Iraq - Spc. Daniel Arrieta wants to help his country and be there for his battle buddies while his company is conducting convoy missions in Iraq.

He said he wants to continue to provide a good life for his Family, but first he had to become a U.S. citizen.

The 22-year-old from Cathedral City, Calif., originally from Mexico, became a U.S. citizen - along with 251 other Soldiers - during a naturaliza-

tion ceremony at Victory Base Complex, Iraq, March 3.

Arrieta came to the U.S. as a child, and he joined the Army to give something back to the country that has helped him and his Family to achieve a higher standard of living.

“By helping my country I am helping my Family stay safe,” Arrieta said.

Arrieta is a mortarman, but on this deployment he is part of a convoy security mission. He drives heavily armored vehicles for the California Army National Guard with the Bravo Company “Black Jacks,” of the 1st Battalion, 185th Armor Regiment, 16th Sustainment Brigade. The “Black Jacks” are a National Guard unit from Riverside, Calif.

sional.

The instructors went on to teach the class of 15 Airmen and 4 Soldiers, the importance and necessity of CLS training, the history behind the training, and the statistics of the loss and damage done to service members all due to the lack of preventive medical measures. Green shared his own life-altering experience and brush with death that demonstrated the need for CLS classes.

Green recounted his time as a medic in an infantry battalion on a seemingly routine mission. That “normal mission” it went in a totally different direction at the last second.

“The unit I was in was done with its mission, and we were in our trucks heading back to the base and literally about 150-200 meters from the gate when the lead vehicle is hit by a suicide bomber in a car,” Canale said. “I was in the vehicle behind it!”

He said that the last vehicle had another bomber approaching it and was stopped by the Soldiers of that vehicle when they opened fire on it, killing the driver. Amazingly only three Soldiers died that day and all of those who lived through the explosion could say they did so because of properly trained Soldiers who gave them first aid that allowed them to make it back to medical care professionals.

After the completion of the class, first-time CLS graduate Sgt. Cody Smith, a native of Lock Haven, Pa., stated: “I now understand the need for CLS greater and the knowledge is useful in both civilian and military life. ‘Tourniquet, tourniquet, tourniquet’ was the class motto, but the tip is to keep one on you at all times, so you’ll be prepared to aid a brother in arms or a civilian casualty. The Army provides you with a combat application tourniquet, keep it in your lower pocket!”

COMBATING STRESS *Continued from Page 5*

Advocate General’s office for legal issues; the finance office for pay issues; the chaplain for spiritual guidance; the Army Emergency Relief fund for unexpected financial shortfalls; the Veterans of Foreign Wars or American Legion for support to loved ones back home; and Military OneSource as a gateway to numerous other agencies and organizations who provide military support, counseling, and as-

sistance in the states.

Coon said: “I have the best job in the Army as I get to supply the activities to make people forget about their stress!”

The 1835th Med. Det. (CSC) is an Army Reserve unit from Aurora Colorado. The fifty Soldiers of this unit will return to the Fitzsimmons Reserve Center in the spring of 2009 at the end of their deployment.

SAFETY



Range Safety... **Rules to Prevent Tragedy**

Dear Editor,
Someone was accidentally shot on a firing range last year because a unit had gotten a live round mixed in with dummy rounds. Remembering a few rules could have prevented that:

- If you ever spot a live round on the ground at the range, stop everything and tell everyone. A dummy round has holes punched in the cartridge. A live round has no holes.
- Report the live round to Range Control and your chain of command.
- Assume there could be live rounds where they shouldn't be.

4. Immediately lay out all dummy or SRTA (short range training ammunition) belts and ammunition and inspect them for live rounds.

5. Form a line and walk the range picking up all brass and ammo.

Anytime you are shooting, regardless of whether it's live or dummy rounds, remember these safety rules:

- Treat the weapon as if it's loaded at all times.
- Never aim a weapon at another person or lay down a weapon so it's pointing at a person.
- Even for demonstrations, set up a weapon as if you were going to fire it. Remember what the field of fire is for that particular weapon and keep people out of that area.
- Inspect a weapon each time it is cocked and loaded, no matter what kind of ammo—live, dummy, or training—you're firing. Make sure it's on SAFE and pointed down range.
- Make absolutely sure no one walks in front of the weapon.
- Clear the weapon before leaving the range and again before turning it in to the arms room.

Editor's note: Excellent tips, Sir. When it comes to ammunition, you want to be absolutely sure you know what you're shooting and what you're shooting with.

Safety Office, Transportation School Ft. Eustis, VA

BANKING CONFERENCE Continued from Page 1

who need financing. He stated the best thing he can do for the Iraqis is to connect them – allowing them to work amongst themselves.

“The best solution is to have Iraqis meet each other and invest with each other,” Pinon said.

Maj. Rebecca B. McElwan, the commander for the 3^d ESC’s 106th Finance Management Company, said Iraqi provincial business leaders do not meet on a regular basis. She said conferences like this help Iraqis work together for a common goal to support

the country’s business and banking industry.

“Bankers are leaders in their communities,” McElwan said. “They represent the banking community and the business community as well.”

The conference attendees listened to economic experts on a variety of topics including banking, investments and local laws and regulations for businesses moving into the Balad area.

“The area around here is mostly agriculture,” Pinon said. “But like everywhere else in the world we need to

diversify and bring in more business.”

Pinon said the economic growth in the Balad district can only happen with creating more business which will lead to more jobs for Iraqis. He said creating factories that will create hundreds of jobs is the right thing to do for this area.

“They (Iraqis) import almost everything from the outside,” Pinon said. “Therefore, if we create a brick factory here where the sand and elements are, it is much easier and cheaper to produce than if you move to import from

Turkey or Jordan”

The conference was originally scheduled to include 20 investors and business leaders but quickly grew to 80 because of the high interest of Iraqis wanting to invest in Iraq Pinon said. He said the PRT had to stop inviting people because they didn’t have the room capacity to host them.

“This shows two things” Pinon said “one there is an interest in investing in Iraq.” “And two, they still look to us as the people they trust to bring good people together.”

Transporters support the climb to Istaquaal

BY 1ST LT. G. ELIZABETH BROWN
UPAR, 10th Sust. Bde.

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Throughout Iraq, warfighters need the tools necessary to maintain the fight and continue the mission.

Soldiers of the 1538th Transportation Company, 419th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 10th Sustainment Brigade, have to be prepared to “support the climb” and deliver valuable supplies to the units fighting for stability throughout Iraq.

There is one convoy stop that has become a regular. The 25th Infantry Divi-

sion at Joint Security Station Istaquaal is supported by an Indiana National Guard unit that provides them with water and fuel.

1st Lt. Brett Monroe, a native of Sullivan, Ind., and platoon leader for the 1538th Trans. Co., said: “We run fuel and water. We provide resupply of JP-8 to tanker trailers and storage tanks on site. We refill water tanks for their AB units and dining facility, usually around 7,000 to 10,000 gallons of each.”

“It’s gratifying to see the results of our efforts, knowing we’re supporting these warfighters as they patrol the area,” Monroe said. “It also gives me a greater appreciation of the base we’re on.”

“We have to get this to them so they can continue their mission,” said Sgt. Lynn Ellyson, a Mooresville, Ind., native, driver and dispatcher with the 1538th Trans Co. This run – like the many others Soldiers of the 1538th Trans. Co. support – are valuable, and the accomplishment of the mission is paramount to these citizen-Soldiers of Indiana. “The units we convoy with know that our Soldiers hit the ground running, deliver our payload, and stage back up,” Monroe said.

Even though they are not on the frontlines, the Soldiers maintaining the supplies often find themselves in harm’s way while on the road. “As a combat outpost, it’s dark and the challenge of working in low to no-light conditions

means safety is even more important,” Monroe said. “The difficulty factor of routine tasks becomes much higher in the dark, just moving tractors and trailers or climbing tanks or connecting hoses and pumps is more difficult.”

Monroe said he sees the pride the Soldiers have in their job reflected in the way they perform.

“It’s good to go out and not only see what our troops do, but to work hands-on, performing the same tasks they do,” Monroe said. “It reinforces my confidence in their abilities and I see just how diligent and motivated they can be.” The Soldiers delivering supplies continue to drive out the gates in support of the warfighters on the ground in order to support the climb.

Major CAB complications

BY AMANDA TUCKER
Expeditionary Times Staff

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – Maj. Chad M. Nangle, the G-3 chief of future operations for the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), and Austin, Minn., native, received his combat action badge on Joint Base Balad four years after the event that earned him the award.

The CAB was not approved as a military award until May 2, 2005, making the already redeployed Nangle’s unit leaders responsible for finding the information to award the eligible recipient of the award. This also made the process longer than usual.

“When Chad first earned this award back in the 2004 time period, the CAB was not an award,” said Col. Curt Hig-

don, Nangle’s battalion commander at the time, and current assistant chief of staff G3 for the 3d ESC, and a Henryville, Ind., native.

Higdon is still working to ensure his Soldiers that qualified for the CAB during that time receive this award. He researches and finds witnesses to write statements on a given incident, and then works to have the paperwork approved by the Soldier’s current chain of command. The process is lengthened when Soldiers move to another duty station; they have to have their CAB paperwork reviewed by their new chain of command.

The CAB is a special recognition to Soldiers who engaged, or were engaged by the enemy, but is not awarded to Soldiers who only serve in a combat zone or imminent danger area. The award is not dependent on military occupational specialty. The CAB consists of a silver badge with an oak wreath supporting a bayonet surmounting a

grenade.

The specific incident that qualified Nangle for the CAB happened while he was eating at the dining facility with his executive officer. Once they heard rounds impacting the base, they started to evacuate according to their battle drills. One round hit as close as 15 meters from the south wall of the DFAC.

“We were hit on the (logistical) base on the average over 19 days, took over 340 rounds inside (the wire) and there is no doubt in my mind that over 100 of those rounds were in the designated distances that would have earned him the award,” Higdon said.

According to Higdon, that night the base received 12 to 14 rounds and injured approximately 50 service members and killed another. Nangle came close to being part of those statistics when shrapnel hit people to the left and right of him. Nangle helped to get the injured to medical sites, radioed

medical evacuation and proceeded through his battle drills as he was expected.

“Watching Chad fall under that attack (and) watching him maneuver after that, he is no doubt a hero,” Higdon said.

“For me personally it is just something that says that I was in the wrong place at the wrong time but was lucky enough not to get hurt and get the purple heart,” Nangle said.

“(He) didn’t seek the award, (he) didn’t want the award: he’s probably a little embarrassed that we put him in for it now, (but) again that just shows the character of the Soldier,” Higdon said. “This is not an award you seek. This award is given to those that put their life on the line every time we come into this country. Those that are out seeking these kinds of things are here for the wrong reasons and they’re probably going to cause somebody to get hurt.”

Do you have a story idea?
Contact the Expeditionary Times
 expeditionarytimes@iraq.centcom.mil

Q-West officials hold job fair for Iraqis

BY COMMAND SGT. MAJ.
ROBERT LANE
181st Bde. Support Battalion

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE Q-WEST, Iraq – In an effort to encourage more Iraqis to take jobs on base, Iraqi and Coalition leaders met with shaykh and civic leaders from the Ninawa province during a job fair held here Feb. 23.

The base already employs many Iraqis, but will increase this number with new jobs being offered to Iraqis in nearby villages.

"The job fair is the first step in what I hope will be a long and continued relationship between COB Q-West leadership, contractors, and the local people around Q-West," said Lt. Col. Alan Dorow, commander, 181st Brigade Support Battalion, and Q-West Mayor. "This area is a farming community and has been hit very hard by the drought for the



Local Iraqi leaders from the Ninawa province meet with Army leaders at Contingency Operating Base Q-West, Iraq, Feb. 23, to hear plans to increase the local Iraqi workforce at the base.

past three to four years. The lack of rain has created a huge need for jobs to support local families. We won't be able to help everyone of course, but every little

bit helps, and employment opportunities foster the great working relationships and security for this area."

Shaykh and Iraqi civic leaders at the

job fair were asked to provide a list of individuals who would be willing to work on the logistics base along with basic contact information and skill summaries for the prospective contractors. Iraqi leaders were asked to complete an "order of merit" list that will be utilized by Q-West employers to help prioritize potential applicants.

Lt. Col. Kenneth Garrison, commander, 81st Brigade Special Troops Battalion, and base defense operations cell commander said the key to the success of the initiative is to find the right balance among all the competing interests in the local area.

"This requires an understanding of the local demographics, as well as 'buy-in' and cooperation among the local leaders," Garrison said. "This has to be an Iraqi solution."

Dorow said that companies that operate on Q-West will go down the lists and fill positions as they come available. Job vacancies will be filled gradually over the next few months until all positions are filled.

ER team practices response drills

BY SGT. CRYSTAL G. REIDY
Expeditionary Times Staff

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – The Joint Base Balad Emergency Response Team and Army postal service workers conducted training response drills to suspicious substances in packages at the Joint Military Mail Terminal here Feb. 5-6.

Soldiers from 81st Military Mail Terminal, from Fort Hood, Texas, and Airman from the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron hosted the two-day training event to decrease their response time to potential hazardous material threats.

On the first day, the teams practiced setting up the command and control area and staging two response trucks and HAZMAT operations trailer. The team also set up a decontamination area.

"We identified ourselves to the security personnel and they now know our vehicles," said Tech. Sgt. David B. Gallagher, the noncommissioned officer in charge of readiness and emergency management with the 332nd ECES. "We are building partnerships for entry into the building and future exercises."

Gallagher, a resident of Spanaway,



U.S. Air Force photo Staff Sgt. Mikel Rogers

Airman 1st Class Courtney Jones, a resident of Palmdale, Calif., practices identifying hazardous material at the Joint Military Mail Terminal on Joint Base Balad, Iraq Feb. 6. The Airman from the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron responds approximately twice a month to the JMMT.

Wash., and his team of eight on-scene personnel practiced reaction to a suspicious substance by donning their protective clothing and equipment, entered the JMMT facility to locate and identify the substance as safe or as a threat agent.

"This exercise was successful because the reaction time to suspicious substances has significantly decreased," said

out to create relationships with our joint service partners and contractors."

"This exercise was a great success and facilitated partnerships between the emergency response team, security forces, and JMMT staff," said Gay, a resident of Belton, Texas.

The JMMT processes approximately two million pounds of mail for northern

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jonathan L. Gay, officer in charge of the JMMT with the 81st MMT.

Gallagher said he felt the exercise was a success because his team developed a good rapport with the terminal managers and staff.

"We are here at Joint Base Balad," Gallagher said. "The key word being joint. We need to span

Iraq per month. They have had two real-world responses and conducted two exercises. Gay said the good news is no incident has resulted in the identification of a dangerous substance.

"We handle a large volume of mail at JMMT on a daily basis," Gay said. "The faster we identify and react to suspicious substances, the faster we can return to the reception, sorting and distribution of mail."

Gallagher said the JMMT is the most frequent response area because of the items sent to Soldiers in care packages.

"Things sent to our troops leak white powder," Gallagher said. "For example, coffee creamer, powdered sugar treats, foot powder, potpourri or scented oils can resemble HAZMAT."

Gallagher said conducting training exercises is important because it increases the response team's readiness posture. He said the training also develops knowledge of the facility, potential threats and response procedures for incidents.

Gay said he has seen progress in the response team's performance since arriving four months ago.

"Suspicious packages are identified faster and handled safer and more efficiently to protect the Army, Air Force and contractors that work in the facility," Gay said.



Task Force Muleskinner

10th Sustainment Brigade



10th Sustainment Brigade, Camp Taji <http://www.taskforcemuleskinner.army.mil/mm.asp>

Sustainment medics exchange experiences with Iraqi nurses

BY MASTER SGT. CARL MAR
287th Sust. Bde. PAO

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE ADDER, Iraq – Iraqi nurses from the City of Nasiriyah, Dhi Qar province, met medics of the 287th Sustainment Brigade to learn first-responder medical techniques at Camp Mittica here Feb. 19.

The medical training was sponsored by the Dhi Qar Provincial Reconstruction Team and arranged by 287th Sustainment Brigade Civilian Military Operations. American trainers for the one-day class were 10 medics from medical detachments in the 167th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion,

287th Sust. Bde.

Staff Sgt. Miguel Salazar, a Soldier in Alpha Company, 636th Brigade Support Battalion, 167th Medical Detachment said the goal of the class was to teach Iraqi first responders the latest techniques for clearing airways, handling bone fractures and controlling bleeding, shock, and heat injuries.

Salazar, a 26-year Army National Guard medic and San Antonio, Texas, native, was impressed by the knowledge and experience of the Iraqis.

“The Iraqi students have backgrounds as registered nurses in both critical care unit and surgical wards. They’re pretty well rounded as far as their education,” Salazar said. “We got to learn from them as much as they learned from us.”

“We showed them our techniques for

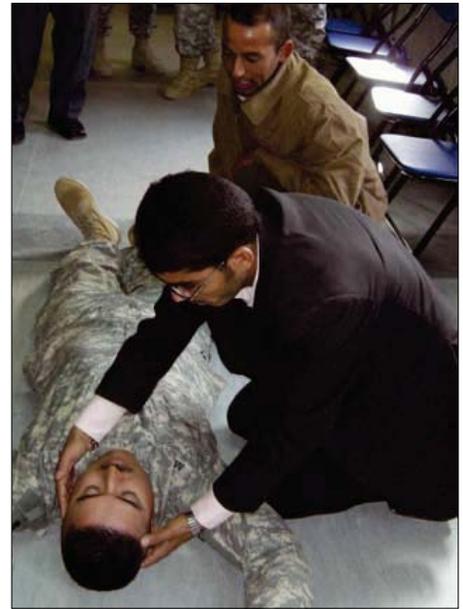
controlling bleeding ... and they gave us their feedback on how they would deal with it. It was pretty good – we got an exchange of different techniques,” Salazar said.

Salazar said he learned how Iraqi nurses pack wounds with an absorbent and then put a pressure bandage over the top. Although this method is similar to the American technique, the procedure for doing it is different. He said he believes that this difference comes from Iraqis having been more exposed to war than Americans.

The Iraqi nurses, in turn, were very interested in how the Americans handled fractures. Most of their questions pertained to splinting, said Spc. Quentrica Williams, a civilian medical assistant from Dallas, Texas, and a Army National Guard medic with Charlie Company, 56th Brigade Support Troop Battalion, 167th CSSB.

“Apparently, we have very different techniques from them for splinting. They would ask what you do if you had a gunshot wound in the upper arm and a fracture in the lower arm,” she said. They also asked about airway and respiratory issues, she added, which they handle differently.

Dhi Qar Provincial Reconstructions Team Senior Health Advisor Dr. Michel Bunning said that the one-day training event was an excellent start to what would be a continuing education pro-



U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Mendez

Staff Sgt. Michael Mendez, a medic with Charlie Company, 4th Battalion, 133rd Field Artillery, is assessed for injuries by an Iraqi nurse during joint first responder training at Camp Mittica on Feb. 19

gram for Iraqi physicians and nurses.

“This class is the beginning to a six-month trial course where we are providing Civilian Medical Engagement for Iraqi physicians and nurses. The second Thursday of every month we provide physician training. The third Thursday we provide nurse training. It’s patterned after European nations where medical specialists are required to have a certain amount of continuing medical education. That’s the idea behind this program. We are hoping we will see the same faces back two or three times,” he said.



U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Mendez

Staff Sgt. Leo Saenz, a medic with Alpha Company, 56th Brigade Special Troops Battalion Medical Detachment, 167th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, demonstrates how to control bleeding at a joint first responder training class held Feb. 19, at Mittica. Saenz is shown applying an improvised tourniquet to the left arm of Sgt. Antonio Haro, who is a medic with 4th Battalion, 133rd Field Artillery.

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Historic visit of historians

STORY AND PHOTO BY
SPC. HILLARY R. MCKEY
44th Military History Detachment

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – Dr. Steven Anders, Quartermaster Corps historian out of Fort Lee, Va., and Mr. Richard Killblane, the transportation corps historian out of Fort Eustis, Virginia, visited here Feb. 20

- 23. They were here to conduct interviews, data and artifacts to ensure the transportation and quartermaster schools are teaching junior Soldiers the most current information available within their fields.

Anders' trip here will help him better understand the changing needs of the Quartermaster Corps throughout the Army.

"It's a pleasure for someone to come see what we do here," said Staff Sgt. Alexis Hernandez, a Soldier in the 356th Quartermaster Company. "To get better in this MOS you have to work in it, get your hands on it."

Anders spent his time here interviewing key leaders from the 304th Sustainment Brigade and the 259th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion

and was taken on a walking tour of the warehouses and various yards around Joint Base Balad.

The tour started with the holding yard for the bottled water that is familiar to the residents of Joint Base Balad.

The tour quickly continued with the warehouses that store the day-to-day items for every unit, ranging from pens to vehicle hoods.

"If the Soldiers don't have the proper means to fight what good are they?" said 1st Lt. Jean R. Pierre, of the 356th Quartermaster Company.

Killblane, who authored several publications including "Circle the Wagons: The History of U.S. Army Convoy Security," takes time every year to travel, interview and collect data about transportation in Iraq and Afghanistan. The data is then taken and compiled for historical documentation such as improving convoy security. He also uses the data to teach warriors about the past and how to improve for the future.

Killblane was also taken on a tour of the 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment headquarters where he took a trip down memory lane. Each year he returns to there building to chart its changes and progress. One of his favorite features is the "Skunk Werks" welding shop located in the back garage of the building. This "Skunk Werks" has exceptional history, ranging from the



Inspector Nbrass Salmin Al Hishiwawi giving a tour of the container repair yard to the visiting Transportation and Quartermaster Historians.

time Monster Garage, (a popular Discover Channel television show) built a hotrod humvee to the first "hillbilly armor" being installed. Killblane plans to move "Skunk Werks" to the Transportation Corps Museum.

After the impromptu tour, Killblane interviewed Lt. Col. Gregory Allen about the changing landscape of transportation from a commander's perspective. Afterwards, he visited Charlie and Hotel companies of the 1st Bn., 161st Inf. Regt. different companies where

he interviewed groups of soldiers about convoy security and their deployment experiences.

The collection of knowledge, data and artifacts should not be ignored. The lessons taught by experience will be taken back and taught to new personnel in the Quartermasters and Transportation Corps.

Col. Ronald J. Ross of the 330th Transportation Battalion said: "I think it's important because if they don't gather the information it will be lost."

287th Sustainment Brigade promotes 10 in mass promotion ceremony

BY HEATHER WRIGHT
287th Sust. Bde., PAO

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE ADDER, Iraq – On Feb. 8, the 287th Sustainment Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company Commander Capt. Peter Euler and the company's senior non-commissioned officer, 1st Sgt. Thomas Sprague, promoted 10 Soldiers through the Operational Deployment Document



program. Promoted from the rank of specialist to sergeant were: Spc. Cody Breon, Department of Defense activity address code routing identifying code-geographical manager for support operations; Spc. Keith Coleman, special troops battalion maintenance NCO; Spc. Jerrod Eubanks, communications network technician; Spc. Daniel Forrest, headquarters and headquarters company administration NCO; Spc. Brenda Holdren, night shift NCO for class one support operations; Spc. Elissa Johndrow, medic NCO team leader; Spc. Justin Prochaska, special troops battalion maintenance NCO;

Spc. Austin Sigg, standard Army maintenance system NCO and Spc. Jennifer Whitekiller RTO NCO, assistant battle NCO for operations Sgt. James Dowis was promoted to Staff Sergeant.

The ODD program is covered under the Department of the Army Personnel Policy Guidance for Contingency Operations in Support of Global War on Terrorism.

According to the policy, states are authorized to promote enlisted Soldiers through the rank of Staff Sergeant who are serving in a higher grade position within an ODD, provided they are otherwise qualified. Soldiers must meet all

other criteria listed in Army National Guard Promotion and Reduction Policy.

Deployed Soldiers only compete for these assignments against other deployed Soldiers within the same ODD.

Soldiers in non-deployed units ranked higher on the promotion list are not available for assignments in the ODD.

"The responsibility that goes with wearing stripes is more than telling Soldiers what to do," Sprague said. "It is doing what is right, showing what right looks like and enforcing the standards. I know that each one of you will do an outstanding job and I am honored to induct you into the NCO Corps."

Exchange Officer program working out well

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
1ST LT. KAREN REITER
UPAR, HHC 100th Bde.
Support Bn.

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – Maj.

Paul Taylor, of the British Army, is serving in Iraq with 100th Brigade Support Battalion of the 75th Fires Brigade, from Fort Sill, Okla., as part of the Exchange Officer program.

Taylor is the support operations officer of the 100th Brigade Support Battalion, currently headquartered at Joint Base Balad. The Exchange Officer program is an integral part of the history of the 100th Bde. Support. Bn. He is the second British Officer in the 100th BSB to have served in this capacity.

“Paul adds depth and unique experience, usually not seen at the Battalion level,” said Lt. Col. Brent Bush, commander, 100th Bde. Support. Bn.,

Taylor was born in Dundee, Scotland and moved to Cambridge, England at age 12. He attended the University of London and received his degree in mechanical engineering, with an emphasis on aircraft engineering. He then attended the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst for a year and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. He has been in the British Army for 15 years, working mostly with aircraft and artillery. Taylor and his wife, Sarah have four children ages two through eight, Jessica, Jacques, Daniel, and Alice – all of whom reside Fort Sill, Okla.

Taylor explained that a lot of the Iraqi Army systems in place here are modeled after the British Army. This is particularly relevant to the logistical training and advisory team mission of the 100th Bde. Support Bn.

“There is no question that the U.S. Army logistics system is the envy of all

armies, however it comes with a price,” Taylor said. “Most modern armies apply many of the principles used by the U.S. Army, including the Iraqi Army. The main difference is that many ... cannot spend as much on their logistics

system as the U.S. Army can. A case in point is the Class IX (repair parts) supply chain. The U.S. utilizes a push system, many armies such as the Iraqis, use a pull system of supplies from a centralized depot, thus saving costs.

This is key to understanding how they do business.”

“The Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers has a system which is similar to both the U.S. and IA systems, having stock held at the unit level and employing a centralized storage system,” Bush said. “Asset tracking is very important. Paul’s contribution is extremely valuable both as the Support Operations Officer, and as a British Army Officer. His experience, particularly of the British logistical system has proven invaluable in understanding Iraqi logistics,” Bush said, adding with a laugh: “I can overlook his need to drink tea at 4 p.m. daily because of this.”

Taylor has seen some differences from the British perspective in comparison to the U.S. Army of organizational effectiveness, officer and noncommissioned officer management. For example, in the British Army warrant officers are senior enlisted Soldiers. They are comparable to our sergeants major. Also, officers in the British Army are not required to have a degree. An NCO that displays outstanding leadership qualities can be referred to Royal Military Academy Sandhurst by his or her commander and become an officer. Warrant officers can also be direct commissioned to captain.

“I find it interesting that both armies are effective on the battlefield, and that we can both learn from each other as we continue to conduct operations,” Taylor said.

Taylor is no stranger to Iraq. This is his second time here. He has also deployed to Bosnia. He said one difference he’s noticed between his first deployment to Iraq just a year ago and now, is that the Coalition forces are receiving fewer indirect fire attacks. He has deployed to Basrah, Iraq, as the executive officer, known as “second in command” in the British Army, of Joint Helicopter Force and was also the senior aircraft engineer for Iraq. When asked about the transition of local governance back to Iraq he replied: “Some places will be more ready for Iraqi control than others.”



Maj. Paul Taylor, of the British Army, is serving in Iraq with 100th Brigade Support Battalion of the 75th Fires Brigade, from Fort Sill, Okla., as part of the Exchange Officer program.

16th Sustainment Brigade “Knights” at COB Q-West
<http://www.16sustainment.army.mil/>

16TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE

Sustainers “play around” with sex assault prevention training

BY SGT. CRYSTAL G. REIDY
Expeditionary Times Staff

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – “Sex Signals,” a multimedia play tackling issues about dating, sex and consent was performed for Soldiers and Airmen at Sustainer Theater here March 9 as part of a larger theater-wide tour.

The 90-minute, two-person play showed three times and entertained the troops while providing sexual assault prevention training to approximately 900 audience members. The play is part of the Army’s campaign I. AM. STRONG, which aims to eliminate sexual assault in the Army within the next five years.

“We are band of brothers and sisters, placing mission first. We cannot allow sexual assault to happen to a member of our team,” said Col. Jarrold M. Reeves, the deputy commander of the 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), in an address to the audience before the play.

The “Strong” campaign is using different teaching methods, like “Sex Signals”, that tell Soldiers they are duty bound to intervene, act and motivate others to stop sexual assault. Reeves said the play did a great job teaching service members that sexual assault is their responsibility to prevent either as a potential offender or as a bystander.

“The intervene, act and motivate philosophy is the key to prevention,” Reeves said. “We are moving prevention from the victim to the perpetrator and the bystander.”

The play seeks to connect with younger service members and promote a better understanding of sexual assault and sexual harassment.

“We are seeking to bring about a cultural change about sex assault and sexual harassment,” said Master Sgt. Verlean Brown, the sexual assault response coordinator with the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary).

Kyle Terry, an actor in “Sex Signals,” said Soldiers who think it is not their business to step in are mistaken because Soldiers step in all the time. He said that’s what you do; part of being a Soldier is intervening on behalf of those who can’t step up for themselves.

“In the Army you defend 300 million people every day,” Terry said. “It should be easy to protect each other.”

The Army estimates one in six Army females will be sexually assaulted at least once in their career, and sexual assault is estimated to be the most under reported crime in the military. Terry said Soldiers can visually see that statistic when they are sitting in an audience room of 300.

“You can see they start to understand when they realize that 50 people in the audience could have or will be sexually assaulted,” Terry said.

The message “Sex Signals” teaches is that sexual assault is not in line with the Army core values. Amber Kelly, an actor in “Sex Signals,” said she likes performing the play for the Army because they have already been taught the Army values.

“There is a basis for a moral code that everyone stands by in the Army,” Kelly said. “It’s an honor to be here and work with the Soldiers.”

The presentation mixes humor, improvisation and audience participation to address sexual assault and how you can protect yourself from becoming an offender.

“The Soldiers understand now what consent means when it comes to sex,” Reeves said. “When someone says no, they mean no.”



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

Actress Amber Kelly performs in an improvisational skit about sexual assault prevention during the play “Sex Signals” at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, March 9. The Army sexual assault prevention program is built on a bedrock of Army values, with Army leaders ensuring Army-wide commitment to ridding the Army of this crime.



Amber Kelly and Kyle Terry act out a scene in which Terry n Balad, Iraq, March 9. Soldiers who live the Army values really avoid situations where such assaults can occur.



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

Soldiers watch as Amber Kelly and Kyle Terry perform during the play “Sex Signals” at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, March 9. All members of the Army team must have at their core an ingrained, value-based “gut reaction” against not just assaults itself but sexually offensive language and gestures that create an environment friendly to abuse.



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

Kyle Terry, an actor in the play "Sex Signals," plays a stereotypical serial dater during a performance designed to educate Soldiers about sexual assault prevention at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, March 9. Army values and Warrior Ethos knit Soldiers into a band of brothers and sisters, where assaults of any kind are unacceptable.



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

Actress Amber Kelly plays the character of a game-show host in a scene in which Actor Kyle Terry is accused of committing sexual assault and given the chance to defend himself during "Sex Signals," a play about sexual assault prevention at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, March 3. The play, which uses improvisational comedy, audience interaction, and education to engage audiences, was hosted by the 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary).



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

...makes an awkward and overt sexual advance towards Kelly during the play "Sex Signals" at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, March 3. Terry immediately stops the advance and takes steps to make sure their battle buddies

Headquarters Soldiers say goodbye to their commander

STORY AND PHOTO BY
CAPT. NATALIA MERCEDES-WILLIAMS
18th Combat Sustainment
Support Battalion

CONTINGENCY OPERATING SITE
MAREZ-EAST, Iraq — Headquarters

Soldiers here said farewell to one commander and hailed another during a change of command ceremony here Feb. 19.

The Grafenwoehr, Germany-based Soldiers of the Headquarters and Headquarters Co., 18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, said goodbye to Capt. Stephen R. Leonard, outgoing commander, during the ceremony.

“I want to thank the chain of command for giving me the opportunity to command within the 18th CSSB, and that I am very proud of the support

provided to me, from all the Soldiers in the company,” Leonard said.

Leonard, a native of West Virginia, is serving his third deployment to Iraq and will soon be part of a logistical training assistance team at Contingency Operating Base Warrior, Kirkuk, Iraq.

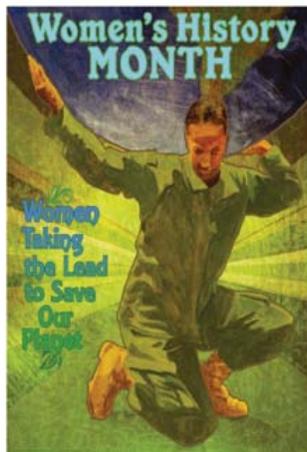
Lt. Col. Christopher J. Roscoe, commander, 18th CSSB, and Command Sgt. Maj. Bryan D. Krootje, command sergeant major, 18th CSSB, were present to recognize the two officers taking the next step in their military careers. In addition to the Soldiers of the 18th CSSB, other military and civilian members of COB Marez were in attendance.

Capt. Bertalina Villar, incoming commander, HHC, 18th CSSB, who was commissioned into the Quartermaster Corps in 2002, said she was grateful to be given the opportunity to lead Soldiers in Iraq.

“The change of command ceremony was excellent,” Villar said, “It is a great honor to lead Soldiers downrange.”



1st Sgt. Moises Gonzales, first sergeant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, receives the guidon from the new HHC company commander, Capt. Bertalina Villar, incoming commander, HHC, 18th CSSB, during a change of command ceremony for the HHC, 18th CSSB, at Contingency Operating Site Marez-East, Iraq, Feb. 19.



DOD National Theme:
“Women Taking the Lead to Save Our Planet.”



JOINT BASE BALAD

Presents

Women's History Month

Observance



MWR East Facility
27 March 2009 at 1130 to 1300 hours

Guest Speaker : **CMSgt Carol A. Sanders**

ELRS Chief Enlisted Manager
332nd AEW

Lunch will be provided
Essay Awards Presentations
Choir: Women of Gospel Explosion
Poem Presentation

Contact: MSG Tuynuykua Jackson, 3rd ESC HR/EO Advisor @ 433-2527,
MSG Joseph Newton 332nd AEW EO Director @ 443-8459,
SFC Sidney Karneke 555th EN BDE EO Advisor @ 483-4645,
SFC Lisa Paxton 304th SB EO Advisor @ 433-2917,
SSG DaMon Walker 51st ESB BN EOL @483-2217,
LTC James-Michael Yates, TF 34 EO PM @ 483-4589,
SSG Matthew Moseley, BN EOL 330th Trans BN, 483-2027

Fire-reporting procedures on JBB

BY MASTER SGT. CHRIS RAYNOR
Assistant Chief fire prevention

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq -- Do you know how to report a fire or an emergency? If we were back in the States, this question is a no-brainer but out here in the field it's a different story. Each base, FOB or camp seems to have its own way of reporting an emergency. What may be the correct procedure at Camp Victory in Baghdad may be different here.

Why bring the issue up? Because there has been a spike in unreported fires here at JBB. Now I'm not talking about the big barnburner type of fire, but, rather, I'm referring to the ones that are noticed before they get out of control. These are the ones that are found and extinguished by those who live or work in the area and normally aren't a big issue -- other than the fact that a workorder has to be placed and you have to find a new place to plug in your computer or other electronic device. The fact is that these small fires are just as important to fire inspectors as the larger ones are.

For instance, recently there was a rash of fires on JBB that was traced to a particular brand of Chinese-made surge protectors. These surge protectors were not working as advertised and soon began malfunctioning and causing fires inside CHUs and work centers around the base. Through some detective work and trends analysis, it was determined the cause of these fires were from the way the surge protectors were wired. Through the reporting of these small fires, we were able to prevent larger ones from occurring. The reporting of these fires also provided the opportunity to raise



A fire on Joint Base Balad caused an estimated one million dollars in damages to six structures July 22, 2008. While no one was seriously injured in the blaze, three firefighters were treated at the Air Force Theater Hospital here for heat stress-related symptoms and were later released.

awareness to the point that now CENTCOM has purchased surge protectors for use throughout the Iraqi theater of operations to replace these problematic surge protectors.

Another reason why it is important to report these fires is to ensure they are extinguished. What may be a small fire in an electrical outlet on one end of the wire may lead to a larger fire at the circuit breaker box. A small fire on one side of a wall may cause a fire on

the other side or even inside the wall without you noticing it until it is too late. Properly reporting the fire at the time you find it will bring firefighters who are trained to search for additional causes, equipped with heat-sensitive detection equipment, and able to determine the true extent of the fire. Also by calling the fire department at the time of the fire, we will be able to initiate an emergency workorder being established and the dispatch of repair

technicians that much quicker. So just when would you call the fire department? The answer is anytime you suspect there may be an overheated wall outlet; you smell that distinct odor of burning plastic/insulation; or there's an odor that people notice is getting stronger. In all actuality, you want to call the fire department anytime you suspect there may be something wrong or there is a possibility for a fire.

READ THIS!

Tell us what you THINK about the *new* Expeditionary Times!
Write a

“LETTER TO THE EDITOR”

- Likes/dislikes
- Changes
- Story ideas
- Base policies
- Soldier-related events
- Tell the CG your thoughts
- Serious inquires only

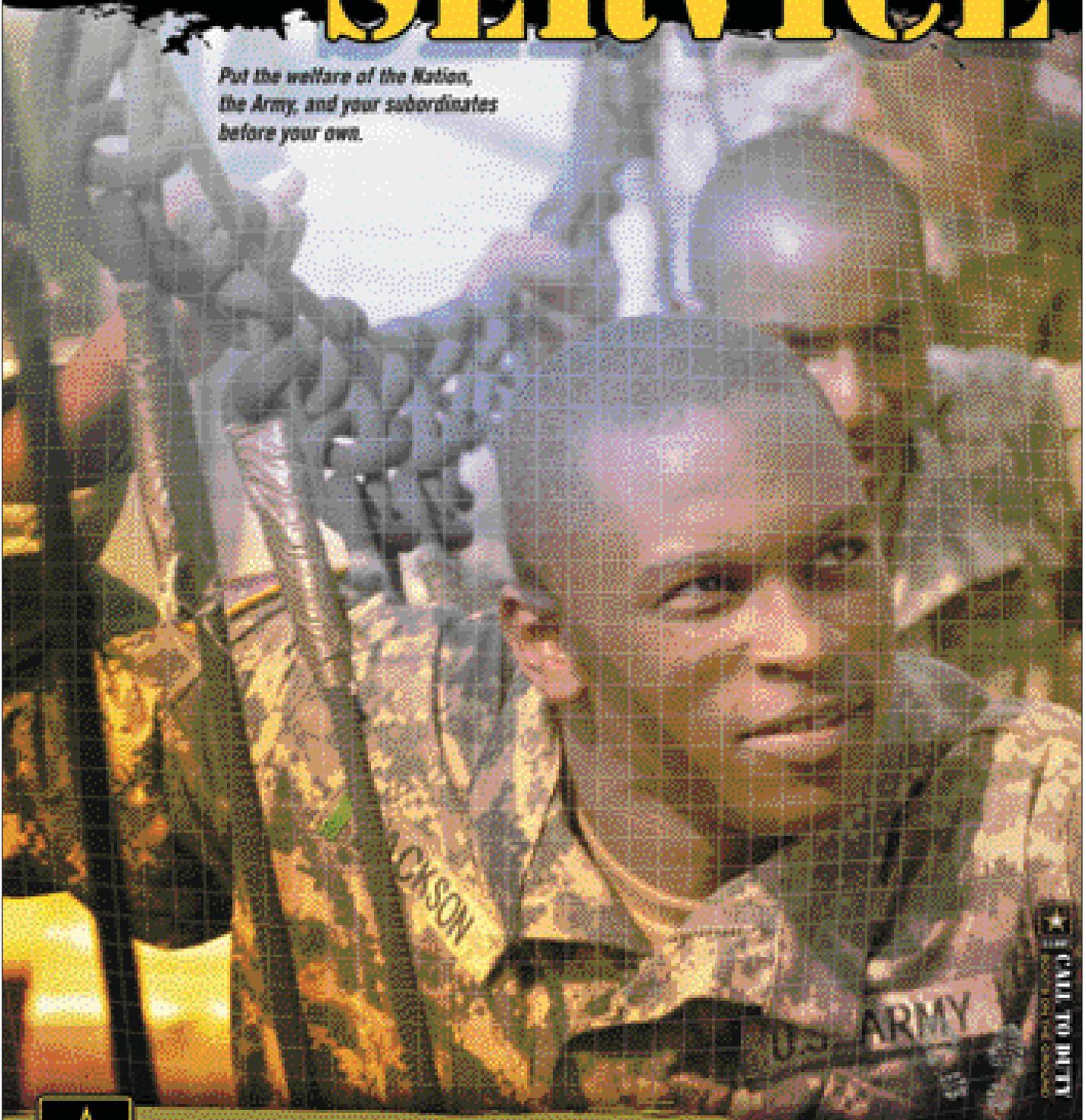
expeditionarytimes@iraq.centcom.mil



SELFLESS

SERVICE

*Put the welfare of the Nation,
the Army, and your subordinates
before your own.*



CALL TO DUTY



U.S. ARMY

ARMY STRONG.

ARMY VALUES

Soldiers partner with Iraqi Forces to share cookies, goodwill

BY CAPT. MATT DAVIS
51st Transportation Co., 30th CSSB

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE Q-WEST, Iraq — The transportation

Soldiers here who often escort convoys of supplies throughout northern Iraq have learned to work closely with Iraqi Security Forces — and it has paid off.

The Soldiers of the 51st Transportation Company, 30th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, say they often stop to coordinate information with ISF and to share goodwill, sometimes sharing Gatorade, Mountain Dew, cookies and muffins.

“To step down from one of the large vehicles driving by and say, ‘we appreciate what you’re doing for us, and you are doing your country a great service,’ gives Iraqi Soldiers and police a sense of pride in their job,” said 1st Lt. Adam Moore, platoon leader, 51st Trans. Co.

Since arriving at Q-West, the Soldiers going out on missions realized the importance of these Iraqis and the impact they have on their lives during this deployment.

1st Lt. James Correa, platoon leader, 51st Trans. Co., was leading a convoy of U.S. military and Iraqi commercial trucks when one of the Iraqi trucks broke down. The convoy was on a very narrow road, used heavily by both civilian and military vehicles, and the broken vehicle froze traffic in



U.S. Army courtesy photo

1st Lt. Adam C. Moore, platoon leader, 51st Transportation Co., 30th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, stops briefly while on a mission to offer gifts of appreciation to the grateful Iraqi security forces at the checkpoints along his route. The Soldiers of the 51st Trans. Co., say they often stop to coordinate information with ISF and to share goodwill, sometimes by sharing sports drinks, sodas, cookies and muffins.

both directions.

While the maintenance personnel assessed the situation, a group of Iraqi Army Soldiers approached (their officer spoke English) and offered assistance. They provided chains to hook the truck up to another commercial truck so it could be towed out of the chokepoint to a place where it could easily be fixed. This saved time that would have had to be spent maneu-

vering the proper recovery vehicles through the tight spot to recover the disabled vehicle — time anti-Iraqi forces could have spent plotting to attack the convoy.

1st Lt. Adam Moore, platoon leader of 2nd Platoon, 51st Trans. Co., has been waved down twice by Iraqi Security Forces. Both times they were warning the convoy about possible roadside bombs ahead. The first time

it turned out to be nothing. The second time the convoy was stopped the Iraqis used their own route clearance to investigate a suspicious pothole that was in the direct path of the platoon’s moving vehicles. Inside this pothole, probably placed during a limited visibility dust-storm, they found a buried IED.

Capt. Joshua Kerton, commander, 51st Trans. Co., said taking the time to stop, make friends, and build upon the solid foundation between American and Iraqi Forces has empowered the ISF to do a better job securing the routes that U.S. Soldiers and Iraqi civilians travel on.

“This will ultimately lead to the ISF taking a bigger role in the security of their country,” Kerton said, “and will allow American troops to get home that much sooner.”

Stressed? Relax and go see a movie.

See page 21 for
movie schedule

Maintenance and Supply Topic of the Week

Courtesy of PS Magazine. Soldiers using Army equipment needing more information for on-going equipment issues and challenges, visit PS Magazine online: <https://www.logsa.army.mil/psmag/psonline.cfm>

MAINTENANCE & SUPPLY

Use New Tow Bar with Caution

NEW! YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO USE THE NEW TOW BAR UNTIL THE COMMANDER SAYS IT'S SAFE TO USE.

WHEN PARKING YOUR HMMWV ON A GRADE OR SLOPE, USE WHEEL CHOCKS AND THE PARKING BRAKE.

By the way, units will have to pay for any requisitioned items needed to get vehicles back to the standard configurations.

Within these guidelines, you can say no to the old, and yes with caution to the new.

Use New Tow Bar, PN 2509-400-001, with Caution

COMMANDERS WHO APPROVE THE USE OF THIS TOW BAR WILL HAVE TO FIRST DEVELOP A COMPLETE RISK MANAGEMENT DOCUMENT THAT ADDRESSES THE RISK OF INJURY.

IF YOUR COMMANDER ACCEPTS THE RISK, YOU MUST WEAR YOUR SEAT BELT AND YOUR TOW BAR TO STAY SAFE WHILE USING THE NEW TOW BAR.

Before Operation PMCS

1. Inspect the tow bar ring hitch assembly for wear. When the ring's thickness wears below 1.25 inches, replace the ring hitch assembly using part number 2509-700-001, CAGE 1SC09. Use an outside caliper micrometer, NSN 5210-00-243-2933.
2. Use safety tow chains instead of nylon straps.

During Operation PMCS

1. Limit vehicle speeds to 20 mph when towing a HMMWV.
2. Limit vehicle operation on V-ditch type obstacles when towing a like HMMWV.
3. Limit vehicle operation to grades no greater than 20 percent and side slopes no greater than 30 percent when towing a like HMMWV.
4. Increase stopping distance when towing.

After Operation PMCS

When parking your HMMWV on a grade or a slope, use wheel chocks and the parking brake.

By the way, units will have to pay for any requisitioned items needed to get vehicles back to the standard configurations.

Within these guidelines, you can say no to the old, and yes with caution to the new.

Basic Guidelines

- Use of this tow bar, part number 2509-400-001, CAGE code 1SC09, is only for HMMWV to HMMWV applications. This tow bar is black. The older Isis Tek tan tow bar is not authorized.
- Get two people to install the Isis Tek tow bar. The tow bar weighs 60 pounds.
- When stowing the tow bar in the front vertical position, use a positive locking ratchet strap to secure the tow bar. Don't use the nylon straps provided. This should prevent the tow bar from coming in contact with the ground while in motion.
- Operators should wear gloves when removing the rear hitch pin on the rear bumper tow bar holder. That ought to prevent hand injuries.

JBB Religious Service Schedule

PROTESTANT

TRADITIONAL

Sunday 0200 Air Force Hospital Chapel
 0930 Provider Chapel
 1030 Freedom Chapel (West side)
 1100 Castle Heights (Bldg 4155)
 1400 Air Force Hospital Chapel
 1730 Gilbert Memorial Chapel
 2000 Air Force Hospital Chapel

GOSPEL

Sunday 1100 MWR East building
 1200 Freedom Chapel (West side)
 1230 Gilbert Mem. Chapel (H-6)
 1900 Provider Chapel

CONTEMPORARY

Sunday 0900 MWR East building
 1030 Gilbert Mem. Chapel (H-6)
 1400 Castle Heights (Bldg 4155)
 1900 Freedom Chapel (West side)
 Wednesday 2000 Gilbert Mem. Chapel (H-6)

LITURGICAL

Sunday 1500 Gilbert Chapel (H-6)

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Saturday 0900 Provider Chapel

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday 1530 Castle Heights (Bldg 4155)

LATTER DAY SAINTS (MORMON)

Sunday 1300 Provider Chapel
 1530 Freedom Chapel (West side)
 1900 Gilbert Mem. Chapel (H-6)

ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

Saturday 1700 Gilbert Mem. Chapel (H-6)
(Sacrament of Reconciliation Sat 1600 or by appointment)

Sunday 2000 Freedom Chapel (West side)
 0830 Gilbert Mem. Chapel (H-6)
 1100 Provider Chapel
 1100 Air Force Hospital Chapel
 Thursday 1100 Air Force Hospital Chapel
 Mon, Wed, Fri 1700 Gilbert Mem. Chapel (H-6)
 Mon - Fri 1130 555th Eng. Bde. Bldg 7200

JEWISH SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday 1700 Gilbert Mem. Chapel (H-6)
 Saturday 0930 Gilbert Mem. Chapel (H-6)
 1700 Gilbert Mem. Chapel (H-6)

ISLAMIC PRAYER

Friday 1230 Provider Chapel

PAGAN/WICCAN FELLOWSHIP

Thursday 1900 The Shack
 Saturday 1900 The Shack

GREEK ORTHODOX

Sunday 0900 Provider Annex

SPANISH BIBLE STUDY

Saturday 1930 Provider Chapel

For more information, call

Gilbert Chapel: 433-7703
 Provider Chapel: 433-2430
 Freedom Chapel: 443-6303
 AF Hospital Chapel: 443-2547/2546

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.
 MACP 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 Ton-
 ing 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.

Sudoku

Level: Very Hard

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.

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

Last weeks answers

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



UPCOMING SPORTS ON AFN

Wednesday 3/18/09

Philadelphia 76ers @ Los Angeles Lakers, Live 5:30 a.m. AFN/xtra
 2009 World Baseball Classic - Round 2: Teams TBD, Live 6 a.m. AFN/sports
 2009 NIT Tournament - First Round: Teams TBD, Tape Delayed 10 a.m. AFN/sports
 2009 NIT Tournament - First Round: Teams TBD, Tape Delayed 12 a.m. AFN/sports

Thursday 3/19/09

Miami Heat @ Boston Celtics, Live 2 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Detroit Pistons @ Houston Rockets, Live 4:30 a.m. AFN/xtra
 2009 World Baseball Classic - Round 2: Teams TBD, Live 6 a.m. AFN/sports
 Miami Heat @ Boston Celtic, Tape Delayed 4 p.m. AFN/sports
March Madness: 2009 NCAA Men's College Basketball Tournament - Second Round: Teams TBD (Region TBD, Location TBD, Live: AFN/sports 9:30 p.m. -- AFN/xtra 7 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.

Friday 3/20/09

March Madness: 2009 NCAA Men's College Basketball Tournament - First Round: Teams TBD (Region TBD, Location TBD, Live: AFN/sports 2 a.m., 4:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 7 p.m. & 9:30 p.m. -- AFN/prime atlantic 2 a.m. & 4:30 a.m. -- AFN/xtra 2 a.m., 4:30 a.m., 7 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.
 2009 NIT Tournament - Second Round: Teams TBD, Tape Delayed 7 a.m. AFN/xtra

Saturday 3/21/09

March Madness: 2009 NCAA Men's College Basketball Tournament - First Round: Teams TBD (Region TBD, Location TBD, Live: AFN/sports 2 a.m., 4:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. -- AFN/prime atlantic 2 a.m., 4:30 a.m. & 10 p.m. -- AFN/xtra 2 a.m., & 4:30 a.m. AMA Supercross Lites: San Diego, Live 8 p.m. AFN/xtra
 NASCAR Nationwide Series: Sharpie Mini 300 (Bristol Motor Speedway, Bristol, TN), Live 9:30 p.m. AFN/xtra atlantic

Sunday 3/22/09

2009 World Baseball Classic - Semifinal #1: Teams TBD (Dodger Stadium; Los Angeles, California), Live 4 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Top 50 Best Damn Inspiring Moments, Tape Delayed 5 a.m. AFN/prime atlantic

NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships (St. Louis, MO) Tape Delayed 7:30 a.m. AFN/xtra
 2009 NIT Tournament - Second Round: Teams TBD, Tape Delayed 10 a.m. AFN/sports
 Atlanta Hawks @ Cleveland Cavaliers, Tape Delayed 10 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Los Angeles Lakers @ Chicago Bulls, Tape Delayed 12:30 a.m. AFN/xtra
 2009 World Baseball Classic - Semifinal #1: Teams TBD (Dodger Stadium; Los Angeles, California), Tape Delayed 2 p.m. AFN/prime atlantic
 Washington Capitals @ Carolina Hurricanes, Tape Delayed 4 p.m. AFN/xtra
 Buffalo Sabres @ New York Rangers, Tape Delayed 6:30 p.m. AFN/xtra
March Madness: 2009 NCAA Men's College Basketball Tournament - Second Round: Teams TBD (Region TBD, Location TBD, Live: AFN/sports 7 p.m. & 9:30 p.m. -- AFN/xtra 9:30 p.m. -- AFN/prime atlantic 9 p.m. & 11:30 p.m.

Monday 3/23/09

March Madness: 2009 NCAA Men's College Basketball Tournament - Second Round: Teams TBD (Region TBD, Location TBD, Live: AFN/sports 12 p.m. -- AFN/xtra 12 p.m.
 Phoenix Coyotes @ Anaheim Ducks, Live 3 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Miami Heat @ Detroit Pistons, Tape Delayed 6 a.m. AFN/xtra
 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series: Food City 500, Tape Delayed 9 a.m. AFN/xtra
 ATP Tennis Masters Series - World Tour Masters: Men's & Women's Finals (Indian Wells, CA), Tape Delayed 6 p.m. AFN/xtra

Tuesday 3/24/09

New Jersey Devils @ Philadelphia Flyers, Live 2 a.m. AFN/xtra
 Denver Nuggets @ Phoenix Suns, Live 5 a.m. AFN/xtra
 2009 NIT Tournament - Second Round: Teams TBD, Live 10 a.m. AFN/sports
 2009 World Baseball Classic - Final: Teams TBD (Dodger Stadium; Los Angeles, California), Tape Delayed 1 p.m. AFN/sports
 2009 NIT Tournament - Second Round: Teams TBD, Tape Delayed 5 p.m. AFN/sports
 2009 World Baseball Classic - Final: Teams TBD (Dodger Stadium; Los Angeles, California), Tape Delayed 8 p.m. AFN/sports

This Week in History

March 18

- 1996 - A nightclub fire in Quezon City, Philippines kills 162.

March 19

- 1995 - Michael Jordan came out of retirement from the NBA and played the Indiana Pacers in Indianapolis. He wore jersey number 45 because his number 23 was retired by the Chicago Bulls.

March 20

- 2003 - Invasion of Iraq: In the early hours of the morning, the United States and three other countries begin military operations in Iraq.

March 21

- 1965 - Martin Luther King Jr leads 3,200 people on the start of the third and finally successful civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama.

March 22

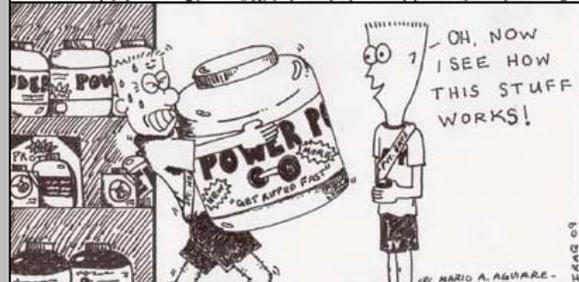
- 1997 - The Comet Hale-Bopp has its closest approach to earth.

March 23

- 1994 - At an election rally in Tijuana, Mexican presidential candidate Luis Donaldo Colosio is assassinated by Mario Aburto Martínez.

March 24

- 1958 - Elvis Presley is officially inducted into the U.S. Army.



PVT. MURPHY'S LAW



Eastern Orthodox Services

For the Great Fast

Divine Liturgy
Every Sun 0900 ~ 1030

PreSanctified Liturgy
Wed 1900 ~ 2130
Mar 4, 11, 18, 25
Apr 1, 8, 15

Holy Week and Pascha

Apr 15 Unction 1900
Apr 16 Passion Gospels 1900
Apr 17 Royal Hours 1200
Lamentations 1700
Apr 18 St Basil Liturgy 0900
Great and Holy Pascha 2100

Eastern Orthodox Priest Chaplain Henry Close 433-2429
All services at Provider Chapel Annex



TOBYHANNA FRA

We are located at Bldg 6828 Victory Loop N
behind the Education Center at JBB

Computer Repair



Exchanges and DX



DSN: 312-987-5130, OPTION 1
EXT 6363/6364 HIT "F"
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We repair:

- Laptops
- Digital Senders
- Desktops
- LCD Monitors
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- Cisco Switches

We exchange:

- Batteries
- A/C Adapters
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Printer Repair



We DX:

- HIIDE , PRC 112, HCLOS, TBC, CAISI





****GOVERNMENT EQUIPMENT ONLY!****

To open an account with us , just bring a signature card and an assumption of command letter.

“Caring for the Warfighter’s Soul”

Joint Base Balad Protestant Easter Schedule

Ash Wednesday Service – Feb. 25
1900 - Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H6)
Good Friday Service – Apr. 10
2100 - Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H6)
Easter Sunrise Service, Apr. 12
0600 - Holt Stadium

JBB Catholic Lent & Easter Schedule

Ash Wednesday – 25 February
1130 - Provider Chapel
1700 - Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H6)
2000 - Freedom Chapel
Lenten Penance Services
Friday, 19 March, 1900, Provider Chapel
Tuesday, 31 March, 1900, Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H6)
Holy Thursday
1900 - Gilbert Memorial
2000 - Freedom Chapel
Good Friday
1130 - Provider Chapel
1900 - H6 Chapel

2000 - Freedom Chapel
Easter Vigil – 11 April
1900 - Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H6)
Easter Sunday – 12 April
0830 - Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H6)
1100 – Provider Chapel
1100 – Hospital Chapel
2000 – Freedom Chapel

JBB Purim and Passover

Purim:
Service - 9 March 2009, 1700
Festival Dinner – 9 March 2009, 1800
Where: Gilbert Memorial Chapel, Multi-faith Room

Passover:
First Night Seder - 8 April, 1600-2000
Second Night – 9 April, 1600-2000
DFAC-1, Audie Murphy Room, RSVP

*For more information , call
Gilbert Memorial Chapel: 443-7703*

SHOUT OUT!!!

TELL YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS HOW MUCH YOU MISS THEM

Contact the Expeditionary Times for more information.

E-mail: expeditionarytimes@iraq.centcom.mil



**SHOWTIME AT JBB
TALENT SHOW**

**SAT 4 APRIL @ SUSTANIER THEATER
2000-2200HRS**

*****Live Entertainment*****

Sing, dance, play instruments, comedy, poetry???
Come show your talent on the mic

All participants receive prizes!!!!Grand prizes will be presented
to top 3 winners by Ms. JBB Shepard

POC:
SrA Marquita Finley
Marquita.Finley@blab.afcom.af.mil

SPC Samuel Benson
samuel.benson@iraq.centcom.mil

Raphael Pettigrew
ahoythubusiness@yahoo.com

SPC Marcus Rogers
marswayne07@yahoo.com

After party 2200-0100 Town Hall w/ DJ Dot Com!!!

Email: ShowtimeatJBB@yahoo.com

*Supporters USO***MWR***American Red Cross***A.F.V***AALES****

SUSTAINER REEL TIME THEATER

Movie Times

Wednesday, March 18

5 p.m. Watchmen

8 p.m. Last Chance Harvey

Thursday, March 19

5 p.m. Last Chance Harvey

8 p.m. Watchmen

Friday, March 20

2 p.m. Bride Wars

5 p.m. New In Town

8:30 p.m. Race to Witch Mountain

Saturday, March 21

2 p.m. Race to Witch Mountain

5 p.m. Bride Wars

8 p.m. Notorious

Sunday, March 22

2 p.m. New In Town

5 p.m. Notorious

8 p.m. Bride Wars

Monday, March 23

5 p.m. Race to Witch Mountain

8 p.m. New In Town

Tuesday, March 24

5 p.m. New In Town

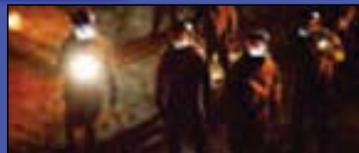
8 p.m. Notorious

(Schedule is Subject to Change)

Race to Witch Mountain



For years, stories have circulated about a secret place in the middle of the Nevada desert, known for unexplained phenomena and strange sightings. It is called Witch Mountain, and when a Las Vegas cab driver (Dwayne Johnson) finds two teens with supernatural powers in his cab, he suddenly finds himself in the middle of an adventure he can't explain. When they discover that the only chance to save the world lies in unraveling the secrets of Witch Mountain, the race begins, as the government, mobsters and even extraterrestrials try to stop them.



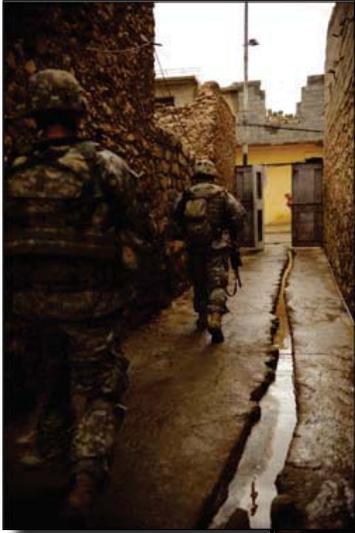
Notorious



Centers on the life of murdered rapper Notorious B.I.G., from his beginnings as a Brooklyn crack dealer to East Coast hip-hop sensation.



PHOTOS AROUND IRAQ



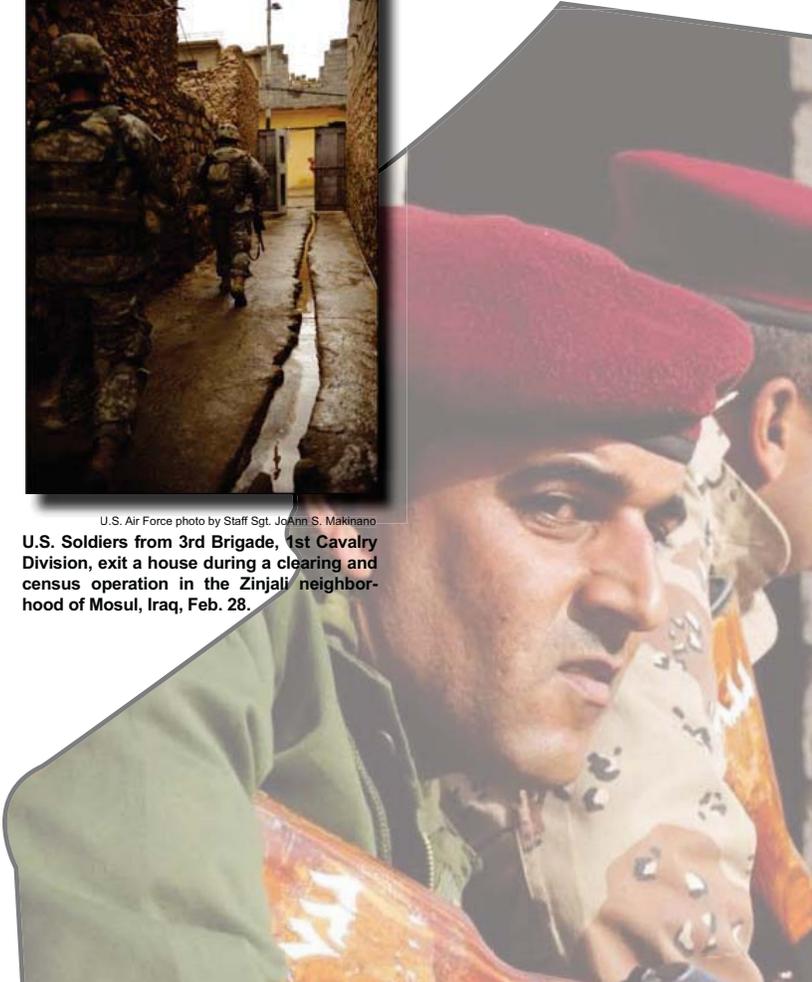
U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. JoAnn S. Makinano

U.S. Soldiers from 3rd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, exit a house during a clearing and census operation in the Zinjali neighborhood of Mosul, Iraq, Feb. 28.



U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Wendy Wyman

U.S. Army 1st Lt. Andrew Williams of 2nd Platoon, Charlie Troop, 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, talks with Iraqi soldiers and Sons of Iraq members at a check point on Route Spade, outside of Haswah, Iraq, Mar. 5.



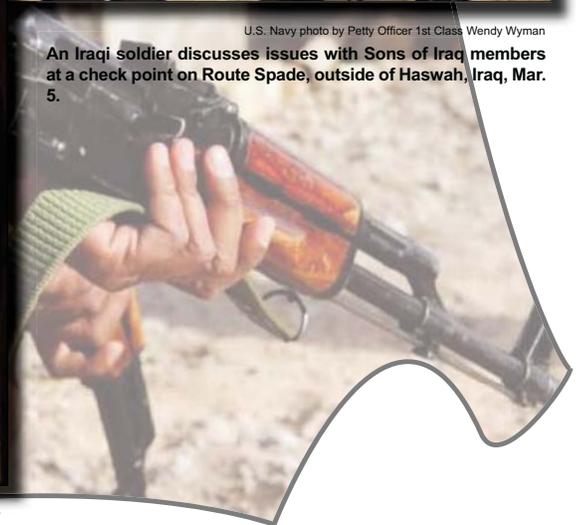
U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Wendy Wyman

An Iraqi soldier discusses issues with Sons of Iraq members at a check point on Route Spade, outside of Haswah, Iraq, Mar. 5.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. JoAnn S. Makinano

U.S. Soldiers from 3rd Brigade, 8th Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, and Iraqi National Policemen search a balcony during a clearing and census operation in the Zinjali neighborhood of Mosul, Iraq, Mar. 1.



NEWS AROUND IRAQ

Fourteen new tractors given to Lutifiyah farmers

COMBAT OUTPOST MEADE, Iraq – Multi-National Division—Baghdad Soldiers presented 14 new tractors to local Sheiks from the Lutifiyah Nahia during a ceremony held at Combat Outpost Meade on March 5. Each Arma Trac 602 tractor is estimated to help to cultivate an area over 25,000,000 square feet.

Troops from Task Force 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division used funds from the Commander's Emergency Response Program to purchase 14 new tractors.

"When we were first asked [by the Lutifiyah council], we immediately wanted to help," said Lt. Col. Michael Mammay, commander, 4th Bn., 17th Field Artillery Regt. "Agriculture is very important in helping this area."

Since November, the battalion leadership has worked on transporting these tractors from Turkey to the farmers who need them. Throughout the effort, the council has continued to help the Coalition forces daily in their efforts to secure a safe Iraq.

The improving security situation and decreased attacks against Coalition forces, Iraqi Security Forces and the Iraqi people, and it has allowed the local government of the Lutifiyah Nahia to continue improving the economy for a better quality of life. The tractors will allow local farmers to grow crops and contribute to the stability of the Nahia.

"We won't squander the goodwill of the Americans," said Sheik Hamash, the chairman of the Lutifiyah Nahia Council. "We will use these tractors to help bring back the area to its fullest."

The Lutifiyah Nahia is a primarily agricultural land with nearly all of the residents working as farmers. Previously, the farmers could only work with hand-held or animal driven equipment. The 14 tractors will help the entire area to rebuild their farmland faster.

"Every day we drive down the road, we can see the green returning to the area," Mammay said. "With the tractors we are providing today, we hope to see even more green return."

New water purification system provides water, optimism for the people of Samarra

FORWARD OPERATING BASE BRASSFIELD-MORA, SAMARRA, Iraq – The Government of Iraq has completed installation of a new water purification system on the Rassassi Canal, bringing clean drinking water to hundreds of needy families in the area.

"Success is everywhere, and the insurgents know it," said Farhan Ra'ad Thamer, a local citizen. "The Golden Mosque is being rebuilt, the pilgrims are visiting, the water and power systems are being repaired, the farmers are farming -- the government is beginning to take care of us," he said.

Muhammad Maged Soluman, director general of water for Samarra, oversaw a team of Iraqi contractors who performed maintenance work on an existing

water purification system and the construction of a new one. "This project has been a great success," Soluman said, "but it is only the beginning. We will continue our efforts until all the people of Samarra have the water they need."

The 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division assisted with coordinating the funding from the Commander's Emergency Relief Program for the purification system, which consists of two water pumps, a 400kVA generator, two aluminum sulfate clarifiers and two sand filters.

The new system will provide an additional 200 cubic liters of clean drinking water per hour for eastern Samarra, where the people currently suffer from a shortage of clean water. Both water units connect via 300 mm pipe that travels more than seven kilometers to four neighborhoods in the area.

While the installation of a new water unit is good news for the people, much work remains to repair the destruction caused over the course of the last six years. Samarra currently receives only 2,000 cubic liters of water per hour. Nearly double that amount is required to bring clean water reliably to the entire city.

As construction of the nearby Jalisia Power Station nears completion, the electrical grid in eastern Samarra will be improved, making continued operation of the water units more reliable, and the installation of new units a possibility.

"The people in Samarra are very excited about all the improvements being made," said Munther Jasim al-Abasi, a local citizen. "The security is good, and the children are going to school without fear."

Coalition forces discuss way ahead for Diyala

DIYALA, Iraq – A local influential sheik hosted several key sheiks, the Provincial Governor, and leadership from the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, to discuss the current security situation in Diyala and to develop a plan for the way ahead in improving communications, essential services, and security throughout the province on March 3.

The current Diyala Governor, Governor Ra'ad al Tamimi, and Col. Burt Thompson, commander, 1st

SBCT, 25th Inf. Div., along with the deputy commander and several battalion commanders, attended this significant meeting.

One local sheik attended the gathering in spite of injuries recently received by an improvised explosive device strike on his vehicle. He spoke fervently about settling differences that must be settled between tribesmen.

"I am here despite my condition," the sheik began. "I felt it was important for me to be here because we must set aside our petty differences and come together."

The meeting ended with a tradition tribal meal, followed by chai and break-out meetings to discuss each sheiks' concerns for his specific area. The sheiks were very appreciative of the opportunity to meet with the civilian and military leadership and look forward to working together to continue progress in Diyala.

Samarra's improving electrical grid brightening lives

FORWARD OPERATING BASE BRASSFIELD-MORA, SAMARRA, Iraq – Iraqi Security Forces met with U.S. Army Soldiers and members of the Provincial Reconstruction Team recently to assess the current state of electric utility service throughout Samarra.

Director General of Electricity for Samarra Mr. Hameed escorted ISF, members of the Salah ad-Din PRT and Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, on a tour of various power substations in the city. Hameed and his team have made continual progress in upgrading Samarra's power grid over the last several months.

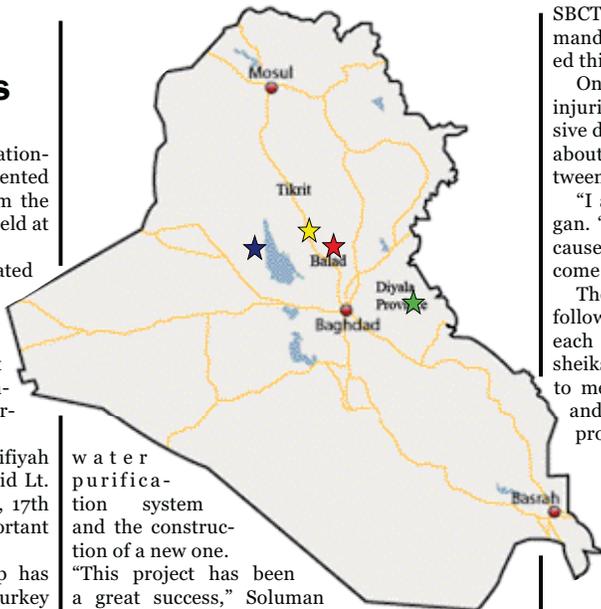
"Though there have been some setbacks in progress," Hameed said, "the overall outlook for completion of several electrical projects in Samarra is very positive." Next to clean drinking water, the people of Samarra rank access to electricity as their most important concern.

Working closely with Hameed, an Iraqi contractor named Basam and key leaders of the PRT have developed a large-scale, long-term plan for providing power to nearly all of Samarra's citizens. Basan estimates it would take more than 200 megawatts of electricity to power the entire city. Current output levels reside just below half that number.

"An electrical project can be something as simple as installing new transformers and running new power lines, or as complex as upgrading or developing entire power substations, said Mr. Mike Craft, Salah ad-Din PRT leader. "No matter what the size of the project, every small step helps."

Hundreds of meters of electrical cable have been run to neighborhoods all around the city in recent months to improve access to electricity.

In addition to localized construction, work is underway to connect several of Samarra's power substations to a nearly completed mega station known as the Jalasiya Power Plant. The total power output from Jalasiya – once generating at full capacity – is estimated to be 340 megawatts. A substantial portion of that power will be allotted to the city of Samarra. Testing has already begun at the power plant, and Jalasiya is scheduled to be fully operational by mid-summer.



Sustaining the Line



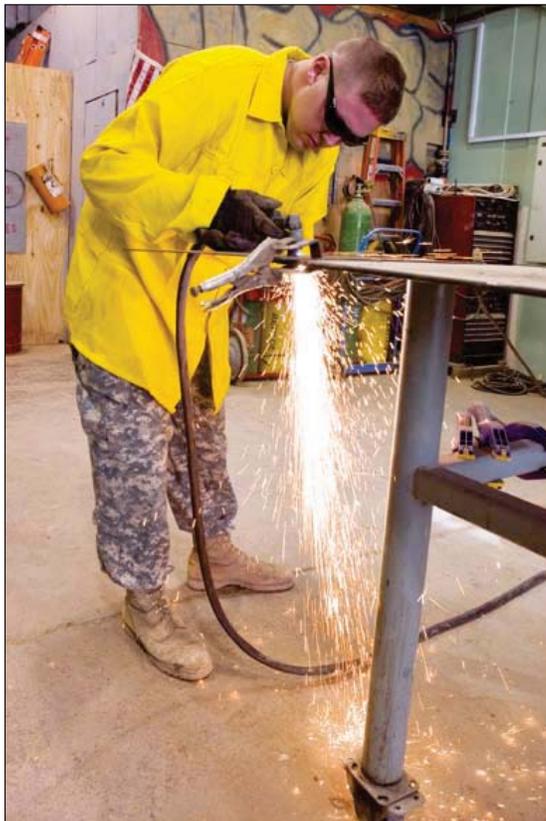
U.S. Army photo by Spc. Brian A. Barbour

Spc. David A. Cruz of Corpus Christi, Texas, uses an ARC welder create an amnesty box at his company's workshop on Joint Base Balad, Iraq, March 11. Cruz, who is a welder with the 602nd Maintenance Company which supports the 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), is deployed from Fort Hood, Texas, has been in theater since April 2008.



U.S. Army photo by Ssg. Aaron J. Larson

Sgt. 1st Class Walter Robelo, the 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) day FRAGO manager, and West Seattle, Wash., native, practices taking off the tire of a humvee in the motor pool for the Sustainer Challenge, while his team mates wait.



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

Spc. Kyle A. Knapp from San Jose, Calif., uses a plasma cutting torch on a piece of steel at the 602nd Maintenance Company welding shop on Joint Base Balad, Iraq, March 11. Knapp, a welder with the 602nd, which is based in Fort Hood, Texas, was cutting an opening in a piece of steel to be used on an amnesty box the company is constructing.



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

Spc. Amanda D. Tucker, a journalist with the 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) out of Fort Knox Ky. and 1st Lt. Patrick I. Dullano, a platoon leader with the 602 Maintenance Company out of Fort Hood, Texas, practice an armbar drill during Jiu-Jitsu training at the East Fitness Center at Joint Base Balad, March 9.