

EXPEDITIONARY TIMES

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Vol. 2, Issue 24

READY, SET, GO



70th Trans Co. on mission standby 24/7

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DON'T THROW THAT AWAY



DRMO salvages military gear, equipment

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WORK IN PROGRESS



'Knights' improve Habur Gate with COB amenities

Page 12-13

Sustainers, Shaykh reach out to Bedouin Families

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
SGT. CRYSTAL REIDY
EXPEDITIONARY TIMES STAFF

DHI QAR PROVINCE, Iraq –Soldiers have reduced rock throwing incidents by children in the here over the last few months by participating in civil military operations and educating Bedouin families about the “safety first” campaign.



Members of the 287th Sustainment Brigade, the 167th Combat Sustainment Battalion and Shaykh Saleh Fahad met with tribal elders to explain that Soldiers can no longer throw candy, toys and water from moving vehicles because of safety concerns. The Soldiers want the local Iraqi children to know they still want to help and interact with them, just in a safer way.

See **BEDOUIIN**,
Page 5

Staff Sgt. Michael A. Mendez, the medical noncommissioned officer for the 167th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, speaks with tribal elders during a Civil Military Operation in Dhi Qar province, Iraq June 3.



ISF section turns new corner

STORY AND PHOTO BY
SGT. ALEX SNYDER
EXPEDITIONARY TIMES STAFF

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – The Iraqi Security Forces section of the 10th Sustainment Brigade here said it has shifted away from its role as trainers to the Iraqi Army and is now in the early mentorship phase of its partner-



ship with them.

The 10th Sust. Bde. ISF section oversees three logistics training and advisory teams, which are partnered with two third-line maintenance facilities -- one here and one at Camp Rustamiyah and Iraq's General Transportation Regiment.

“We’re at the point now where we pretty much mirror and job-shadow the Iraqis,” said Sgt. Thomas B. Yates, a Soldier of the 776th Maintenance Company and a logis-

tics trainer and adviser with the Taji Third-Line Maintenance Facility LTAT.

Yates, who is from Bon Aqua, Tenn., said he and other members still answer questions and do on-the-spot training when needed.

At the Taji Third-Line Maintenance Facility – a shop that supports three Iraqi Army divisions and other units on Camp Taji – Iraqi Soldiers are able to do repairs not possible just a few months ago, LTAT ad-

visers said.

Iraqi Army Warrant Officer Adil Naam Kareem, the senior enlisted Iraqi Soldier at the facility, said previously if a vehicle in his shop had an engine problem, a new engine would be installed – now his Soldiers are able to diagnose and correct specific problems.

“We make many, many at-

See **IRAQI SECURITY FORCES**,
Page 10

332 ESFS Blotter

May 28 – Jun 3

MAJOR VEHICLE COLLISION:

A reporting party telephoned the law enforcement desk and reported a vehicle collision had occurred. Security forces arrived on scene, conducted traffic control and determined the collision to be a major vehicle collision. The driver of vehicle #1 stated via AF IMT 1168/Statement of Witness/Complainant at approximately 1935 hours while driving west on Victory Loop, he stopped at the traffic intersection of Victory Loop and Pennsylvania when his vehicle was struck from behind by vehicle #2. Driver vehicle #2 stated via AF IMT 1168 while driving approximately 40 miles per hour on Victory Loop, he approached vehicle #1 and applied the brakes but the vehicle would not stop. The vehicle driver further stated he was unable to avoid collision with vehicle #1 due to the steering wheel being loose.

MAJOR VEHICLE COLLISION:

The vehicle driver contacted the law enforcement desk and stated a vehicle collision had occurred. Security forces were briefed and dispatched. SF assisted the vehicle driver in completing an AF IMT 1168/Statement of Suspect/Witness/Complainant. The driver stated he was driving through the parking lot when he ran over and became stuck on a cement object. The driver also stated after noticing the damage, he immediately reported the incident to LED.

SECURITY FORCES TIP OF THE WEEK

Ensure you always use a spotter or complete a full 360 degree walk around of your vehicle prior to backing. Before driving over any objects, ensure your vehicle has proper clearance to safely complete the maneuver.

NIPR: 443-8602

SIPR: 241-1171

Email: PMOdesk@iraq.centcom.mil

LEGAL ALERT



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 3rd SUSTAINMENT COMMAND (EXPEDITIONARY)
JOINT BASE BALAD
APO, AE 09391

3rd ESC Military Justice Report

In a Special Court-Martial convened in June 2009, a Specialist was convicted of wrongfully taking two Soldiers' Eagle Cash cards and stealing cash on multiple occasions of a value greater than \$500.00. The Soldier was also convicted of stealing cash on multiple occasions of a value less than \$500.00. The Soldier was sentenced by a Military Judge to the following:

- A Bad Conduct Discharge
- 10 months confinement
- Reduction to Private (E-1)

Sustaining the Line!

LEGAL ALERT

LEGAL ALERT

LEGAL ALERT

June is: National Safety Month

Did you know 2009 is:

- Year of the NCO
- Year of the Military Family
- 100th anniversary of the Chaplain Assistant

EXPEDITIONARY TIMES

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Contact the Expeditionary Times staff at:
expeditionarytimes@iraq.centcom.mil

Managing Editor

Maj. Paul Hayes, 3rd ESC PAO
paul.r.hayes@iraq.centcom.mil

3rd ESC PAO NCOIC

Sgt. 1st Class David McClain, 3rd ESC
david.mcclain@iraq.centcom.mil

3rd ESC Staff Writers

Spc. Michael Behlin, 3rd ESC
michael.behlin@iraq.centcom.mil

Spc. Amanda Tucker, 3rd ESC

amanda.tucker@iraq.centcom.mil

3rd ESC G2, Security Manager

Lt. Col Dale Davis, 3rd ESC
dale.davis@iraq.centcom.mil

123rd MPAD Commander

Maj. Christopher A. Emmons
christopher.emmons@iraq.centcom.mil

3rd ESC Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Michael J. Lally

123rd MPAD First Sergeant

1st Sgt. Reginald M. Smith
reginald.m.smith@iraq.centcom.mil

123rd MPAD Production Editor

Staff Sgt. Tonya Gonzales
tonya.gonzales@iraq.centcom.mil

123rd MPAD Layout and Design

Spc. Mario A. Aguirre
mario.aguirre@iraq.centcom.mil

123rd MPAD Photo Editor

Spc. Brian A. Barbour
brian.barbour@iraq.centcom.mil

123rd MPAD Staff Writers

Sgt. Crystal G. Reidy
crystal.reidy@iraq.centcom.mil

Sgt. Alexander Snyder

alexander.snyder@iraq.centcom.mil

Spc. Kiyoshi C. Freeman

kiyosh.freeman@iraq.centcom.mil

Contributing Public Affairs Offices

10th Sustainment Brigade
16th Sustainment Brigade
287th Sustainment Brigade
304th Sustainment Brigade
321st Sustainment Brigade
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing

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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 3rd 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

"It is not a lack of love, but a lack of friendship that makes unhappy marriages."

-Friedrich Nietzsche

Life is all about relationships. We are not designed to live in isolation but in community, where we know and are known. In a good relationship there is mutual respect, genuine care and concern, and honesty.

When two people are drawn together, there is a chemistry of attraction. A man and a woman meet, they talk, they share time with one another. A friendship develops and at some point a decision is made to get married. These individuals fall in love and promise to spend the rest of their lives together.

Sadly, over a period of time, some couples go from "I do" to "I did." What happened? How could they become so unhappy? It has to do with the loss of friendship. Under ideal circumstances we marry the person who is our "soul mate," our best friend. This is the person who knows us the best, loves us the most, and understands us at the deepest level. When our spouse ceases to be that friend, our marriage is in trouble – big trouble!

Good friends like to be together. They like to talk – a lot. They share thoughts and feelings, joys and sorrows, doubts and fears. They laugh. They cry. They sit in silence with one another. They go for long walks. An unhappy marriage can be described as a friendship that has gone bad. A marriage doesn't fail because two people no longer love one another; it fails because they no longer like each other.

To rekindle your marriage, you need to rekindle a friendship with your partner. You need to make your spouse your highest priority. You need to go from "I won't" to "I will" and from "It can't" to "We can."

Prayer for Those Who are Married

Dear God, is being happily married that simple? If it is, help me to become best friends again with my spouse and may I give this relationship everything I have. Amen.

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

HOOAH OF THE WEEK



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

U.S. Air Force Capt. Leslie Weitershausen, deputy chief of protocol for the 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), is congratulated by Brig. Gen. Michael J. Lally, 3^d ESC commanding general, for being selected this week's "Hooah of the Week." Weitershausen was instrumental in the successful execution of the Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody visit to Joint Base Balad, the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade and the 3^d ESC.

How to nominate a "Hooah of the Week"

Nominations must be turned in to Sgt. Gregory Gayfield 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: Gregory.Gayfield@iraq.centcom.mil.



"The Weekly Standard"



Army National Guard Junior Enlisted Promotions

National Guard standard advancement to private, private first class and specialist is executed by automated advancement reports. This means that your commander receives a printout of all Soldiers eligible for advancement to which he/she will annotate next to each name, "yes" to advance or "no" to deny advancement.

Eligibility is based on Time in Service (TIS) and Time in Grade (TIG). The commander has the option to promote a limited number of Soldiers early with waivers.

The State Military Personnel Management Office (MPMO) will advance Soldiers based on the automated report. Soldiers not advanced must be monitored. If your commander elects to deny promotion, he/she will submit a DA Form 4187, Request for Personnel Action, prior to the effective date of advancement. When you initially attain eligibility for promotion and are not recommended, the commander will counsel you in writing. The commander is then required to counsel you periodically (at least every three months) until advanced or separated.

References:

AR 600-8-19, *Enlisted Promotions and Reductions*, dated 20 Mar 08
ARNG *Promotion and Reduction Implementation Guidance*, dated 1 February 2005

By Lt. Col. Melanie Meier
3^d ESC Inspector General

Our organization is comprised of nine Inspectors General dispersed throughout the 3^d ESC area of operations with five offices; each one co-located 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

MC-12 Liberty joins the fight in Iraq

BY STAFF SGT. DILIA AYALA
332nd AEW Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — The 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing welcomed the arrival of the Air Force's new MC-12 Liberty aircraft, a manned special-mission turboprop aircraft designed for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, here June 8.

Following the MC-12's arrival, the 362nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron was activated June 9 to carry out MC-12 operations at JBB.

"This is a big day," said Col. Michael Fantini, 332nd Expeditionary Operations Group commander, who presided over the ceremony. "The MC-12 represents a huge cutting-edge capability for our Air Force and the CFACC's (combined forces air component commander) ability to provide another level and layer of ISR combat capability to the joint-force commander, and we'll push it to the limit."

The first of its kind for the U.S. Air Force, the MC-12 Liberty provides real-time ISR in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility -- a result of the Office of the Secretary of Defense's ISR Task Force's efforts to increase ISR capabilities in the CENTCOM AOR.

"The unique thing about the MC-12 is that it goes a step beyond our current capability," said Fantini, a native of Vineland, N.J. "It has the latest technology; it's going to complement FMV (full-motion video) and other intelligence capabilities in terms of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance integration in the battlespace."

Less than a year ago, Project Liberty was on the drawing board. Today, the aircraft and its crews and maintainers supporting the 362nd ERS are operational and ready to go at JBB.

"This plane was first on the drawing board as



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Tiffany Trojca

The Air Force's new MC-12 Liberty aircraft, and the first one deployed in-theater, taxis into an aircraft hanger at Joint Base Balad, Iraq June 8. A medium-altitude manned special-mission turboprop aircraft designed for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, MC-12 will operate from here in direct support of Coalition and joint ground forces.

a concept just a year ago, and today it is flying combat missions in Iraq," said Lt. Col. Phillip Stewart, 362nd ERS commander.

"The MC-12 is an embodiment of the Air Force's commitment to ISR at every level in the joint fight," he added. "My goal is to provide world-class intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance when and where it's needed as a key part of the joint fight."

Overall, the MC-12 will augment information gathered by other ISR assets already operating in Iraq and complement existing capability with live infrared full-motion video and signals intelligence. By and large, the platform will enhance how U.S. Air Force ISR complements the total intelligence "picture" in the respective commander's scheme of maneuver in the battlespace.

"We are going to have the flexibility to em-

ploy this platform in whatever methodology is required in the ongoing operational and tactical scheme of maneuver required," said Lt. Gen. Gary North, 9th Air Force and U.S. Air Forces Central commander. "The processing, exploitation and dissemination of the mission data, both in real-time and for continued intelligence analysis, will greatly enhance a commander's level of situational awareness -- from senior commanders down to the engaged unit of action."

With a unique mission to execute, the 362nd ERS is ready for sustained combat operations. The first MC-12 aircraft arrived from the United States in fully-mission-ready status and flew its first combat sortie June 10, its second day in-theater.

JBB conducts MARE, tests emergency response

BY STAFF SGT. JOHN GORDINIER
332nd AEW Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — Airmen in the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing participated in a major accident response exercise here June 5.

"A MARE is an opportunity for the 332nd AEW disaster-response force to conduct response actions, evaluate emergency response plans, solidify tactics, techniques and procedures, and improve overall capabilities for emergency response," said Senior Master Sgt. Mark Onken, 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron emergency-management flight chief.

Overall, a MARE can simulate a number of events like an aircraft crash, a hazardous spill, a terrorist attack or an explosion.

"A MARE provides the installation commander a means to plan and conduct realistic, integrated exercises and training for all installation personnel," said Onken, a native of Pocahontas, Iowa, who is deployed here from Peterson Air

Force Base, Colo.

For this MARE, the wing responded to a simulated C-130 crash just outside the installation. The simulated crash had 69 casualties, which tested both emergency responders and the 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group.

"Our objective in the MARE was to execute our Joint Mass Casualty Plan while including all JBB medical assets," said Col. Peter Brewer, 332nd EMDG deputy commander. "Specifically, we wanted to evaluate triage procedures, patient tracking and accountability, transportation, and medical command and control."

"Exercises like this allow us an opportunity for all of our JBB medical assets to come together to participate jointly in a very realistic scenario," added Brewer, who's deployed here from Luke AFB, Ariz.

Overall, Airmen stepped up to the MARE challenge and performed well.

"The 332nd AEW performed



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Tiffany Trojca

Staff Sgt. Jonathan Spell, 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels-resource controller, acts as a patient during a major accident response exercise here June 5, as Capt. Sherri Hiser, 332nd Expeditionary Medical Operations Squadron registered nurse, and Col. James Henderson, 332nd EMDOS intensive-care unit director, attempt to provide care for his simulated 'wounds.'

well in most areas," Onken said. "The recall of the Joint Emergency Operations Center was completed within 30 minutes. The two leadership functions worked very well together; however, they did identify some future communication issues that will need to be resolved.

"Training and education are the

keys to ensuring the installation is prepared for any type of major accident response in the future," he concluded. "With the constant changeover of personnel here, we must continue to access our capabilities and work together as a total joint force."

BEDOUIN

Continued from page one



Staff Sgt. Michael A. Mendez, the medical noncommissioned officer for the 167th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, speaks with tribal elders during a Civil Military Operation in Dhi Qar province, Iraq June 3.

"This CMO was important because we have talked to kids in the schools about not throwing rocks at the trucks but most of the Bedouin children do not attend school. They have not received the "Safety First" message about staying off of the road," said Master Sgt. Alexander T. Parker, the 287th Sust. Bde. CMO noncommissioned officer in charge. "We want them to know that if they stop throwing the rocks we will stop by on a more frequent basis to help with some of their needs."

One of the goals of the CMO mission is to teach the local children not to throw rocks in frus-

tration when Soldiers don't throw items from the vehicles. The 287th Sust. Bde. conducts one or two CMO missions a week specifically for the Bedouins, a group of migrating tribesman, and provides them with water, mattresses and toys for their children.

Parker, a Barrington, Kan. native, said the best part of the CMO mission is seeing a quantitative difference in the area. He said there were 24 incidents of rock throwing last January but there were no incidents in the last 45 days because of the CMO missions.

"It's not often in civil affairs work that we get to see a quan-

titative result. You can hand someone a blanket, they look at you smiling but you don't know what they do when they turn around," Parker said. "Here, we can actually see a quantitative result because the incidents have dropped, the attitude toward Coalition forces has really changed in the last five months."

Parker said he felt the Coalition forces message was presented stronger because Fahad accompanied the Soldiers to the different families so the tribe can see Coalition forces working with their leadership to achieve goals.

"It's important for them to see he has involvement in the project as well," Parker said. "It's not just us out there. It was us and the Shaykh working together."

Fahad, who is in charge of several small tribes in a 20-mile area, said what the Coalition forces are doing is excellent because the Bedouins are traveling all the time. He said meeting the Coalition forces makes them feel like people care about them.

"It's very nice for me to be involved in this kind of activity, it makes me feel proud to guide them through this tribe and stop by some of the tents," Fahad

said. "It gives them good evidence that I care about the people. Makes them feel like someone from the Coalition forces care about the people too."



A father and son from a Bedouin family received aid from Soldiers of the 287th Sustainment Brigade and the 167th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion during a civil military operation in Dhi Qar province, Iraq June 3

398th CSSB celebrates Year of the NCO

PHOTOS AND STORY BY
10TH SUST. BDE.
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq –

"No one is more professional than I. I am a noncommissioned officer, a leader of Soldiers. As a noncommissioned officer, I realize that I am a member of a time honored corps, which is known as "The Backbone of the Army," recited newly promoted sergeants of the

398th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion during the 398th CSSB's NCO induction here June 2.

Twenty-two Soldiers from the 398th CSSB and its subordinate units were inducted into the NCO Corps. These Soldiers received guidance and words of encouragement from unit first sergeants and Command Sgt. Maj. Willie C. Tennant Sr., 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), command sergeant major.

Command Sgt. Maj. Allen G. Fritzsching, the 10th Sustainment Brigade command sergeant major and

Houston native, gave his words of encouragement to the NCOs.

"It is an honor and a privilege to have this opportunity to share some thoughts, leader to leader, sergeant to sergeant, about your new role as a noncommissioned officer. Our service members are truly the best warriors our great nation has to offer and our Army has ever had," he said.

Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Merritt, a Rockville, Md. native, and the senior enlisted Soldier of the 398th CSSB, said "These sergeants joining our NCO

Corps are the best that the (unit) has had. They are working with highly advanced equipment, supervising four to 12 Soldiers, working independently with their squads away from the command elements on numerous austere remote sites. I feel proud and fortunate that these Soldiers have recognized and accepted the responsibility of being leaders of Soldiers."

Sgt. Kevin Powers, a native of Stone Mountain, Ga., and an inductee from the 503rd Maintenance Company said, "I am very proud to be a part of this

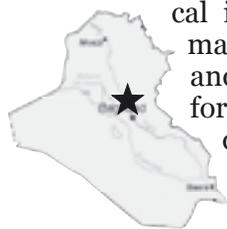
honored corps. Plus, to have the 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) and the 10th Sustainment Brigade command sergeant major here to induct us is a day I will never forget."

In closing, Fritzsching said, "I am especially proud of the technical skills and outstanding leadership I see in our noncommissioned officers. The 10th Sustainment Brigade NCO Corps has raised the bar of excellence. Every Soldier has a sergeant and all a Soldier ever needs is one good sergeant. NCOs lead the way. Supporting the Climb!"

Indiana Guardsmen reinforce critical training skills

BY 1ST LT. G. ELIZABETH BROWN
UPAR, 1538TH TRANS. CO.,
10TH SUST. BDE.

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Training is critical in developing and maintaining the skills and discipline needed for Soldiers in order to have a successful safe mission- whether in a training exercise or deployment to a combat zone. Soldiers of the 1538th Transporta-



tion Company, an Indiana National Guard company from Elkhart, Ind., recognize that repetitive training is paramount for success.

“One of the biggest things I wanted to prevent is complacency, especially in the later part of a deployment,” said 1st Sgt. Jeff Spencer, a native of Westport, Ind.

“This company consistently trains on new tactics, techniques and procedures sent down from their higher command on a routine basis.”

Soldiers learn to plan, arrange and execute safe and successful con-

voys while ensuring no loss of life or equipment.

As the unit continues to train on safe convoy operations, they have received an award for success ratings. The “Operations Zero” award was presented by Lt. Col. Randall Bradford, an Alexandria, La., native and commander of the 165th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion.

“The command of this company firmly believes that just because the Soldiers have been here for many months, does not mean they do not require training and that has been

one leading factor in this company’s great success,” said Spencer.

Part of the training is getting Soldiers involved, to prepare and react properly to an event that might happen to any one Soldier while out on a convoy. Soldiers are given a combination of scenarios, enabling them to analyze situations, handle and execute while on mission.

A large number of the 1538th Trans. Co. Soldiers put many miles convoying around Iraq and are scheduled to return to Indiana in the early summer of 2009.

Proper “Uh-Tire” for military vehicles ensures performance, safety

BY STEVE BISHEL
U.S. ARMY RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT COMMAND

First, it’s important to make sure you are using the correct tire for your military vehicle. The tires specified for a specific vehicle are designed to meet the performance required for the vehicle’s mission profile. Check your vehicle’s technical manual (TM) for the national stock number (NSN) and size and load rating description. All tires on a vehicle must match the description provided in the TM, which includes size, load rating, manufacturer(s), design(s) and part number(s).

Never mix bias and radial tires on the same vehicle and never mix tires with different NSNs on the same vehicle. Driving a vehicle with tires bearing different NSNs can result in loss of control, damage to equipment and serious injury or death of

Soldiers.

Tire Inflation Pressure

Correct tire inflation pressure is one of the most important things a user can do to improve tire life and ensure vehicle safety. Tire pressures should be set to those specified in the vehicle’s TM. Check and correct a vehicle’s tire pressure in accordance with the TM preventive maintenance checks and services (PMCS) table.

Tire pressure should be checked before operation, when tires are still cold. The term “cold psi” is used to indicate the pressure in the tire before the vehicle is operated or after it has remained static for a significant period of time (four hours or more). If there is variation in temperature during the day (i.e., 80 F in the morning and 120 F in the afternoon), cold psi should be set in the morning or coolest time of the day, before the vehicle is operated. Cold psi applies to all tires, independent

Editor’s note: The following is an excerpt from an article published in the June 2009 KNOWLEDGE, the official safety magazine of the U.S. Army.

of geographic location.

When checking pressures, use an accurate tire gauge. When inflating tires on a vehicle, use a 10-foot tire inflation hose with clip-on chuck and in-line gauge. This process allows the maintainer to stay out of the trajectory should tire or wheel components come apart during inflation. When inflating tires that are off the vehicle, use a tire inflation cage in accordance with TM 9-2610-200-14.

Tire Inspection

Inspect tires per the before, during and after operation PMCS table of the applicable operator’s TM. Look for cuts, bruises, nails, rocks and uneven wear. Tires designed with built-in wear bar indicators will show solid bars of rubber across the tread crown area when wear is sufficient to require the tire and wheel assembly to be removed from the vehicle and turned in for repair. If

inflation pressure is 80 percent or less of the recommended tire inflation pressure, or when there is damage to the tire or rim/ wheel components, the tire must be deflated and removed for inspection to check the inside for damage. This should only be done by personnel properly trained in tire maintenance. Also, check tires for missing valve caps and replace as required.

Vehicle Alignment/Tire Rotation

Proper alignment and tire rotation are other activities which increase the life and performance of tires. Refer to TM 9-2610-200-14 and your vehicle’s TM for more information.

For additional information on HMMWV tires, see TACOM LCMC Safety of Use Message 08-002 at <https://aepe2.ria.army.mil/Commodity/safety/SafetyComm.cfm?FunType=SOUM>.

SAFETY

Safety Topic of the Week

Courtesy of PS Magazine. For service members 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>

Jack Stand:

IF YOU DON'T KNOW JACK

IT'S BEEN A LONG DAY. YOU'VE WORKED HARD IN THE MOTOR POOL AND YOU DESERVE A BREATH.

TAKE A SIP OF SPORTS DRINK, LEAN BACK AND RELAX.

WATCH WHERE YOU'RE LEANING.

WATCH WHERE YOU'RE LEANING.

MAKE SURE YOU'RE NOT LEANING AGAINST A VEHICLE SITTING ON JACK STANDS.

YOUR WEIGHT COULD NUDGE THE VEHICLE OFF THE STANDS AND ONTO ONE OF YOUR BUDDIES.

JACK STANDS ARE EASY TO OVERLOOK.

SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO CHECK TWICE TO SEE THEM UNDER A VEHICLE OR TRAILER.

IT'S BEST TO TAKE A PEEK BEFORE YOU LEAN.

FOR SAFETY'S SAKE, HANG BIG CAUTION SIGNS ON ANY VEHICLE OR TRAILER THAT'S ON JACK STANDS.

HANG ONE SIGN ON THE FRONT AND ANOTHER SIGN ON THE REAR OF THE VEHICLE.

SOMETHING LIKE THIS...

MAKE IT A MOTOR POOL SOP.

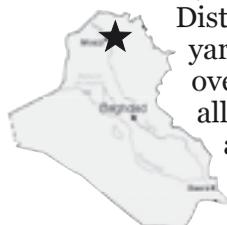
IT'LL HELP PREVENT ACCIDENTS AND ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO TAKE A BREATHER ELSEWHERE.

PS 679 50 JUN 09

NCOs oversee logistics at Marez joint distribution center

BY CAPT. NATALIA MERCEDES-
WILLIAMS
UPAR, 18TH CSSB,
16TH SUST. BDE. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CONTINGENCY OPERATING SITE
MAREZ-EAST, Iraq — At the Joint
Distribution Center
yard here, Soldiers
oversee and supervise
all logistical activities
and systems of dis-
tribution, while
tracking the in-



ventory of shipments to the base.

"The JDC yard's mission is to ensure that incoming and retrograde equipment is processed within 72 hours from arrival time," said Sgt. Carl Shultz. "It is much easier for units to utilize the JDC yard as a faster way to acquire their equipment in theater."

Shultz, the JDC noncommissioned officer, 18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, said the work is not just about being accurate, it's about being fast.

The JDC yard supports and expands the analytical capabilities needed to maintain logistics requirements of joint operations throughout Multi-National Division - North.

Soldiers and contractors at the yard manage operations that include shipment, in-bound and out-bound areas, staging of pallets, containers, and JDC operational equipment utilizing air and ground movements.

Soldiers at the JDC yard also handle the shipment of hazardous materials (HAZMAT).

Check CHUsdays

Each **TUESDAY** Check The
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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

Law Gives Military Renters More Protection Against Foreclosures

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS
MICHAEL J. CARDEN

WASHINGTON (June 11) - President Barack Obama's latest efforts to look after home renters gives military members additional protection if the homes they rent are foreclosed, a Defense Department official said today.

The president's Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act of 2009 was signed into law on May 20. The legislation ensures that renters aren't forced out of their homes if foreclosure occurs and a new landlord takes over.

Renters in every state now have more time to find new homes. The new law greatly benefits the military, as the vast majority of active duty service members rent homes throughout the United States, said Army Col. Shawn Shumake, director of legal policy in the Pentagon's personnel and readiness office.

While about 65 percent of the U.S. population own their homes,

only about 25 percent of service members are homeowners, so, foreclosure of rented homes potentially can affect most of the military, Shumake said.

"We've got a lot of folks out there that find that they are in really difficult positions, because their landlords are foreclosed on," he explained in a Pentagon Channel interview. "This law provides them a measure of security and protection they didn't previously have."

The legislation gives renters the right to stay in their homes throughout the duration of their lease, he said, unless the new owner is moving into the home or if the renter is renting under a month-to-month lease. Still, the new law gives renters at least 90 days before they can be evicted, he noted.

"This act is a protection that's really powerful and important, and a great help to our service members," Shumake said. "This provides renters some particular [and] some important rights so

they're not kicked out on the street with no notice."

Before the law went into effect, only individual state protection was available, or none at all, Shumake said. There was no consistency from state to state in the rights people had to fight immediate eviction after foreclosure.

The inconsistency may have been difficult on military members, many of whom are transferred from one state to another every two to three years. The federal law now provides a baseline of protection for all renters, no matter where they live in the United States, he said.

"There was no uniformity or anything you could count on," Shumake said. "[The law] now makes things the same across the country, and it at least gives you some basics that you know are there. At the very least, you know you're going to get that 90 days of protection."

The act is one of several laws

that ensure military members are taken care of as they move from state to state to new duty stations, Shumake said. He noted the Joint Federal Travel Regulation, which defines financial benefits awarded to service members upon changing duty stations.

The regulation was amended in July because of the rising foreclosure rates to allow the federal government to financially support local moves by military members. So, if one of the two exceptions occurs and service members are forced to move from their home, the government may pay for the move, he said.

The regulation and Obama's new legislation go "hand in glove," Shumake said.

Military members faced with such uncertainty are in the best possible position with the two protections, he said.

For more information, service members should contact their local legal office.

Do you have a story idea?

Contact the Expeditionary Times

expeditionarytimes@iraq.centcom.mil

70th Trans. Co. recovery team provides security for recovery missions

BY SPC. MICHAEL BEHLIN
EXPEDITIONARY TIMES STAFF

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE SPEICHER, Iraq



The 70th Transportation Company recovery team here, has a vital mission of providing convoy security for civilian contractors as they recover vehicles involved in accidents or mechanical failure.

While deployed, the 70th Trans. Co. recovery team from Bamberg, Germany, is responsible for providing security for recovery missions by escorting civilian recovery teams within northern Iraq.

"We basically conduct security for recovery missions for all of northern Iraq," said 1st Lt. Vernell Rixner, 70th Trans. Co. recovery team platoon leader and Atlanta native. "While we don't necessarily conduct the recovery of the vehicles ourselves, we're prepared just in case we have to help the civilian contractors."

The recovery team's mission, similar to other con-

voy security companies, is unique because its work schedule is similar to an American fire station.

Soldiers work shifts that rotate 24 hours on-duty, 24 hours off-duty. While on duty, Soldiers are required to remain within the immediate vicinity of the recovery team's headquarters. While awaiting mission, Soldiers complete daily tasks required of them, but have the opportunity to rest and relax in order to avoid burnout.

"Usually when nightfall comes, I'll head over to the MWR and place calls to mom and the babies back home," said Spc. Jason Snell, a Dallas native and gunner with the 70th Trans. Co. recovery team. "When we do rest and get some sleep, we sleep in our uniforms and keep our boots nearby in case we get a call."

When the team gets a call for a recovery mission, the 70th Trans. Co. Soldiers stop whatever they are doing and proceed to what was described as a "mad rush to the door" by team members. But this rush does not go without reason.

"From the moment we



U.S. Army courtesy photo

The 70th Transportation Company from Bamberg, Germany is on mission standby 24 hours a day, 7 days a week while based at Contingency Operating Speicher, Iraq. Like an American fire station, the 70th Trans. Co. will receive a call and roll out the gate quickly, to provide security for recovery operations of contractor vehicles.

receive a call, we have a short amount of time to be geared up and staged at the staging yards," said Rixner. "While the Soldiers are getting all geared up to go, I'll head over and get the actual mission details, get my gear on, and then head over to meet them at the staging yards."

After prepped and briefed on their mission, the 70th Trans. Co. recovery team Soldiers meet their civilian contractor counterparts

and depart COB Speicher. Conducting their operation using Mine-Resistant Ambush-Protected vehicles, the recovery team also carries along a few special vehicles just in case they're needed.

"When we travel, we take our HET (Heavy Equipment Transporter) just in case it's needed," said Rixner. "There have been times when we've had to help the contractors recover a vehicle, or we've had one of our

vehicles break down and had to use the HET."

The 70th Trans. Co. recovery team's mission has been successful and according to Snell, it is a direct reflection of their leadership.

"Our NCOs ensure that we have what we need to be successful and make sure that we are doing the right thing," he said. "As a result we are able to accomplish our mission in an effective manner."



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Coalition historians meet to discuss history



Historians Lt. Col. Gregory A. Daddis, Multi-National Corps-Iraq and Col. Gary M. Bowman, Multi-National Force-Iraq and deputy commander of CMH visited the 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)'s 44th Military History Detachment at Joint Base Balad, Iraq May 29.

STORY AND PHOTO BY
SPC. HILLIARY R. MCKEY
44TH MILITARY HISTORY DETACHMENT,
3^d ESC PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – Coalition historians met here May 29 to plan for the way ahead, while assessing future collection procedures documenting operations, for historians deploying to contingency locations.

Historians Col. Gary M. Bowman, Multi National Force-Iraq and deputy commander of U.S. Army Center of Military History (CMH), and Lt. Col. Gregory A. Daddis, Multi-National Corps-Iraq visited the 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) 44th Military History Detachment to conduct the planning.

“As the Army transitions toward the drawdown phase of operations in Iraq, the role of the logistician

becomes even greater. The history community’s ability to capture that role will be critical over the next 6 to 24 months,” said Staff Sgt. John Brown, 44th Military History Detachment noncommissioned officer. The unit is an active duty MHD from Fort McPherson, Ga.

“The Army’s history community has focused heavily on combat and maneuver operations, but has had a difficult time capturing the significant contributions of a logistical command in theater,” he said.

The Coalition historians reviewed the 44th MHD historical collection operating procedures which they implemented during pre-deployment training at the U.S. Army Center of Military History, and will incorporate those gathered information into MHD’s future training and doctrine policies.

While Col. Marvin S. Whitaker, chief of staff, 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) and the 44th MHD gave an orientation to the visiting historians of their mission supporting the 3^d ESC and its

logistics units. The MHD also gave a demonstration of collection tactics, techniques and procedures.

Capt. Joseph Green, 44th MHD commander, said issues the MHD face are a need for shared portal training and having a strong working relationship with the public affairs units to enhance a coordinated collection efforts between MHDs in theater.

Only four MHDs are deployed to Iraq and documenting the military’s current operation. The 44th MHD has been part of that legacy, documenting the 3^d ESC logistics role in theater.

“This has been really enlightening for me. I’ve visited different MHDs and they all do their best. You (44th MHD) are doing a great job in a unique environment,” said Bowman.

In the U.S. Army, the MHDs are manned by one active-duty, 19 from the Reserves and five National Guard units, all documenting military operations around the world.

OPERATION LIBERATOR: “Never Leave a Fallen Comrade”

ISOLATED, MISSING, DETAINED, or CAPTURED (IMDC) PERSONNEL IN IRAQ

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of missing personnel should call the Iraqi national tip line at 130 or contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation via their website at <https://tips.fbi.gov>.

<p>Capt. Speicher Al Asad AB 17 Jan 91</p>	<p>Aban M. Elias Al Taji 3 May 04</p>	<p>Abbas Naama Baghdad 27 Sep 05</p>	<p>SGT Al-Taie Baghdad 23 Oct 06</p>
<p>Timothy Bell Abu Ghuraib 9 Apr 04</p>	<p>Dean Sadek Baghdad 2 Nov 04</p>	<p>Hussein Al-Zurufi An Najaf 3 Dec 05</p>	<p>Major Gilbert IVO Al Taji 27 Nov 06</p>
<p>South African 4 Baghdad 10 Dec 06</p>		<p>Adnan Al-Hilawi Baghdad 3 Mar 07</p>	
<p>UK 5 Baghdad 29 May 07</p>		<p>Michael Chand Al Amarah 17 Aug 07</p>	

'Scorpions' build new stock control and transportation office

BY 1ST LT. RANDALL HOLMES
UPAR, 351ST ORD CO.,
16TH SUST. BDE.

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE Q-WEST, Iraq — Soldiers from the 351st Ordnance Company and the 30th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, along with the Department of Public Works here, built a new stock control and transportation office at the "Scorpion" ammunition supply point.

The aim for this new building is to provide the 351st Ord. Co., with a stock control and transportation office they can effectively move and track ammunition throughout their area of operations providing Coalition forces with the ammunition to help secure Iraqi communities throughout the theater.

During the construction process, the Soldiers from the 30th CSSB and 351st Ord. Co., project managers coordinated all the different tasks associated with building the new stock control and transportation office. The project managers coordinated with the 30th CSSB supply section to gather the supplies needed. The battalion's Soldiers request and/or managed work orders for the new building, ensuring all



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. James Zamaris

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Kenneth Hosby, 351st Ordnance Co., 30th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, shows off his new office and air conditioning unit. Hosby will manage the flow of ammunition, and make decisions regarding the location of ammunition assets throughout "Scorpion" ammunition supply point.

mandatory inspections were completed, and the building was built to fire code.

DPW workers provided the labor needed to build the new building as they handled all of the construction, the woodworking, the doors, air conditioning and flooring installation.

Stressed?

Relax and go see a movie.



See page 20 for
movie schedule

IRAQI SECURITY FORCES Continued from page one

tempts to fix a vehicle before we condemn it," Kar-eem said.

"They've achieved a great deal," Yates said. "They really take pride in their work."

Progress is visible elsewhere too.

When the General Transportation Regiment — an Iraqi support unit of about 680 Soldiers that transports supplies to locations across Iraq — was created in September 2008, its LTAT consisted of nearly 60 trainers and advisers.

As the GTR progressed in its ability to run itself, the number of advisers were cut to just eight. The team was recently replaced by a team of five.

"The GTR right now is pretty self-sufficient," said

Capt. Sean L. Pilker, a Soldier with the 68th Trans. Co. and the officer in charge of the GTR LTAT. "We're very much hands-off right now."

Since it began running missions in November, the GTR has experienced no significant incidents on the road and has covered 33,605 kilometers, said Pilker, who is a resident of Riverdale, N. J.

While many Soldiers said overall operations are going well, there have been some difficulties acquiring spare parts — especially for the civilian vehicles used by the Iraqi Army.

Many Soldiers say it has also been a challenge to work within the Iraqi Army's system — a system that is both different in organi-

zation and rank structure than the U.S. Army.

"As with anything else

with the Iraqis we have to understand that it is not our system, and we need to

assist them in working their system," said Sgt. 1st Class Michael L. Russell, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the 10th Sust. Bde. ISF section.

But whether it's the maintenance facilities or it's the GTR, the end goal is the same: Iraqi units operating free of Coalition support, a goal which Iraqi commanders here have said they will be ready for.

Iraqi mechanic replace the grill on an armored humvee at the Third-Line Maintenance Facility at Camp Taji, Iraq May 28. The Iraqi Security Forces section of the 10th Sustainment Brigade said it has moved away from its role as trainers to the Iraqi Army units it is partnered with and is now in the advising stage of its mission.



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

Before you throw that away...

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
SGT. ALEX SNYDER
EXPEDITIONARY TIMES STAFF

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq
– Night vision devices with a combined price tag of nearly \$59,000. Saddle assembly



gun mounts valued at more than \$22,000. Armor for the Bradley Fighting Vehicle totaling approximately \$10,000.

No, this isn't the list of the most recent Department of Defense budget request – it's some of the latest discoveries in the trash here.

Each month, service members and civilian contractors here throw away

hundreds of items that should be turned into the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office, the agency responsible for the disposal of excess government property. Many of these items can be reissued to other units or organizations that need them.

"We at DRMO are the last line of defense when helping units practice good stewardship," said John D. Abbey, the chief of the DRMO site at JBB.

Established in 1972, the DRMO – then known as the Defense Property Disposal Service – was designed to consolidate the disposal of excess property from the different branches of the military.

Today, the DRMO also serves as a means for the DoD to save money by reissuing personal government property instead of buying it new. In the fiscal year 2008, DRMO reported saving the DoD approximately \$2.2 billion.

"Nearly all the things turned into us are usable or have usable parts or com-



This combat vehicle crewman's helmet liner with microphone assembly – and two others like it – were recently found still in their original wrappers in the trash at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, in May. The total value of the three helmet liners is approximately \$3,154.00.



A night vision device sits in the back of a truck full of items awaiting delivery to the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office yard at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, May 15. Bought new, this device cost the government approximately \$19,650. Three such devices were recently found in the garbage at JBB.



A truck full of recovered government property awaits delivery to the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office yard at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, May 15. In the fiscal year 2008, DRMO reported saving the Department of Defense approximately \$2.2 billion.

ponents on them," Abbey said. "For some things, we are an excellent source of supply."

To turn in government property at DRMO, military units or other organizations must have a valid Department of Defense Activity Address Code, or DoDAAC, which is a six-position code that identifies a unit, activity or organization. They must also bring in any necessary certifications and have a valid DD Form 1348-1A, the form that accompanies all property being turned in.

In addition to JBB, DRMO yards are located at three other camps in Iraq – Contingency Operating Base Speicher, Al Asad Air Base and Victory Base Complex.

Although much of the government property thrown away here is sorted by contractors and turned into DRMO, throwing away such items can be considered waste and abuse of government property under Department of Defense policy.

And when certain items are thrown in the dumpster, the result is more than an inconvenience to the civilian contractors who must separate burnable garbage from that which could damage the incinerator. If firearms or explosives are discovered, operations at the incinerator cease until

the proper authorities can remove the potential danger.

"Any kind of UXO (unexploded ordnance), any kind of weapon we find, shuts this whole operation down until it gets cleared," said Terry D. Hatfield, a logistics manager with the company contracted to oversee garbage disposal at JBB. "One munition could shut us down for three or four hours."

Units wishing to turn in ammunition or fragmentary grenades should contact the ammunition supply point and schedule an appointment to turn in excess or found munitions.

"We try to be as accommodating as possible," said Sgt. Michael B. Hasbun, the stock control noncommissioned officer in charge with the 23rd Ordnance Company, the unit that runs the ASP at JBB.

Units turning in ammunition on their property book must bring their DoDAAC to receive a receipt for their turn-in, Hasbun said.

While many items at JBB are still being thrown away that shouldn't be, the quantities of government property found in the trash have decreased lately, Hatfield said.

"Military useable items are no longer coming through in large amounts," Hatfield said. "It is hit-and-miss right now."

'Knights' at Turkish border

BY 2ND LT. NATHAN LEWIS
UPAR, LTF-A, 16TH SUST. BDE.

HABUR GATE, Iraq — There are three ways that most U.S. Army supplies enter Iraq: by air, by sea through Kuwait, or by convoy through Turkey.



On the Turkish border in northern Iraq is a small Army convoy support center run by Logistical Task Force Alpha, 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade.

The center, little more than a four-story building with an expanded parking lot, provides fuel, food and lodging for Soldiers and foreign nationals that convoy to Forward Operating Base Marez and Contingency Operating Base Q-West.

Soldiers from LTF-Alpha made many improvements to the facility, a comfortable location to work and live for convoys staying overnight and the CSC Coalition staff and civilian employees.

Almost every aspect of the center has been improved by LTF-Alpha. Soldiers built a watershade in order to extend the life of the bottled water and the life of the plastic bottles. This addition helps maintain a good water supply for future rotations.

Soldiers have also installed a fuel berm at the fueling point. The berm helps prevent spills of diesel fuel from getting into the nearby Habur River. Keeping this water source clean is crucial to encourage wildlife to return to the region.

The communications section has been remodeled, the aid station has been ex-

panded and the Habur Gate shoppette moved and is now five times larger than before. The laundry room was expanded with extra machines repositioned from bases that are closing, to meet the Security Agreement timeline of returning bases to the Government of Iraq.

The improvement that the Soldiers have enjoyed the most is the new dining facility (DFAC) equipment. Task Force Soldiers have recently installed two large buffet-style serving lines and Soldiers are now able to get as much as they want for all three meals.

The Soldiers of LTF-Alpha, far away from large bases, continue to improve the small convoy center and ensure goods are inspected, processed and allowed to be transported into Iraq.



U.S. Army courtesy photo

Soldiers of Logistics Task Force – Alpha, 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, manage a small convoy support center on the Turkish border in northern Iraq called Habur Gate. Coalition forces maintain the facility to feed, fuel and quarter fellow Coalition partners, foreign national truck drivers and contractors before they journey south into Iraq.

er improve convoy facility



U.S. Army courtesy photo

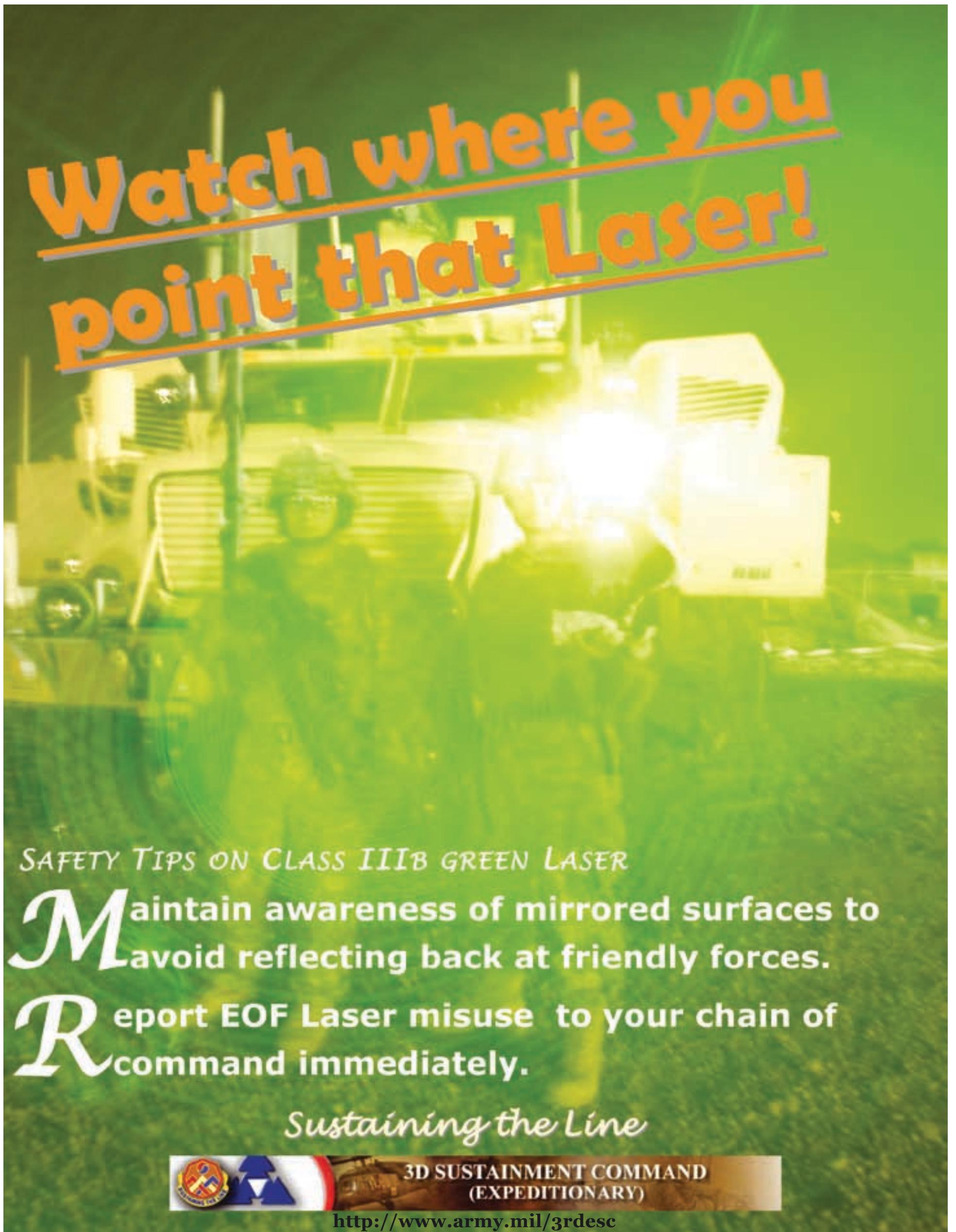
Soldiers of Logistics Task Force – Alpha, 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, manage a small convoy support center on the Turkish border at Habur Gate, Iraq. The task force Soldiers have begun improvements to the facility, including this concrete fuel berm, to help prevent the spills of diesel fuel from getting into the nearby Habur River. Keeping the water source clean is crucial to encourage wildlife to return to the region.



Hundreds of fuel trucks wait to move into Iraq as they are staged at the 609th Movement Control Team's staging yards located at Habur Gate, Iraq. The 609th MCT validates, receives, stages, and monitors the movement of cargo shipped into Iraq for Coalition forces.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Michael Behlin



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Sustaining the Line



**3D SUSTAINMENT COMMAND
(EXPEDITIONARY)**

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

Happy Fathers Day!

Jon (CW3 Jonathan L. Gay, 81st Military Mail Terminal),
We want to let you know that we love and miss you a lot.

Not a day goes by that we do not miss and think of you in some form.

Enjoy your special day and know that we are with you in spirit.

Love,
Karin, Dylan, and Victoria

Daddy To You

Went off to fight this war
Left you behind to spread some joy
I think about you both day and night
You're the first and last thing on my mind

When days seem long and blue
I drift away and think of you
My work is hard and demanding
It keeps me away from you and mom-my

I hope someday you will see
That I do this for you and me
You are the keeper of my heart
I find peace and in your thoughts

I made a decision to take up arms
To stand up to those that mean us harm
Some call us Heroes for what we do
I just want to be Daddy to you

By Sgt. Amencio A. Almanza,
16th Sustainment Brigade S-3

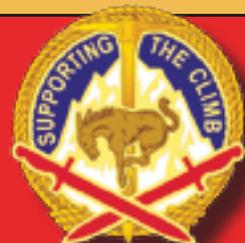


Father-son, Lloyd Green (SFC, retired), and his son, CW2 David Green are deployed together to Joint Base Balad, Iraq this Father's Day. Lloyd is the CTR Logistics supervisor, 3^d ESC and David is assigned to Task Force 239.

Shout-out: Just want to say Hi to all our loved ones. Hi Deante and Tiana.
From Daddy and Grandpop

On the Web

10th Sustainment Brigade
Task Force
Muleskinner



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

Q-West Guardsmen deploy with Family

BY SPC. ARTHUR BURKEY
UPAR, 2ND BN., 146TH FA REGT., 16TH SUST. BDE.

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE Q-WEST, Iraq — Serving in Iraq is a Family affair for many Washington Army National Guard Soldiers in Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 146th Field Artillery Regiment here.



Within the ranks of HHB, three Families find strong support and camaraderie: the Brathovdes, the Guenthers, and the Fugers.

The Brathovdes are a married couple deployed together. The Guenthers are brothers — one year apart in age and have a cousin, Spc. Charles Zandecki, who serves as the battery's armorer. Lastly, the Fugers, another set of siblings, also serve their country in the same unit.

Husband and wife, Spc. Gregory Brathovde and Pfc. Katherine Brathovde are in headquarters platoon together.

"I am very happy to have my Family support system here on this deployment," Katherine said. "It is very beneficial to our morale."

Gregory also has other Family members in the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 181st Brigade Support Battalion, his cousin, Sgt. Maj. Debra Clark, works in the Q-West

Mayor's Cell.

Spc. Victor Guenther and Spc. Jacob Guenther serve together in the battery.

When the Iraqi climate or events cause tension and stress, having a sibling nearby helps them cope with stressful situations, Jacob said.

"The deployment has given us an opportunity to expand our horizons and to keep in contact with our loved ones, in theater and back home," said Jacob.

Spc. Amy Fuger and her brother, Pfc. Brian Fuger, support the mission of the unit as Amy prepares dispatch paperwork to help keep convoys running smoothly while Brian is a mechanic, who maintains the fleet through fixing equipment and occasionally conducts convoy security missions. Both of the Fugers are enthusiastic and work well together.

"This is a great family-supportive environment," said Brian. "My sister and I have gotten to know each other better, and we know that Family is not too far away especially during times of stress."

Spc. Amy Fuger and Pfc. Brian Fuger, both with the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 146th Field Artillery Regiment, 30th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, attended a unit barbeque in January. The siblings are from Vancouver, Wash.



U.S. Army courtesy photo



Topic of the Week

Maintenance & Supply

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>



Dear Editor,

I am writing to you about the master light switch for the IMG MaxxPro and IMG MaxxPro Plus vehicles shown in Fig 8-37.1 on Page 437 of TM 9-2355-106-24P and Fig 8-39.1 on Page 395 of TM 9-2355-318-24P-1.

My head did a double-spin when I looked in the TMs to find the switch. The switch's PN 3673425C1, CAGE 33B X5, crosses over to NSN 5930-01-556-6299 and costs \$1,436.82!!!

What's interesting is we removed the switch in one of our unit's IMG MaxxPros and found a sticker on it with NSN 5930-01-491-9893. This switch is identical to the original one, CAGE 19207, 59666, or 47P61, and costs \$179.48 in FED LOG. That's a savings of more than \$1,200!

I would recommend units not order the switch shown in the TMs. Instead, order the switch that comes with NSN 5930-01-491-9893. It's a lot cheaper and does the job.

SSG J.A.O.
54th Engr Bn
Camp Striker, Iraq

Editor's note: Thanks for the money-saving tip that will help other units out there.



287th Sustainment Brigade, COB Adder
<http://www.287susbde.com/>



Making the Call

Editor's note: The following is an excerpt from an article published in the June 2009 *KNOWLEDGE*, the official safety magazine of the U.S. Army.

BY T. JAMES MAHONEY

Safety and Occupational Health Office -- Composite risk management (CRM) is the Army's primary decision-making process for identifying hazards and controlling risks across the full spectrum of Army missions, functions, operations and activities. (Field Manual 5-19)

This sentence lays the foundation for one of the most misunderstood doctrinal concepts in the Army. Designed to be a fully integrated process which facilitates the Military Decision Making Process, CRM is all too often an administrative afterthought to operational planning and execution. The CRM worksheet becomes just another piece of paper stapled to a mission packet, another slide to e-mail to higher and another block to check before we can cross the line of departure.

Five simple steps define the process: identify hazards, assess hazards to determine risk, develop controls and make risk decisions, implement controls, and supervise and evaluate. We do this already, intuitively, every day.

The culture of our organization

is such that we don't like to admit there's anything we can't do. We don't like to admit we don't have what's needed to get the job done. We're a goal-oriented, mission-driven organization. We should be. We also need to be realistic enough to know that sometimes we don't have everything we need to do the job and sometimes we need to let someone else decide whether we should do it.

I've had the opportunity to talk about CRM to NCOs and officers of all ranks on many occasions. I've come to realize that the process is misunderstood across all ranks and components. With the help of other safety professionals, I've developed techniques to try to better communicate the process.

Stress the risk we're really trying to mitigate. The CRM process was designed to mitigate risk to mission accomplishment. Many Leaders have what I call "range syndrome." All our careers, we've been told that anyone can call a cease-fire on a range. That's absolutely correct. Does that mean the whole range is going to be canceled because one individual observes one unsafe act? No. The range is being

conducted as the result of a legal order approved by a commander with legitimate training requirements. The unsafe act will be corrected and the conduct of the range will continue. The commander has not been handcuffed from executing a training requirement, an unsafe act or condition has been corrected and we all move on.

The CRM process identifies resource requirements. We can develop all the risk-mitigation measures we want. If we don't have the ability to resource those measures, how have we helped mitigate our risks? Can we lower our residual risk? No. Does that mean we can't ask for what we don't have? We absolutely can. There's no reason why we can't go back to the boss and say, "I have a high risk of mission failure with my available resources, but if I get this ... I can lower my risk of mission failure to a low risk." So we have created a statement of need.

Not every risk level can be eliminated. The risk assessment matrix defines risk level based on probability and severity. In many cases, we have to decrease both in order to decrease our overall risk level.

Sometimes, we'll only be able to reduce one. If we've reduced the probability of an event occurring but not the severity, have we failed? What if we can only accomplish the opposite? I would submit that reducing either factor, even if it doesn't reduce our residual risk level, is worthy of the effort.

Sometimes the boss has to make the decision. No one really wants to go to the boss and say, "I need you to make the call." Most of us feel that we look indecisive if we kick the decision upstairs. However, sometimes the decision to proceed is way above our pay grade or rank. We have an obligation to let those above us know when a mission they're expecting to be accomplished may not be because it's gone beyond our ability to control. We're not "crying wolf"; we're giving the leadership a realistic picture of our capabilities and limiting the exposure to overall mission failure.

CRM has the ability to be a force multiplier like no other. Moving beyond institutional and organizational barriers to CRM increases the possibility of mission success exponentially.



Gain a new perspective.

Own the Edge through Composite Risk Management, or CRM

<https://crc.army.mil>

OWN the EDGE
Composite Risk Management

U.S. ARMY
<https://crc.army.mil>

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

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

Last weeks answers

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

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. What was the first Korean automaker to flog cars in the U.S.?
2. What is partially removed, to make a monk's tonsure?
3. What comic strip appeared in a record 2,000th newspaper in 1984?
4. What model of Harley does the \$100 GI Joe Highway Patrol cop ride?
5. What California prison's museum boasts a miniture gas chamber, and a *Cooking With Conviction* cookbook?

1. Hyundai 2. His hair 3. Peanuts 4. The Electra Glide 5. San Quentin's

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	1900	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)
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	1100	Provider Chapel
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	1100	Air Force Hospital Chapel
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Thu	1100	Air Force Hospital Chapel
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Mon, Wed, Fri	1700	Gilbert Memorial Chapel (H-6)
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Mon-Fri	1130	555th Engineer Brigade Bldg 7200
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JEWISH SHABBAT SERVICES

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

Friday	1230	Provider Chapel
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PAGAN/WICCAN FELLOWSHIP

Thursday	1900	The Shack
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Saturday	1900	The Shack
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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.	Tue., Thu., 6-7 a.m., 5-6 p.m. Edge Weapons & Stick Fighting Combative Training: Tue., Thur., Sat.- 8-10 p.m.	Friday- 8 p.m. Chess & Dominoes Tourney: Friday- 8 p.m. Salsa Class: Saturday- 8:30 p.m. Poker: Saturday- 7:30 p.m.	Saturday- 10:30 p.m. Cross Fit: 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., 3 p.m. P90x: Monday- Saturday- 4:30 a.m., 4 p.m., 10 p.m. Soccer: Tue., Thu.- 8 p.m. Yoga: Wednesday- 8 p.m. MACP Level 1: Friday- 8 p.m., Saturday- 8 p.m.	p.m., 8:30 p.m. 8-ball tourney: Tuesday- 2 a.m., 8:30 p.m. Ping-pong tourney: 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 REC- REACTION CENTER: Green Bean Karaoke: Sun., Wed., 7:30pm. 9-ball tourney: Monday- 8 p.m. Ping-pong tourney: Friday- 7 p.m.	Tuesday- 8 p.m. Foosball tourney: Tuesday- 8 p.m. Jam Session: Tuesday- 7:30 p.m. 8-ball tourney: Wednesday- 8 p.m. Guitar Lessons: Thursday- 7:30 p.m. Game tourney: 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 FIT- NESS CENTER: 3 on 3 basketball tourney: Saturday- 7:30 p.m. CIRCUIT GYM: Floor hockey: Mon., Wed., Fri.- 8:30 p.m.	Aerobics: Monday, Wednesday, Friday- 7 p.m. Body by Midget 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.
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UPCOMING SPORTS ON AFN



Wednesday 6/17/09

2009 NBA Finals - Game 6: Orlando Magic @ Los Angeles Lakers (if necessary), Live 4 a.m. AFN/sports
Oakland Athletics @ Los Angeles Dodgers, Live 5 a.m. AFN/xtra
New York Mets @ Baltimore Orioles, Tape Delayed 10 a.m. AFN/sports
Chicago White Sox @ Chicago Cubs, Live 9 p.m. AFN/sports

Thursday 6/18/09

Seattle Mariners @ San Diego Padres, Live 5 a.m. AFN/xtra
MLS Game of the Week: D.C. United @ Seattle Sounders FC, Live 10 a.m. AFN/sports
Detroit Tigers @ St. Louis Cardinals, Tape Delayed 1 p.m. AFN/sports
109th U.S. Open Championship: First Round (Bethpage State Park, Farmingdale, NY), Live 5 p.m. AFN/sports

Friday 6/19/09

2009 NBA Finals - Game 7: Orlando Magic @ Los Angeles Lakers, Live 4 a.m. AFN/sports
Oakland Athletics @ Los Angeles Dodgers, Live 5 a.m. AFN/xtra
2009 NBA Finals - Game 7: Orlando Magic @ Los Angeles Lakers (if necessary), Tape Delayed 1 p.m. AFN/sports

Saturday 6/20/09

Milwaukee Brewers @ Detroit Tigers, Live 2 a.m. AFN/xtra
Texas Rangers @ San Francisco Giants, Live 5 a.m. AFN/xtra
Oakland Athletics @ San Diego Padres, Live 5 a.m. AFN prime pacific
Atlanta Braves @ Boston Red Sox, Tape Delayed 2 p.m. AFN/sports
Cleveland Indians @ Chicago Cubs, Live 8 p.m. AFN/xtra
2009 NCAA Men's College World Series - Game 13: Teams TBD (Rosenblatt Stadium; Omaha, NE) (If Necessary), Live 9 p.m. AFN/prime atlantic

Sunday 6/21/09

AFN|xtra The Ultimate Fighter 9 Sneak Peak - Episode #12, Live 3 a.m. AFN/xtra
Pittsburgh Pirates @ Colorado Rockies, Live 3 a.m. AFN/sports
AFN|xtra The Ultimate Fighter 9 Sneak Peak - The Ultimate Finale, Live 4 a.m. AFN/xtra
St. Louis Cardinals @ Kansas City Royals, Tape Delayed 12:30 p.m. AFN/xtra

Monday 6/22/09

Los Angeles Dodgers @ Los Angeles Angels, Live 3 a.m. AFN/prime atlantic
Sacramento Monarchs @ Los Angeles Sparks, Live 4:30 a.m. AFN/xtra
Houston Astros @ Minnesota Twins, Tape Delayed 10 a.m. AFN/xtra
Arizona Diamondbacks @ Seattle Mariners, Tape Delayed 5 p.m. AFN/xtra

Tuesday 6/23/09

St. Louis Cardinals @ New York Mets, Live 2 a.m. AFN/xtra
San Francisco Giants @ Oakland Athletics, Live 5 a.m. AFN/xtra
St. Louis Cardinals @ New York Mets, Tape Delayed 10 a.m. AFN/sports

SUSTAINER REEL TIME THEATER

Movie Times

Wednesday, June 17

5 p.m. Crank

8 p.m. The Hangover

Thursday, June 18

5 p.m. Sunshine Cleaning

8 p.m. The Hangover

Friday, June 19

2 p.m. Obsessed

5 p.m. The Taking of Pelham 123

8:30 p.m. The Taking of Pelham 123

Saturday, June 20

2 p.m. Ghost of Girlfriends Past

5 p.m. The Taking of Pelham 123

8 p.m. Obsessed

Sunday, June 21

2 p.m. The Taking of Pelham 123

5 p.m. Obsessed

8 p.m. Ghost of Girlfriends Past

Monday, June 22

5 p.m. Ghost of Girlfriends Past

8 p.m. Earth

Tuesday, June 23

5 p.m. The Taking of Pelham 123

8 p.m. Ghost of Girlfriends Past

(Schedule is Subject to Change)

Ghost of Girlfriends Past



Matthew McConaughey stars as Connor Mead, a famous photographer and confirmed womanizer. He takes a break from his playboy lifestyle to attend his brother's wedding, where he becomes reacquainted with Jenny Perotti (Jennifer Garner), the only girl who ever captured his heart. After Connor delivers a drunken speech at the rehearsal dinner where he says that love isn't real, he's met in the bathroom by the ghost of his Uncle Wayne (Michael Douglas), a Hefner-esque horndog who taught Connor everything he knows about picking up chicks. Uncle Wayne informs Connor that, over the course of the evening, he'll be visited by three ghosts who will lead him through his romantic past, present, and future. Will Connor learn to get over himself and love the right woman, or will he remain an emotional Scrooge?

The Taking of Pellhem 123

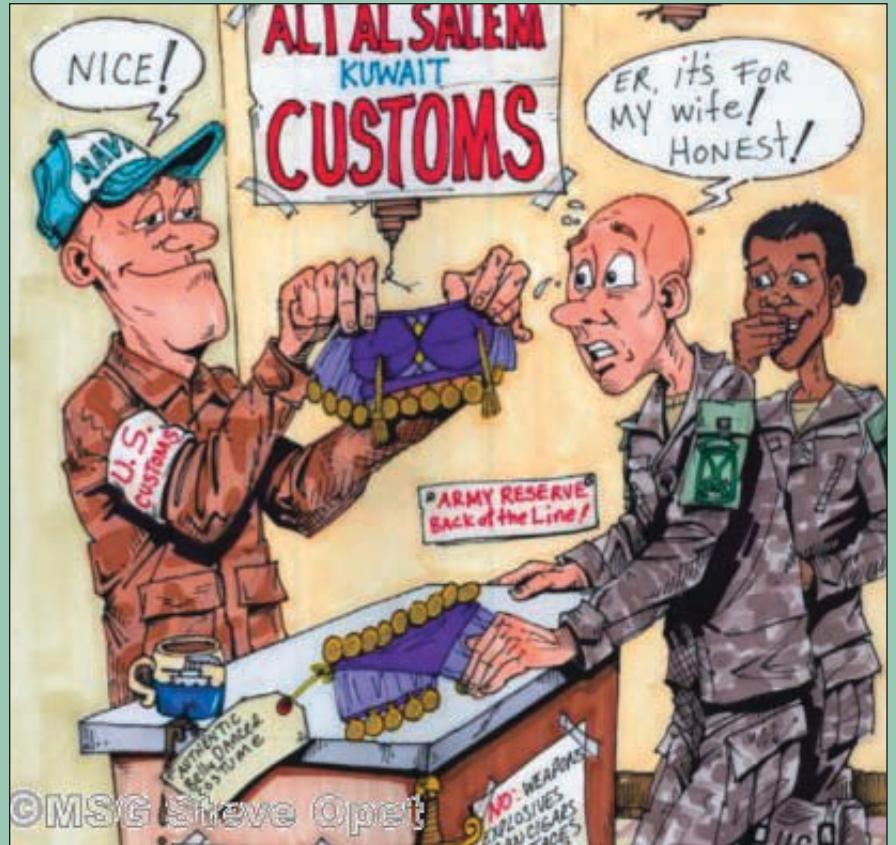


A New York City subway dispatcher draws on his extensive knowledge of the subway system in order to outsmart a dangerous criminal mastermind who's hijacked a subway train in this remake of the 1974 thriller inspired by John Godey's best-selling book. Walter Garber (Denzel Washington) was drifting through his daily routine when he received word that a heavily armed gang of four has hijacked a subway train and are holding all of the passengers hostage. Led by cunning master thief Ryder (John Travolta), the gunmen will begin executing everyone aboard should the authorities fail in delivering a sizable ransom in the space of just one hour. With the tension in the tunnels rising, Walter races to save the hostages before the shootings start. But through it all, there's one

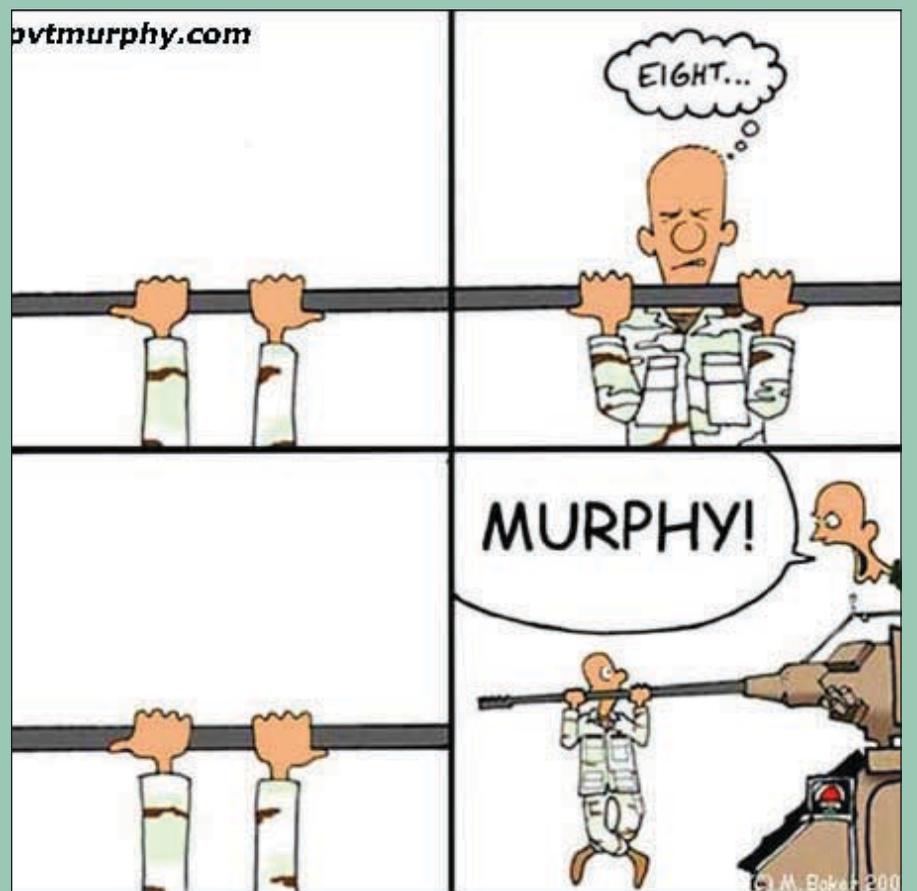
part of Ryder's plan that Walter can't quite comprehend: even if the thieves do succeed in getting their money, how could they possibly get out of the tunnels undetected?



Iraq according to Opet



PVT. MURPHY'S LAW



PHOTOS AROUND IRAQ



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Bobby L. Allen Jr.

U.S. Army Sgt. Jose Lugo of Killeen, Texas, from 3rd Platoon, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas, talks with an Iraqi soldier in the village of Raml in Kirkuk, Iraq June 4. U.S. Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces are working to identify areas that need road repair in and around Kirkuk, Iraq.



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

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Dennis Asher and Military Working Dog Sgt. 1st Class Basho, attached to Multi-National Corps - Iraq, Provost Marshalls Office, search the town of Hayy Al Husayn for evidence of insurgency in the Maysan province, Iraq June 2.



U.S. Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Kim Smith

Iraqi soldiers prepare to enter a house during a joint training exercise with U.S. Soldiers from Echo Company, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 172nd Infantry Brigade near Bahbahani, Iraq June 4.



U.S. Army Photo by Spc. Joshua E. Powell

U.S. Army 1st Lt. Joshua Vandergriff of Lynchburg, Va., 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, takes notes while he speaks with a local Iraqi civilian while on a dismounted patrol near Joint Security Station (JSS), Baghdad, Iraq June 1. The intention of the patrol is to show a strong presence in their operational environment.

NEWS AROUND IRAQ

AF flight surgeons hand over training mission to Iraqis

NEW AL MUTHANA AIR BASE, Iraq – As U.S. forces withdraw over the next year, the Iraqi Air Force will assume new missions and responsibilities in accordance with the Security Agreement.

One such mission is the Aero-Medical training of flight medical technicians, also known as “flight medics.”

The four-week training course is now taught by Iraqi flight medics with Coalition oversight. Soon, the Iraqi instructors will have complete oversight of the course.

“This is a very important mission for me and for the Iraqi Air Force,” said Iraqi Air Force Lt. Amar K. Gaad, nurse and flight medic instructor. “We are here to save lives so that our army counterparts can focus on their mission and on their service to our country.”

After graduating June 4, the largest class ever of 18 newly certified Iraqi flight medics will be well equipped to directly support their assigned military units in the airborne medical evacuation of their unit’s casualties in helicopters and C-130 Hercules aircraft.

“Upon graduation the new flight medics will be able to care for their patients while transporting them via air to medical facilities” said Col. (Dr.) William W. Dodson III, Multi-National Security Transition Command - Iraq ITAM-AF Surgeon. “This will add to the strength of the Iraqi military.”

Hand-off marks fourth U.S. outpost closure in Mosul

MOSUL, Iraq – Combat outposts located throughout Mosul are closing as the deadline nears for U.S. combat troops to withdraw from Iraqi cities as part of their ongoing commitment to the Security Agreement between the two nations.

Battery A, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division handed command of Combat Outpost Power, in east Mosul, over to 3rd Battalion, 12th Brigade, 3rd Iraqi Army Division in a Transfer of Authority ceremony, June 7.

“There was a great turn-out by all levels of command on both the Iraqi side and the U.S. side,” said Capt. Gene Palka, the commander of Btry. A. “This is a great day; [the transfer] is a good thing that’s happened.”

Intended for troops to embed with the Iraqi Security Forces stationed throughout the city, the COPs were often only big enough to inhabit two platoon-sized elements. Soldiers worked with their Iraqi counterparts, conducting patrols and getting to know the outpost’s surrounding community in order to gain a clear understanding of their counterparts’ capabilities.

The ceremony marked the fourth COP closure in Ninewah province and another step by Task Force “Greywolf” – 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division - towards fulfilling the terms of a security agreement set between the United States and Iraq requiring the withdrawal of U.S. combat troops from Iraq’s cities by June 30.



Iraqi airports take steps toward certification

BAGHDAD --Two Iraqi airports move closer to certification by the International Civil Aviation Organization by conducting cardiopulmonary resuscitation training. Fifteen members of the Basrah International Airport fire department conducted training last week at the Baghdad International Airport.

“The ICAO requires the departments have certain standards—response times, the quality of training, and what their capabilities are,” said Lt. Col. Christine M. Nichols, 364th Civil Affairs Brigade, Functional Specialty Cell infrastructure project manager.

The Baghdad and Basrah International Airports fall underneath the Iraqi Civil Aviation Authority. In December the British began sending firefighters to train under the BIAP department on procedures specific to airports. This, the sixth and final class at BIAP, graduated June 5.

Some of the topics covered were undercarriage fires, working through smoke, and engine fires and radio communications with the air traffic control tower. In week three of the training, a building was set ablaze to test the firefighter’s ability to work through smoke and fire hose placement.

“They do a good job, they are older, but they are doing well,” BIAP fire chief Mahmud Mohammed Saeed said. He has been the primary instructor and supervisor of the refresher training for the veteran firefighters.

The CPR training was conducted by a bilingual, bicultural advisor with the 364th Civil Affairs Brigade public health team.

“They were already familiar with the concepts of CPR, but had never done a practical exercise,” explained Iraqi doctor of obstetrics and gynecology. “They were able to perform CPR by themselves and in addition learned techniques to help patients who may be choking.”

The 364th Civil Affairs Brigade team worked with the British liaison officers from Basrah to transport the firefighters to Baghdad and provided the CPR instructor.

“They are the first responders and you never know

what the firefighters are going to encounter when they go out, having the basic first aid training and CPR knowledge could save a life that otherwise may not have been,” said Sgt. 1st Class Tracy Markay, 364th Civil Affairs Brigade.

Iraqi Soldiers Practice Field Medical Skills at Kirkuk

KIRKUK, Iraq – Eleven Iraqi Army soldiers earned the coveted Iraqi Army Expert Field Medical Badge at the Kirkuk K-1 military base May 25. The completion of this training fulfills a key article in the US-Iraq Security Agreement that calls for cooperative training to advance professionalism and skills of the Iraqi army.

The specialized training is designed to give soldiers additional hands-on and classroom training on injuries and medical situations they may encounter on the battlefield.

The training was provided through a partnership with the K-1 Locations Command Clinic, Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq ITAM-Army Logistics Military Advisory Team and visiting medics from Forward Operating Base Warrior’s 15th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division.

Students were drawn from units in the Kirkuk area, with representatives from K-1’s Locations Command Clinic, the Kirkuk Regional Training Center and the Iraqi Army 12th Division and 12th Motor Transport Regiment taking part.

The Iraqi soldiers were challenged both physically and mentally during the training, which covered a broad range of subjects including traditional field-oriented topics of CPR, one-man and two-man patient carries, medical evacuation, splinting fractures and movement under fire.

Iraqi Army Warrant Officer Ari, EFMB lead instructor, explained that “by training the students to handle a wider variety of illnesses and injuries, they are better prepared to treat patients in remote areas, where reaching a clinic or hospital is difficult.”

During the final days of class, students’ skill and newfound knowledge were tested. They were given a written exam and practical exercises at the Trauma Lane and Litter Obstacle Course.

The practical exercise included the students moving under simulated fire. They were required to reach the casualties, carry them to cover, treat injuries and bandage wounds before navigating the obstacle course.

The students maneuvered through tight corridors, under concertina wire, over an eight-foot wall, up a steep grade and down the other side to a waiting evacuation vehicle. They were graded individually and as teams on their treatment and movement skills.

Graduation morning, a 10-kilometer road march was the final task standing between the students and the prestigious badge.

Later, Iraqi Army Brig. Gen Younis, commander of K-1 Locations Command, presented the badges, accompanied by LMAT senior advisor, U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Jorge Villarreal and 15th BSB commander, U.S. Army Lt. Col. Christopher Whittaker.

The graduates will return to their home units and apply the techniques and skills to improve their units. The training is an example of the Coalition and Iraqis building lasting capabilities for the Iraqi army.

Operation shift efforts to outreach in Diyala Province

FORWARD OPERATING BASE WARHORSE, DIYALA, Iraq – Residents throughout Diyala province have been receiving humanitarian aid from Iraqi Security Forces along with members of the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division as part of operation “Glad Tidings of Benevolence II,” which began May 1.

Thus far 23 areas have received humanitarian aid distributions while 19 more are planned for the near future. Distribution of aid is conducted as part of a combined venture to help those most in need in the province.

Residents receive rice, sugar, grain or other cooking necessities, and local school children in need of school supplies receive pencils, paper or recreational items such as soccer balls.

The assistance not only aids the people of the region but also helps to build stronger bonds between the residents and the local Security Forces who distribute them.

“With the greatly improved security posture of a majority of cities in Diyala, which have been cleared as a result of ongoing Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces operations in support of Glad Tidings of Benevolence II in the Diyala Province, the provincial government has begun to provide and reestablish not only critical essential services to the population, but they have provided crucial humanitarian assistance in the form of food, water, and medical supplies to areas in desperate need,” said Lt. Col. Thomas Bayer, deputy officer for the southern command post Multi-National Division-North.

“These forces have arranged many of these humanitarian assistance packages and have been integrating these delivery operations into their roles of protectors of the people of Diyala,” he said.

NATO training mission in Iraq holds open house for media

BAGHDAD – NATO Training Mission in Iraq had an open house for the media, June 7.

The purpose of the open house is to share with the Iraqi people the good news about NATO’s cooperation with the Government of Iraq.

NATO has been in Iraq since 2004 at the invitation of the Iraqi Government. NATO’s role is unique and separate from the Coalition forces and personnel assigned to the NATO Training Mission-Iraq are considered a non-combat multiplier. NATO’s purpose is to assist in the training and increase the readiness of the Iraqi Security Forces by advising on the educational and professional development of Iraqi officers, non-commissioned officers, cadets and security forces. NATO also assists the Government of Iraq through monetary and equipment donations intended for use by the Iraqi Security Forces.

The Deputy Commander of NTM-I Maj. Gen. Paolo Bosotti, welcomed the primarily Iraqi media in true NATO style with warm greetings in Arabic, English and for the AFP representatives in French. The general was followed by a presentation including a slide show outlining NTM-I’s role in Iraq presented by Dutch Navy Capt. Stig Kastberg. Following a brief question period the press was given a tour of the Head Quarters of NTM-I ending at the office of Training Education Doctrine Advisory Di-

vision where Italian Col. Giovanni Cantice gave an explanation of NTM-I’s role in mentoring the Iraqi National Defence University. Back in the conference room the media was given information by Lt. Col. Michael Michael Mozzicato on NTM-I’s work with noncommissioned officers via the Armed Forces Training and Education – Advisory Team. He was followed by Hungarian Maj. Thomas Harum who discussed out of country training and NATO membership contribution donations to Iraq organized by our Training, Equipment Synchronization Cell. Italian Carabinieri Commander in Iraq, Col. Luciano Zubani followed with a detailed explanation of the mentoring and training of the Iraqi National Police by the Carabinieri. An introduction to the Strategic Security and Mentoring Division given by Dutch Navy Capt. Hans Pleijsier prepared the media for a visit to the Iraqi National Operations.

Maj. Gen. Bosotti was very happy with this opportunity to explain to the media what NTM-I do in Iraq. He stated, “It is very important that Iraqis know that NTM-I is a non combat mission in Iraq, here at the request of the Iraqi Government to assist in training, advising and mentoring the Iraqi military”

The media event ended at the NOC where Iraqi Maj. Gen. Hashim, the deputy chief of staff; Operations for the Iraqi Ministry of Defence greeted the media and thanked NTM-I and their assistance at the Iraqi National Operations Centre.

Security Transition Command Makes Progress in Iraq

BAGHDAD – Multinational Security Transition Command Iraq is working toward its mission to assist the Iraqi Interior Ministry in generating a professional and credible police force, one of the command’s deputy commanders said June 8.

The command also is helping the ministry develop institutional capacity to acquire, train, develop, manage, sustain and resource those forces, said Army Maj. Gen. James Milano, deputy commander of the MNSTC-I’s interior affairs directorate, in a Pentagon news conference via satellite from the International Zone here.

“What we and the Iraqis are striving for is a condition known as police primacy,” he said. “Under police primacy, the Iraqi police forces will have primary responsibility for internal security, under civilian control, in accordance with the constitution and consistent with the rule of law.”

Milano said he has seen firsthand the progress the Iraqis have made toward their goals, from the highest leadership levels at the ministry to the officers on the beat at more than 1,200 local police stations across Iraq.

Adding to their capabilities are a host of specialized forces, such as national police, border enforcement, oil police, the Coastal Border Guard and the Facility Protection Service, as well as important institutional bodies such as the Criminal Investigations Directorate, internal affairs, inspector general and professional training academies, he added.

“All are seeing continued improvement and development,” Milano said. “As a consequence, public trust and support for the police are growing.” He cited an ABC/BBC poll in which 74 percent of Iraqis said they have confidence in the police, up from 64 percent in 2007 and 46 percent in 2003. Eighty-five percent now view their local security situation as good or very good -- nearly double the rate from two years ago.

But, Milano said, much remains to do. While

the ministry has made significant improvements in fighting corruption and has implemented several initiatives, it’s not finished with this effort.

These efforts include auditing personnel through a vetting system, conducting background checks on employees qualified for security clearances and increasing the number of inspectors general with advanced training. Milano also remarked on the increased throughput in the Interior Ministry’s court system.

“We’ve seen almost 3,000 cases reviewed since the court system began reviewing cases last August,” he said. “So I’m confident we’re making good progress in addressing the corruption issue.”

Milano underscored his command’s commitment to building on that progress.

“You can see there’s a lot of work left to be completed,” he said. “My advisors and I are fully committed to continuing to build police capacity and a capable Ministry of Interior.”

“Candidly,” he noted, “the low-hanging fruit’s been picked, and we’re now reaching for the shiny apples near the top of the tree.”

“Producing a policeman or woman is easy when you compare that to the more challenging efforts, for example, of developing an evidentiary based criminal-justice system, of helping the ministry develop merit-based promotion systems and professional development programs and of developing an understanding of the benefits of a preventive maintenance program,” he said.

The U.S. and Iraqi governments have advanced to a new stage of enduring cooperation and partnership, and the United States remains committed to providing continued support, Milano said. “The security agreement and the strategic framework agreement are the centerpieces of our enduring partnership.”

US and Iraqi Partnership in Training Strengthens Shift to Police Primacy

BAGHDAD - The Baghdad Police College showcased its training and commitment to the professionalization of the Iraqi Police Forces here June 2.

Iraqi college officials and trainees demonstrated the specialized training already mastered with the military working dogs, individual combative skills, and crime scene investigations.

The college teaches recruits the elements in the law enforcement, police standards, ethics and leadership. The intent is to lay the foundation for the way ahead in a delicate democracy in the midst of transforming its internal security to the police and whose base tenet is the rule of law.

Trainees in the course realize that they are the future of security in Iraq, as US forces will vacate the cities throughout the country by June 30. Police recruits train with a renewed sense of urgency and excitement for the future of Iraq and their roles in maintaining internal security, especially in the cities.

“We have several dogs here that are capable of detecting explosive materials; this gives the police an edge in protecting the people of Iraq,” a police trainer at the school said. Many of the recruits undertake this specialized training at the completion of their basic recruit training.

Training and equipping the Iraqi Police Forces is essential for internal security as the US Combat Forces will be out of all cities, villages, and towns.

Sustaining the Line



Brig. Gen. William T. Wolf, director of Army Safety and commanding general of the US Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center visits the 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) headquarters for a briefing with Brig. Gen. Michael J. Lally, 3rd ESC commanding general at Joint Base Balad, Iraq June 6.

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



Newly sergeants and inductees, Soldiers from the 398th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, listen to senior noncommissioned officers during an NCO induction ceremony at Camp Liberty, Iraq June 2.

U.S. Army courtesy photo



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

Soldiers get hydrated at a water point during the 3.2 mile Avon Walk for Breast Cancer hosted by the 2nd Battalion, 402nd Army Forward Support Brigade at Joint Base Balad, Iraq June 13.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Beau R. Stefka

Spc. Sandra Johnson, a native of Santa Maria, Calif., and a food service specialist with the 10th Sustainment Brigade Troops Battalion, 10th Sustainment Brigade at Camp Taji, Iraq, performs routine counts of rations to ensure proper quantities are in stock or on order at the Cantigny Dining Facility. Johnson said, "I love my job because there is always something new to learn."