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May 4, 2009

Battle hand-off between 10th Mtn., Red Bulls... again



Photo by Staff Sgt. Dave Lankford

This is the second time in a century the hand-off of battle has occurred between the 10th Mountain Division and the 34th Infantry Division. The 10th Mountain Division is transferring command of Multi-national Division-South to the Red Bulls later this month.

Sgt. Joe Roos
MND-S



COB BASRA – Historic is a word that has been used often to describe the 34th Infantry Division Red Bulls' deployment to Iraq.

The deployment is historic in its scope. The Red Bull's are the first National Guard Division Headquarters commissioned to command a Multi-National Division in operations that are seen by many as unconventional at the very least.

The deployment is also historic in its timing. The stated

goal of the current administration is to begin drawing down all combat troops in Iraq during the deployment of the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division.

Finally, the deployment is historic in its mission. The Red Bulls are commanding a division that is not engaged in conventional kinetic operations of war, but rather in transitioning power from Coalition forces to the Iraqi Security Forces.

Though this deployment of the 34th Infantry Division is historic in many ways, the turnover of command from the outgoing division to the incoming one is actually reminis-

See HAND-OFF, page 3

Cholera: a risk in Iraq

SGT. DEBRALEE P. CRANKSHAW
MND-S



COB BASRA – Profuse watery diarrhea, vomiting and leg cramps are symptoms of severe cholera. These symptoms can lead to shock, dehydration and ultimately death.

Last year, Iraq experienced an outbreak of cholera which caused 11 deaths.

“Every year there is an outbreak,” said Lt. Col. David Wallace, 10th Mountain Division Surgeon. “Hopefully this year we will lower the number with the measures we’ve taken.”

Action has been taken by the Government of Iraq, U.S. Army units and provincial reconstruction teams to provide citizens of Iraq with filters and chlorine to clean their drinking water.

“Cholera is usually spread by drinking from unapproved water sources,” said Wallace.

“People need to drink from approved sources – including ice. Putting water bottles in unapproved ice increases the risk because of the condensation on the outside of the bottle.”

According to Wallace, the rate of cholera has decreased as access to clean water has increased.

Another preventative measure Wallace suggests is educating the Iraqi populace on the dangers of unfiltered, unclean water. Leaflets are available to be handed out to Iraqi civilians.

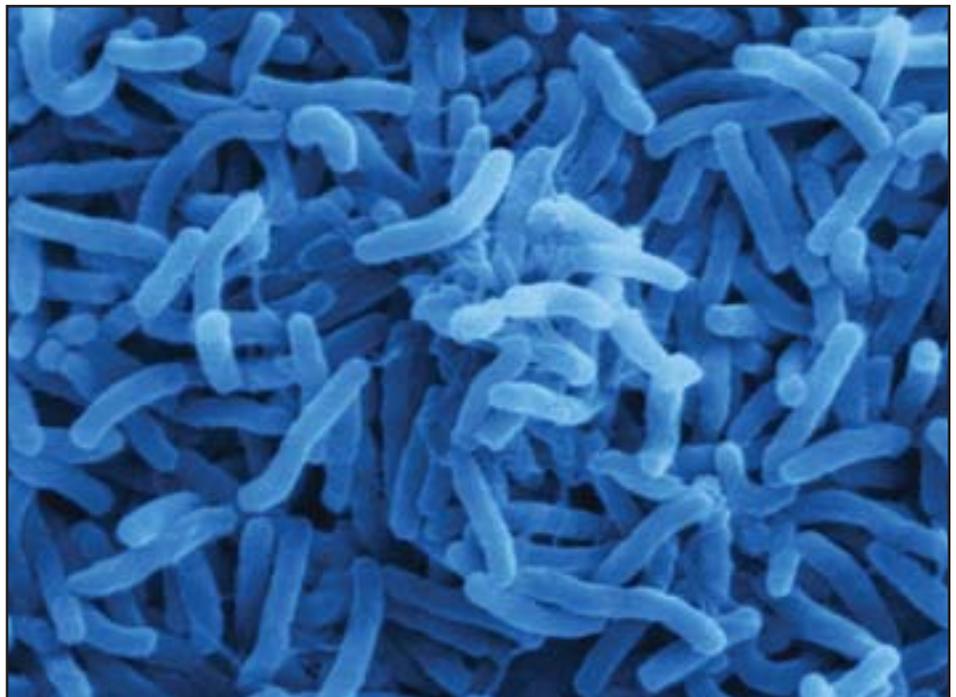
Wallace said the best times to distribute the pamphlets are between May and July. Cholera thrives in warm temperature so the outbreaks usually spike in September and October.

“(Health officials in the United States) do the same thing before the flu season,” said Wallace. “We don’t want (the local populace) to panic so we need to educate them before the outbreak.”

Cholera is an acute, diarrheal illness caused by infection of the intestine with the bacterium *Vibrio cholera*, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Cholera is treated by immediately replacing fluid and salts lost through diarrhea. Severe cases also require intravenous fluid replacement. With prompt rehydration, less than one

percent of cholera patients die. Antibiotics shorten the course and diminish the severity of the illness, but they are not as important as rehydration. Persons who develop severe diarrhea and vomiting in countries where cholera occurs should seek medical attention promptly.

For more information on Cholera visit the Division Surgeon Preventive Medicine link on SIPR, the CDC website at www.cdc.gov or the World Health Organization website at www.who.int.



Cholera is an acute, diarrheal illness caused by infection of the intestine with the bacterium *Vibrio cholera* (pictured). Severe symptoms include profuse watery diarrhea, vomiting and leg cramps. These symptoms can lead to shock, dehydration and ultimately death.

THE Mountain View

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343rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment
793rd Military Police Battalion
Division Special Troops Battalion, 10th Mtn. Div.
Task Force 449



HAND-OFF

From page 1

cent. This is the second time in a century the hand-off of battle has occurred between the 10th Mountain Division and the 34th Infantry Division.

In the fall of 1943 the 34th Infantry was pushing north in Italy, capturing the four peaks of Mount Patano, fighting through the Mignano Gap to take Mount Trocchio and pushing the Germans back in the First Battle of Monte Cassino. But in their operations, the Red Bulls suffered about 80 percent losses in their infantry battalions. They were in desperate need of relief.

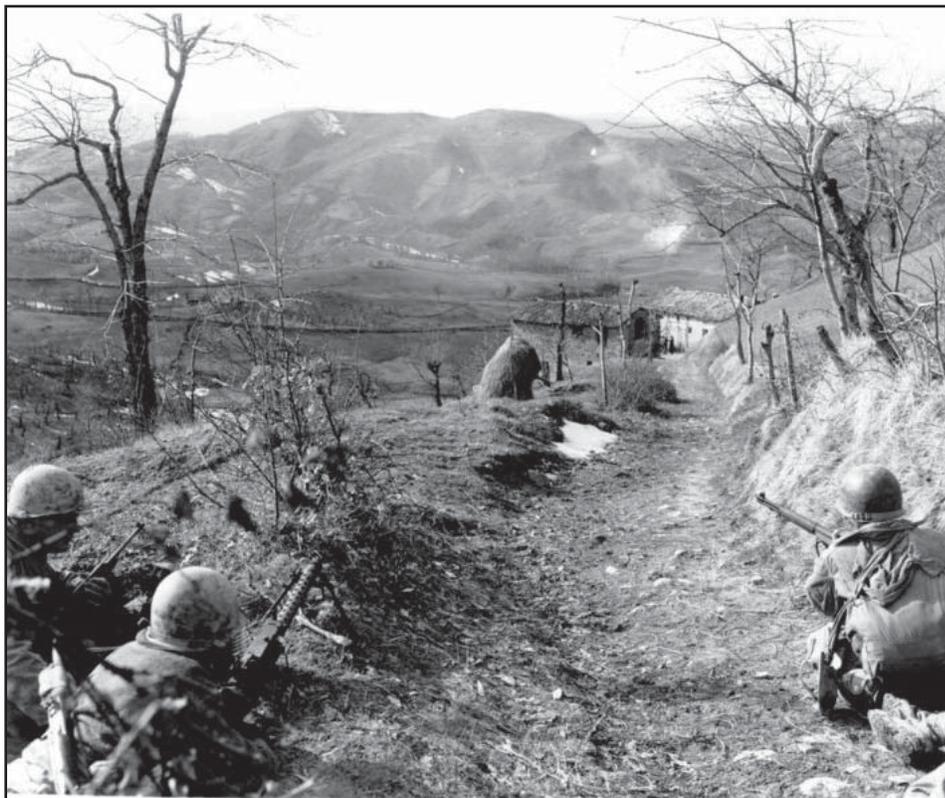
Relief came from the allied forces, but mainly from the active duty American Army. Among the replacements that took over for the 34th Inf. Div. in Italy was the 10th Mountain Division.

The 10th Mountain Division was first composed as a unit that trained skiers and climbers for battles in exactly the type of difficult, mountainous terrain the 34th had been hunkered down in during their entire campaign through Italy. Some Soldiers in the 10th weren't familiar with skis when they joined, but all were qualified to fight on mountainous terrains by the time they were deployed in 1944.

The 10th Mountain's training and proficiency in the terrain, along with the ground gained by the 34th, contributed greatly to the victory of allied forces in Europe.

Sixty-five years later, the 10th Mountain Division is reciprocating that battle hand-off from the 34th in Italy by handing over command to the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division in MND-S.

The mission is different. The equipment and capabilities are different. But the ultimate goals of these two divisions through this battle hand-off are the same, to preserve peace throughout the world and to protect freedom.



Archive photos
(Above) A machine gunner and two riflemen of Co K, 87th Mountain Infantry, 10th Mountain Division, cover an assault squad routing Germans out of a building in the background. Sassomolare Area, Italy. Porretta Moderna Highway. 4 March 1945.
(Left) 2nd Lt. Hollis E. Collum, Co. "C" 168th Inf. Regt., is typical of a group of former non-coms who were recently appointed Second Lieutenants on the battlefield. Here Lt. Collum explains the functioning of the new carbine to men of his platoon.

If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe to the Mountain View, please email Sgt. Debralee P. Crankshaw at debralle.crankshaw@iraq.centcom.mil

Staff Section Round-up

IG Corner: MRAP inspection

The Task Force Mountain Command Inspector General team completed a special inspection of the MRAP drivers training programs across the Task Force recently.

Generally, units are doing a good job ensuring Soldiers are properly trained before conducting missions in the MRAP. The complete inspections report can be found at <http://mndsportal.iraq.centcom.mil/SpecialStaff/IG/default.aspx> to the units and Soldiers who participated, thanks for the support.

Below are a few highlights:

- Drivers at a minimum must possess a valid civilian or military driver's license. The MRAP cannot be the first military vehicle on which they are licensed.
- Go through the 40 hour OPNET training at Camp Liberty, Kalsu, or Buerhing; primary training locations for our Soldiers.
- Additional 75/50 mile wheel time prior to tactical missions.
- 14 hour delta course for additional models or variants of the MRAP.



Photo by Spc. Darryl L. Montgomery

- Ensure Master Drivers are licensed on all variants for which they are providing training.
- Maintain documentation for training and mileage.
- Commanders or their designated representatives should interview and conduct records reviews prior to licensing – look for experience with larger vehicles.
- Licenses need to reflect the specific model MRAP for which Soldiers are licensed not just generic MRAP.

As units transition over the next few months it is imperative to ensure the message is getting out to the new units. The bottom line is safe operation and proper training on the MRAP is a leader responsibility. We need to ensure Soldiers are properly trained on the specific MRAP they operate. Any vehicle in the hands of an improperly trained Soldier is an accident waiting to happen; this we can prevent. Any injury or death at the hands of an unlicensed operator is a one that could have been prevented.

*Thanks,
Your IG team*

What topics would you like to see the CG post on the blog for discussion?

To let the CG and others know, go to the Mountain Sound Off Blog at

www.taskforcemountain.com

Headline Round-up

World News:

WASHINGTON - The planet's shipping fleet should be protected from deadly pirates by arming senior crew members, or not — depending on who was speaking April 30 to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee: Maersk Alabama Capt. Richard Phillips or his boss, Maersk Inc. Chairman John P. Clancey. "It would be my personal preference that a limited number of crew aboard the vessel have access to effective weaponry," Phillips told the panel. But doing that could expose sailors to a tactical escalation in violence, and, Clancey said later, open the corporation to liability. "Arming merchant sailors may result in the acquisition of ever more lethal weapons and tactics by the pirates, a race that merchant sailors cannot win," the Maersk Inc. chairman said. The captain and corporate chief illustrated the knotty problem Congress, the shipping industry and foreign governments face as they consider how to crack down on a worrying spike in piracy and its threat to billions of dollars in cargo, military equipment and humanitarian aid.

Odd News:

NEW YORK - Could she be a modern-day Goldfinger? A New York woman was charged on Wednesday with stealing as much as \$12 million in gold bullion and jewelry over a period of six years, lifting the ill-gotten booty from her employer by concealing the stash in the lining of her pocketbook. The district attorney for New York City's borough of Queens said Teresa Tambunting, 50, was arraigned on Wednesday on charges of first-degree grand larceny and first-degree criminal possession of stolen property from Jacmel Jewelry Inc. After an investigation was initiated, Tambunting returned to Jacmel a suitcase containing 66 pounds of gold. On Feb. 13, 448 pounds of gold was recovered from Tambunting's residence.

Word Search

Dogs

BASSET
HOUND
BEAGLE
BLOODHOUND
BOXER
BULLDOG
CHIHUAHUA
CHOW CHOW
COCKER
SPANIEL
COLLIE
CORGI
DACHSHUND
DALMATIAN
DEERHOUND
DINGO
GERMAN
SHEPHERD
GREAT DANE
GREYHOUND
HUSKY
LHASA APSO
MALAMUTE
MASTIFF
PEKINGESE
PINSCHER
POINTER

POMERANIAN SAINT SHAR PEI
POODLE BERNARD SHEEPDOG
PUG SAMOYED SPITZ
RETRIEVER SCHNAUZER TERRIER
ROTTWEILER SETTER WHIPPET

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AROUND THE COMMUNITY

PX

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

Finance

Monday - Saturday
Open: 9 - 11:30 a.m.,
1:30 - 4 p.m.
Sunday
Open: 1 - 4 p.m.

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. - 9 p.m.

Barber Shop

Open: 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.