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April 20, 2009

## Soldiers attend light fighter combatives course

Pfc. TYLER MAULDING  
MND-S



COB BASRA – Soldiers from 172nd Infantry Brigade visited Camp Victory recently to receive five days of instruction in the 10th Mountain Division light fighter combatives course, led by Command Sgt. Maj. James Redmore, Multi-National Division - South senior enlisted leader.

“The purpose was to provide them with training that’s more relevant than the (combatives) training they currently conduct within their unit,” said Redmore. “The 172nd Inf. Bde. currently uses the Fort Benning level-one and level-two combatives training courses, which is good training, but our training focuses on stand up work for unarmed combat as opposed to ground fighting techniques.”

After learning about the unique course, approximately 30 Soldiers from the 172nd expressed an interest in attending it and traveled north to receive the training from Redmore himself.

“I personally developed the course about five years ago. When I put this program together I focused on the most relevant technique based on what Soldiers will face in today’s combat environment; techniques that are simplistic so that any Soldier could learn them and techniques that are effective should they have to use them,” said Redmore, a Harvey, Ill. native.

“I designed the course not only to give Soldiers an acceptable level of proficiency to execute the techniques; but also give them a level of proficiency that they can instruct once they return



Photo by Pfc. Tyler Maulding

Command Sgt. Maj. James Redmore, MND-S senior enlisted leader, practices a 10th Mountain Division light fighter combatives drill with a Soldier during a class held at Camp Victory recently.

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# MND-S headquarters stands fully equipped

SPC. DARRYL MONTGOMERY  
MND-S



COB BASRA – The work on the new Multi-National Division – South headquarters building has finally concluded after six months of work.

At a cost of approximately \$26 million, the new division headquarters consist of two one-story, 30,000 square-foot buildings that opened for service members April 8.

The work began in November with Airmen from the 819th Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers (Red Horse) and contractors from KBR laying concrete, constructing walls and installing wiring, said Master Sgt. Rob Schoon, G6 Division Automation Management Office noncommissioned officer in charge.

Schoon and the Soldiers from DAMO arrived in early January and started setting up the networking infrastructure. From the time they arrived to the date of completion, Schoon said they lay over 200,000 feet of wire, nearly 40 miles.

“It’s been a big task, to say the least,” said Schoon, a Marion, Iowa native. “But our Soldiers remained highly motivated and determined to get it done in time for the division.”

Soldiers working on the new building had more input on the design of the new MND-S headquarters. Soldiers that spent time at Camp Victory were able to address issues with the old MND-Center headquarters building and incorporate ways to avoid them.

Master Sgt. Eldred Peterson, MND-S G3 Operations NCOIC, who was in charge of the movement of equipment from Camp Victory to here, and assisted in the procurement and installation of the building’s new furniture, said he is proud of the work that has been done on the new building.

“I like the furniture of the new offices,” said Peterson, who’s from Trenton, Tenn. “The quality of the furniture is a lot better than what we had at Camp Victory because it is all new. I think the (service members) involved did a marvelous job on the buildings. A



lot of work was put into it and I like the end result.”

Besides the look and functionality of the new furniture and equipment, Peterson believes working in the new buildings will have an energizing effect on the staff by helping break up the remaining time of the deployment.

“I think Soldiers will be excited to come to a new building and environment,” he said. “People will come in and be motivated to get the work done.”

Peterson also said while the MND-C headquarters required continuous work and maintenance to improve the quality of its working environment at Camp Victory, this building is new, and the Soldiers that worked on it know everything about the building. He feels that having Soldiers construct the workspace from scratch gives an advantage by knowing what has been done to the building.

The remaining MND-S staff arriving in Basra will be able to come to headquarters and be immediately equipped to continue the mission, said Schoon. “All the Soldiers are going to have to do is plug in their equipment and they’ll be ready to go.”



Photo by Maj. Page Baldwin

(Top) The ‘cube farm’ in the new MND-S headquarters prior to opening for MND-S staff at COB Basra April 8. The building will accommodate approximately 1,000 personnel when it is fully occupied.

Photo by Spc. Darryl L. Montgomery

(Left) Capt. Douglas Ingold, MND-S G1 Plans and Operations officer, works at his new desk inside the new MND-S headquarters building on COB Basra. Ingold, a Pittsburgh native, said he is very impressed with the work done in the building and looks forward to working in it. The new building opened for division staff to start moving in April 8.

## THE Mountain View

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Task Force 449



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## COMBATIVES

From page 1

to their unit.”

“It consists of a compilation of techniques focusing on joint manipulation, which allows you to detain, control, or escalate to killing your opponent if required,” continued Redmore. “The uniqueness of our course is it allows you to gauge your aggressiveness based on the situation.”

Redmore explained that his combatives course has four different modules.

“The first module is primarily pain

compliance and escort techniques,” said Redmore. “The second consists of reaching, strikes, and grabbing techniques. The third consists of ground survival. The techniques we provide in our ground survival do not teach the students how to fight on the ground; they teach the students how to escape their aggressor if they end up on the ground. From there they can use other options as opposed to keeping the fight on the ground where they are more vulnerable. The fourth module consists of drills that associate with all the techniques provided in the first three.”

Soldiers found the training to be difficult, but worthwhile.

“(The training was) very challenging, but we had very thorough and patient instructors,” said Spc. Courtney Grossman, Intel Analyst, Headquarters Headquarters Company 172nd Inf. Bde. “They ensured everyone understood everything and really took the time to explain the moves.”

“It’s been a great class, very practical,” added Spc. Victoria Waltho, health care specialist, C company, 172nd Special Battalion. “I would recommend it to anyone.”



Photos by Pfc. Tyler Maulding  
 (Clockwise from right) Command Sgt. Maj. James Redmore, MND-S senior enlisted leader, watches as two Soldiers from 172nd Inf. Bde. practice a 10th Mtn. Div. light fighter combatives drill during a class held at Camp Victory recently. Pfc. Labron Stephens, artilleryman, 316th Field Artillery, twists an opponent's arm while practicing a 10th Mtn. Div. light fighter combatives drill. The course focused on joint manipulation and control of an adversary from the standing position. Spc. Victoria Waltho, health care specialist, C Co., 172nd SB, simulates a punch to the face of Sgt. Benjamin Cruz, team leader, 3rd Plt., C Co., 228th Inf. Bn., after deflecting his punch during a 10th Mtn. Div. light fighting combatives course.

# Headline Round-up

## World News:

MEXICO CITY - Acknowledging a Mexican drug war is “sowing chaos in our communities.” President Barack Obama signaled April 16 he will not seek the reinstatement of a U.S. assault weapons ban but instead step up enforcement of existing laws against taking weapons across the border. Despite a campaign promise to see the lapsed ban renewed, Obama was bowing to the reality that to do so would be unpopular in politically key U.S. states and among Republicans as well as some conservative Democrats. Mexican President Felipe Calderon, conducting an aggressive fight against drug cartels, had hoped to persuade Obama to push the reinstatement. Obama, on a swift visit here meant to bolster Calderon in his drug fight, countered the disappointment for his Mexican host with a pledge to push Congress to finally act on an inter-American weapons treaty that has languished in the Senate since 1998. He said he is asking Congress to provide money for Black Hawk helicopters and surveillance equipment Mexico has long sought for its drug war.

## U.S. News:

AUSTIN, Texas - In a state that once was its own nation, a Republican governor who talked about secession without completely dismissing the idea has Democratic lawmakers in an uproar. Gov. Rick Perry, in comments following an anti-tax “tea party” April 15, never did advocate Texas breaking away from the United States but suggested that Texans might at some point get so fed up they would want to leave the union. At the Texas Capitol on Thursday, Rep. Jim Dunning of Waco, joined by several fellow Texas House Democrats, said some people associate talk of secession with racial division and the Civil War and that Perry should disavow any notion of seceding.

## Environmental News:

WASHINGTON – Cars, power plants and factories could all soon face much tougher pollution limits after a government declaration April 17 setting the stage for the first federal regulation of gases blamed for global warming. The Environmental Protection Agency took a big step in that direction, concluding that carbon dioxide and five other greenhouse gases are a major hazard to Americans’ health. That was a reversal from the Bush administration, which resisted such a conclusion and said it would be costly for companies to meet new emission limits and therefore could harm the national economy.

### Quote of the Day

“Goals must never be from your ego, but problems that cry for a solution.” - Robert H. Schuller

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u	9						6

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



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## AROUND THE COMMUNITY

### DFAC 1

Closed for conversion to gym

### DFAC 2

Breakfast: 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Lunch: 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Dinner: 5 - 9 p.m.

### DFAC 3

Breakfast: 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Lunch: 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Dinner: 5 - 9 p.m.

### DFAC 4

Breakfast: 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Lunch: 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Dinner: 5 - 9 p.m.

### PX

Open: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

### Alteration Shop

Open: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

### Barber Shop

Open: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

### Finance

Monday - Saturday

Open: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday

Open: 9 a.m. - noon

### Camp Alpha Gym

Open: 24 hours

### Camp Charlie Gym

Open: 24 hours