

Engineers light the way

By Staff Sgt. April Mota
101st Eng. Bn., 16th Eng. Bde.

BAGHDAD – Over the past few weeks, Soldiers of the 101st Engineer Battalion have been working hard to install rows of lights to illuminate a convoy staging area, here, on Camp Liberty.

The project’s main goal is to increase safety of the Soldiers who prepare for night time convoys. A concern had been raised that the convoy staging area was unsafe during hours of low visibility, and with rough terrain including mud, rocks, and holes, Soldiers’ safety was at risk.

“Lt. Col. Charles Cody proposed the idea for the project,” said Maj. Jackson Macomber, of Stoughton, Mass. “He is one hundred percent for the safety of the Soldiers.”

Macomber explained how the row of lights would increase visibility on the staging line, allowing the Soldiers to see what they were doing during low visibility convoy operations.

Soldiers from the 1434th Engineer Company, 1192nd Engineer Company, Headquarters Support Company and 621st Engineer Survey



Photo by Staff Sgt. April Mota

Spc. Martin Derek (left), of Hillsdale, Mich., 1434th Engineer Company, 101st Engineer Battalion, prepares the light fixture for the base plate that Spc. Gerald Alexander, of Gladstone, Mich., 1434th Eng. Co., 101st Eng. Bn., has prepared for installation. Soldiers of the 101st Eng. Bn. have been working on setting up lights around the convoy staging area to create a safer work environment.

and Design Team worked collectively to make this project come together. The 621st Eng. Team designed the plans for the project, the 1192nd Eng. Co. prepared the area for the installation of the poles, and the 1434th Eng. Co. mounted the fixtures and wired the electrical components.

Sgt. Matthew Gately, of Wareham, Mass., routinely prepares in the staging area for night missions.

“The lights make things better for us; we are able to see the terrain which will help us load our vehicles,” said Gately, “Safety is always a plus”.

Gately explained how in the past, Soldiers have rolled their ankles on the rough terrain of the convoy staging lane due to poor visibility.

“We used to rely on the vehicles’ spot lights and brake lights. With these new lights, we will be safer,” said Gately.

The Soldiers of the 101st Eng. Bn. pulled together and worked as a team to complete this vital task essential to Soldier safety. The mission to illuminate the convoy staging area will make for safer working conditions for all Soldiers preparing for their missions.



Photo by Staff Sgt. April Mota

Installing a light bulb into the newly mounted light fixture, Spc. Gerald Alexander, of Gladstone, Mich., 1434th Engineer Company, 101st Engineer Battalion, completes another fixture on the convoy staging area, Dec. 2. The lights are intended to increase visibility for the Soldiers who prepare for their missions at night.

Air Cav departs for al-Asad



Photo by Sgt. Travis Zielinski, 1st ACB, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

Six UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters from 3rd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, depart the flightline, here, Dec. 3, on their way to al-Asad, where 3-227th will become a detachment conducting aviation operations.



Photo by Sgt. Alun Thomas, 1st ACB, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

Six UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters from 3rd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, depart the flightline, here, Dec. 3, on their way to al-Asad, where 3-227th will become a detachment conducting aviation operations.



Photo by Sgt. Travis Zielinski, 1st ACB, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

AH-64D Apache attack helicopters from Company C, 4th Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, depart from the flightline, here, Dec. 3, on their way to al-Asad, where Co. C will become a detachment conducting aviation operations.

Making better spouses in combat

By Spc. Luisito Brooks
4th SBCT PAO, 2nd Inf. Div.

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Soldiers from the 4th Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division are doing everything they can to become better spouses and combat the high divorce rate among service members.

Each month at the Engineer Chapel the unit conducts a four week class on “The Five Love Languages”, using short videos, literature and experienced advice from marriage counselors on how Soldiers can become better partners to their spouses back home.

“Our mission is to build strong and ready Soldiers and families, better prepared to meet the mental, emotional and spiritual challenges

of deployment and military life,” said Chaplain (Capt.) Chester Olson, one of the program leaders. “Soldiers redeploy as better men, better husbands and better fathers.”

The focal point in this class is how a person can learn their spouse’s love language, and by focusing in on that language, how it can improve communication in their relationship.

“I just celebrated my one year anniversary last month, said Pfc. Sean Tika, a Queens, N.Y. native. “My wife and I have taken this class before and when we applied the lessons on how to speak to each other’s love language it has really made a huge difference in our marriage.”

The class, which meets

once a week for four weeks, explores each of the five love language that a person responds to in a relationship: words of affirmation, physical touch, quality time, receiving gifts and acts of service.

The class also requires the Soldiers to do a little research to figure out which one their spouse uses.

“Our homework was to find out our spouse’s love language,” said Sgt. Anthony Robles, who has been married five years and a father of two children from Worcester, Mass. “When we did find out, we had to learn what their language meant.”

The class was not only for newlyweds, but for Soldiers with a few more years of marriage under their belts, as

well as single Soldiers.

“I have been married for six years now, said Sgt. Justin Cumming, a father of a two-year-old daughter from Richland, Wash. “My wife and I have a great relationship, but I am taking this class because I always want to improve on being a better husband in my marriage.”

In addition to forging better relationships, the class also helps with a Soldier’s readiness.

“Our unit cannot accomplish its mission without the fundamental support of families,” said Olsen. “A strong and ready family enhances the soldier’s ability to perform his duties, while maintaining positive and irreversible momentum throughout the deployment.”

Alleged Fort Hood shooter faces new charges

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2, 2009 - Thirty-two specifications of attempted premeditated murder were preferred today against alleged Fort Hood, Texas, shooter Army Maj. Nidal M. Hasan under Article 80 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice for the shooting of 30 military personnel and two civilians.

The UCMJ is the U.S. military’s judicial system for servicemembers.

Those charges are in addition to the 13 counts of murder he already faces, but they do not include charges that could be brought under the national Unborn Victims of Violence Act, signed into law by President George W. Bush.

That law provides added

justice for pregnant women and their unborn children by allowing prosecutors to charge attackers for the killing of or injury to an unborn child in the commission of a crime against her mother.

Hasan allegedly killed 13 people - 12 soldiers and one civilian employee - and wounded 30 others at Fort Hood during a Nov. 5 shooting spree. He now is confined in a medical facility.

The alleged shooter was confronted and wounded by two civilian police officers posted on the base. One of the officers, Sgt. Kimberly Munley, was wounded during an exchange of shots with the suspected gunman.

Hasan initially was charged with 13 counts of premeditated murder under Article 118 of the

UCMJ. He has hired a lawyer.

As with the initial charges, the new charges are allegations only, and the accused is presumed innocent until proven otherwise, officials emphasized, noting that the investigation continues and additional charges remain a possibility.

Under Article 118, the minimum sentence if he’s convicted is life with the possibility of parole. The maximum sentence is death.

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates appointed former Veterans Affairs Secretary Togo West and retired Navy Adm. Vernon Clark to lead an independent review panel that will examine the circumstances surrounding the Fort Hood shootings to see how potential future incidents could be avoided.



Courtesy Photo

Alleged Fort Hood, Texas, shooter Army Maj. Nidal M. Hasan.

“We will look at policies and procedures that look at how we deal with servicemembers who may cause trouble or harm to their fellows,” West said at a Nov. 24 news conference at Fort Hood.

The panel is to report its findings to Gates by Jan. 15.

On This Day In History

December 5, 1933

Prohibition ends

The 21st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is ratified, repealing the 18th Amendment and bringing an end to national prohibition of alcohol in America. The movement for the prohibition of alcohol began in the early 19th century, when Americans concerned about the adverse effects of drinking began forming temperance societies. By the late 19th century, these groups had become a powerful political force, campaigning on the state level and calling for national liquor abstinence. Several states outlawed the manufacture or sale of alcohol within their own borders. In December 1917, the 18th Amendment, prohibiting the “manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes,” was passed by Congress and sent to the states for ratification. On January 29, 1919, the 18th Amendment achieved the necessary three-fourths majority of state ratification. Prohibition essentially began in June of that year, but the amendment did not officially take effect until January 29, 1920.

Prohibition, failing fully to enforce sobriety and costing billions, rapidly lost popular support in the early 1930s. In 1933, the 21st Amendment to the Constitution was passed and ratified, ending national Prohibition. After the repeal of the 18th Amendment, some states continued Prohibition by maintaining state-wide temperance laws. Mississippi, the last dry state in the Union, ended Prohibition in 1966.

MND-B Pic of the day!



Photo by Sgt. Travis Zielinski, 1st ACB, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

TAJI, Iraq – Under the cover of night, an AH-64D Apache attack helicopter from the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, departs the flight line to conduct operations in support Operation Iraqi Freedom, here, Dec. 2.

FAMOUS FEATS OF CHUCK NORRIS



DID YOU KNOW?

There is no theory of evolution. Just a list of animals Chuck Norris allows to live.

Quote For Today

“Patience and perseverance have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish.”

— John Quincy Adams —

Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



Today
62° F | 51° F



Tomorrow
66° F | 48° F



Monday
68° F | 46° F

TRIVIA TIME!!

What song was the Navy band playing at Pearl Harbor when the Japanese attacked?

Last Issue's Answer: THE TANK

Cav Round-Up radio newscast available

MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — The Cav Round-Up is a three-minute radio newscast from Baghdad covering military units and events across Multi-National Division — Baghdad.

Today's Cav Round-Up # 212 was produced by SFC Brian Scott, MND-B Public Affairs Office.

This newscast includes the following stories:

1. Soldiers from the 4th Stryker Brigade were happy to discover and clear a weapons cache in western Baghdad. The Soldiers conducted a squadron sized search for weapons and caches prior to finding it. Interview with Sgt. Joshua Rogers 4th Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division.

2. 150th Armored Reconnaissance Squadron Soldiers deliver 23

off-road style wheel chairs to the local population in need of them, some have been affected by birth defects and others were battle related injuries. Interview with Capt. Thomas Mills, 150th ARS.

NIPR LINK: Cav Round-Up

SIPR LINK: Cav Round-Up

Check out more news at the 1st Cavalry Division's homepage:

www.hood.army.mil/1stcavdiv/

Trigger's Teasers

The objective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers. There are three very simple constraints to follow: **Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order. Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order. Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.**

Every Sudoku game begins with a number of squares already filled in, and the difficulty of each game is largely a function of how many squares are filled in. The more squares that are known, the easier it is to figure out which numbers go in the open squares. As you fill in squares correctly, options for the remaining squares are narrowed and it becomes easier to fill them in.

Yesterday's Answers

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

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



Multi-National Division - Baghdad

Public Affairs Office

Commanding General:

Maj. Gen. Daniel Bolger

Public Affairs Officer:

Lt. Col. Philip Smith

Public Affairs Chief:

Master Sgt. Nicholas Conner

Editor:

Sgt. Teri Hansen

Staff Writers:

Staff Sgt. Mark Burrell
Staff Sgt. Robert Jordan
Staff Sgt. April Mota
Sgt. Tracy Knowles
Sgt. Jon Soles
Sgt. Alun Thomas
Sgt. Travis Zielinski
Spc. Luisto Brooks
Pfc. Adam Halleck

The **Daily Charge** is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of The **Daily Charge** are not official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of the Army, or the 1st Cavalry Division. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army, the 1st Cavalry, or The **Daily Charge** of the products and services advertised.

All editorial content of The **Daily Charge** is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs Office.

Do you have a story to share?

The **Daily Charge** welcomes columns, commentaries, articles, letters and photos from readers. Submissions should be sent to the Public Affairs NCOIC nicholas.conner@mnd-b.army.mil and include author's name, rank, unit and contact information. The **Daily Charge** reserves the right to edit submissions selected for the paper.

For further information on deadlines, questions, comments or a request to be on our distribution list, email the Editor at grace.johnson3@mnd-b.army.mil