



# The Mountain View

www.taskforcemountain.com

April 25, 2009

## New school opens in Diwaniyah

**SGT. BRANDON LEFLORE**  
2ND BCT, 4TH INF. DIV.



CAMP ECHO – Students from the Al Fidah Primary school showed up outside of normal school hours to witness the opening ceremony of the new school in Diwaniyah recently.

The primary school is one of 54 new schools constructed as part of Operation Lighthouse to replace deteriorated school houses.

“The old schools were built with mud and had been re-patched over and over,” said Maj. Robert Thompson, commander, Company B, 445th Civil Affairs Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division.

The old school was built in the early 70’s and was in very poor condition. The Iraqi Department of Education, in conjunction with the Iraq Army and Coalition Forces, conceived a plan to replace the inadequate school houses throughout Diwaniyah and the Najaf province.

“We’re giving them a school that will last much longer than their old one and will provide them with the ability to teach in a more proper setting,” said Thompson.

Many of the IA Soldiers involved in this operation are from this area and went to these schools. There’s an element of pride in seeing their old schools improved, said Thompson.

After the opening ceremony, the school headmaster passed out backpacks provided by CF to the students attending the ceremony.

Inside the backpacks the students



Photo by Sgt. Brandon LeFlore  
Spc. James Gaspich, Chicago native and infantryman with 172nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, helps a student from the Al Fidah primary school adjust the straps on a backpack he received after the school’s opening ceremony in Diwaniyah recently.

See SCHOOL, page 2

# SCHOOL

From page 1

found pens and paper, which are in short supply, along with notebooks and chalk, said Thompson.

Projects like this one show the more humanitarian side of CF and hopefully will improve the civil-military relationship between the local population and CF.

"It shows that we have a heart, we understand what they are going through and we're here to help," said Staff Sgt. Raymond Ramos, Hollister, Calif. native and civil affairs specialist with the 445th CA Bn.

This is the first of the 54 new schools in the area to open and there are about 20 more built and ready for use, said Ramos.

"The gift of learning is always a great gift," said Thompson.



Students from the Al Fidah primary school in Diwaniyah line up to receive new backpacks from the school headmaster after the opening ceremony recently. The backpacks were filled with pens, pencils, notebooks and chalk and were provided to the headmaster by Coalition Forces.

Photo by Sgt. Brandon LeFlore

# The CG wants to talk to you!

Share what you think in a chat with the CG.

When?

Sunday, April 26 at 7 p.m.

Baghdad time

(Noon, Fort Drum time)

Where??



<http://www.taskforcemountain.com/lima-charlie-chat-room>

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

## THE Mountain View

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

### TASK FORCE MOUNTAIN PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Commanding General - MAJ. GEN. MICHAEL L. OATES

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

#### Editorial Staff

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

#### Contributing Units

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



Media queries please contact TF Mountain Public Affairs at [MND-Center\\_PAO@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:MND-Center_PAO@iraq.centcom.mil)

# Render the proper courtesy: A look at British officer rank

SPC. DARRYL L. MONTGOMERY  
MND-S



COB BASRA – As more service members continue to arrive at Contingency Operating Base Basra, they may notice British troops still live and work on the COB.

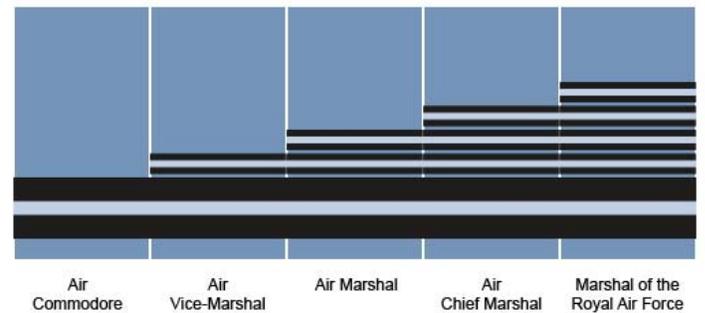
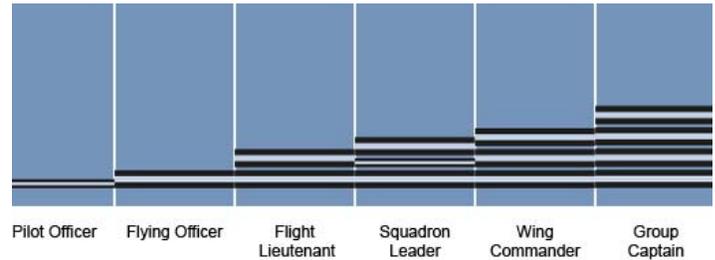
For the next few months American and British troops will live and work in close proximity as the U.K. begins withdrawing its forces.

The British are expected to depart this province by summer's end.

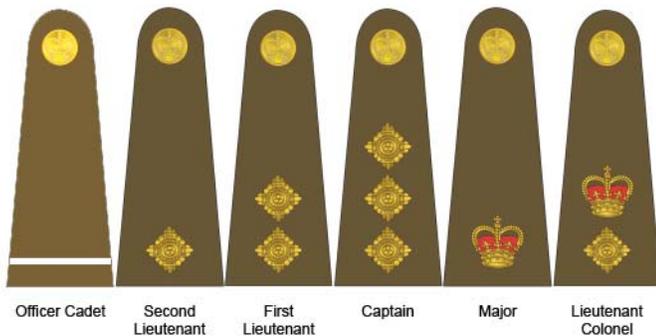
As the United Kingdom is considered a friendly foreign nation, U.S. service members are required to display proper respect to British officers and those of other friendly nations by rendering the proper salute, according to Army Regulation 600-25, chapter 1, paragraph 5e.

Listed below are the insignia of the officers of the different British services including the British Army, British Royal Marines, British Royal Air Force and British Royal Navy officers.

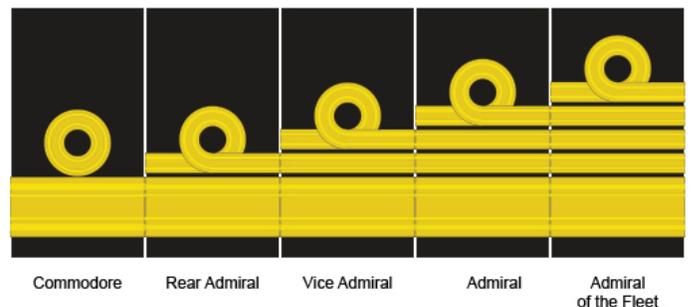
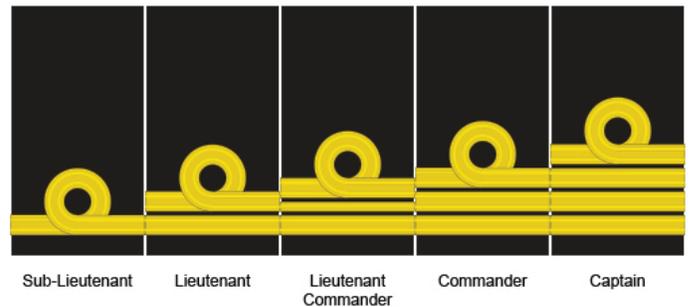
## British Royal Air Force Officers



## British Army and Royal Marine Officers



## British Royal Navy Officers



To subscribe or unsubscribe to The Mountain View email Sgt. Debralee P. Crankshaw at [debralle.crankshaw@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:debralle.crankshaw@iraq.centcom.mil)

# IA, U.S. Soldiers work to end smuggling

**SPC. JAMES STEVENS**  
4TH BCT, 1ST CAV. DIV.



**FOB HUNTER** – Iraqi and American forces work together to make Iraq a safer place. A joint operation was held for that purpose recently.

Supporting 4th Battalion, 41st Iraqi Army Brigade's mission to prevent criminal operations in the Maysan Province, Soldiers assigned to 5th Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division 'Black Dragons' traveled through areas of southern Iraq to deter smuggling of lethal munitions near the operating base here.

"I really enjoy doing these missions with the Americans," said a Soldier from the 4th Bn., 41st IA Bde.

Along the route, the Iraqi and U.S. Soldiers stopped in several villages where they handed out toys and school supplies to Iraqi children.

"The looks we get from the Iraqis are priceless," said Spc. Jesse Martin, a Black Dragon Soldier from Daytona Beach, Fla.

The Soldiers also distributed flyers with contact information for citizens to report criminal activities.

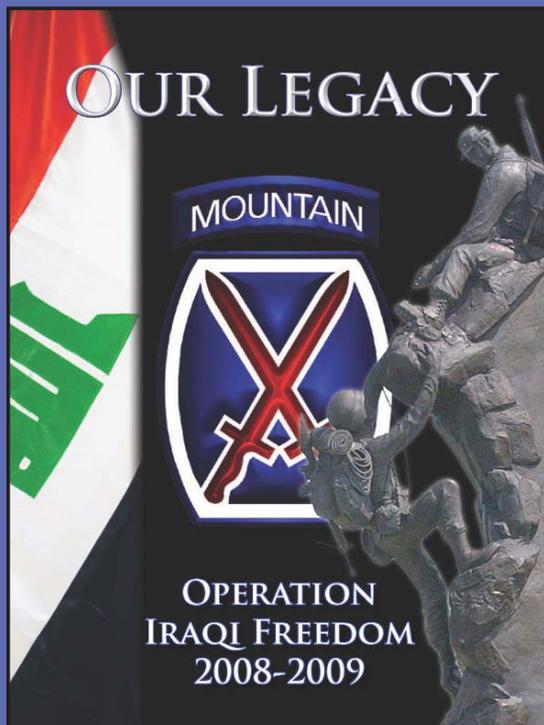
The following day, the members of the joint patrol positioned themselves on busy streets to conduct random vehicle inspections.

The Soldiers didn't discover any contraband or lethal munitions, but their solidarity of purpose to end the smuggling continues to provide peace of mind to the citizens in the Maysan Province.



Photo by Spc. James Stevens

A Soldier assigned to 5th Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, delivers a flyer to an Iraqi woman during a joint patrol with Iraqi Army Soldiers from 4th Battalion, 41st Iraqi Army Brigade recently. The flyer contains contact information for citizens to report criminal activities.



## Order your Task Force Mountain yearbook now!

### Available to ALL Task Force Mountain Soldiers!

Follow this link to order yours now  
[http://www.entourageyearbooks.com/OrderYearbooks.asp?org\\_id=811](http://www.entourageyearbooks.com/OrderYearbooks.asp?org_id=811)

# Headline Round-up

## World News:

BEIJING - With Jamaica's currency in free fall, unemployment soaring and banks heavily exposed to government debt, the Caribbean island's diplomats went into crisis mode earlier this year. Jamaica's traditional allies, the United States and Britain, were preoccupied with their own financial problems, but a new friend jumped at the opportunity to come to the rescue: China. When contracts for loan packages totaling \$138 million were signed between the two countries in March, China became Jamaica's biggest financial partner. Headlines in Jamaica's leading newspapers, which only a year ago were filled with concern about China's growing influence in the region, gushed about its generosity. Overseas aid and loans are just one way China is asserting itself in its new role as a world financial leader. While polishing China's own image, Premier Wen Jiabao and other top leaders have blamed the West for the global economic crisis. Chinese officials increasingly are challenging the primacy of the dollar, warning other countries about the danger of keeping reserves in just one or two currencies, such as dollars and euros. And as the global economic crisis has eroded faith in U.S.-style capitalism, there's growing talk that a new "Beijing Consensus" will replace the long-dominant Washington Consensus on how developing countries should manage their economies.

## Odd News:

DETROIT - The metal underwire in a Detroit woman's bra is being credited with deflecting a bullet fired at her during a break-in at a neighbor's home. Detroit police Officer Leon Rahmaan says the 57-year-old woman apparently looked out her window April 21 when one of three men fired the shot. He says the slug smashed through her window pane before hitting the bra's underwire. It did not penetrate her skin. Police say she may have gone to the window after a burglar alarm at the house next door sounded. Her neighbor was not at home at the time. The suspects drove away after the shooting.

## Quote of the Day

**"Every man dies.  
Not every man really lives."  
— William Wallace**

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

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



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

## AROUND THE COMMUNITY

### PX

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

### Finance

Monday - Saturday

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

Sunday

Open: 9 a.m. - noon

### DFAC 1 Worship

Sunday

Roman Catholic Mass, UK

led @ 9:30 a.m.

General Protestant @ 11 a.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saint @ 2 p.m.

General Protestant @ 6:30 p.m.

### DFAC 3 Worship

Sunday

Gospel Worship @ 2 p.m.

### DFAC 4 Worship

Monday - Saturday

Daily Mass @ 8 p.m.

Sunday

Protestant Contemporary Worship @ 10 a.m.

Holy communion, Protestant (UK) @ 11:30 a.m.

Roman Catholic Mass, UK led @ 8:30 p.m.

### Alteration Shop

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

### Barber Shop

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

# Solution Saturday

**Saturday, April 18**

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

**Monday, April 20**

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

**Tuesday, April 21**

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

**Wednesday, April 22**

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

**Thursday, April 23**

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

**Friday, April 24**

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

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

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