

EXPEDITIONARY TIMES

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Vol. 2, Issue 20

GARDENING

IN IRAQ

Kansas brigade celebrates Earth Day at Iraqi school

Page 9

SUSTAINER SOUTH

Unit LNOs gateway mission explained

Page 11

HENKES

REMEMBERED

Sister accepts road sign in memory of Brother

Page 15



Are you deployed to Iraq with your father this Father's day?

Send us your Father's Day messages with a HiRes photo by June 10.

Photos and messages will be published in the June 17 Expeditionary Times.

Please include you and your father's full name with rank, unit information, base location in Iraq and any message or shout-out to your Family.

For more information or message submission, send an e-mail to Staff Sgt. Tonya Gonzales at: expeditionarytimes@iraq.centcom.mil

Delivering Supplies

Page 6



U.S. Army photo by Master Sgt. Carl Mar

Lt. Col. Tony Divish, 287th Special Troops Battalion commander, and Lt. Col. Anthony Randall, 287th Sust. Bde. executive officer, explains the features of a professional microscope to the teachers of Al Moamen School in Dhi Qar province, Iraq May 5. The unit recently adopted the school and presented two microscope sets in addition to school supplies to the teachers and students.

Sustainers can recognize supporters through Freedom Team Salute

BY CAPT. JEFFREY A. JOHNSON
123RD MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – There are many ways Soldiers recognize and say “Thank you” to their supporters for all the letters, care packages, phone cards, e-mails and cards they receive during a deployment.

One way is to nominate them for the Department of the Army's Freedom Team Salute program.

FTS is an official Army program that is intended to provide an opportunity for Active, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers to recognize and honor the people who provide them support while they serve. It also

honors U.S. Army Veterans, including those who served in the Reserves or Guard.

“We want to make sure we thank them and let them know they are appreciated and bring them into the Army Family,” said Lindsey Brothers, the media relations associate for Freedom Team Salute, Alexandria, Va.

FTS was developed in 2005 by the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Army as a way to thank Soldier Veterans and it grew to include spouses, supporters and children, and for the National Guard and Reserves, their employers.

“We are almost at our two millionth recipient with 265 thousand recipients last year,” said Brothers.

A lot of Soldiers like to recognize groups of supporters and have a ceremony; if you would like to recognize a group and

have a ceremony, contact a FTS program representative directly for the nomination. Representative contact information is listed on the FTS website.

FTS staff will assist with the ceremony no matter the size and if they are not able to attend, they have 800 trained ambassadors throughout the country that will help, Brothers said.

At no cost to nominee or recipient, the Freedom Team Salute commendation package recipients receive a certificate of appreciation signed by both the Secretary and the Chief of Staff of the Army, a letter of thanks signed by both the Secretary and the Chief of Staff of the Army, an official U.S. Army lapel pin, an official Army decal or for children 13 years old or younger they receive an official Army patch rather than a lapel pin.

Recognizing someone



Courtesy Photo

through the FTS program is easy; log on to <https://www.freedomteamsalute.com> and click on “honor someone.” You will need to have the nominee's full name and address to complete the nomination.

The Freedom Team Salute commendation packages usually arrive within 3 to 4 weeks of the nomination.

“Recognizing the enduring bond between Soldiers, Family, Community and Veterans,” is the FTS motto.

332 ESFS Blotter

May 5 - May 13

MINOR VEHICLE COLLISION

A reporting party telephoned the fire department via a 911 emergency call box to report a vehicle collision. Security forces were dispatched and arrived on scene. A major vehicle collision investigator was notified and responded. The driver of the vehicle stated via AF IMT 1168/Statement of Complainant that after leaving the construction site gate he had traveled southbound on Washington Avenue. While putting a hard hat into the back seat of the vehicle he lost control which caused the collision. The passenger in the vehicle stated that the driver was traveling approximately 30 to 40 kilometers per hour when he lost control of the steering wheel striking a concrete stone and fence causing damage to the vehicle.

THEFT OF PRIVATE PROPERTY:

A victim telephoned the law enforcement desk and reported a theft of property. Security forces responded and made contact with the victim. The victim told SF that on March 3 he departed JBB and returned May 8. He entered his room and noticed his property was missing. The victim stated the property was valued at \$350. The victim also stated he secured his door before departing and upon return there were no signs of forced entry.

SECURITY FORCES SAFETY TIP: When securing your room each night before sleep, ensure you use all locking equipment to secure the room. Firmly pull the door shut and lock the door handle while securing the door with the locking chain or security door bolt (if present).

NIPR: 443-8602

SIPR: 241-1171

Email: PMOdesk@iraq.centcom.mil

Stop the Spread of Germs

Tell your health care provider immediately if you have any of these symptoms: fever, headache, tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, nasal congestion or body aches

Cover Coughs and Sneezes



- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze
- or
- Cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve, not your hands



- Drop your used tissue in a waste basket

If Asked, Wear a Mask



- Secure ties behind head or place elastic bands behind ears
- Fit flexible band at top of mask to bridge of nose
- Fit mask snug to face and below chin

Clean Your Hands



- Wash with soap and water for at least 15-20 seconds
- or
- Clean with alcohol-based hand cleaner



- Especially:
- After using the restroom
 - After sneezing or blowing nose
 - Before touching food
 - Before touching your eyes, mouth or nose



EXPEDITIONARY TIMES

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332nd Air Expeditionary Wing

For online publication visit:
www.dvidshub.net
keyword: Expeditionary Times

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 3^d 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.

Chaplain's Corner

*“There lives more faith in honest doubt,
believe me, than in half the creeds.”*

- Lord Alfred Tennyson

Life can be so uncertain. And unpredictable. Sometimes it is downright painful. Rarely do we get the "happily ever after" ending. As a result, most of us have developed a belief system or a world view that takes into account both the good and the bad. We may not be able to understand the twists and turns of life or explain them, but we have learned to accept them. Kind of.

We want to believe that the world is good and that if we live a good life and do good things then good will come our way. Sounds like a "good" plan doesn't it? Unfortunately, mixed in with the good there is the bad. And when we experience the bad, our faith in the good is challenged. Or altered. Or destroyed.

Doubt happens when we wrestle trying to make sense out of the good and the bad. Doubt is healthy. It means we are alive and engaged in the business of living. To have doubt is to be present in the real world. There are some people who construct belief systems based on how they want the world to be. And then they step inside these boxes and insulate themselves from the rest of the world. They fight against anyone or anything that says otherwise.

Faith is not that simple. Faith is like a warrior who has been engaged in combat and has been tested to the very core. Bloodied and yet still standing, faith remains to fight yet another day. Doubt is not the enemy of faith. In fact, doubt is what strengthens faith. In the midst of all the uncertainties in life, a faith tempered by doubt will survive and triumph. May we have the courage to be honest with our doubts and the faith to be true to our belief.

**Submitted by CH (CPT) Peter Strong
304th Sustainment Brigade**

Hooah of the Week



U.S. Army photos by Spc. Amanda Tucker

Maj. Brian Nomi, the chief of client services for the 304th Sustainment Brigade, and Riverside, Calif., native and **Sgt. Allision K. Harsh**, the claims non-commissioned officer in charge for the 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), and Lancaster, Pa., native are congratulated by **Command Sgt. Maj. Willie C. Tennant**, the senior noncommissioned officer for the 3^d ESC and **Brig. Gen. Michael J. Lally**, 3^d ESC commanding general, for being selected this week's "Hooah of the Week." Nomi and Harsh processed eight foreign claims of losses incidents for units totaling \$27,000 in 2009.

How to nominate a "Hooah of the Week"

Nominations must be turned in to Sgt. 1st Class Caprice Walker by 1:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.

For any questions, to request a nomination form or to submit a service member's name for nomination, e-mail: caprice.walker@iraq.centcom.mil.



"The Weekly Standard"

"Droit Et Avant...Right and Forward"

Inspectors General are the extended eyes, ears, voice, and conscience of a commander by executing the four IG functions - assistance, inspections, investigations, teaching and training - for the specific purpose of enhancing the command's discipline, readiness, and operational warfighting capability. IGs use these functions to seek out systemic issues that affect a command and the Army.

The IG has a duty to protect an individual's confidentiality to the maximum extent, particularly if an individual specifically requests confidentiality. Although confidentiality and the measures will vary from circumstance to circumstance, the IG always treats confidentiality carefully. While IGs will never promise confidentiality, maintaining confidentiality is important and the key to the IGs system of success.

Here are some things to consider before contacting the IG office:

- Be sure you have a problem, not just a peeve.
- Give your chain of command a chance to solve the problem.
- Keep in mind that IGs are not policy makers.
- Be honest and don't provide misleading information.
- Remember IGs can only resolve a case on the basis of fact.
- Keep in mind that IGs can only recommend, not order, a resolution.
- Don't expect instant action on your request...be patient.
- Be prepared to take "No" for an answer.

Some complaints not IG appropriate will be addressed by other agencies or through the individual's chain of command. Whenever possible, Soldiers must use their chain of command to address the issue first. We want to make commanders successful and assist them in taking care of their organization and resolving their Soldiers' issues. The IG team will continue to provide the 3^d ESC, its Soldiers and Leaders with the best possible support keeping the team mission focused and in the fight.

By Maj. Lee Kemp - 3^d ESC Command Inspector General

Our organization is comprised of nine Inspectors General dispersed throughout the 3^d ESC area of operations with five offices; each one collocated with a Sustainment Brigade in order to provide the command with the best possible support.

Joint Base Balad (304th SB): DSN 433-2125
MAJ Lee Kemp (Command Inspector General)
MAJ Scott Peters (Deputy)
SFC Aaron Loos (NCOIC)
SFC Danilo Egudin
SFC Javier Cruz

Q-West (16th SB): DSN 827-6115
LTC Kyle Peterson
Taji (10th SB): DSN 834-3079
SFC Tamera Wynn
Adder/Tallil (287th SB): DSN 833-1710
LTC Melanie Meier
Al Asad (321st SB): DSN 440-7049
LTC Timothy Norton

JBB improves security, base-access time

BY STAFF SGT. JOHN GORDINIER
332nd AEW Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — All three entry control points here are in the process of construction to improve security and access time to enter the base, and are scheduled for completion by the end of the summer.

“Security forces, on-base agencies, contractors and Iraqis will benefit from the construction completion, said Capt. Joseph Yakubik, 532nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron East ECP officer in charge. “There will be an all-around increase in terms of better equipment, speed and much less wait-time for (base entry).”

For example, the ECPs are receiving new badging offices, which process identification badges for local-nationals who enter JBB.

“(The east ECP badging office) is being built to cut down on the wait-time to process mass groups of personnel onto the base. It will replace an older building that consists of a single lane of processing,” Capt. Yakubik said. “The new construction has four processing lanes, so it will speed up the process of entering the base by 400 percent.

“Due to the increase in local-national pedestrian traffic and the increase in local-national hires who are replacing third-country national workers, we will see an increase of approximately 20 percent more Iraqis processing onto JBB over the next year. The benefit of hiring local-nationals is that it contributes to the overall counterinsurgency efforts by helping facilitate the Iraqi First program at JBB,” added the Belington, W. Va., native deployed here from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

The captain said they are replacing some of the current screening systems with more updated technologies that will allow better detection capabilities. It will also improve the mission, allowing Security forces Airmen to handle huge volumes of foot traffic without the ‘bottleneck’ in the screening and badging process.

While there isn’t a lot of foot traffic at the South ECP, there is a lot of vehicle traffic, said 1st Lt. Jack McGonegal, 532nd ESFS South ECP officer in charge.

“The new badging office here will get a fresh look and new technology to enhance our security measures,”



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. John Gordinier

Security Forces Airmen guard the south entry control point at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, May 6. The ECP is undergoing construction to improve security and base access time. New towers, extended roads and a new badging office are a few of the projects underway. The projects are scheduled for completion by the end of the summer.

continued the Fort Mohave, Ariz., native deployed here from McConnell AFB, Kan. “Also, next to the badging office is a state-of-the-art vehicle inspection system that views vehicles entering JBB. It searches the vehicles for terrorist devices in a timely and efficient manner.”

For added security, the ECPs are constructing multiple layers of towers and checkpoints.

“The North ECP is undergoing a total reconstruction,” said Capt. Mark King, 532nd ESFS North ECP officer in charge. “We are going to have new and larger search areas, new towers and new detection- and-search capabilities.

“The reason for the reconstruction is to increase security and push all of the search areas outside the base boundary,” added the Cuero, Texas, native deployed here from Lackland AFB, Texas. “Additionally, the new area will give us increased detection capabilities.”

With more technology in place, the projects will

benefit the entire base populace by giving the installation increased security at the wire of the base, Capt. King said. They will also benefit incoming convoys by expediting their entry.

“Security will always take precedence over speed or convenience,” Capt. Yakubik said. “Security forces Airmen are simply attempting to improve security capabilities and set up the most impenetrable defense possible.

Totaling approximately \$15 million, the projects will incorporate the latest technologies and best equipment available.

“The mix of people performing this mission is phenomenal,” Capt. Yakubik continued. “I think our folks take the risk and numerous hours a day in body armor as routine. The fact is, they are a critical line of defense in support of the base’s Coalition force mission to secure JBB residents.”

Airmen inspect exiled mail for hazardous material

BY STAFF SGT. TIM BECKHAM
Baghdad Media Outreach Team

CAMP STRYKER, Iraq -- Ever wonder what happens to mail that never makes it to its intended recipient? Well here in Iraq the mail has to be inspected for hazardous materials.

According to Army Lt. Col. Jason Kuroiwa, 81st Joint Military Mail Terminal commander, all mail coming into the Baghdad area that is improperly labeled, doesn’t have a return address, or simply gets lost in the system has to be inspected before processing and distribution.

“Sometimes people put the word Iraq, or fail to put the zip code or put the incorrect address and what happens to this mail is it gets redirected as international mail to the Iraqi postal service,” he said. “On good faith the Iraqi government returns the mail back to us but in regard to that we have to take some necessary precautions because the mail went outside the military postal system.”

Once the JMMT has accumulated an adequate amount of exiled mail, the unit performs several inspections to include using military working dogs, x-ray machines and hazardous-material personnel. Members from the 447th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron emergency-management flight have to check the parcels for suspicious and/or hazardous materials that may have inadvertently or intentionally been introduced to the package.

“Before all this mail can be redistributed, we get with the JMMT personnel and perform radiological, chemical and biological inspections,” said Tech. Sgt. Steve Gaunt, 447th ECES EMF NCO in charge, who is deployed here from the 117th Air Refueling Wing, Alabama Air National Guard, and is a native of Marietta, Ga.

“It’s important to protect our personnel and to protect the mail handlers. It’s also a great opportunity for us to do a real-world mission and use the skills we are trained for,” he said.

Geared in chemical suits and armed

with hazardous-material sensors, teams of three make their way downrange where the mail is stored and inspect the packages.

“We basically gear up and go downrange with several pieces of equipment to pull samples and run a test on them to make sure there are no threats and determine whether it is safe for the next team to go down,” said Senior Airman Amanda Heatherly, 447th ECES EM technician.

The inspections, usually performed once a month, are a joint effort between the emergency-management team, the fire department and bioenvironmental engineers.

“We (emergency management team) collect the samples and perform the test, the fire department checks our vitals to ensure we are healthy enough to go downrange, and bio ensures the environment remains safe throughout the inspection process,” said Airman Heatherly, who is also deployed here from the 117th ARW Alabama ANG, and is a native of Huntsville, Ala.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Tim Beckham

Senior Airman Tyrone Fisher, 447th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron emergency management flight, tests to ensure mail has not been contaminated with hazardous materials April 24.



**Celebrating Asian Pacific American Contributions to the Army:
Asian Pacific American Heritage Month**

"I come from a country where no one looks alike; we are the product of many different cultures and languages, but we have found a way to be Americans first. In doing so, we have been able to keep our cultures and celebrate our differences... We have been able to turn our differences into our strength."

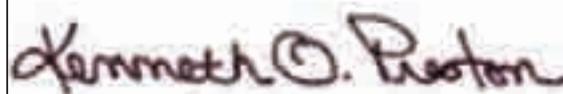
- GEN Eric Shinseki, 34th Chief of Staff, May 2000

May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month – a time to recognize Asian and Pacific Islanders in America, commemorate their rich heritage of selfless service, and highlight their future opportunities to serve America's Army and our Nation.

From the Civil War to today's current conflicts, Asian Pacific Americans have made lasting contributions to our wartime efforts. In World War II, the famed "Go for Broke" 442nd Regimental Combat Team, composed of American-born Japanese, became the most decorated combat unit of its size in the history of our Army with twenty one Medal of Honors and seven Presidential Unit Citations. When President Truman ordered the integration of our Nation's Armed Forces, Asian and Pacific Islanders continued to serve and lead nobly across our Army formations in every contingency operation.

Today, our Soldiers and Army Civilians reflect the diversity of the American people—and America's Army leverages and draws strength from our diversity. In this era of persistent conflict, we continue to develop culturally-astute, agile and adaptive leaders—Soldiers and Army Civilians—who are prepared for the human dimension of leadership required to meet the challenges of the 21st Century. In recognizing 2009 as the Year of the NCO, we pay particular tribute to the Asian and Pacific Islander Noncommissioned Officers leading from the front.

During Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, we encourage all members of our Army family to commemorate and celebrate their landmark achievements.


Kenneth O. Preston
Sergeant Major of the Army


George W. Casey, Jr.
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff


Pete Geren
Secretary of the Army

Delivering Supplies: Iraqi school get tools from Kansas

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
MASTER SGT. CARL MAR
287TH SUST. BDE. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

DHI QAR PROVINCE, Iraq – Many happy young students at the Al Moamen School were excited as the Kansas Guard Soldiers from the 287th Special Troops Battalion, 287th Sustainment Brigade visited and delivered school supplies for the students and teachers here May 5.

Lt. Col. Anthony Randall, 287th STB executive officer and a native of Topeka, Kansas, said his unit adopted the local school earlier in the year and

had been raising donations for the students.

“Our unit was adopted by the Williams Magnet School in Topeka and we wanted to show our appreciation in turn by helping an Iraqi school. We asked the 287th Sustainment Brigade Civilian Military Operations to recommend a school that could benefit by our help, and they recommended Al Moamen which has around 80 students,” he said.

“We met the children the first time a week ago when we held an Earth Day celebration in front of the school. We distributed some CMO supplies then, but today’s visit is special because most of everything – and there’s a lot – came primarily from Kansas,” he said.

Lt. Col. Tony Divish, commander of the 287th STB and a native of Wamego, Kan., donated some stuffed animals sent from his family and presented Al Moamen school teachers’ two sets of professional microscopes -- donated by the Topeka Evening Sertoma Club from Topeka, Kan., – for their science class.

“The head master and teachers were excited most by the microscopes,” said Divish. “They asked a lot of questions about them, wanted to look at every part and read through the instruction books. This is the type of teaching equipment that Iraqi schools can really use and need.”

Sgt. 1st Class Lance Jones, 287th STB assistant operations noncommissioned officer and a native of Man-

hattan, Kan., said the donation was a success along with the support from local organization and businesses back home.

“Really, I’ve got to say that everybody in Sharon Springs and Wallace County gave something. It was a western Kansas effort. Donations came in from as far away as the American Legion Riders in Colby, Kansas,” said Lance.

“Everybody can make a difference in the life of another. And they can do it anywhere, even to make a difference in the life of an Iraqi child. That thinking is especially true with the American people. Kansans are especially generous, and they’ve certainly shown their generosity today,” said Randall.

SAFETY

Safety Topic of the Week

to present. Use the BEFORE/DURING/FIRES inspections that begin on Page 2-14 in TM 9-1015-249-10. Make sure the buffers can move fully in both recoil and counter-recoil. If recoil is restricted in any way or shows signs of free play or slackness, don't use the bipod. It should be sent to support for repair.

Also make these changes to your -10 TM:

Page 2-14, paragraph c- Add to the end of paragraph c: "Buffers must allow for full movement in both recoil and counter-recoil travel without any free play/slackness." In the paragraph c- EQUIPMENT NOT READY/AVAILABLE IF remarks, add the following after "inoperative": "in either recoil travel, or has free play/slackness."

Page 3-9, paragraph 4- Add the following at the end of the first sentence: "Check that buffers recoil and counter-recoil without any free play or slackness."

For more information, see T&COM safety of use message 09-005.

<http://aep32.rta.army.mil/commodity/soem/tacom/wm/voum09-005.html>

The M9 pistol comes from the manufacturer with a white dot on both the front and rear sights that helps the shooter sight on a target. The pistol also has a red dot on either side of the slide assembly that shows when the safety is disengaged. But the dots wear off over time.

No dots doesn't mean your M9 is deadlined. It's OK to keep firing your M9 without dots. But if you think the dots help your shooting or safety, ask your field maintainer to put them back on. He should thoroughly clean both sights and then use any high quality white metal enamel paint to put dots back on the sights. Allow the paint to completely dry. Same thing goes for the red safety dots, except of course use red paint.

Do you have a story idea?

Contact the Expeditionary Times

expeditionarytimes@iraq.centcom.mil



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

HEADQUARTERS
MULTI-NATIONAL CORPS IRAQ
BAGHDAD, IRAQ
APO AE 09342

FICI-EO

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Asian Pacific Heritage Month

1. Multi-National Corps-Iraq (MNC-I) takes pride in saluting Asian Pacific Americans for their numerous contributions and achievements to our nation. Each May, as a nation, we direct our focus to the heritage of Asian Pacific Americans to broaden our knowledge and deepen our appreciation for their service to our communities, military, and nation. This year's theme is "Leadership to meet the Challenges of a Changing World."

2. Our nation is rich in diverse ethnic groups and cultures; each a vital part of the American way. Asian Pacific Americans concentrate on education, support of family, and strong work ethics which have become distinct features of our national heritage and spirit. Despite our diverse heritage we all share the same bond: We are all Americans. Their history is one of notable accomplishments and legacies in virtually every profession in America.

3. The 8th Military Police Brigade, along with MNC-I will host an Asian Pacific Heritage Month Observance on 29 May 2009, 1900-2030 in the Rotunda of the Al Faw Palace, Camp Victory Iraq. Consistent with mission requirements, I encourage commanders to plan activities throughout this month, which raise awareness and appreciation of Asian Pacific Heritage Month.

CHARLES H. JACOBY JR.
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:

A

Seventh-graders, Soldiers reach out to Iraqi orphans

BY CAPT. HALLIE BECKER
UPAR, 391ST CSSB,
16TH SUST. BDE.

TIKRIT, Iraq — Sustainment Soldiers traveled to a nearby orphanage here with boxes of school supplies donated by Longs Peak Middle School students, Longmont, Colo., for Iraqi school children



April 18.

The partnership between Soldiers from the 391st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion and seventh-graders at Longs Peak Middle School began seven months ago through e-mails, phone calls, written letters and two video teleconferences between the students and Soldiers.

During the video teleconferences students had the opportunity to talk with several Soldiers from the 391st CSSB — some of whom were even from their home state of Colorado — and got to hear about Soldiers' experiences in Iraq and what being deployed is really like. They asked about everything from the weapons carried and types of missions conducted to camel spiders, dust storms and day-to-day life.

After the first video teleconference

during Veteran's Day 2008, the students focused on children and victims of war, initiating what they refer to as "Project Kindness." Their objective has been raising funds and collecting toys, bedding and clothing for the orphanage.

Shortly before the second video teleconference in April, Soldiers at the 391st CSSB received several boxes full of everything the students had collected for the orphanage.

Spc. Andrew McDonald and Spc. Ray Duck coordinated with other Coalition units and Iraqi officials to bring the donated items to the orphanage. They were met at the front gates of the orphanage by the men and women managing the facility, as well as the Director of the Tikrit Children's Organization, Fatin Lateif, a woman on the city council.

"This was far and away the most rewarding experience I have had while deployed," Duck said. "To see the way those children's faces lit up when they saw the toys and clothes we brought. It reminded me that we really are over here to help the Iraqis. You can lose sight of all the good we are doing in this country by reading the news. This mission reaffirmed that there are good things happening over here, too."

After a few minutes of playing with the boys, Soldiers made their way back to the trucks for the trip back to base.



(Courtesy photo)

Capt. Hallie P. Becker, 391st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion S-3 officer in charge, gives an Iraqi child a toy during her units visit to an orphanage in Tikrit, Iraq April 18. Seventh graders at Long's Peak Middle School, Longmont, Colo., donated clothing, toys and school supplies for the orphans after several video teleconferences with Soldiers from the 391st CSSB at Contingency Operating Base Speicher.

McDonald said, "However, sometimes you get the chance to do something like this for people you don't even know. I know the news just shows all the

bad things that happen here and all the things Soldiers do wrong, but after this mission it made me proud to call myself a U.S. Soldier."



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3D SUSTAINMENT COMMAND (EXPEDITIONARY)

<http://www.army.mil/3rdesc>

Sustainers share Earth Day with local Dhi Qar province school

STORY AND PHOTO BY
SGT. HEATHER WRIGHT
287TH SUST. BDE. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

DHI QAR PROVINCE, Iraq – Coalition leaders from the 287th Sustainment Brigade celebrated Earth Day by teaching the necessity and wonder of plant life to students at Al Moamen School here April 22.

Lt. Col. Anthony Randall, 287th Special Troops Battalion executive officer, along with the brigade's command staff and Civil Military Operations team, spent a day giving lessons on biology, and trees; how they help make the clean air, food and shelter for humans and animals.

"What's the most familiar tree in Kansas?" one student asked. "Oak trees," Randall responded and explained oak trees are deciduous. "Unlike palm trees, oak trees lose their leaves in the autumn and are bare in the winter," Randall said.

One student asked what type of soil he needed to plant a garden in his backyard. "I'd have to think about that

one," Randall said with a chuckle. "I can't seem to get a garden going (growing) in my own backyard."

Randall's civilian job made him the perfect candidate for this visit, as he serves as the Kansas State environmental officer for the Kansas Army National Guard; his job is ensuring the Guard conserves and protects the state's natural resources when conducting missions.

"The kids were very knowledgeable and inquisitive. It made it fun to be out here on Earth Day," said Randall.

Later, the students eagerly lined up to plant their own flowers after they were each given a cup with soil and seeds. Randall demonstrated how to make a hole for the seeds and then cover it with soil. He said to water it and explained why the soil must be kept moist, "but not too wet," he said, and placed in the sun for a little while every day for the plant to grow.

After the planting lesson, Col. Robert Schmitt, 287th Sust. Bde. commander, Command Sgt. Major Timothy Newton and Shaykh Tayseer of the Al Ghizi tribe planted a palm tree. Newton, a principal for the Lansing, Kan. School district was happy to participate.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Heather Wright

Lt. Col. Anthony Randall, 287th Special Troops Battalion executive officer, waters a newly planted seed for a student at Al Moamen School in Dhi Qar Province, Iraq April 22. The students planted seeds as part of the 287th Sust. Bde., Earth Day activities, a day normally celebrated in the U.S.

"Back at my school, they're celebrating Earth Day too," said Newton. "It's a great thing to send back pictures and

show that even though I'm a few miles away from Kansas, I participated in Earth Day too."

259th CSSB recognizes Safety Achievements

BY 1ST LT. ANGELA ROKEY
UPAR, 259TH CSSB,
304TH SUST. BDE.

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – The 259th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, from Denver, Colo., presented the 356th Quartermaster Company, of Lake Wales, Fla., and 602nd Maintenance Company, of Fort Hood, Texas, the Unit Safety Award during a safety meeting at the battalion conference room here May 2.

259th CSSB Commander Lt. Col. Marci D. Toler kicked off the monthly meeting by recognizing the outstanding achievements and safety excellence of both companies.

The 602nd Maint. Co., received the award for not experiencing a single accident during their 15-month deployment here. The award was accepted by the company commander, Capt. Rigo Valdez.

"All of your shops have been accident free since you've been here and I greatly appreciate it. We can all say that it made our job much easier," said Toler.

The 602nd Maint. Co. supports the 259th CSSB with nine shops, such as the wood, welding, automotive shops and a maintenance support team to the 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment.

The 356th QM Co received the award for the unit's high standard in safety while managing multiple commodities and warehouse operations. Their award was received by the company commander, Capt. Michael Emma.

"We want to recognize your efforts throughout your company, but mainly out at the Supply Support Activity, which is the largest in theatre, and the

Forward Redistribution Point, the only one of its kind in theatre," said Toler.

The 356th QM Co., a National Guard unit, spent the past year operating the SSA, FRP, Central Issue Facility and the maintenance motor pool without experiencing any serious injuries.

In recognition for each companies being safety compliant during their deployment, most of the recognition were to the unit's safety teams. The 602nd Maint. Co., safety team is: 1st Lt. Kinard Egleton and Sgt. 1st Class James Thomas; the 356th QM Co., team is: Chief Warrant Officer 4 Steven Schell and Sgt. 1st Class Perry Robins.

JOINT BASE BALAD

Memorial Day Observance

Theme:
"As this bell rings the blessed dead rest and freedom rings"

Date: 25 May 2009

Time: 1130 – 1200

Place: Provider Chapel

Guest Speaker: Chaplain, Colonel Jeff Swanson
Senior Chaplain, Joint Base Balad

Stressed?

Relax and go see a movie.

See page 21 for movie schedule

Brig. Gen. LeDoux visits Balad Reservists

BY 1ST LT. JESSICA CALLAHAN
UPAR, 847TH HR CO.,
16TH SUST. BDE.

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — Brig. Gen. Karen E. LeDoux, commanding general, 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), U.S. Army Reserves from Des Moines, Iowa, met with Soldiers from the 847th Human Resources Company here April 23, to emphasize the importance of the mission Reserve Soldiers perform in Iraq.

The afternoon began with lunch for LeDoux and Command Sgt. Maj. LeRoy Haugland, command sergeant major, 103rd ESC, hosted by Capt. David Laes,

commander, and 1st Sgt. Kyle Westergard, first sergeant, 847th HR Co.

It is of importance for Soldiers to know they are supported in all that they do, said LeDoux. She added by speaking with Soldiers about family readiness groups.

“Rear detachment support is imperative to Soldiers serving day-after-day away from their Families, their homes, and their recognized way of life,” LeDoux said. “Knowing that life continues at home for Army Families, Family readiness groups comfort Soldiers by offering support to Families during a deployment, thereby easing the minds of Soldiers deployed across the world.”

During LeDoux’s visit, the 847th HR Co., headquarters presented a short briefing on their mission.



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

Brig. Gen. Karen E. LeDoux, 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) commanding general, U.S. Army Reserves from Des Moines, Iowa visited Soldiers from the 3d ESC and its subordinate units at Joint Base Balad, Iraq April 23.

Iraqis and Marines trade welding skills

STORY AND PHOTO BY
LT. COL. RENEE ROUSE
304TH SUST. BDE. PAO

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — Two Marines from the 2nd Maintenance Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group traveled from Al Taqad-dum, Iraq to train at the container repair yard here April 19 to 22.

Lance Cpl. Dustin Sievers, of Key Stone, Iowa, and Cpl. Chris Robinson of Mason City, Iowa, trained with Soldiers from the 155th Inland Cargo Transfer Company, a Fort Eustis, Va., based unit, and Iraqi laborers on basic repairs of shipping containers to meet seaworthy cargo container transport standards.

“We learned from the Iraqis and we showed the Iraqis techniques to help better their process. One Team, One Fight!” Sievers said; they were able to share with the Iraqis their best welding practices and better techniques to make their jobs more proficient.

The first two days of training was taught by Iraqi container repairmen at the CRY along with 155th ICTC, Soldiers providing supervision during the hands-on training were Spc. Jeffery Reagan, of Chesapeake, Va.; Spc. Eric Poulson, of Monterey, Va.; Spc. Cory Land, of St. Louis, Mo.; and Staff Sgt. Jesus Grajales, of Isabela, Puerto Rico.

The Iraqis trained the Marines on the fundamentals of repairing containers. They taught them on all the common deficiencies they had encountered on containers, door gaskets and small joint floor ceilings.

The last two training days consisted of Soldiers from the 155th ICTC teaching the administrative portion handling paperwork, proper documentation of deficient containers and certification.

The Iraqi labor men and 155th ICTC Soldiers received their training from members of the Coast Guard, on the approved welding practices and share those skills with fellow Coalition troops.

The 2nd Maint. Bn., 2nd MLG is based at Camp Lejeune, N.C.



Photo illustration

Spac. Eric Poulson, of Monterey, Va., and Staff Sgt. Jesus Grajales, from Isabela, Puerto Rico, with the 155th Inland Cargo Transfer Company, help teach Cpl. Chris Robinson, of Mason City, Iowa, a Marine from the 2nd Maintenance Battalion how to properly inspect shipping containers at the container repair yard, Joint Base Balad, Iraq April 20.

On the Web



16TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE

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



Sustainers streamline unit movement

STORY AND PHOTO
BY SGT. ALEX SNYDER
EXPEDITIONARY TIMES STAFF

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – In the last nine months they've trained and processed more than 12,000 Soldiers into the Iraq theater of operations. By the time they leave in August, that number is expected to climb to nearly 18,000.

They are the liaison officers, or LNOs, for the 3^d Sustainment Command, a 24-Soldier team responsible for coordinating virtually every part of a unit's transition into Iraq, including billeting, mandatory training, and coordinating personnel movement to their mission locations in Iraq.

But this team wasn't always so small and the process of moving units into theater wasn't always as smooth as it is today, and in August 2008, the 3^d ESC made moves to streamline its LNO mission in Kuwait (known as "Sustainer South") to its current state.

At the time, each Sustainment brigade under the 3^d ESC had their own

liaison officers that coordinated the transition of units in the brigade.

This organization left some Soldiers with little or no work for long periods of time, and little cooperation between LNOs, 3^d ESC officials said.

"Each brigade was competitive for supplies, resources and space down here in Kuwait," said Lt. Col. Steven E. Logsdon, the officer in charge of the Kuwait liaison officer cell for 3^d ESC. There were also communication issues with higher command that needed to be resolved, he said.

Within a month of arriving, however, the 3^d ESC streamlined Sustainer South, an operation which now totals two LNOs per sustainment brigade, plus additional support personnel.

"The way we do it now is more efficient," said Master Sgt. Jose R. Miranda, the noncommissioned officer in charge for the 3^d ESC LNO cell. Miranda, who is from Ponce, Puerto Rico, said there is more teamwork under the current system. When LNOs from one sustainment brigade are not engaged in work, they help their fellow sustainment brigade LNOs, he said.

"The way it's structured here now," Logsdon said, "It's more 'one team, one fight.'"

But the restructuring was more than eliminating unneeded personnel. It also meant better advertising. Previously, incoming units found it hard to locate the LNO office, Logsdon said.

As a result, the concrete barriers outside the 3^d ESC LNO tent were painted with the 3^d ESC logo and the patches of the various sustainment brigades, with a sign at the front of the tent. This has increased Sustainer South's visibility, Logsdon said.

"Before the 3^d ESC did the restructuring, nobody knew who the 3^d ESC was," Logsdon said. "You couldn't find an LNO. And if you found one, they wouldn't know how to direct you where to go."

"Anybody who comes to our tent now, we can direct them to anything they need here on base," Logsdon said, "even if they don't belong to us."

Outsiders have also noticed changes the 3^d ESC made.

"When I first got here it was a catastrophe," said Capt. Anthony A. Wheeler, an operations training officer for U.S. Army Central Command. "When I say catastrophe, it was a mind-boggling catastrophe. It was confusion on all ends."

Wheeler, who arrived in Kuwait



The painted t-wall outside the "Sustainer South" 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) liaison officer cell at Camp Buehring, Kuwait.

about the same time 3^d ESC did, said since the restructuring, the "visibility" of incoming 3^d ESC units, is much better, and the process of getting them trained up is also better. "They revamped their program ... It was a drastic change," he said.

For now, the LNOs said they are experiencing a lull in their workload – but this will not last long.

In the coming months they will receive two brigade combat teams, which the LNOs said will keep them busy.

"There is a presence down here from the 3^d ESC," Logsdon said. "And that presence is a strong presence."

Who is Lt. Col. Steven E. Logsdon?

STORY AND PHOTO
BY SGT. ALEX SNYDER
EXPEDITIONARY TIMES STAFF

In the last nine months the 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) liaison officers at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, have processed more than 12,000 Soldiers into the Iraq theater of operations. By the time they leave in August, that number is expected to climb to nearly 18,000. The LNO cell is head by Lt. Col. Steven E. Logsdon. Here's what he has to say:

Q: So why did you join the Army?

Logsdon: I just wanted to be a part of something. When I first got in I was in the National Guard. I was in the Tellcity, Indiana, 38th Infantry Division. I was a noncommissioned officer until '86, and then went into OCS.

Q: What's been the best part of the last 28 years in the Army?

Logsdon: I would have to say that it's this deployment. I have been challenged in this position. I don't mind working hard when you see the work you do produce lasting results. I believe in what the Army is doing here, and I wanted to be apart of it.

Q: Why is it important to for 3^d ESC LNOs to do well?

Logsdon: Down here, the LNOs are the first image, the first impression people get of 3^d ESC. If they see something lacking here they're not going to have a good picture of what we're doing up north. If they see us organized, they're going to know the 3^d ESC is organized. First impressions are important.

Q: In your mind, why is the job of an LNO important?

Logsdon: I think the LNO has got a bad rap because when people think of an LNO they think 'it's somebody they don't need in the fight' and they put them down here to get them out of the way. But that's wrong. I'm proud to be an LNO. And I stand up and make people realize I'm an LNO and a good one.

LNOs are the ones that coordinate the future and how well it goes depends on what they do to make a smooth transition from the states to Iraq. The reception, staging, onward movement, and integration mission belongs to the unit that is assigned the deployment/redeployment operations. But without LNOs they would not be able to accomplish all that needs to be done

to meet that mission.

Q: How would you rate your team of LNOs against the others on this base?

Logsdon: We're changing the face of what LNOs are. Everybody comes to look at what we are doing, to mimic what we've done. We are the example for others to follow

Q: Where do you see yourself going after this deployment?

Logsdon: After this deployment I'll be going back to Fort Knox, to finish up with the 3^d ESC. Hopefully then I'll be able to do a tour with the 16th Cavalry from Fort Knox. They're the training brigade for the Armor school.

Q: If you had to choose one word to describe yourself, what word would that be and why?

Logsdon: Charismatic – that's something I think has been one of the pluses for me. I can talk to people. I can lead them to see what the mission is and the right way of getting them on board to be a thriving part of that mission. I can build a team and ensure that our team has the 'us' mentality and not the 'me, me, me,' attitude ... it's all about esprit de corp. I'm not an



Lt. Col. Steven E. Logsdon
Unit: 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)
Duty position: Officer in charge of Kuwait liaison officer cell for 3^d ESC "Sustainer South"
Joined the military in January 1981

abrasive leader, I'm just the leader and one that the Soldiers know genuinely cares about them. I know it's the total team that makes an organization.

Joint Base Balad Olympics



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kiyoshi Freeman

Soldiers of the 259th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion celebrate winning the trophy as the champions of the Balad Olympics at Joint Base Balad, Iraq May 10. The Balad Olympics were conducted over two days and featured a variety of contests, from volleyball to a Rockband competition.



U.S. Air Force courtesy photo

A Soldier crosses the finish line for the 5K poker run during the Balad Olympics track and field event at Joint Base Balad, Iraq May 9 and 10. For two days, service members participated in a variety of activities, including softball, basketball, volleyball and swimming -- along with a humvee pull, combatives and tug-of-war.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kiyoshi Freeman

Air Force Col. John L. Dolan, vice commander 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, and Brig. Gen. Michael J. Lally, commanding general, 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), wait for the award ceremony to start during the Balad Olympics at Joint Base Balad, Iraq May 10.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kiyoshi Freeman

Capt. Brian D. Costa, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), bows his head for the invocation of the closing ceremony for the Balad Olympics at Joint Base Balad, Iraq May 10.



U.S. Air Force courtesy photo

A Soldier prepares to throw a discus during the Balad Olympics track and field event at Joint Base Balad, Iraq May 9 and 10.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Kiyoshi Freeman

The Soldiers of the 259th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion celebrate winning the trophy as the champions of the Balad Olympics at Joint Base Balad, Iraq May 10.

Texas Guardsmen celebrate Cinco De Mayo

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
SPC. KIYOSHI C. FREEMAN
EXPEDITIONARY TIMES STAFF

AL ASAD AIR BASE, Iraq – For every Orozco, there's an Alderman. For every Garcia, there's a Wallace. For every Rodriguez, there's a Scholari.



The Texas Army National Guardsmen of 2nd Battalion, 142nd Infantry Regiment (Task Force Avalanche) are as culturally diverse as their state. In recognition of this shared heritage, the unit celebrates a different culturally-inspired holiday every month.

In May, Cinco de Mayo was a natural choice, especially with so many Soldiers in the unit of Mexican American descent, said Capt. Johnny R. Guerrero, commander, Alpha Company; Guerrero's own mother was born in Mexico.

"Down in south Texas—even anywhere in Texas—it's a big celebration," the native of San Antonio said. "We cel-

brate it here because it gives Soldiers a chance to get together and have a good time."

The Texas Guardsmen celebrated Cinco de Mayo with a Mexican-style barbecue, a piñata, and a nighttime showing of "Desperado," a movie Guerrero admitted was selected more for its entertainment value and for simply taking place in Mexico.

Preparations began weeks ago, said Sgt. 1st Class Jose M. Orozco, of Hillsborough, Texas. The battalion staff scrounged for enough food to feed several hundred Soldiers, including a goat for traditional Mexican stew.

Friends and Family provided everything else, including the universal piñata.

A common misconception in the U.S. is that Cinco de Mayo is the Mexican Independence Day, which is actually Sept. 16.

Cinco de Mayo commemorates the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862, when a Mexican army defeated a larger French army. The defeat, however, did not deter the French from invading the coun-

try and installing an Austrian Hapsburg emperor. It wasn't until 1866, after a protracted guerrilla war and under pressure from the United States, that the French finally withdrew.

Despite the significance of the battle, Cinco de Mayo is not a federal holiday in Mexico nor is it widely celebrated outside of Puebla. It is, though, a popular holiday outside Mexico as a day to celebrate Mexican heritage and culture, not unlike St. Patrick's Day for Irish Americans.

The irony of Texans celebrating a Mexican military triumph 26 years after Texas itself fought for independence from Mexico is not lost on some of the Guardsmen of 2nd Bn., 142nd Inf. Regt.

Aside from the cultural recognition, Guerrero said the holiday, at least for Texans like them, is more an opportunity to get together with friends and Family, even if it's in Iraq.

Task Force Avalanche, 2nd Bn., 142nd Inf. Regt., escorts fuel convoys from the Jordan border and then throughout Anbar province in support of Coalition operations.



Sgt. 1st Class Jose M. Orozco, from Hillsborough, Texas, takes a swing at a piñata during a Cinco de Mayo celebration at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq May 5.

555th Engineer Brigade works to improve Iraqi Roads

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
MAJ. JOHN STRAHAN
555TH ENG. BDE.

SALAH AD-DIN PROVINCE, Iraq – It was more than 20 years ago when the Iraqi government built a road to connect Iraq Highway 1 with the Balad air base and nearby Bakir Village. Since that time the population in this province has grown. Not only did this road support the air base, local farmers and



U.S. Navy Lt. j.g. William Moiles and Iraqi contractor Akel Marhoon inspect the repaving project along the Al Hydria to Al Bakir Road in the Salah ah-Din province, Iraq.

province residents depended on this highway as well.

Like other roads, with continued use, weather and poor maintenance took their toll. Over time the Al Hydria to Al Bakir Road degraded to an eight kilometer potholed strip of dirt and gravel. Under the direction of U.S. Navy Lt. j.g. William Moiles and

Soldiers from the 555th Engineer Brigade, this road will soon be ready for sustained use.

Moiles, a Naval Civil Engineer Corps officer with the Navy, is assigned to the brigade office of Civil Capacity and Economic Development. Moiles is responsible to oversee funds and projects under the Commander's Emergency Response Program (CERP). These are select projects chosen for their benefits to the Iraqi people in the continuing effort to help them rebuild their infrastructure, promote security and stimulate economic growth.

The 555th Engineer Brigade, from Ft. Lewis, Wa., has nearly 36 million dollars of such work in place. The CERP funds have been used across five Iraqi provinces to rebuild schools and provide water purification plants.

Moiles said the project has been ongoing for several months.

"It started in November of 2008 with initial repairs and a gravel sub base," he said.

The scope of work for this project called for improvements to the road shoulders and the replacement of 18 culverts along the route. "The project is nearing completion," added Moiles. "The contractor started laying down the asphalt in January of this year."

Like many other civil capacity projects sponsored by the 555th Eng. Bde, the Al Hydria to Al Bakir Road repair will provide benefits to the local area.

"It starts with using a local contractor, who employs and pays workers from this region," said Moiles. This project is being completed by the Balad Al-Kema Company. The economic benefits don't end there. "We (the brigade) are also stimulating the local



An Iraqi construction crew applies a new layer of asphalt as part of a repaving project designed to improve the infrastructure and provide economic stimulus to area residents in Salah ad-Din province, Iraq.

economy by purchasing the gravel and asphalt as well," he said.

In addition to the listed local benefits, the project will also improve the force protection for Coalition forces traveling in the area.

"By cleaning up the road shoulders and laying down a new road surface, we're making it difficult for our en-

emies to place (roadside bomb(s)) along this highway," said Moiles.

Moiles sees other CERP projects in the future for the 555th Engineer Brigade and local contractors.

"Any time we can help with the Iraqi reconstruction efforts and provide local employment, it's a good thing," he said.

Remembering her Brother in Marez

STORY AND PHOTO BY
SPC. AMANDA TUCKER
EXPEDITIONARY TIMES STAFF

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – She fidgeted with her black bracelet showing a black and white portrait of a man wearing dark sunglasses inscribed with a date and some words. Underneath her uniform, she wears a cross concealing within it, a vial of ashes. She smiled as she said, “I am a walking memorial of my brother.”

Capt. Linda A. Bass, a support operations resource plans officer for the 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), began her deployment hoping to visit Forward Operating Base Marez; where a street was named after her little brother, Sgt. 1st Class Richard Henkes, who died in combat during Operation Iraqi Freedom in Sept. 2006.

“He had just been promoted ... and this was his first time being a platoon sergeant, a “platoon daddy” as he liked to call it, and he was very excited about it,” Bass said.

Henkes was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd

Brigade, 2nd Inf. Division, Fort Lewis, Wash., when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle during combat operations.

Approximately a month later, Henkes’ previous commander e-mailed Bass to tell her a road had been named in her brother’s honor. He also included a photo of the sign.

“I told my dad I’m going to see that sign and going to take a picture in front of it,” said Bass, a Bessemer, Ala., native. “I didn’t know it would actually happen.”

Bass spoke with the support operations officer for the 3^d ESC, Col. Cheri A. Provancha, about her wishes to travel to FOB Marez. Provancha knew the commanding general of the 3^d ESC Brig. Gen. Michael J. Lally was going on a trip to FOB Marez; she requested Bass accompany him. Lally agreed.

“I was very excited about that,” said Provancha, a San Diego, Calif., native. “The fact that she was able to go up there and get some closure is pretty important.”

“I was just amazed and gratified by their support and their willingness to do that for me, especially since I had just gotten here,” Bass said.

Bass flew by helicopter to Marez with Lally. While riding to the tactical

operations center, Bass saw her brother’s road sign. She had a restless night waiting to find it again in the morning.

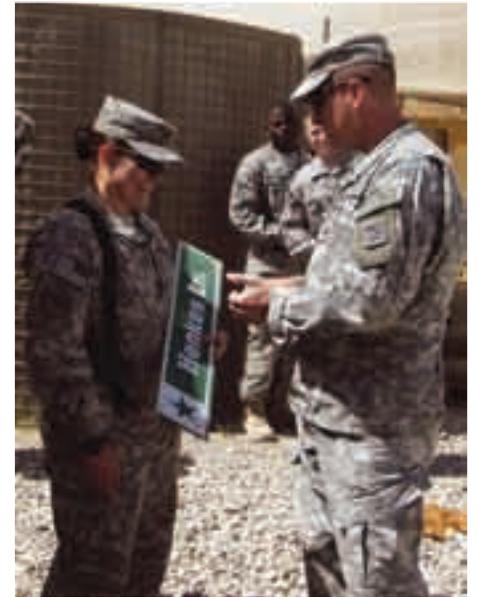
The next day Bass traveled around the base with her own driver. With his help they found two street signs with her brother’s name and stumbled upon a third. Bass laid a charm in the shape of a shield with the verse Joshua 1:9 inscribed on the back at the base of one of the signs. The verse is, “Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Bass, armed with photos of her brother on FOB Marez, visited more sights on the post and took photos to match the ones her brother took three years ago.

Her stops included a barrier where her brother’s unit’s art was displayed and the trauma room where he spent his last moments. She made a stop at the coffee shop on base thinking if it was there in 2006, it would have been one of the places he visited. “He was a coffee snob,” Bass laughed.

Before leaving FOB Marez, Bass was given one of the street signs with “HENKES Ln.” painted in bold, white letters slightly dusted by the weather of Iraq.

“Not many people who have lost their



Capt. Linda A. Bass, a support operations resource plans officer for the 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), receives a road sign named in honor of her brother by Lt. Col. Jeffrey M. Sabatine, Marez garrison commander at Forward Operating Base Marez, Iraq, March 31.

loved ones here can say that they’ve had an opportunity to walk where he walked and be where he last lived,” Bass said. “The fact that I get to bring a little piece of that home to share with my family is amazing to me.”

Don't Lose CONTROL

MRAP ROLLOVER PREVENTION IS ALL ABOUT CONTROL:

- Crew Coordination:** Driver, senior occupant, gunner and passengers know their responsibilities; remain vigilant; identify and communicate potential hazards.
- Observe your surroundings:** Be aware of bridge limitations, low hanging power lines, soft shouldered roads, and the presence of culverts, canals, and ditches.
- Never drive the vehicle beyond its limitations:** Avoid abrupt steering, excessive acceleration, and panic braking.
- Training:** Conduct mission briefings, rollover drills, and crew coordination refreshers prior to every mission.
- Reduce speed:** in turns and on wet or unimproved surfaces.
- Secure all equipment:** Ensure everything is securely stowed and tied down to avoid projectile hazards in the event of an accident or rollover.
- Leaders:** ensure only properly trained, qualified, and licensed personnel operate vehicles and equipment; initial list of personnel wear seatbelts / gunner restraint.

ENGAGED LEADERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG

Guardsmen medic goes above and beyond

BY SPC. JOSHUA MEDFORD
UPAR, 2/146 TH FA, 16TH SUST. BDE.

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE Q-WEST, Iraq – Spc. Jessica Burdge, medic, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 146th Field Artillery Regiment teaches other Soldiers in her unit combat life-saving skills here.

“The leadership role that I’ve filled on this deployment has to be the biggest achievement for me,” said Burdge, a native of Ft. Lewis, Wash.

When not on a convoy, Burdge has taught a multitude of medical classes,

to include the unit-level Combat Lifesaver refresher class while ensuring that HHB Soldiers and medics remain familiar with life-saving techniques.

In addition to conducting medic training, Burdge takes medical supply inventory for the battery while keeping the unit’s medics and Soldiers fully equipped with the latest medical supplies, and providing the instruction on the proper use of the equipment.

Among the scrapes, bumps, and bruises, Burdge became the unit’s medical administrative clerk, completing the battery’s Line of Duty injury paperwork – a tedious, detail-oriented task requiring no small degree of clerical skill.

Burdge attached to HHB is assigned

to Co. C, 181st Brigade Support Battalion. She will return to C Co. when the unit redeploys, and this is her first deployment to Iraq since joining the National Guard in 2003.

Burdge also volunteered to deploy with the Oklahoma National Guard following Hurricane Katrina, which devastated New Orleans. She dropped out of college in order to serve as the lead medic for her company and provided medical aid to injured civilians in New Orleans for two months following the hurricane.

“It was the first time I was able to put my medical training to the test,” said Burdge. “That experience taught me what it was like to be away from my family for an extended period of

time and know what it was like to be a medic twenty-four seven.”

The experience in New Orleans prepared Burdge for Iraq where she continues to serve as a medic “twenty-four seven.”

“It’s a good learning process, though stressful and overwhelming sometimes,” Burdge said. However, she said she feels a sense of accomplishment.

Upon returning home, Burdge plans to finish her degree in elementary education and hopes to be hired as a Combat Lifesaver instructor and spend more time with her husband Darol and three children. Darol, an active duty Army medic, has deployed to Iraq once before also.

Transporters keep memories while on the road

BY 1ST LT. ELIZABETH BROWN
419TH CSSB, 10TH SUST. BDE.

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Hidden away somewhere underneath all the gear, most Soldiers here carry an item or two their supply sergeants did not issue them.

As several Indiana National Guard Soldiers with the 1538th Trans-

portation Company from Elkhart, Ind., prepare their vehicles and equipment for a mission, these Sustainers ensure their uniform pockets and assault packs have a personal item from a loved one with them while on mission.

Such items range from the smallest locket with a photo to a child’s favorite toy to a football trophy.

As these items are tucked away safely, the Soldiers keep items close to their hearts to feel strength when their

spirits are down.

Spc. Jason Richmond, an Indianapolis native carries a picture of his cat that he looks at every day. The picture, he said, reminds him what he will go home to and gives him the inspiration to carry out his mission.

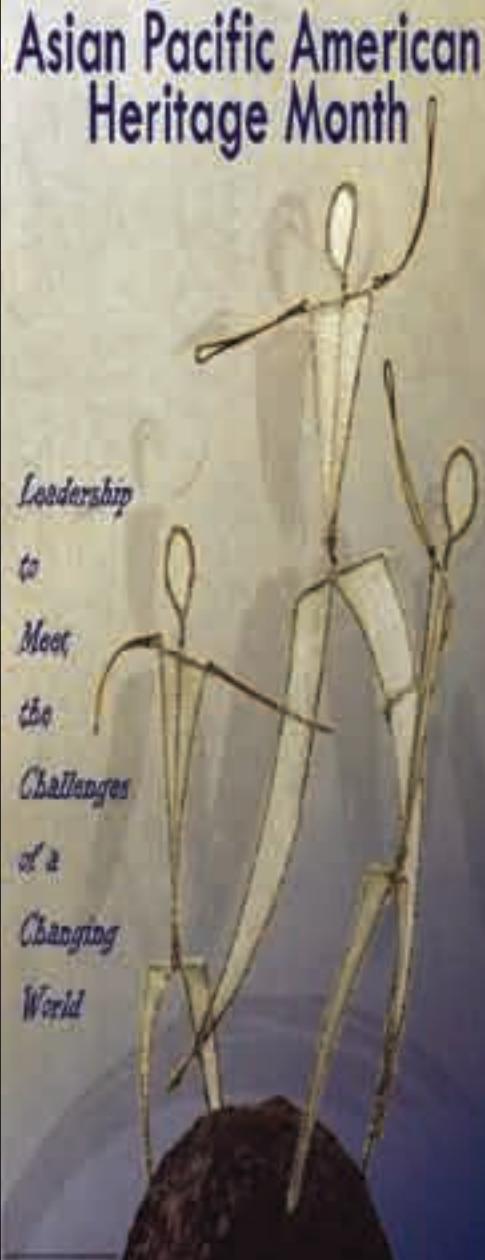
Traditions play a role in the daily life with the 1538th Trans Co.

Capt. Philip Anderson, a native of Planfield, Ind., displays in his office a military guidon signed by his former platoon members. “It’s good luck,”

Anderson said.

Not every item a Soldier carries has emotional significance. Many are comfort items while traveling the Iraqi roads. Some pack a little blanket, pillow or lotion to remember home. Staff Sgt. Daphne Lare, a native of Madison, Ind., and a driver and operations non-commissioned officer said the smell of her lotion reminds her of home.

The 1538th Trans Co., is scheduled to return to Indiana this summer.



Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Leadership to Meet the Challenges of a Changing World



JOINT BASE BALAD

Present

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Observance

MWR East Facility

28 May 2009 at 1130 Hours

Guest Speaker: CSM Jose Crisostomo

Command Sergeant Major
402nd Army Field Support Brigade

Contact: MSG Tuynuykua Jackson, 3rd ESC EO Advisor @ 433-2527,
MSGt Matthew Wendel, 332 AEW EO Director @ 443-8459,
LTC James-Michael Yates, TF 34 EO PM @ 483-4589,
MSG Scott Shockley, 3rd ESC EO Advisor @ 433-2527,
MSG Rita Cossio, 3rd ESC EO Advisor @ 433-2527,
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
MSG Bernice Mitchell, 3rd ESC Fusion Cell NCOIC @ 433-2314

Highlander Infantry Soldiers promote "good fun"

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
CAPT. MIKE VINCENT
UPAR, HHC, 1ST BN., 161ST INF.
REGT., 304TH SUST. BDE.

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – Washington Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment Soldiers took some time off from the roads to enjoy camaraderie while promoting unit cohesion during the first Highlander Games here April 30.

The competition between nine companies of the 1st Bn., 161st Inf. Regt. and the 181st Brigade Support Battalion consisted of seven events: a 5K run, strong man competition, basketball shootout, floor hockey, volleyball, ping pong and boxing.

Although the game winners are still



Capt. David N. Redmond, of Everett, Wash., with the Headquarters and Headquarters Company 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment, leads the Highlander pack at the start of the 5K run during the Highlander games at Joint Base Balad, Iraq April 30.

to be determined, the three companies with the highest points at the end of the game will receive an all expense paid

homecoming celebration upon returning to Washington State.

Capt. David K. Libby of Ferndale, Wash., with the Headquarters and Headquarters Company and coordinator for the Highlander games said, "We've had successful MWR events before, but we wanted this event to capture everyone's interest and give everyone a day off to participate."

"The hardest part of the whole thing was coordinating all of the events and synchronizing the times, locations and places around the heat of the day and to best suit the sponsoring units," he said.

To kick off the Highlander games, the 5K run started at Holt Stadium.

HHC's 1st Lt. Joseph L. Trudeau, of Spokane, Wash., said, "that (5K run) was really tough. The air is warm and thick this time of the year. It was a challenge to keep up with the pack."

Another Soldier from HHC, Staff Sgt. John A. Arnold, of Billings, Mont., said, "This is my second 5K run ever. I thought I was going to be the last guy to finish. I didn't want to let the team down."

The indoor floor hockey event had teams from each company compete.

Staff Sgt. Hyung C. Ahn, of Seattle, Wash., a member of Charlie Co. maintenance section and assistant floor hockey team captain said, "The Highlander games are just great. I was playing hockey against Chaplain (Maj. Joseph R.) Hammel and during the scrub, he pushed me up against the wall. Right then, he apologized for pushing me and I took the puck from him."

Capt. Timothy Ozmer, of Spokane, Wash., Delta Co. floor hockey team captain said, "After working out at the gym, a few guys from Delta and Bravo (companies) get together at around 2300 hrs and just play hockey all night. Sometimes, the games go for two to three hours. You're smoked after the games,



Alpha Company 181st Brigade Support Battalion's Master Sgt. David Carr Jr., of Kent, Wash., referees the floor hockey event between Team Spartan and Team Gear Head during the Highlander games at Joint Base Balad, Iraq April 30.

but it's a great workout."

Although the Highlanders enjoyed the events, the basketball shootout posed a significant challenge for one.

Staff Sgt. Romunda A. Holmes, of Bremerton, Wash., the Charlie Co. communications chief who participated in the basketball shootout, shooting baskets from the three point line, said, "It's been months since I have been able to get out and play some ball. My arms and body are showing my age."

The boxing was the highlight of the Highlander games.

Sgt. Ronald W. Hayden, of Tri Cities, Wash., said, "I give a lot of respect to every fighter up there. It takes a lot of guts to get up there in front of 300 people and box for three rounds. Not only are

you exhausted at the end of the round, but you are under the pressure to not let the team down. It's really tough."

Libby agreed the boxing event seemed to attract the biggest crowd.

"The boxing was a great success. Master Sgt. (Thomas F.) Bigley, Capt. (Aron R.) Horiel and I set up the boxing ring and put together some basic rules," he said.

The Highlander games ended with a safe success because no Soldier participants were injured.

The games brought all Highlander Soldiers together and the mission of bonding, supporting each other and solidifying an effective combat fighting force was accomplished. Go Highlanders!

Maintenance & Supply

MK 19 Machine Gun...

CORRECTING PROPERTY BOOK MISTAKES

YOU BETTER GET THAT CORRECTED! PROBABLY THE BEST INSPECTION!

OH-ONE, THAT'S ARMY MY SOCIAL NUMBER.

I THOUGHT THAT WAS MY SOCIAL NUMBER.

Line 1: Gun #mm
Line 2: MK 19 MOO 3
Line 3: 10001 (CAGE code) and 3209800-M (part number)
Line 4: 12345 (four or five digit serial number) and 0196 (month and year of manufacture)
Line 5: US
The serial number is 12345, not 12345196.

Serial number is on left side of receiver.

For more information on how to correctly read the (1) stamp on the left side of the receiver.

NSN Changes with MWO

Another common property book mistake is not changing the MK 19's NSN after MWO 9-100-230-50 has been applied. The NSN should be changed from 100-01-426-9065 to 100-01-490-9697. LCN M92862 stays the same, but "M" must be added to the part number.

How do you tell if the MWO has been applied? The MK 19 will have five holes drilled on the right side of the receiver: a new sight mounting bracket, new firing pin, new firing pin nut, a two-piece cocking lever, and adjustable secondary drive assembly. If your MK 19 haven't been modified, notify your MWO office. The MWO should have been completed by June 07.

To report a serial number or NSN change to the LOGSA small arms registry, when using EBUSE need to do an event adjustment report (AAR) for serial numbers or use event designations register (ADR) for NSNs.

IF YOU DON'T USE EBUSE SHOULD YOU GET A TRAC # TO THE LOGSA (ARE YOU TRACKING OR NOT?) DATASHEET: NEEDS/EBUSE.US.ARMY.MIL

YOU SHOULD GET THROUGH YOUR SOCIAL CATCH (PHONE LOG) IN YOUR AREA ONE!

FOR HELP WITH THE REPORT - EMAIL: USM@ops.army.mil

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SIGN OR SERIAL NUMBER CHANGES, CONTACT TACONF/ AT 204 705-5461, CS07H 382-5450, OR EMAIL: USL.army.mil

OR CALL: 204 705-2338, CS007 382-2338, OR EMAIL: USL.army.mil

PS E7B 19 MAY 09

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>

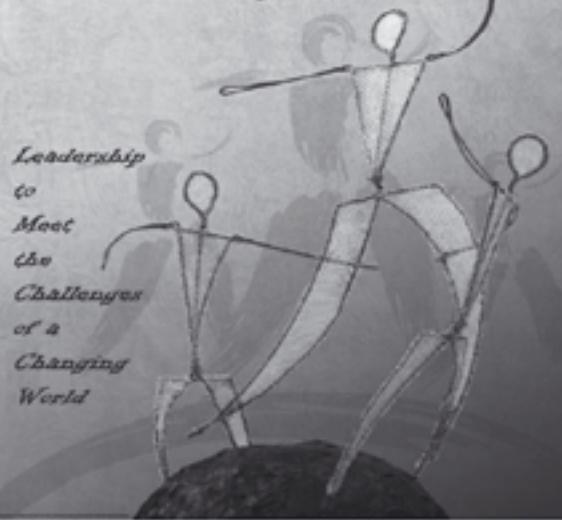


JOINT BASE BALAD

Presents Asian Pacific American Heritage Month ESSAY WRITING CONTEST

- **Open to all on JBB**
- **12 point font size, Double space, 2 pages or less**
- **Must pertain to the National 2009 Theme: "Leadership to Meet the Challenges of a Changing World."**
- **Please submit all essays by 1800 hours
May 22, 2009**

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month



Send essays to:

tuynuykua.jackson@iraq.centcom.mil
 scott.shockely@iraq.centcom.mil
 mattew.wendal@blab.afcent.af.mil

Prizes for the top three essays will be presented at the
**Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Luncheon
 on 28 May 2009 at the MWR East at 1130**

POC: MSG Jackson, Tuynuykua Senior EO Advisor 3d ESC at 433-2695,
 MSgt Wendel, Matthew EO Director 332 AEW at 443-8459,
 LTC Yates, James-Michael EO PM TF 34 at 483-4519,
 MSG Shockley, Scott EO Advisor 3d ESC at 433-2527,
 MSG Cossio, Rita EO Advisor 3d ESC at 433-2527,
 SFC Karneke, Sidney EO Advisor 555th EN BDE at 483-4645,
 SFC Paxton, Lisa EO Advisor 304th SB at 433-2917

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MEMORIAL DAY

T-SHIRTS WILL
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 THE FIRST 700
 FINISHERS !!!!!

25 MAY 2009 @ 0600

HOLT STADIUM

**5K
 FUN
 RUN**

JOINT BASE BALAD

Sudoku

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.

Level: Medium

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

Last weeks answers

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

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. What Kentucky city is home of Sanders' Cafe, the birthplace of Kentucky Fried Chicken?
2. What was the occupation of Rosa Parks, the women who sparked the Montgomery bus boycott by refusing to give up her seat?
3. Who was the first bombshell to appear on one of the posters in "The Shawshank Redemption" (1994)?
4. What NHL team was the first to wear helmets with a logo or an insignia?
5. Where does the Army's infamous 61 day Ranger school begin (the course consists of instruction at several places)?

1. North Corbin 2. Seamstress 3. Rita Hayworth 4. Rams 5. Fort Benning, Ga.

JOINT BASE BALAD WORSHIP SERVICES

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 (H-6)
	2000	Air Force Hospital Chapel

GOSPEL

Sunday	1100	MWR East Building
	1200	Freedom Chapel (West Side)
	1230	Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H-6)
	1900	Provider Chapel

CONTEMPORARY

Sunday	0900	Chapel-Ned Iraq/MWR East
	1030	Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H-6)
	1400	Castle Heights (Bldg 4155)
	1900	Freedom Chapel (West Side)
Wednesday	2000	Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H-6)

HISPANIC PROTESTANT

Saturday	1930	Provider Chapel
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LITURGICAL -Episcopal, Anglican, Presbyterian

Sunday	1500	Gilbert Chapel (H-6)
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SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Saturday	1000	Provider Chapel
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CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday	1530	Castle Heights (Bldg 4155)
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LATTER DAY SAINTS-(MORMON)

Sunday	1300	Provider Chapel
	1530	Freedom Chapel (West Side)
	1900	Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H-6)

MASS

Saturday	1700	Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H-6) (Sacrament of Reconciliation Sat 1600 or by appointment)
	2000	Freedom Chapel (West Side)
Sunday	0830	Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H-6)
	1100	Provider Chapel
	1100	Air Force Hospital Chapel
Thu	1100	Air Force Hospital Chapel

Mon, Wed, Fri	1700	Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H-6)
Mon-Fri	1130	555th Engineer Brigade Bldg 7200

JEWISH SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday	1700	Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H-6)
Saturday	0930	Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H-6)
Saturday	1700	Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H-6)

ISLAMIC PRAYER

Friday	1230	Provider Chapel
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PAGAN/WICCAN FELLOWSHIP

Thursday	1900	The Shack
Saturday	1900	The Shack

GREEK ORTHODOX

Sunday	0900	Provider Annex
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For Further Information Please Call:

Gilbert Chapel: 443-7703
 Provider Chapel: 433-2430
 Freedom Chapel: 443-6303

JB BALAD ACTIVITIES

INDOOR POOL

Swim Lessons:
 Mon., Wed., - 6 p.m.
 Tue., Thu., Sat., -
 6:30 p.m.
 AquaTraining:
 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 touney:
 Sunday- 8 p.m.
 8-ball touney:
 Monday- 8 p.m.
 Karaoke:
 Monday- 8 p.m.
 Swing Class:
 Tuesday- 8 p.m.
 Table Tennis:
 Tuesday- 8 p.m.
 9-ball touney:
 Wednesday- 8 p.m.
 Dungeons & Dragons:
 Thursday- 7:30 p.m.
 Poetry Night:
 Thursday- 8 p.m.
 6-ball touney:

Thursday- 8 p.m.

Caribbean Night:
 Friday- 8 p.m.
 Chess & Dominoes Touney:
 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.,
 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:

Monday-Saturday-
 8:30 p.m.
 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.
 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.,
 Tuesday- 2 a.m.,
 8:30 p.m.
 Ping-pong touney:
 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 touney:
 Monday- 8 p.m.
 Ping-pong touney:
 Tuesday- 8 p.m.
 Foosball touney:
 Tuesday- 8 p.m.
 Jam Session:
 Tuesday- 7:30 p.m.
 8-ball touney:
 Wednesday- 8 p.m.
 Guitar Lessons:
 Thursday- 7:30 p.m.
 Game touney:
 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 touney:
 Saturday- 7:30 p.m.
 6 on 6 volleyball

touney:

Friday- 7 p.m.
 Aerobics:
 Monday, Wednesday,
 Friday- 7 p.m.
 Body by Midgett
 Toning 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.

Check CHUdays

Each Tuesday Check The Following in Your CHU

1. Power strips are free of debris and clothing
2. Electrical devices not in use are unplugged
3. Power strips and outlets are not overloaded
4. Smoke detector is operational
5. Fire extinguisher is serviceable (in the green)
6. Room is neat and orderly

This Simple Act Could Save You, Your CHU and Your Buddy Too

Gain a new perspective.
 Own the Edge through
 Composite Risk Management, or CRM
<https://crc.army.mil>

U.S. ARMY
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own the EDGE
 Composite Risk Management

Joint Base Balad
Blackjack Education Center DSN 433-2099

CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE

Enrollment Hours Near When Available

Program	Course Number	Course Title	Start Date	End Date	Days	Times
Administrative Technology	ASMT 1200 1200-001	Administrative Technology (4500-001)	20 May	20 May	Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri	0800-1200
Developmental Reading	ADRD 1200 1200-001	Module 9: Principles of Personal Motivation (1200-001)	20 May	20 May	Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri	1300-1600
Management Leadership	ADRD 1200 1200-001	ADRD 1200 (1200-001)	20 May	20 May	Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri	1300-1600
Medical (online)	ADRD 1200 1200-001	ADRD 1200 (1200-001)	20 May	20 May	Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri	1300-1600
Medical (online)	ADRD 1200 1200-001	ADRD 1200 (1200-001)	20 May	20 May	Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri	1300-1600

For more information contact Dustin Colson at
Balad@mmcs.army.mil or DSN: 433-2505

EMBRY-RIDDLE
AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
Contact the ODS Center at mmcs@ed.umuc.edu or 443-2101

University of Maryland University College Europe
2009 May Seminar Schedule
These are all one credit seminars

Seminar	Seminar Description	Days	Times	Start Date	End Date	Go Army Ed #
ASCT1001	Family Violence	Sun	0900-1200	3 May 2009	10 May 2009	04345
ASCT1002	Personnel Understanding the Global Threat	Sat	0900-1200	3 May 2009	9 May 2009	04343
ASCT1003	Self-Defense & Personal Safety	Sun	0900-1200	17 May 2009	24 May 2009	04303
ASCT1004	Homework: Shorter Version	SA/SU	1800-2030	18 May 2009	29 May 2009	04302
ASCT1005	Introduction to Army, Army Basic of Nutrition & Military Development in Career and Heart Disease	Tue/Thu/Sa	1800-2030	18 May 2009	30 May 2009	04304
ASCT1006		Sat	0900-1200	23 May 2009	30 May 2009	04305

For more information contact UMUC at 440-7413 / 483-2857 or gnac@ed.umuc.edu
www.ed.umuc.edu

TOBYHANNA FRA

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

DSN: 312-987-5130, OPTION 1
EXT 6363/6364 HIT "#"
TYAD_FRA_Balad@mmcs.army.mil

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- Desktops
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- Printers
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- Cisco Switches

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- Keyboards

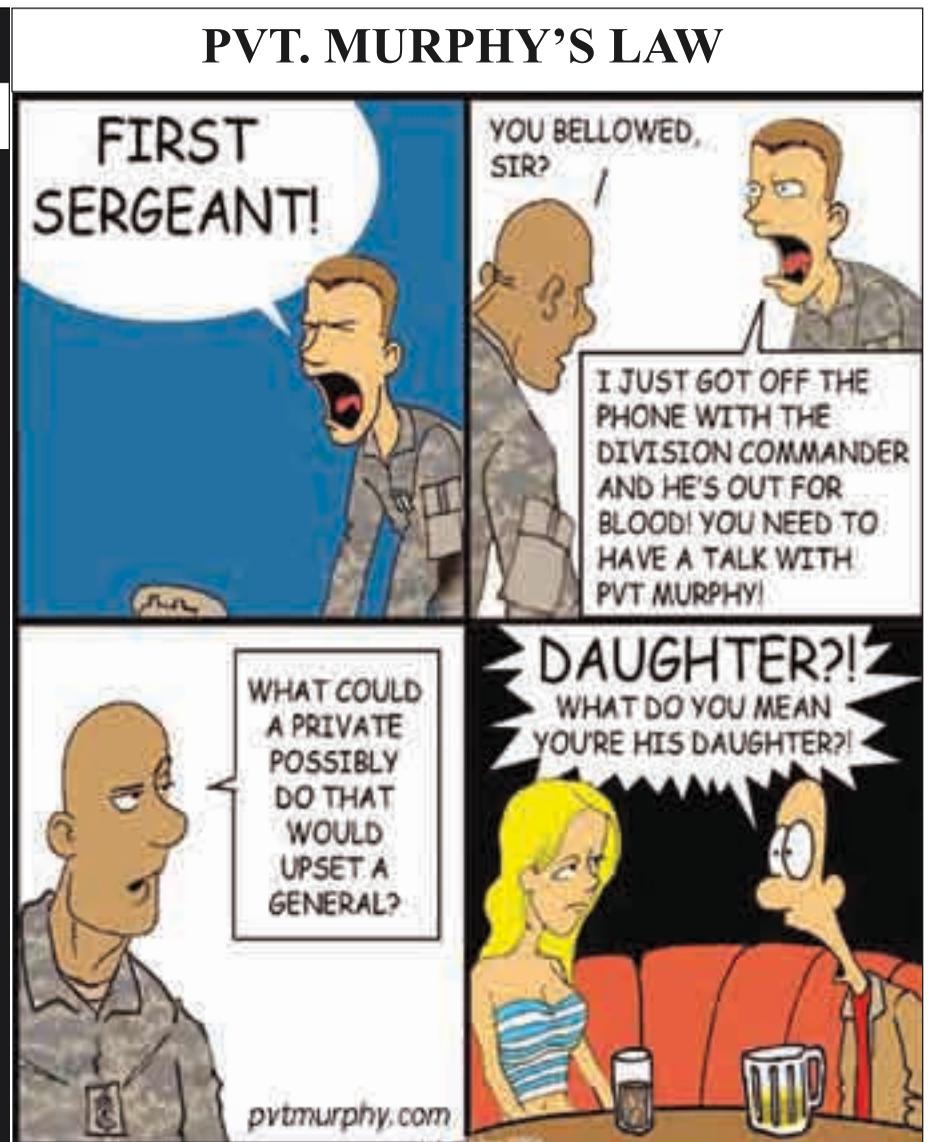
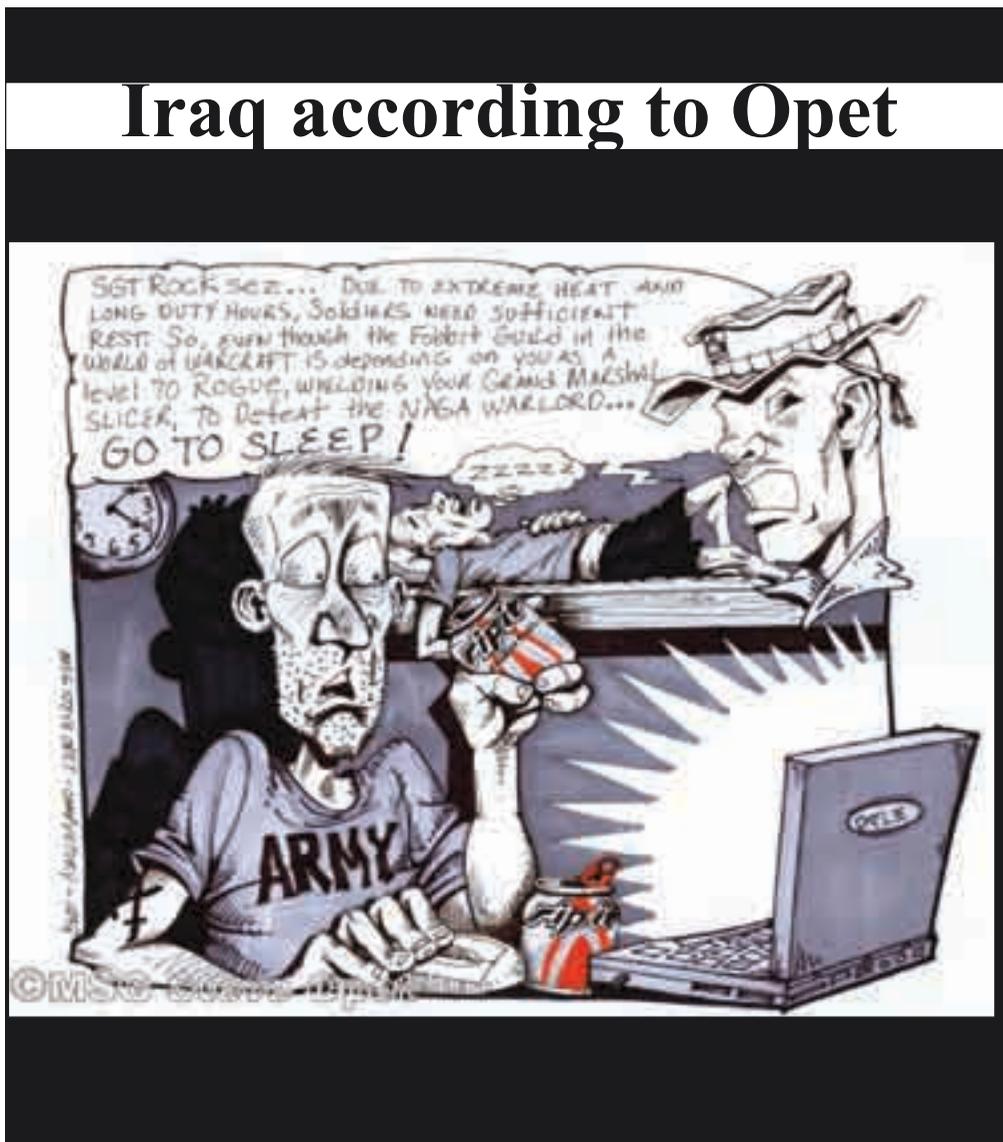
We DX:

- HIIDE, PRC 112, HCLOS, TBC, CAISI

Printer Repair

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



SUSTAINMENT REEL TIME THEATER

Movie Times

Wednesday, May 20

5 p.m. Star Trek
8 p.m. Fast & Furious 2009

Thursday, May 21

5 p.m. Fast & Furious 2009
8 p.m. Star Trek

Friday, May 22

2 p.m. Observe And Report
5 p.m. Angels & Demons
8:30 p.m. Angels & Demons

Saturday, May 23

2 p.m. Knowing
5 p.m. Angels & Demons

8 p.m. 12 Rounds

Sunday, May 24

2 p.m. Angels & Demons
5 p.m. 12 Rounds

8 p.m. Knowing

Monday, May 25

5 p.m. Knowing
8 p.m. Angels & Demons

Tuesday, May 26

5 p.m. Angels & Demons
8 p.m. Observe And Report

(Schedule is Subject to Change)

Angels and Demons



Angels and Demons re-teams director Ron Howard and star Tom Hanks for the sequel to their international blockbuster adaptation of Dan Brown's novel The Da Vinci Code. Although the book Angels and Demons was written before the novel The Da Vinci Code, the movie transpires after the events of the earlier movie. Hanks stars as professor Robert Langdon, the most respected symbologist in the United States, who uses his knowledge in order

to decode a symbol on the skin of a murder victim. The clues put him on the trail of an international conspiracy involving the Catholic Church. Ewan McGregor and Ayelet Zurer also star in the Sony Pictures production.



Knowing



A time capsule containing a cryptic message about the coming apocalypse sends a concerned father on a race to prevent the horrific events from unfolding as predicted in this sci-fi thriller directed by Alex Proyas (Dark City) and starring Nicolas Cage. 1958: As the dedication ceremony for a newly constructed elementary school gets under way, a time capsule containing student drawings

of the future is buried on the grounds and scheduled to be unearthed on the school's 50th anniversary. encoded message containing the precise dates, death tolls, and coordinates of every major disaster since the time capsule was buried.



UPCOMING SPORTS ON AFN



Wednesday 5/20/09

2009 Stanley Cup Playoffs - Conference Finals, Game TBD: Teams TBD, Live 2 a.m. AFN/xtra

2009 NBA Draft Lottery, Live 3:30 a.m. AFN/sports

2009 NBA Playoffs - Western Conference Finals, Game 1: Teams TBD, Live 4 a.m. AFN/sports

Atlanta Braves @ New York Mets, Live 8 p.m. AFN/sports

Thursday 5/21/09

2009 Stanley Cup Playoffs - Conference Finals, Game TBD: Teams TBD, Live 2a.m. AFN/xtra

2009 NBA Playoffs - Eastern Conference Finals, Game 1: Teams TBD, Live 3:15 a.m. AFN/sports

New York Mets @ Los Angeles Dodgers, Live 5 a.m. AFN/xtra

Friday 5/22/09

2009 Stanley Cup Playoffs - Conference Finals, Game TBD: Teams TBD, Live 1 a.m. AFN/sports

2009 NBA Playoffs - Western Conference Finals, Game 2: Teams TBD, Live 2 a.m. AFN/xtra

Los Angeles Angels @ Seattle Mariners, Live 5 a.m. AFN/xtra

Saturday 5/23/09

Philadelphia Phillies @ New York Yankees, Live 2 a.m. AFN/xtra

Texas Rangers @ Houston Astros, Live 3 a.m. AFN/prime pacific

2009 NBA Playoffs - Eastern Conference Finals, Game 2: Teams TBD, Live 3:15 a.m.

AFN/sports

Arizona Diamondbacks @ Oakland Athletics, Live 5 a.m. AFN/sports

New York Mets @ Boston Red Sox, Tape Delayed 10 a.m. AFN/sports

Kansas City Royals @ St. Louis Cardinals, Live 8 pm AFN/sports

Sunday 5/24/09

2009 Stanley Cup Playoffs - Conference Finals, Game TBD: Teams TBD, Live 2 a.m. AFN/prime atlantic

2009 NBA Playoffs - Western Conference Finals, Game 3: Teams TBD, Live 3:30 a.m. AFN/Prime atlantic

UFC 98: Evans vs Machida (MGM Grand Garden Arena, Las Vegas, NV) , Live 5 a.m. AFN/xtra

NASCAR Nationwide Series: Carquest

Auto Parts 300 (Lowe's Motor Speedway, Concord, NC), Tape Delayed 1 a.m. AFN/xtra

FC Dallas @ Houston Dynamo, Tape Delayed 1 p.m. AFN/xtra

Monday 5/25/09

NASCAR Sprint Cup Series: Coca-Cola 600 (Lowe's Motor Speedway, Charlotte, NC), Live 12:30 a.m. AFN/xtra

Sunday Night Baseball: Milwaukee Brewers @ Minnesota Twins, Live 3 a.m. AFN/prime atlantic

Tuesday 5/26/09

2009 NBA Playoffs - Western Conference Finals, Game 4: Teams TBD, Live 4 a.m. AFN/sports

Chicago White Sox @ Los Angeles Angels (JIP) , Live 5 a.m. AFN/xtra

On the Web



10th Sustainment Brigade
Task Force
Muleskinner



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

PHOTOS AROUND IRAQ



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Gustavo Olgiati

U.S. Army Sgt. Craig Wayman, a combat medic from Fredericksburg, Va., attached to Crazyhorse Troop, 4th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, examines an Iraqi child, during a Combined Medical Evaluation (CME), in the village of Shebeica, in Kirkuk, Iraq May 7.



U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Robert Whelan

U.S. Army Spc. Ryan Gordan and his military working dog Sgt. Pipe with 94th Engineer Detachment, K-9 Unit, take a water break after searching a vineyard for possible weapons and explosives in the neighborhood of Abu Nassir in Abu Ghraib, Iraq, May 13.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Kani Ronningen

U.S. Soldiers assigned to Bravo Company, 2nd Infantry Battalion, 112th Infantry Regiment, patrol through the streets of Abu Ghraib, Iraq, May 7.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kamaile O. Chan

U.S. Soldiers from the 12th Brigade, 3rd Iraqi Army Division, Military Transition Team (MiTT), provide advice to Iraqi soldiers on zeroing weapons during marksmanship training at Forward Operating Base Fortitude in the Faisaliah District of Mosul, Iraq, May 5.

NEWS AROUND IRAQ

U.S. Navy, Air Force Provide Maritime Support for Iraqi Military

 BAGHDAD, Iraq – The U.S. Navy and Air Force recently teamed up to support and train the newly formed Iraqi Navy with maritime mission support along the northern area of the Arabian Gulf, where a large percentage of Iraq's oil is exported.

The first intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance flight took place, April 12, as pilots from the Navy teamed up with ISR operators from the Air Force to provide Iraq's Navy with a watchful eye over the waters of the Arabian Gulf.

"We flew our first ISR mission in support of Combined Task Force-Iraqi Maritime, which we feel is a significant achievement," said U.S. Navy Cmdr. Scott Seeberger, King Air Military Training Team chief for the 321st Air Expeditionary Advisory Squadron. "This flight marks the creation of a new alliance between the Iraqi Air Force and the new Iraqi Navy, particularly near Iraq's oil facilities in the Arabian Gulf."

Commander Seeberger said ensuring these facilities remain safe is a top priority for his crew.

"It is very important that these facilities are kept safe and the U.S. Navy has a big presence there in terms of ensuring its safety," he said. "They [Navy] are building up the Iraqi Navy in the Basra area and one of the things they were lacking was an ISR capability."

As Seeberger piloted the aircraft with the help of an Iraqi pilot, Staff Sgt. Joshua Roden, 321st AEAS mission sensor operator, provided those ISR capabilities from the back of a King Air platform during this aerial support first, while simultaneously advising an Iraqi lieutenant colonel on the process.

"This was a key stepping stone for integrating the Iraqi Air Force's ISR capability with the Navy and getting them to use their many different wells of technology to work together and create a mission package to protect themselves," said Roden.

"We received feedback a couple of days after the mission that they [the Iraqi military] were very pleased with the imagery, which leads me to believe the mission was a success and hopefully it is the beginning of a new partnership between the Iraqi Air force and Navy," added Seeberger.

Taji Vocational Institute Generator Training

 TAJI, Iraq – The Taji Vocational Institute, the educational arm of the Taji National Maintenance Depot, recently graduated twenty soldiers from several different Location Commands in a Generator Course May



5. The course is designed to introduce the soldiers to the fundamentals and principles of Power Generation Equipment. The course is comprised of thirty days of both classroom and in-shop practical application of generator equipment. The course included diverse topics as inspection principles, diesel engine and power generation principles, power generation circuitry, electrical, cooling, and fueling and lubrication systems and load bank diagnostics. "The students were very eager to learn the complicated art of diagnosing and repairing power generation equipment and I think they will be better mechanics when they return to their units," said Josh Banks Taji Vocational Institute Instructor, Multi-National Security Transition Command - Iraq.

These graduates are now on their way back to their individual units where they will be able to perform their critically needed skills in power generation and generator maintenance in support of the Iraqi Army mission of self sufficiency.

Courthouse renovation helps return rule of law to Mosul, Iraq

 MOSUL, Iraq - The city of Mosul continues to be an extremely hostile area for both Iraqis and Multi-National Forces. The instability of the law enforcement and justice system in the area, following the overthrow of Saddam Hussein, created a vacuum and allowed insurgent groups to gain a foothold in the region.

With the recent renovation of the old Mosul Courthouse, the Mosul Area Office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Iraq is helping to provide a return to the rule of law through the stability and protection of the Mosul justice system.

The nine-month \$511,000 project, funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, provides a number of security upgrades designed to protect both citizens and Iraqi Justice Department employees.

Security upgrades include magnetometers, X-ray machines, exterior lighting, ballistic glass, a digital surveillance system and a security radio network, according to an Iraqi engineer working on the project.

Taking its cue from U.S. force protection measures in Iraq and the United States, the courthouse utilizes t-walls, pop-up barriers and electronic gates. The contract also provides security personnel with handheld metal and ion sensors to screen people entering the courthouse.

"Securing the courthouse has provided city officials a safe environment to conduct business while minimizing the threat of insurgent penetration," said Mike Miller, a USACE construction representative in Mosul. "This project has significantly improved the judicial system in Mosul."

The structural renovation of the courthouse also included the installation of a new ventilation system and a 200 kilovolt-ampere generator, which provides uninterrupted electrical power to the building.

The general contractor for the courthouse renovation is the Iraq-based Al Bashiq Company.

As Iraq strives to build a secure, stable and self-governing nation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Gulf Region Division has completed hundreds of projects in the security and justice sector. Justice is fundamental for a secure, stable future and as part of its reconstruction mission the Corps has completed 58 courthouse and correctional facilities projects throughout Iraq and currently has 16 ongoing.

Iraqi Forces making strong progress in major Diyala operation

 DIYALA, Iraq – Significant progress has been made throughout the Diyala Province one week into a major operation called "Glad Tidings of Benevolence II," being conducted by Iraqi Security Forces, Kurdish Peshmerga and Coalition forces.

"What's particularly significant about this operation is the high degree of cooperation that Iraqi Security Forces and Peshmerga units have shown in completing various patrols and clearing operations together," said Maj. Chris Hyde, spokesman, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division. "I think it's an excellent sign that the tides are perhaps turning in the relationship between these two groups."

The operation has consisted of clearing areas in search of weapons caches, checking identification for known criminals and bringing humanitarian assistance to local communities.

Hundreds of illegal AK-47s have been taken off the streets, along with dozens of people detained by the ISF for suspected terrorism.

A major portion of this operation has also included more than 40 civil affairs projects created to help many areas in need. These projects range from refurbishing a school in Balad Ruz to digging a well in Muqdadiyah.

During the operation, ISF and Peshmerga forces have received assistance from Coalition forces, who are predominantly providing aviation and other needed assets.

Sustaining the Line



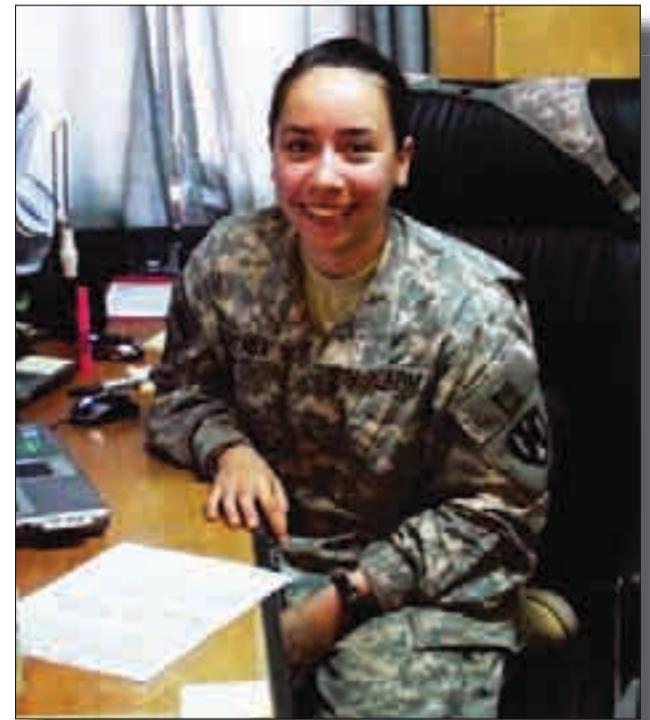
Courtesy Photo by Ivory Kisor

Billy Blanks, creator of Tae Bo, leads a Tae Bo fitness class for approximately 30 service members to include the 16th Sustainment Brigade Soldiers at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation base complex at Contingency Operating Base Q-West, Iraq, April 26. After class, Blanks talked about personal fitness and motivational goals to staying fit.



U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Michael Syner

Sgt. Robert C. Considine, a member of Bravo Company, 949th Brigade Support Battalion, 10th Sustainment Brigade re-enlisted at Camp Taji, Iraq by his older brother, Capt. John J. Considine, the 87th Engineer Company commander, who traveled from Joint Base Balad. Both are natives of Copperas Cove, Texas. "It's always an honor as an officer to re-enlist a Soldier, but to be able to re-enlist my brother is an incredible honor," said John. This is the first time the siblings have seen each other in a year while deployed to Iraq together. "It feels good [to be re-enlisted by my brother]," said Robert. "It's great to be supported by family, especially in a war."



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Manuel Laureano

First Lt. Dora Quezada, a Las Vegas native and contracting officer representative with the 271st Human Resources Company manages the operations of the Army Post Office at Camp Liberty, Iraq.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Brian Samuels

(From left to right, front to back) Pvt. Brian Owens, Pvt. Nicholas Philipp, Pvt. Michael Vandenberg, Staff Sgt. Nigel Dyer, Spc. Vincent Vancliff, Pfc. Rico Flores, Spc. Haley Bartlett and Spc. Abiola Griffith-Vancliff were recognized with meritorious awards for their many achievements while assigned to the 590th Quartermaster Company, 398th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 10th Sustainment Brigade deployment and in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom at Camp Liberty, Iraq.