Multi-National Division - Baghdad

"First Team.....Team First"

Tuesday, March 24, 2009

Baghdad University gets spring cleaning

Staff Sgt. Mark Burrell MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — On the first day of spring, Baghdad University College of Agriculture in Abu Ghraib needed some cleaning. Instead of brooms and dustpans, Iraqi police and U.S. Soldiers used detection dogs, shovels and mine detectors to sweep for unexploded ordnance, improvised explosive devices and weapons caches March 21.

In preparation for University Day April 5, troops from 2nd Battalion, 112th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division received reports that the area needed to be cleared before it could open its doors to the public for Baghdad University's annual event.

"It's almost like a college day open house back home," said Mifflintown, Pa. native Staff Sgt. Robert Welfley, the private security detail noncommissioned officer in charge, assigned to the "Strykers". "They think there's UXO out in the fields and we need to clear it before University Day."

The branch of Baghdad University has several large plots of land with rows of verdant crops and greenhouses surrounding the college buildings.

"It's an agricultural college so the Iraqi students might be planting something and come across a mine," said Spc. Jeff Ross, a mortar man from



By Staff Sgt. Mark Burrell, MND-B PAO

New Blomfield, Pa. native, Staff Sgt. Ronald Chunn (left), and Pvt. 1st Class Zakaria Rehawi, both assigned to 2nd Battalion "Strykers," 112th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, search a field at the Baghdad University College of Agriculture in Abu Ghraib March 21 for unexploded ordnance, weapons caches and improvised explosive devices.

Townsville, Pa., also a Stryker Soldier. "We're trying to keep that area clear for them."

Iraqi Policemen were interspersed within the line of Stryker Soldiers as they slowly and meticulously waded through thigh-high grasses, stopping occasionally to dig out suspected items.

"They bring security and get rid of many bad things," said Muhammad Salim, a security manager that works at the college. "The Americans and IPs have good cooperation and we feel more secure when they come."

This is one of several clearing missions in the area for which Iraqi Security Forces and the Stryker Soldiers have joined forces.

"Whenever communities see Coalition forces joined with ISF, it gives them a good sense that things are getting done," said 1st Lt. Sam Coover, a Stryker mortar platoon leader from New Oxford, Pa. "So in doing a mission like this, making that area safe, they're confident they can focus on their studies and not all the war that's going on around them and all the conflict."

Coover, a Pennsylvania National Guardsman, is a high school chemistry teacher who understands the importance of creating a safe learning environment.

"At home, I worry about things like bullying, kids picking on other kids... that they're not picked on or tormented or anything like that," he said. "So making it a safe learning environment is crucial. When students are distracted by the non-academic things it makes it very hard to learn and pick up on things."

The IPs and Stryker Soldiers were complimented by military police and working dogs from the Provost Marshall's Office, Camp Liberty K-9 section, 1st Cavalry Division.

"We're there to support them, clear the area and search for explosives," said Sgt. Christopher Jasper, a kennel master from Everett, Wash. "The sky's the limit, you never know what a dog can find and they're an extra resource on top of the metal detectors."

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Women's History Month celebrates achievements, diversity

Spc. Howard Alperin MND-B PAO

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq — More than 140 years ago, Lucy Hobbs became the first woman to graduate dental school. The achievement is only half the story. For several years, Lucy Hobbs was denied admission to several dental schools on the basis of being a woman. She persisted though, and eventually earned the reputation, 'the lady who pulls teeth,' putting to rest any doubts about women's abilities as dentists.

The first woman to conduct a symphony orchestra, the first woman to be elected to Congress, the first woman to be part of a U.S. presidential cabinet, and the first woman director of a major corporation, were just a few of the many examples mentioned at the Women's History Month observance here, March 20.

"In preparing for this event, I was amazed at all the firsts that women were able to do, I did not realize how much history women have played a role in,"



By Spc. Howard Alperin, MND-B PAO

Soldiers take part in a learning exercise on waste and how long it takes for items to biodegrade at the Women's History Month observance March 20. Featured speaker Maj. Mindy Kimball (right), a native of Vacaville, Calif., and deputy of the Space Support Element, 1st Cav. Div., provides each participant with a nature-made reusable shopping bag as a gift for their participation.

said Capt. Elizabeth Shumpert, co-coordinator of the Women's History Month observance for Multi-National Division — Baghdad.

"Women's History Month means taking time out of our

busy schedules to recognize the accomplishments of women," said Shumpert, originally from Arlington, Texas. "It means acknowledging the milestones women have reached in history."

'Women Taking the Lead to

Save Our Planet' is this year's Women's History Month's theme. Since its inception in 1987, the month of March has provided Soldiers an opportunity to review a particular theme among the many roles women take on in their lives.

Women are influencing the conservation and preservation of planet Earth and its assets; they play a key role in education and research, said Maj. Mindy Kimball, the featured speaker at this year's Women's History Month observance and deputy of the Space Support Element, 1st Cav. Div.

Kimball, a native of Vacaville, Calif., is well aware of the purpose Women's History Month serves.

"It reminds both women and men how important diversity is," she said.

For generations, women have helped to bring forth justice, civil rights, and opportunity for all Americans.

"They have taken a stand

See WOMEN'S Pg. 4

Students can focus on a blossoming new Iraq rather than dangers beneath the soil.

CLEANING, From Pg 1

Sporadically throughout the day, when the metal detectors gave a high-pitched buzz, the Stryker Soldiers and IPs stopped and dug deep enough holes in the grassy fields to uncover whatever metal lay beneath. The Soldiers and IPs would switch off on working the metal detectors and painstakingly unearthing buried metal under the hot sun.

"When the communities see these joint missions together, they know that we're helping to train the Iraqis and pass on a lot of our skills," added Coover. "We're also sending the message that this is a safe place you can send your students."

The IPs and Stryker Soldiers did not find anything worth throwing out in their rendition of spring cleaning, so now the students can focus on a blossoming new Iraq rather than possible dangers lurking beneath the soil.



By Staff Sgt. Mark Burrell, MND-B PAO

"Stryker" Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 112th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division and Iraqi policemen clear one of many fields surrounding the Baghdad University College of Agriculture in Abu Ghraib March 21.

Professional wrestlers visit MND-B Soldiers



By Staff Sgt. Jon Cupp, MND-B PAO

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Wrestling fan and Kempner, Texas native, Sgt. 1st Class Donald Vess (second from left), an intelligence noncommissioned officer with the 1st Cavalry Division, Multi-National Division—Baghdad meets with professional wresting greats (from the left) Brian "Nasty Boy" Knobs, Jimmy "Mouth of the South" Hart and Greg "The Hammer" Valentine on Camp Liberty March 21. As soon as he heard the wrestlers were visiting, Vess ran into his office, grabbed his replica of a wrestling title belt that hangs on his wall and joined in for a picture with his idols. The wrestling stars are visiting Soldiers throughout Iraq in a Morale, Welfare and Recreation program-sponsored tour.



By Staff Sgt. Jon Cupp, MND-B PAO

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq — Dallas native, Spc. William Hart (center), an intelligence analyst with the 1st Cavalry Division, who grew up watching wrestling, visits with wrestling legends, Jimmy "Mouth of the South" Hart (left) and Brian "Nasty Boy" Knobs, March 21 at Camp Liberty. The young Soldier said he was thrilled by the opportunity to meet the wrestling stars and honored that they took their time to visit troops stationed in Iraq. The visit was made possible by the Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation program.



By Staff Sgt. Jon Cupp, MND-B PAO

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq — Soldiers from the 1st Cavalry Division, Multi-National Division — Baghdad jumped at the chance to have their photos taken with professional wrestling stars SoCal Val (center) and Traci Brooks (right) at Camp Liberty, Iraq March 21. The two stars, along with three others, visited as part of the "Legends and Divas of Wrestling Tour" sponsored by the Army's Morale Welfare and Recreation program.

Women have also paved the way in helping others to realize their dreams

WOMEN'S, From Pg 2

for civil rights issues and equality," said Shumpert. "They know the feeling of being looked down upon and considered less than equal."

Doors really began to open as women gained the right to vote and pushed for equality, Kimball continued. They are an active voice in history.

It has been the signature role of women providing daily guidance that has made a difference in strengthening communities and families.

"Children see how moms' excel in their lives, and it shows how much they can accomplish as they grow up," said Sgt. 1st Class Ann Preston of Austin, Texas.

Women have also paved the way in helping others to realize

their dreams. They continue to stay motivated.

"I want to show young women that anything is possible," said Sgt. 1st Class Marilyn Reed, of Cleveland, Texas. "I want them to realize their potential, not to limit themselves and not to lower their standards. There is so much to reach for."

Women's contributions to history mirror their accomplishments in the military. When given the opportunity, women can excel, even in the military, said Reed.

"The accomplishments of women in the military speak for themselves. Just look at how big the numbers are of women in the military now," said Preston. "The multiple deployments they are doing and the progress made in the daily

operations and missions are all part of women's contributions to the military."

Women in the Army have proven to be worthy assets. One example seen time and again across Iraq is how much they are counted on for searches of women at checkpoints and going into homes, Kimball said.

"There are strengths in differences in the Army."

The women of Iraq are making strides as well, noted Kimball. Recently, the elections in Iraq showed the development that Iraqi society is making, as one-third of the candidates running for office were women. The government of Iraq made a conscious effort to have women on the ballots.

Iraqi women are becoming more and more significant to the Iraqi workforce, said Kimball. "What is happening now in Iraq is very similar to what happened in the U.S. during World War II. Iraqi women are coming of age as productive members of society while the men of their country are fighting in the ISF. It is reminiscent of Rosie the Riveter, the promotion that pushed for women to join the workforce during WWII, and how U.S. women advanced by leaps and bounds when so many men were gone during the war," said Kimball.

Women's History Month brings forth the challenges from past lessons learned that denied women a fair chance at making contributions to all levels of society. It takes place every March as a reminder to men and women of the progress achieved and the progress left to achieve.



By Ray McNulty, 8th MP Brigade PAO

Wentworth Military Academy graduates reunite

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq — Wentworth Military Academy graduates unfurled their school colors outside the 8th Military Police Brigade compound and showed "Old Boy" school pride for the Lexington, Mo., academy, March 11 at Camp Liberty. Pictured from left to right are Lexington, Mo. native, Maj. John Crews of the 8th MP Bde., Staff Sgt. John Trott, 340th MP Company, 91st MP Battalion, 8th MP Bde. of Pleasant Hill, Mo. and Maj. Aubrey Hinds of Multi-National Corps-Iraq, who hails from Plano, Texas. All three are graduates of the Class of 1995. The Wentworth graduates presented the flag to the 1st Cavalry Division, Multi-National Division-Baghdad dining facility for display in honor of those Wentworth Military Academy grads who serve in the military and have served in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

On This Day In Military History

On this day in 1945, a Soldier's courageous actions on the battlefield in World War II earned him the Medal of Honor. Pvt. George J. Peters served in the 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 17th Airborne Division as part of Operation Varsity, and was part of an airborne drop across the Rhine River near Fluren, Germany.

Pvt. Peters, a platoon radio operator, landed with about 10 other Soldiers about 75 yards from a German machine gun supported by riflemen, and was immediately pinned down by heavy, direct fire. The position of the small unit seemed hopeless until Pvt.

Peters stood up without orders and began a 1-man charge against the hostile emplacement armed only with a rifle



and grenades. His singlehanded assault drew the enemy fire away from his comrades. Pvt. Peters had run halfway to his objective, pitting rifle fire against that of the machine gun, when he was struck by a burst and knocked down. Heroically, he regained his feet and struggled onward. He was shot again, but still managed to crawl directly at the machine gun and throw grenades at the enemy soldiers who had mortally wounded him. The grenades knocked out the machine gun, killed two of its operators and scattered the German riflemen from the woods.

Pvt. Peters heroically gave his life to save his comrades and was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in 1946.

Iraq 3-Day Weather Report







Today 73° F | 53° F

Tomorrow 71° F | 50° F

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN

Thursday 77° F | 55° F

Interested Personnel The MND-B Equal Opportunity Team is looking for all interested Soldiers and Civilians who would like to assist with the planning and participate in MND-B's Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (AFAHM) Celebration. Those who would like to assist can contact the MND-B EO Office at DSN 847-2532 or VOIP 212-4133, ask for SEC Rodriguez or by email franke redriguezamend harmy Amilinii

David Letterman's Top Ten Signs New Yorkers Are Getting Too Fat

- 10. Elevators have a maximum occupancy of one.
- 9. The Statue of Liberty is now holding a cupcake.
- 8. Driver license photos larger to include all chins.
- 7. Broadway's Shubert Alley renamed Kristie Alley.
- 6. Thousands of potholes are actually footprints in the pavement.
- 5. Ninety-seven percent of ATM passwords are either "fudge" or "bacon."
- 4. People becoming Yankees fans because of the slimming pinstripes.
- 3. Most popular store: Gap for Tubby Dudes.
- 2. Starbucks reports customers switching from whole milk in their coffee to butter.
- 1. Dunkin Donuts has been charging customers rent.



Pvt. Murphy

by Mark Baker

Sir, the effects of this enterprise enable horizontal integration and collaboration of data which will support a Joint Fighting Force in need of "mud to space" globally interconnected, end-to-end information capabilities, leveraging the Global Information Grid, associated processes - and personnel for collecting, processing, storing, monitoring, disseminating, and managing a network-centric, synchronized, web-enabled, collaborative, robust Intelligence
Surveillance and Reconnaissance planning/analysis capability to supply assets in the right quantities, to the right place, at the right time.



Quote For Today

"The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential ... these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence.

- Eddie Robinson 1919-2007 Head football coach, Grambling State University

PEGASUS OASIS DFAC HOURS

BREAKFAST 0530 TO 0830 <u>LUNCH</u> 1130 TO 1330 <u>DINNER</u> 1700 TO 2000 <u>MIDNIGHT CHOW</u> 2300 TO 0100 <u>SUNDAY ONLY</u>

BRUNCH 0730 to 1330 DINNER 1700 to 2000

MIDNIGHT CHOW 2300 to 0100

Trigger's Teasers

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

The objective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers. There are three very simple constraints to follow: Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order. Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order. Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.

Every Sudoku game begins with a number of squares already filled in, and the difficulty of each game is largely a function of how many squares are filled in. The more squares that are known, the easier it is to figure out which numbers go in the open squares. As you fill in squares correctly, options for the remaining squares are narrowed and it becomes easier to fill them in.

Yesterday's Answers

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

Charge (S)

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Do you have a story to share?

The **Daily Charge** welcomes columns, commentaries, articles, letters and photos from readers.

Submissions should be sent to the Public Affairs NCOIC nicholas.conner@mnd-b.army.mil and include author's name, rank, unit and contact information. The *Daily Charge* reserves the right to edit submissions selected for the paper.

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