



DANGER FORWARD



June 21, 2010 | Issue 21

Big Red One warrior returns to Iraq

By Sgt. Cody Harding
1st Inf. Div., USD-S PAO

COB BASRA – In September 2007, Cpl. Joseph Mixson of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat team, 1st Infantry Division, was on patrol in Baghdad.

Lt. Col. Ralph Kauzlarich, the battalion commander for the 2nd Bn., 16th Inf. Regt. at the time, was on patrol behind Mixson's unit moving along the same route.

"I heard the explosion. I saw black smoke rising as the vehicle immediately started on fire," said Kauzlarich, a Libby, Mont. native. "First, I knew something bad happened, but I had no idea that it was one of my platoons that was hit."

Mixson's vehicle was hit by an explosively formed penetrator. Three Soldiers were killed, and two, including Mixson, were severely injured. Kauzlarich's personal security detachment rushed to the scene, where they found Mixson on the road. The attack wounded Mixson to the point that both his legs required amputation above the knee.

Now three years after the attack, Mixson, a resident of Williston, Fla., returned to Iraq through the help of Operation Proper Exit, a therapeutic program that brings injured Soldiers seeking a sense of closure, back to the place in Iraq they



Photo by Sgt. Cody Harding
Lt. Col. Ralph Kauzlarich, the deputy chief of staff for effects, 1st Infantry Division greets Joseph Mixson, a Soldier who served under him in the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment in 2007 at the Flight Line on COB Basra June 15. Mixson's returned to Iraq via Operation Proper Exit, an initiative to help Soldiers find closure after being injured in combat.

were injured. The program is sponsored by Troops First Foundation and the USO.

Kauzlarich, now the deputy chief of staff for effects in the 1st Inf. Div. was at the flight line to greet Mixson as he arrived at COB Basra June 15.

Kauzlarich and Mixson had met after the incident at Brooke Army Medical Center in Fort Sam Houston, Texas. The two kept in contact via e-mail ever since.

"When you meet him, he's just a huge personality," Kauzlarich said. "There's nothing not to love about the guy. He's incredible, a natural leader. He would have

went far in our Army if he so chose."

Now 23-years-old, when his trip to Iraq is complete, he plans to take over his father's cattle business in Florida.

During his visit, Mixson also met with Spc. Arnulfo Navarro, who he served with in 2007. Mixson said that seeing fellow 'Rangers' provided a sense of closure.

"It's always good to see someone you served with," Mixson said.

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Danger Six sends

Feeling the heat recently? Well, since summer starts today you should view the heat of the last several weeks as a true warmup! Listen folks . . . Southern Iraq is a very hot place and even if you have served in Iraq through a summer season before, unless it was in the south, you may underestimate just how hot it gets. So this column is about ensuring you are doing the right things to operate in this heat because we will be counting on you to drive on with the mission no matter how difficult.

Self discipline is, above all things, the best force protection we have. The decisions you make, like deciding to drink plenty of fluids while you're working in temperatures above 120 degrees or deciding what time of day you will conduct strenuous physical training, especially outdoors, or trying to burn off calories by using supplements that crank up your metabolism even when you are at rest – all of these decisions will determine whether you are at excessive risk or whether you are at low risk of being a casualty. Let's be clear, if we lose you to a heat injury it is just as much a loss to the team as losing you to an IED strike or a rocket attack. Only, in this case, you have more control than in the others. Make the right choices and respect the severe heat to prevent becoming a casualty.

Lower the risk of heat illness by observing a few simple pointers. Drink plenty of water, take frequent breaks, and stay in tune with what your body is telling you. Ignoring warning signs like dizziness or lack of energy can result in serious consequences. Since 2003 and the beginning of the war, seven Soldiers have died from heat related injuries in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Take another look at the story written by Specialist Samantha Johnson of the 367th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment and published in last week's "Danger Forward" newsletter that explained ways for Soldiers to prevent heat injuries. In summary, her article advised to not wait until you feel thirsty before hydrating; to check the color of your urine (too dark means you might be already dehydrated); and to wear sunscreen on exposed skin to avoid sunburn which dehydrates the body. If you start to feel signs of dehydration or heat illness, take immediate steps to get into a shaded area and drink fluids. Leaders need to check, not ask, to ensure those under their leadership are doing the right things to protect them from the heat.

Southern Iraq, and particularly the Basra area, is a double threat because the environment is not only hot but also humid. Humidity reduces the degree to which your body can lose heat by evaporation. So in this environment you need to wear your uniform loose and allow sweat to evaporate.

July and August are ahead of us and are considered the hottest months of the year. Use your best defenses against heat injury: common sense and self discipline. Do what's right and take care of not only yourself, but also your battle buddies. Don't make yourself a heat casualty by neglecting to take care of yourself. Pay attention to the operational risks associated with high summer temperatures. We're counting on everyone to complete the mission. No mission too difficult. No sacrifice too great.



DUTY FIRST!



Vincent K. Brooks
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding



Commanding General



Major General
Vincent K. Brooks



Command Sergeant Major

Command Sergeant Major
Jim Champagne

DANGER FORWARD

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- 3rd BCT, 4th Inf. Div.
- 12th CAB
- 3rd HBCT, 3rd Inf. Div.
- 367th MPAD



Ground guide procedures more than just a wave

By Gus Walker

USD-S Safety and Occupational Health Manager



As U.S. forces drawdown in Iraq, vehicle operations are more and more critical to mission success. As Soldiers move multi-ton vehicles, loaded with tons of equipment, there are some guidelines they should keep in mind to ensure they and their fellow Soldiers get home alive in one piece.

Standards for ground guides can be found in Army Regulation 385-10, Field Manual 21-60/305, and Training Circular 21-306. Assistant drivers will, at a minimum, be familiar with the vehicle operations and trained for ground guide duties.

- Only one ground guide gives signals to the driver.
- Be sure that everyone involved (the driver and the ground guide) understands who will give the signal and who will receive it before any movement is done.
- If sight between the driver and the ground guide is lost, the driver must stop until the visual signal is regained.
- The number of ground guides used is determined by visibility restrictions (cargo, darkness, and so forth). The horn will be sounded before backing. When backing at night, use flashlight procedures.
- Operators will only move vehicles in motor pools, parking areas, cantonments, assembly and sleeping areas with a dismounted ground guide's assistance.
- During low visibility, flash lights will be used to direct vehicles.
- Visual contact between the ground guide and operator shall always be maintained.
- Ground guides must be trained in hand, arm and flashlight signals, and these signals should be coordinated before moving.
- Voice signals should only be used in emergencies as they can be misunderstood.
- Ground guides must keep thirty feet between themselves and the vehicle in all directions. They will never be directly behind the vehicle or between the vehicle and another object; an inadvertent engine surge or momentary loss of control could cause injury. If the ground guide is dangerously positioned between the vehicle and another object, drivers must immediately stop the vehicle, dismount and make an on-the-spot correction before continuing.

The topic of vehicular safety and proper ground guide procedures is a subject that has caught the eye of the highest levels of United States Division-South's leadership and rightly so.

The troops of USD-S have worked too long, too hard, and overcome too many challenges to be getting injured in avoidable accidents. As you are moving equipment, take your time, maintain your focus, and get back to your Families.

Duty First – Safety Always

This week in Army history

This week in Big Red One history

June 23, 1965 – The 1st Infantry Division advance party, 2nd Brigade, lands at Qui Nhon, a coastal city in Binh Định Province in central Vietnam.

This week in OIF history

June 22, 2009 – Sherif Kamal Shahine is appointed Egypt's ambassador to Iraq, replacing Ihab al-Sharif, who was killed in July 2005 by Al Qaeda in Iraq. He was the second Egyptian ambassador to Iraq since the Fall of Saddam Hussein's regime in April 2003.

This week in 12th 4th Infantry Division history

June 25, 1944 – The Fourth Division arrived in the UK in early 1944. It took part in the Normandy Invasion landings at Utah Beach, with the 8th Infantry Regiment of the 4th Division being the first surface-borne Allied unit to hit the beaches at Normandy on D-day, 6 June 1944. Relieving the isolated 82d Airborne Division at Sainte-Mère-Église, the 4th cleared the Cotentin peninsula and took part in the capture of Cherbourg on 25 June. American troops isolated and then captured the fortified port, considered vital to the campaign in Western Europe, in a hard-fought campaign of three weeks.

ADVISE & ASSIST

Danger Forward

June 21, Issue 21

EOD training ends with explosive results

By Spc. Maurice Galloway
17th FiB PAO

COB BASRA – Soldiers from the 663rd Ordnance Company (EOD) recently conducted training and a joint demolition operation with the 1st Bomb Disposal Company, 14th Iraqi Army Division at the Shaiba Training Center in Basra, Iraq. First Lt. James Hawthorne, a platoon leader with 663rd Ordnance, based at Fort Carson, Colo., and native of Mars, Pa., and Lt. Col. Abdul Adeem, 1st BDC, 14th IA Div. company commander, met to discuss the training schedule and conduct a joint demolition operation, disposing of one thousand pounds of ordnance.

“The Iraqi bomb disposal companies play a vital role in the final disposition of ordnance recovered from the 14th Iraqi Army Division,” Hawthorne said.

Abdul Adeem said he has executed multiple area clearance operations along the Shalamche port of entry, which separates Iran and Iraq. Years of war between the two countries have left stretches of desert littered with unexploded ordnance.



Photo by Spc. Maurice Galloway
First Lt. James Hawthorne, a platoon leader with the 663rd EOD Co. and native of Mars, Pa., evaluates Iraqi Army procedures during their preparation for a controlled detonation at Normandy Range in Basra, Iraq.

“Our soldiers have been trained to properly disarm and dispose of live explosives,” said Abdul Adeem. “We have several area clearance missions ongoing near

the Shalamche border and Al Faw areas.”

Staff Sgt. Stephen Durling, a team leader with 663rd Ordnance and native of Virginia Beach, Va., instructed members of the Iraqi BDC on ordnance classification and identification, at the request of Adeem.

Once the classroom portion was completed, Iraqi BDC Soldiers began loading the munitions on the truck to take to the designated disposal range.

U.S. EOD personnel at the site said that the Iraqi BDC Soldiers are technically proficient at demolition operations.

“These Iraqi bomb disposal companies are contributing to the overall mitigation of explosive hazards in Basra Province, which consequently is paving the way for a safer Iraq,” said Hawthorne.

Photo by Spc. Maurice Galloway
Explosive ordnance training ends with explosive results as 1st Bomb Disposal Company, 14th Iraqi Army Division at the Normandy Range located in Basra, Iraq, detonated one thousand pounds of explosives.



For more from 17th FiB, visit
<http://www.17thFiresBrigade.org>

U.S. and Iraqi Soldiers target weapon proficiency

By Spc. Samuel Soza
367th MPAD, USD-S PAO

JSS SA'AD – Soldiers with Military Transition Team 5214 taught Iraqi soldiers from the 14th Iraqi Army's 52nd Brigade, 14th Division, basic range operations and assisted in making adjustments to the Iraqi soldiers' M-16 and M-4 rifles at a range here June 5

"14th Division [Stabilizing Transition Team] tasked all the brigade MiTTs in the 14th Division IA to do a train-the-trainer concept with the M-16s," said Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Callahan. "Roughly, 6,000 [weapons] were issued to the 14th Division IA. The rest of the brigades have completed their train-the-trainer, and we are the last ones to go through it."

The MiTT Soldiers ran the range according to U.S. Army procedures and coached the first of the firers on zeroing their weapons – a process that increases a firer's accuracy by making adjustments to each individual weapon.

Under the scorching sun, the U.S. safety personnel held up their white paddles, indicating "safe" to Capt. William Corbin, MiTT 5214 training advisor, who gave the order to fire to several of the Iraqi leaders who comprised the first firing order.

"What we have out here is at least one [noncommissioned officer] from each platoon from the 52nd Brigade and several officers from each battalion," said Corbin, native of Augusta, Ga. "We are trying to train their senior leaders on how to safely run a range and how to zero and fire the



Photo by Spc. Samuel Soza
Lt. Qassm, an Iraqi officer with the 52nd Bde., 14th IA Div., coaches other 52nd Bde. soldiers as they fire at paper targets at a range near Joint Security Station Sa'ad June 5, 2010. The first firing order was comprised of 52nd Bde. officers who were coached by U.S. forces. The officers then coached the next firers.

M-16."

After obtaining a successful zero, the Iraqi leaders stayed on the firing line and coached successive firing orders. About 60 Iraqi soldiers went through the range and fired 3,000 rounds of ammunition provided by the MiTT.

"We're teaching them basic range safety – keep the weapon on safe, weapon up and down range, don't touch your weapon when someone else is downrange, just the basic things U.S. Soldiers learn in basic training," said Corbin, "We are trying to instill [these skills] in them to keep them safe out here and on missions."

The training day also allowed the Iraqi leaders to study the range operation from within, an important part of the train-the-trainer method.

"Train-the-trainer is how the U.S. Army works," said Callahan, a native of Wichita, Kan. "We always do train-the-trainer concept. As soon as one Soldier or officer or NCO is able to grasp a concept, we allow them to go ahead and train it."

The method aims to making training sustainable and is important to the way U.S. forces work with the Iraqi Security Forces; the approach has been used by the MiTT in the past.

"Sgt. 1st Class [Rich] Simmons, our medic, has done that with a [combat life saver] program out at Camp Sa'ad," said Callahan, "What we're doing out here is exactly the 'assisting' part of the advise-and-assist [mission] – we're assisting them to use the M-16s so they can turn around and use that with the rest of the brigades."

Callahan estimates about 80,000 rounds will be used when shooters from the rest of the 52nd Bde. zero and qualify in mid-June. The MiTT plans to be on-hand then and will continue to advise the Iraqi soldiers for a little longer.

"We are in the midst of going away," said Corbin, "We are one of the last MiTT classes in Iraq. The STTs [working in two-man teams] are taking over, and they just don't have the personnel to come out here and train the Iraqis themselves. We have to get them to a point where they can sustain themselves and train themselves."

Commitment to this mission drove the MiTT to continue despite an improvised explosive device attack the morning of the range and an approximate high of 118 degrees in the afternoon.

"We told the Iraqis we were going to be out here today," said Corbin. "We're not going to let that stop us from coming out and helping them, and they seemed grateful that we were still here."

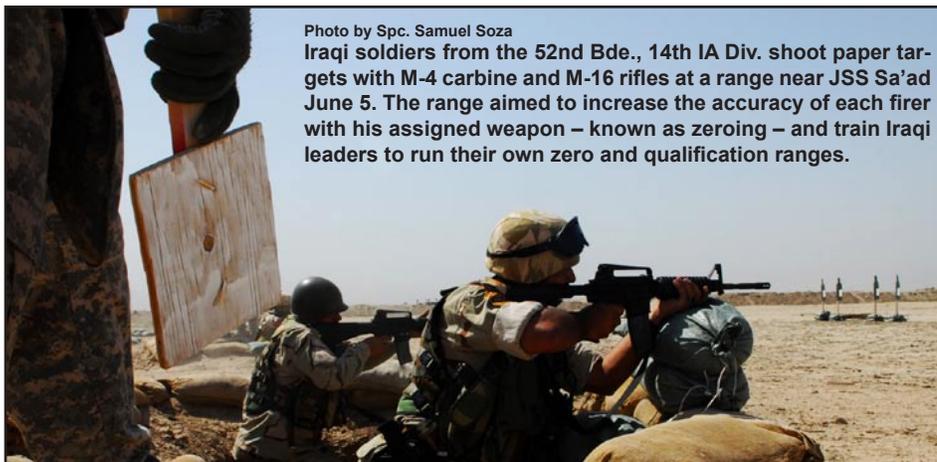


Photo by Spc. Samuel Soza
Iraqi soldiers from the 52nd Bde., 14th IA Div. shoot paper targets with M-4 carbine and M-16 rifles at a range near JSS Sa'ad June 5. The range aimed to increase the accuracy of each firer with his assigned weapon – known as zeroing – and train Iraqi leaders to run their own zero and qualification ranges.

For more from USD-S PAO, visit
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Iraqi Air Force, Iraqi Army form relationship

By Sgt. 1st Class Christopher DeHart
12th CAB, TF 12 PAO

COB Adder – While the concept of Iraqi partnership centers around the many projects, missions, and events involving U.S. forces and Iraqi Security Forces, there is another layer to developing relationships that is becoming stronger – the partnership between the various ISF elements themselves.

Compare this enterprise to building a new house. We are helping the Government of Iraq rebuild the “house” that is their country. Like all houses, the foundation is critical to the integrity of the house so it may remain intact and protect those who live inside. A house is intended to provide shelter, enable the nurturing of family, and offer security. That is similar to how we want the GoI to function when U.S. forces leave.

The joint training with the soldiers of the 10th Division Iraqi Army June 1-3 at Contingency Operating Station Garry-owen, Iraq, are just the beginning of establishing those very important foundations.

Soldiers with the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, Task Force 12 assisted with bringing ISF elements together. In doing so, the 10th IA realized the greater potential for mission success through future collaboration with the Iraqi Air Force under the Air-Ground Integration initiative.

AGI needs operations integrated so air and ground forces can work together on the battlefield to accomplish a common goal. AGI maximizes combat power through synergy of both forces, and therein lays its strength. The synchronization of aviation operations into the ground commander’s scheme of maneuver may also require integration of other services or coalition partners. It may also require attack reconnaissance, assault, and cargo helicopters.

AGI is intended to effectively integrate air and ground assets that are required to successfully conduct combined arms operations. Each element brings unique capabilities and limitations to the brigade commander. This integration starts at the home station with implementation of ef-



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Christopher DeHart
Col. Nazih al-Fahaed, commander of the 70th Sqdn. Iraqi Air Force, explains to soldiers with the 10th IA Div. how the ISF can benefit from a mutual relationship and cooperation in spirit of maintaining the security and protection of the Iraqi people at a June 3 meeting at COS Garryowen, Iraq.

fective operating procedures, relationships, and air-ground team training, such as that burgeoning between the IA and the Iraqi AF.

The Iraqi Aviation Operations Center personnel and the commander of the Iraqi 70th Squadron, Col. Nazih al-Fahaed, planted the seeds for future cooperation by giving capabilities briefings.

Nazih said he felt he got good feedback and interest from the young officers who were present for his part of the briefing about the Iraqi AF unit.

“I think it was good because I asked them about the cooperation between the Air Force and Army and the communication, and I asked them about the daily intelligence reports,” Nazih said. “They told me it was good also, and I am happy about how this has started.”

He said this is very important for them so they can have a good base for cooperation and spreading ideas for how to incorporate everything between the Army and the Air Force where they didn’t have anything before.

“About cooperation, they have good ideas, for the Army and the Air Force. I think this is best because it is easier for us for the future,” Nazih said. “I think we are planning to supplement them with cover from the air within their sector or for different cities; we have the capability to cover them in day or night.

“We had an officer here yesterday to show them some of our (reconnaissance assets) and what the goal is of using this equipment and they understand how important that is and how it will help them as well. For our future, our next step, I told them we will be available for them and will be ready to support them.”

With that, the first phase of the joint training was completed. The next phase of the partnership includes air assault training with commando companies.

For more from 12th CAB, visit
<http://www.12cab.army.mil>

Muthanna improves with projects

By Staff Sgt. Christopher Jelle
3rd BCT, 4th Inf Div PAO

MUTHANNA PROVINCE — Iraqi and U.S. Forces recently completed three construction projects in the Muthanna Province designed to improve everyday life for local residents.

The three projects included six new electrical power transformers, a pedestrian bridge, and a school with a fully-functional sanitation system.

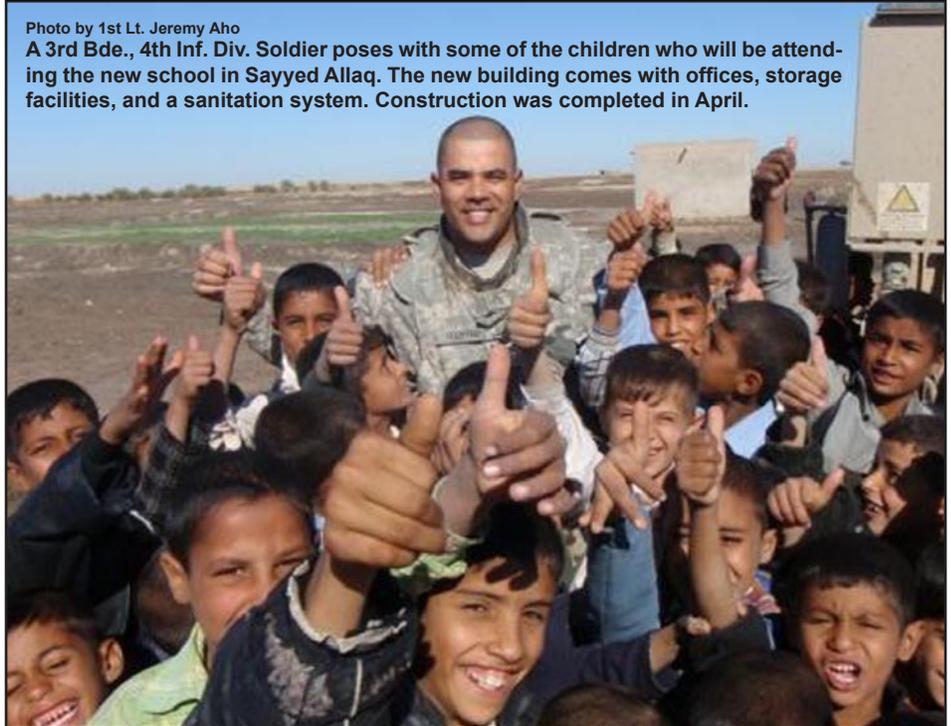
Rebuilding structures in communities that have been damaged by years of conflict is only a part of the picture. U.S. forces have worked with Provincial Reconstruction Teams to improve the stability of the provincial government by helping them address some glaring needs of their communities.

U.S. forces and the provincial governments have constantly been building new structures improving services that will bring a positive change to the people of Iraq, said Maj. Scott Vance, civil affairs officer for 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division.

The new transformers will extend electrical power to more than 100,000 people throughout the town of Rumaitha. The goal, Vance said, is that by providing regular electrical service to businesses and schools, it will enhance the standards of living and education.

Working with the Ministry of Transportation, U.S. forces and the Govern-

Photo by 1st Lt. Jeremy Aho
A 3rd Bde., 4th Inf. Div. Soldier poses with some of the children who will be attending the new school in Sayyed Allaq. The new building comes with offices, storage facilities, and a sanitation system. Construction was completed in April.



ment of Iraq constructed a new bridge for pedestrians in downtown Rumaitha. The new bridge runs alongside the main bridge that was used by both pedestrians and vehicles. The dimly lit bridge posed a hazard during busy traffic and at night. With the new foot bridge in place, people can safely cross the river.

Large communities aren't the only ones seeing help in the reconstruction effort. Smaller communities are seeing major improvements in their areas as well,

Vance said.

U.S. Forces helped in the construction of a new school for the small village of Sayyed Allaq, northwest of Rumaitha. According to local officials, there is approximately a 37 percent literacy rate in the village, and children below the age of eight weren't able to attend school due to the lack of adequate facilities. Children 9-years-old and older had to walk up to three miles to the nearest classroom before the completion of the new school last month, Vance said.

The revamped school includes administrative offices, storage facilities, and a sanitation system. The new facility offers the citizens of Sayyed Allaq more adequate resources to educate their children.

"The project has not only resolved these problems for the village of Al Sayyed, but it will also improve the literacy rate in the province and improve the overall economic growth of the area," he said.



Photo by 1st Lt. Jeremy Aho

A shot of the area in Rumaitha before the construction of the new pedestrian bridge and after the project's completion. The bridge will separate pedestrian and vehicle traffic to make a safer path across the river.

For more from 3rd BCT, visit
<http://www.facebook.com/3bct4id>

TROOPS IN FOCUS

Danger Forward

June 21, Issue 21

A big month for the 'Big Red One'

By 1st Infantry Division Public Affairs

The senior division in the senior service celebrated three major anniversaries this month, culminating with the Army birthday on June 14.

The 1st Infantry Division, the U.S. Army's oldest and longest consecutively serving division, marked the 66th Anniversary of D-Day, the division's 93rd birthday, and the Army's 235th birthday, all during a nine-day span.

This year's celebrations, held across the globe, show how much the division, and the Army, have changed over the decades. In previous conflicts, the division headquarters and its subordinate brigades would be in the same general area, holding one mass celebration. With the Army's new modular, brigade-centric structure, 'Big Red One' Soldiers spent the Army birthday spread across seven regions in three countries.

Sgt. Maj. J.B. Thomas, the 1st Inf. Div. communications sergeant major and native of Miami, participated in the Army Birthday 12K Run at Contingency Operating Base Basra in southern Iraq. Thomas, who is celebrating his 25th Army Birthday, said the run held special meaning, aside from being the longest he's ever run in an organized event.

"It's a way of waking up and enjoying another day in the Army," he said. "It's another birthday for the Army, and I'm proud to serve."

The Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., held a mass re-enlistment of 111 Soldiers on June 6 at Camp Taji in central Iraq. June 6 marked the anniversary of the division's amphibious landing at Omaha Beach on D-Day. The CAB also held a 5K race and volleyball tournament.

In the midst of the celebrations, the explosion of a nearby improvised explosive device echoed across Taji.

"In everything we did today we took a moment to remember the division's history – and sure enough, we're still in a danger-



Photo by Staff Sgt. Nathaniel Smith

Maj. Gen. Vincent Brooks and Command Sgt. Maj. Jim Champagne, the commanding general and senior noncommissioned officer of the 1st Inf. Div., cut the Army Birthday cake at COB Basra's Fighting First Dining Facility June 14.

ous place," said Command Sgt. Maj. Jim Thomson, speaking about the explosion. "Iraq has come a long way and it's entering a new phase of the operation, but it was a reminder that there are still dangers out here, and we're still warriors."

In northern Iraq, the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div. celebrated the 'Big Red One' and Army birthdays while preparing to redeploy from Tikrit.

"I couldn't be prouder to be in the military and fall in the footsteps of my forefathers that have fought for our freedoms," said Staff Sgt. Lyle Adkinson, a construction engineer with Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 4th Bde. "I just want to do my part to continue our tradition."

One of Adkinson's Soldiers, Pfc. Maxwell Thompson, echoed that sentiment. For Thompson, the connection to the Army and the 1st Inf. Div. legacy is personal: his grandfather fought in Vietnam in the same unit Thompson now serves in.

"The camaraderie and the Army is really not a job," Thompson said. "It's more of a lifestyle."

Back at Fort Riley, Kan., the rear division headquarters held a celebration

involving cake-cutting and Soldiers displaying uniforms from different periods throughout the Army and 'Big Red One' history.

Brig. Gen. David Petersen, the rear division commanding general, said the Army and 1st Inf. Div. histories are intertwined with that of the United States.

"The Army's story is America's story," Petersen said. "Every man and woman wearing a uniform today is pinning another chapter in that glorious history ... and now today that burden, that duty, indeed that privilege falls upon the Soldiers of today."

Contributions for this story made by Master Sgt. Matt Howard, Staff Sgt. Nathaniel Smith, Sgt. Shantelle Campbell, Spc. Roland Hale, and Jordan Chapman

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Brigade transfer of authority marks change

Spc. Maurice Galloway
17th FiB PAO

COB BASRA – A transfer of authority ceremony between the 17th Fires Brigade and 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division was held in the chapel on COB Basra June 17.

The ceremony marked a significant reduction of forces in Iraq as Col. Steven Bullimore, 17th FiB commander, relinquished control over operations in Basra Province to Col. James Rainey, 3rd Bde, 4th Inf. Div. commander, dropping U.S. brigades from three to two in United States Division –South.

Maj. Gen. Vincent Brooks, USD-S commander, served as the reviewing officer of the ceremony.

“This transition of authority represents an important milestone in the history of the 17th Fires Brigade and the U.S. Forces commitment to Basra,” Brooks said.

Brooks said the security and economic development of the province was largely due to the 17th FiB’s support and their commitment to working with the Provincial Reconstruction Team, provincial gov-



Photo by Spc. Maurice Galloway

Col. Steven Bullimore, 17th FiB commander and native of St. Joseph, Mo., and Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Santos, 17th FiB and native of Saipan, Guam, prepare the ‘Thunderbolt’ Brigade colors to be cased during a ceremony celebrating the transfer of authority to the 3rd Bde., 4th Inf. Div., held in the chapel on COB Basra June 17.



Photo by Spc. Maurice Galloway

Col. Steven Bullimore, commander of the 17th FiB and native of St. Joseph’s, Mo., addresses the audience during his unit’s transfer of authority ceremony at COB Basra June 17. The ‘Thunderbolt’ Brigade is returning to Joint Base Lewis-McChord after their 12-month deployment to southern Iraq.

ernment, and local businessmen.

Bullimore and his Soldiers arrived in Basra in July 2009, replacing a unit nearly twice its size, with a focus on partnering and conducting operations by, with and through Iraqi Security Forces.

“We are honored to have served with the extraordinary leaders here in Basra Province,” said Bullimore. “The senior leadership across the Iraqi Security Forces is remarkable and their patience, understanding and teamwork are refreshing.”

Over the course of the year, the 17th FiB managed over 100 projects, providing water, electricity, schools and trash receptacles throughout Basra Province valued at approximately \$100 million dollars, altering the lives of more than 2,000,000 Basrawis.

The ‘Thunderbolt’ Brigade played an integral role in March’s parliamentary elections by assisting the ISF with planning, rehearsals, and logistics, which aided international observation and election monitoring teams in judging a fair and free election in Basra Province.

“We will cherish the memories and the friendships which blossomed during our time in Iraq for the rest of our lives,” Bullimore said.

As the red and gold colors of the 17th FiB were cased, the clock stopped on the unit’s time in Iraq and started for Rainey and his troops.

“The Soldiers of the ‘Iron’ Brigade will continue to work hard on advising and assisting our great partners in the Iraqi Security Forces,” Rainey said.

Rainey said much work remains and they will continue efforts to meet the needs of the people by working with the Provincial Reconstruction Team, provincial leaders, and the Government of Iraq.

“We look to build on the success of the 17th FiB. With our partners we will work hard to develop a secure, stable, and sovereign Iraq,” Rainey said.

For more from 17th FiB, visit <http://www.17thFiresBrigade.org>

Radio-controlled enthusiasts motor along

By Sgt. Ben Hutto

3rd HBCT, 3rd Inf Div PAO

COS KALSU – The buzz of electric motors fills the air around the Contingency Operating Site Kalsu airfield in the late afternoons. As many of the base's residents are getting off work or heading to the dining facility, a small group of race fans enjoy competing against one another and quenching their need for speed.

Welcome to the Raptor Race Track, the home for radio-controlled wheeled racing at COS Kalsu.

The humble track was the brainchild of Warrant Officer Eric Barker and Staff Sgt. Raymond Lemelin, both who are assigned to the unmanned aerial vehicle section, Company A, Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division.

"A lot of people in our section were tinkering with radio-controlled helicopters, and cars and trucks were just a natural progression," said Barker, an unmanned aerial vehicle systems technician from Clarksville, Tenn. "It became a trend and, after a few more guys got interested, we figured out that we needed a place to race."



Photo by Sgt. Ben Hutto

Warrant Officer Eric Barker, an unmanned aerial vehicle systems technician assigned to Co. A, BSTB, 3rd Bde., 3rd Inf. Div., works on his radio-controlled truck at COS Kalsu June 6. Barker is one of the RC hobbyists that race weekly at COS Kalsu.

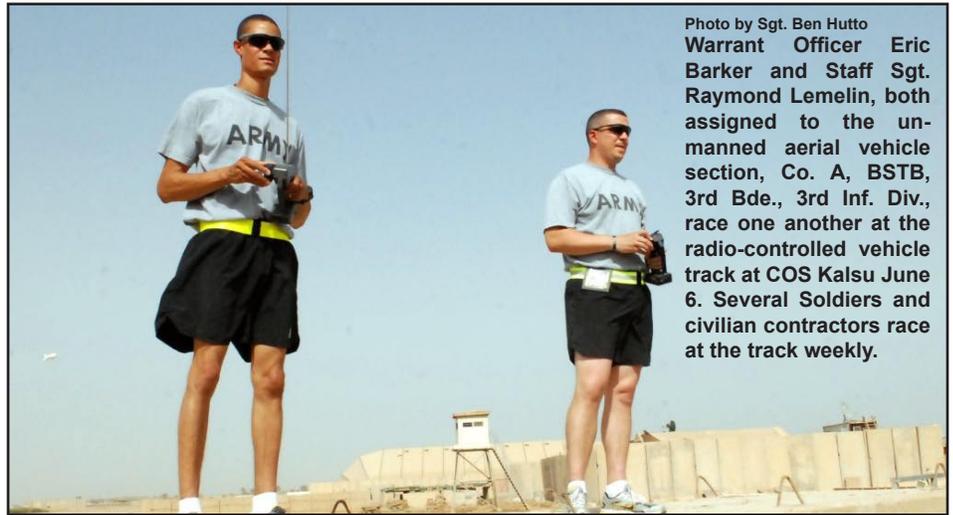


Photo by Sgt. Ben Hutto
Warrant Officer Eric Barker and **Staff Sgt. Raymond Lemelin**, both assigned to the unmanned aerial vehicle section, Co. A, BSTB, 3rd Bde., 3rd Inf. Div., race one another at the radio-controlled vehicle track at COS Kalsu June 6. Several Soldiers and civilian contractors race at the track weekly.

For a month and a half, Soldiers from the UAV section spent about an hour of their off-time each day preparing the 100-foot track.

"We laid out a track design, got a Bobcat and got to work," said Barker. "It was a lot of hard labor in the heat."

The heavy rains in April and May ruined much of their hard work early in the project, forcing the Soldiers to start completely over. By mid-May, the track was almost completed.

Lemelin, a Miami resident and the non-

commissioned officer of the UAV section, contacted several radio-control companies and received banners from them to decorate the track and give it a more authentic feel.

"So far, we have seven or eight people that are participating down here and we have a lot more that are getting vehicles," said Barker. "It's been fun getting other people to catch the bug."

Pfc. Nathan Mills, a UAV operator in Lemelin's section, is one of the people who recently purchased a truck and is excited about competing on the track.

"I'm excited about doing it," said Mills, a native of Little Elm, Texas. "It's a major stress reliever. It helps out because you find yourself thinking about your truck rather than worrying about home or stress at work."

Barker hopes that sentiment is shared by the other people racing trucks at the track.

"It's a hobby I like doing and it helps the time go by," he said. "I've always liked working on things and I think it helps me relax."

The track had its largest race on June 6, when six cars zipped around the track in an effort to see who was the fastest.

"It was great to have a lot of cars out here slamming into one another," said Barker. "The more people you have, the more fun it is."

For more from 3rd HBCT, visit <http://www.facebook.com/3hbct3id>



Photo by Sgt. Ben Hutto

Radio-controlled trucks race one another at COS Kalsu June 6. Soldiers from the unmanned aerial vehicle section, Co. A, BSTB, 3rd Bde., 3rd Inf. Div. constructed the RC track in their spare time to have a place to race.

Going above and beyond the call: Specialist exemplifies vast past

By Staff Sgt. Melissa Applebee
United States Division-South

COB BASRA – A large part of the stability operations in Iraq focuses on economic development. All over Iraq, teams of Soldiers, and U.S. and Coalition partners are helping citizens establish schools, access clean drinking water and cultivate crops.

Provincial Reconstruction Teams were established to promote such development projects. Composed of civilian and military personnel, careful consideration is given to the selection of team members.

When Capt. James Bertolino of the 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment sought out a project manager for the Wasit PRT, he knew he had to be selective.

The individual would need to sign for projects, a responsibility typically reserved for a staff sergeant. The position was previously held by a civilian State Department Principal. As Bertolino underwent the process of selecting just the right individual, an unusual recommendation came his way – Spc. Ruben Chavez-Vega.

“I had known of Spc. Chavez and knew that he would be a decent candidate, other than the fact that he was a specialist,” Bertolino said. “I decided to interview [him] before committing to taking him on. I could tell from the interview he would be the man for the job.”

As project manager, 37-year-old Chavez, an Eagle Pass, Texas native, who enlisted in the Army as a cannon crew member, oversees every project from conception to completion, tracks all Commanders’ Emergency Response Program funds used for PRT projects relating to agriculture, law enforcement, health, reconstruction, education, and any other projects.

Chavez is the project manager for more than 31 projects, which includes justifying



Courtesy Photo

Spc. Ruben Chavez-Vega, project manager for the Wasit Provincial Reconstruction Team from Eagle Pass, Texas, teaches Iraqi schoolchildren the proper application of sunscreen. Chavez also serves as the education principal for the Wasit PRT.

construction, researching technology benefits, and drafting statements of work for all his projects.

Matt Weiller, the PRT team leader, said Chavez has performed his tasks beyond what was expected.

“Spc. Chavez is an absolute original and a great person; he is the very embodiment of the concept of service,” said Weiller.

Chavez was later selected by Weiller to function as the education principal, which involves providing advice on all educational matters and working with the Director General of Education in Wasit to discuss educational development.

“My main duty as an advisor is to join forces to tackle the obstacles that hinder the development of good education in Iraq,” Chavez said.

Chavez has visited schools to evaluate their current situation. Among his current projects, he is managing the refurbishment of four schools, one orphanage, 37 information technology centers, and will soon be implementing workshops for teachers in classroom management, lesson planning, modern methods, techniques, and other skills.

The selection of Chavez as an education principal is not surprising. Before joining the Army he taught history, English and music in the United States, Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, and several other

countries. Prior to teaching, Chavez did missionary work all over the world as an educator in underprivileged communities.

“While studying I was assigned to work with the homeless kids in Mexico City. Living and working with them made me realize the importance of education in life.”

His commitment to education originated at home, and began long before his own personal pledge to teach.

This background gave Chavez a unique point of view on the world that has served him well, before and during his service.

“Growing up in a border town and attending school in two different countries at the same time made me realize that borders were only a state of mind, and that nothing could stop me from going from one place to another – of course, with the proper documentation,” Chavez said.

Chavez encourages Soldiers to take advantage of the educational opportunities offered by the Army and has mentored and tutored a dozen or more members of his unit to further their education. In addition, he plans to apply for officer candidate school and continuing his career in the military.

“Education is the key to success and the gateway to a better world,” Chavez said.

For more from USD-S PAO, visit
www.facebook.com/1stInfantryDivision

1-377 welcomes junior leaders

By Spc. Samuel Soza
367th MPAD, USD-S PAO

COB BASRA – Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 377th Field Artillery Regiment, 17th Fires Brigade who had recently been promoted to the rank of sergeant, commemorated the rite of passage in an NCO Induction ceremony at the Contingency Operating Base chapel May 31.

Sgt. Carlos Macias-Ramirez of Las Cruces, N.M., a team leader with Battery A, 1st Bn., 377th FA Regt., said although the ceremony came late after his promotion, it is still early in his career as an NCO and was invaluable to upcoming leaders.

“It’s very important – I’ve been an NCO for over a year,” he said, “Attending these inductions as a young Soldier was important to learning what it is to become an NCO. It’s something to pass on tradition.”

The ceremony began with the singing of the national anthem and moved into a brief history of the NCO Corps. Command Sgt. Maj. Jim Champagne, United States Division — South command sergeant major, attended as the guest speaker

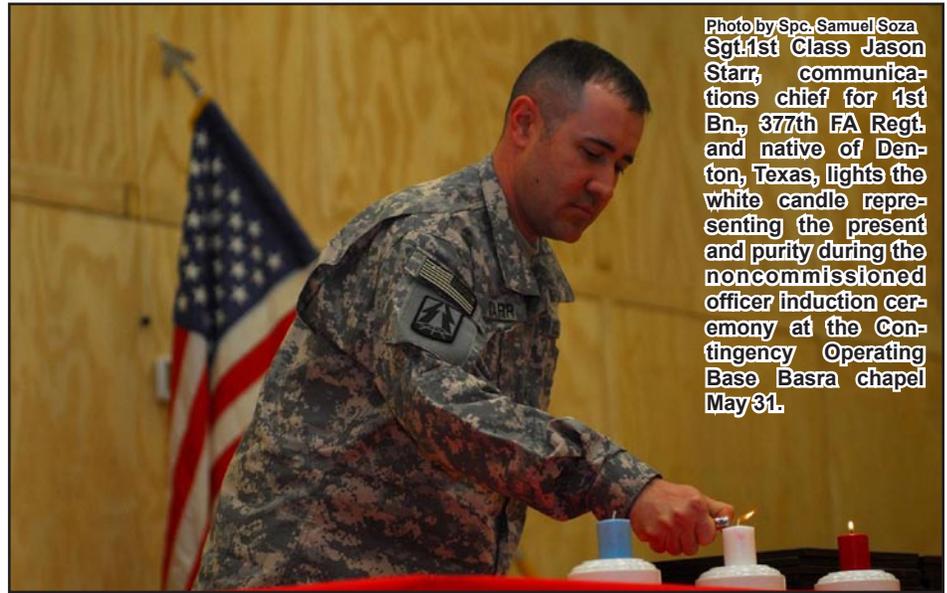


Photo by Spc. Samuel Soza
Sgt. 1st Class Jason Starr, communications chief for 1st Bn., 377th FA Regt. and native of Denton, Texas, lights the white candle representing the present and purity during the noncommissioned officer induction ceremony at the Contingency Operating Base Basra chapel May 31.

to the event.

“I applaud each of you for demonstrating the leadership, resolve, and technical expertise it takes to join the ranks of the Noncommissioned Officer Corps,” he said. “The way ahead is not easy. In the past, when you needed someone to turn to, you had your sergeant. Starting today, you

are that sergeant.”

Macias-Ramirez said he is ready for the challenge.

“It’s a very successful event in my military career. It’s exciting to taking a new role and I’m ready to take the new responsibilities.”

Also during the ceremony, three candles were lit. The red stood for the past and bloodshed in the service to country, white stood for the present and for purity within the NCO Corps, and blue stood for the future and loyalty to country.

The inductees also recited the Charge of the NCO, where they swore to uphold and perform their duties. They also received a framed copy of the NCO Creed.

The ceremony concluded with the singing of the Army Song.

Macias-Ramirez said he is ready to accept his new role and was well-prepared by his own sergeants.

“For my time as an NCO, my leadership has trained me,” he said, “Taking care of Soldiers – it’s the most important thing. Making sure they are combat-ready and know all their battle tasks and drills.”



Photo by Spc. Samuel Soza
Sgt. Carlos Macias-Ramirez takes the Charge of the Noncommissioned Officer alongside fellow inductees during the noncommissioned officer induction ceremony at the COB Basra chapel May 31. The ceremony commemorates the rite of passage of recently promoted Soldiers and honors the memory of prior noncommissioned officers.

For more from USD-S PAO, visit
www.facebook.com/1stInfantryDivision

Soldiers train for suicide prevention

By Spc. Maurice Galloway
17th Fires Brigade

COB BASRA – Soldiers with the 17th Fires Brigade, deployed to Basra, Iraq, and 21 others from various units throughout Iraq and Afghanistan met for a week-long Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training course at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

“Suicide doesn’t care what color you are, how much money you make, or even where you live,” said Devon Taylor, Course Instructor of LivingWorks Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training. “It’s everywhere, which is why we need ASIST trained caregivers throughout our communities.”

Four certified trainers administered the course. Besides, Taylor, David Pina, Joe Johnson, and Chris Piper of the LivingWorks A.S.I.S.T program, developed in Alberta, Canada.

The Army experienced its highest suicide rates in 2007 and 2008 according to the Army G1 Suicide Prevention Office. .

In January 2009, the Army reported more deaths due to suicide than from combat operations. These alarming numbers prompted a powerful statement, which flooded barracks halls on posters across the nation from Sergeant Major of the Army Kenneth Preston: “One suicide is too many!”

The Canadian firm LivingWorks Education Inc. was contracted in 2009 to assist the Army in training Soldiers to intervene, significantly reducing the chance of the person at risk completing the suicide.

“The ASIST program is similar to the Army’s ACE program. However, the ASIST program asks you to be more involved in the person at risk’s recovery process,” said Chaplain (Capt.) Mark Rendon, 1st Battalion, 377th Field Artillery Regiment, 17th FiB..

LivingWorks isn’t the only resource that leaders are looking at for support.

“I’m asking the ‘Backbone of our Army’, our NCO Corps, and other green-



Photo by Spc. Maurice Galloway

Devon Taylor (center), Course Instructor for an ASIST course held on Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, explains the importance of being suicide first aid caregivers to a group of Soldiers. The troops wore civilian attire to provide a more relaxed environment for open discussion.

tab leaders, to look each and every Soldier in the eye and convey the message that each one is valued by our Army, their families and friends, and our nation,” said Gen. Peter W. Chairelli, Army Vice Chief of Staff during a suicide prevention speech in January this year.

Also, the Army’s ACE program had Soldiers ask the person at risk if they had thoughts of suicide, care for them by removing any means that could be used for self-injury, and escort the person at risk to a chaplain.

Rendon, a Stockton, Calif., native, said the ASIST model provides Soldiers who are not in care giving related fields a systematic structure that’s proven to work and easy to learn.

During the first half of the course, each of the instructors helped the participants understand the concepts of ASIST by showing suicide intervention videos, using role-plays that allowed the participants to view the model at work, while fully engaging them in suicide intervention scenarios as caregivers.

“This course is more than just a ‘check the block’ program. Suicide is real and it’s happening in our Armed Forces and our families,” said Staff Sgt. Caroline Keller, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 17th Fires Bde., chaplain’s assistant and native of Salem, Ore. “With ASIST, my team and I are now prepared to carry the ASIST program into our community and empower those people with skills to prevent suicide. We will intervene and save lives from suicide.”

Now certified caregivers and training instructors, Keller and the other participants returned to their respective units, able to conduct classes for Soldiers and their families — thus creating more caregivers throughout their communities.

“We must remind Soldiers that the Army remains committed to help, support and assist them to meet hardships head-on, no matter the struggle, stressor, or challenge,” Chairelli said.

For more from 17th FiB, visit <http://www.17thFiresBrigade.org>

Weapons found at Fort Gordon suspect's home

By Stephanie Toone

Augusta Chronicle

AUGUSTA, Ga. – Investigators found a stolen silencer and rifle in the home of a Keysville, Ga., man accused of impersonating an Army soldier at Fort Gordon, according to documents filed Friday in federal court by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

According to the documents, investigators also say Anthony Saxon, 34, sent a warning text message to his wife shortly after being arrested by military police on post Tuesday. His wife told law enforcement that her husband's message advised her to remove firearms from their home.

ATF investigators revealed Saxon was convicted of grand theft in Seminole County, Fla., on May 9, 1996, in a case that involved the same weapon found in his bedroom, according to court documents.

He is accused of transporting the stolen rifle from Florida to Keysville, which is a federal offense, according to the documents.

A Grovetown business owner told investigators he believed Saxon stole the silencer from his store, Blakenship Custom Firearm, late last year. Paul Blakenship reported the silencer stolen Jan. 13. He said he recalls seeing Saxon inside his store in late 2009.

During the search of Saxon's home, investigators also uncovered a .12-gauge shotgun and .22-caliber pistol, along with 54 rounds of .22-caliber ammunition in the wooded area behind the home, agents said. Five training grenades also were found in the home, agents said.

Saxon was arrested Tuesday after military police found a bag in his vehicle containing stun grenades, a land mine and an infrared laser sight.

Authorities said a tipster recognized his vehicle from a theft of military equipment in April, which led to officers searching his car.

It is still unclear whether the former Army National Guardsman worked at the fort.

Federal agents transferred Saxon on Thursday from the Richmond County Jail to the Jefferson County Jail in Louisville, Ga.

Augusta, GA. is the hometown of Capt. William Corbin, featured on pg. 5

FWC holds workshop Thursday on exotic animals

By Lou Jones

Williston Pioneer

WILLISTON, Fla. – The state agency that regulates the licensing of exotic animals held in captivity will hold a public workshop tonight (Thursday) from 6 to 8 p.m. to hear public comment on proposed rule changes.

The proposal calls for applicants to comply with local regulations and ordinances on the location and building requirements of operations holding captive wildlife regulated by the state Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. The meeting will be held at the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Plant Industry building at 1911 S.W. 34th Street in Gainesville.

The issue is of interest in Levy County which has several Class I and Class II — animals that pose a risk to humans — operations, and which has drawn criticism for the state agency from the County Commission and residents for allowing some operations in residential areas.

County Commissioner Lilly Rooks and County Attorney Anne Bast Brown and the Florida Association of Counties have been working with the FWC staff to draft new regulations that require compliance with local regulations before a state permit is issued.

Three years ago county officials wrestled with the state's permit system that allowed a captive wild animal operation to locate near homes in the Otter Creek area. County officials were perplexed that the state would issue the permit close to residences, but the FWC asserted its authority as a constitutional agency to do so without interference from county officials.

At that time the Levy commissioners approved a new zoning ordinance requiring owners of captive wild life operations to meet new requirements for location and enclosures for the animals.

In 2009, residents of the Small Farms area in Murrinston complained to county officials that Class I animals — a lion, a tiger, a bear and several chimpanzees — were located in their housing development on three-acre plots.

One resident said she could see the lion, which has since died, padding in his cage next door while she had her morning coffee. Another resident, the mother of a toddler, said she was fearful of allowing her child to play in the back yard as the lion, tiger and bear cages were located only 250 feet away from her home.

Williston, FL. is the hometown of Cpl. Joseph Mixson, featured on pg. 1

Morale Call



Dear Basra Betty,

Why can't we access Facebook in Iraq, but we could in garrison. The public affairs office has all of these products they're always advertising, but we can't even get to them unless we pay for Internet in our room. What's the deal?

—FB Fan

Dear FB Fan,

I think the G6 themselves would love to be able to check their status updates, whose relationship status is "complicated," and how many friend requests they received that day, but unfortunately, it is out of their control. Due to the increased level of cyber threats, operational security concerns, and the amount of bandwidth it consumes, United States Forces-Iraq has established a policy that prohibits social networking sites in theater. You are correct though, the PAO does have lots of products on FaceBook and luckily we have a fantastic USO that will allow us to access it. Check it out. They are here to support us!

Dear Basra Betty,

How many licks does it take to get to the center of a tootsie roll pop?

—Sweet Tooth

Dear Sweet Tooth,

Kudos for bringing up a 40 year-old question that still hasn't been solved.

After scrounging around the United States Division-South Command Group's stash of care packages (yes, I know where

they are) I found a tootsie roll pop — cherry — and grabbed four. I thought an impromptu experiment on Contingency Operating Base Basra was just the thing to add to the task tracker.

I gathered up three other participants, four recorders, and of course the ORSAs for statistical analysis and went to work. Because of the high ambient temperature in Barn 3, we had to move outside to be able to get a cooler environment and begin our tests. Here were the results (number of licks):

Participant #1: 3 (very impatient--- must work in current ops somewhere)

Participant #2: 150 (not quite as impatient, after 5 minutes of licking, the recorder heard "heck with this" and a crunch)

Participant #3: 863 (definitely an answer you'd get from the analytical soldiers of the G2 or the SGS)

Participant # 4: disqualified for using hot water for dissolution.

According to wiki, there are too many factors to consider including tongue size, saliva output, surface of the tootsie roll pop covered, location of tongue-to-pop contact, etc. The suggestion was to send a Tootsie Pop off to the explosive ordnance disposal forensics lab and have them do tests or let the ORSAs give it a try

The ORSAs denied the offer by saying, "That's just counting. We do more than just count; we need formulas, variances and Greek letters to get the right answer. I'm sure we can add it to the SIAM under Social and see if we can have a test population created in Basra Province." To which we all replied "Yeah... ok... great idea," and went to find the other care packages for more tootsie roll pops.

So I'm sorry we couldn't get you a specific answer, but I'm sure there's an OPT prior to the working group in preparation for the board with read-ahead packets to address this issue.

Basra Betty

ROCK AND ROLL TRIVIA

SUMMER TIME

This week marks the official beginning of summer. See if you can answer these questions about "Summer" Songs

1) This guitar virtuoso had an instrumental hit titled "Summer Song":

- a. Steve Vai
- b. Joe Satriani
- c. Gary Hoey
- d. Eric Johnson

2) On their 1991 hit "Summertime," DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince sampled "Summer Madness" from what famous soul music act?

3) According to Robert Plant in Led Zeppelin's "Rain Song": "It is the summer of my _____. Flee from me Keepers of the Gloom."

4) What type of summer did Bananarama have in 1983?

5) Mungo Jerry and Shaggy both had a top 5 hit with what song?

6) How old was Bryan Adams in the summer of 1969?

- a. 5
- b. 9
- c. 13
- d. 17

Answers to last week's trivia:

1) Queensryche, Alice in Chains, Heart, and Jimi Hendrix are all from Washington.

2) Dave Grohl grew up in a suburb of Wash., DC

3) Pearl Jam was formed by Jeff Ament and Stone Gossard of Mother Love Bone

4) Sub Pop Records was formed in Seattle, and is considered a pioneer of "Grunge Music."



| | | | |
|----------|---|-------------|---|
| USA | 2 | England | 0 |
| Slovenia | 2 | Algeria | 0 |
| Denmark | 2 | Netherlands | 1 |
| Cameroon | 1 | Japan | 0 |

Danger Forward

We know it's the finest weekly literary masterpiece but there's a piece missing...

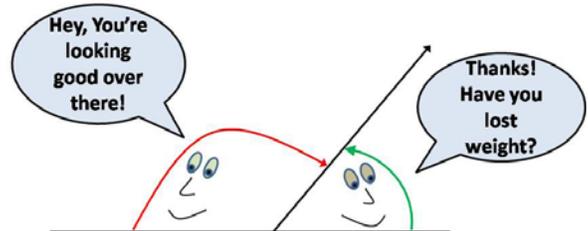
It's whatever you like to keep up with regularly and we want to know what that is!

- Do you want:**
- Sports Scores*
 - USO Movie Schedules*
 - Puzzles or Trivia*
 - Movie or Video Game reviews*
 - Personal Columns*
 - Comics?*

Send your ideas to
DangerForwardTips@yahoo.com

or SIPR email to
IDPAOsuggestionbox@1id.army.smil.mil

Big Red One Puzzle of the Week



Each week, look for a new brain teaser here, with the answer in the following week's Danger Forward.

Solution for last week: Mutant

Brought to you by the 1st Inf. Div. ORSA Cell

A look around USD-S

Photo by Pvt. DeAngelo Wells

Sgt. Ashley Smith, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, sprays foam out of a decontamination hose at a building while Spc. Justin Bartee of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3rd BSTB, 3rd Bde., 4th Inf. Div., assists her at Mittica Training Base June 5.



Have a photo from around USD-S? Email it, along with the photographer's name, rank and unit, the date and place it was taken, and a short description, to nathaniel.smith5@iraq.centcom.mil, and you could have it featured here and receive a coin from DCSM Jim Champagne.

Sudoku

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

For solutions visit: www.puzzles.ca/sudoku_puzzles/sudoku_hard_003.html