



# DANGER FORWARD



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## Artillery Soldiers stay on target

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

**BANI RABIA RANGE** – “Port-o-johns out in the open,” rang out over the handheld radios as members of batteries A and B of the 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, moved into position.

While the “enemy targets” were simulated, the training was all too real for the Paladin crews who conducted a series of live-fire exercises June 18–20 at Bani Rabia Range, near Al Kut.

Using their M109A6 Paladin howitzers, 16 crews from the two batteries fired a combined 104 rounds at targets some 5,600 meters away. In addition to training the howitzer crews, the exercise tested fire direction center Soldiers, who interpreted the targeting corrections relayed by forward observers.

The event was the culmination of months of training beginning in mid-May.

“It started with individual level training and testing, written tests, gunners testing as well as section crew certifications,” said Maj. Michael Anders, a Knoxville, Tenn. native and operations officer for 1st Bn., 10th FA Regt. “They have to go through a series of dry fire before actually going out there and shooting live.”

Photo by Spc. Samuel Soza  
Paladin howitzers from the 1st Bn., 10th FA Regt., 3rd HBCT, 3rd Inf Div, prepare to move the firing line at the Bani Rabia range, near al-Kut, June 19. The live fire exercise was the culmination of a training event spanning back to mid-May, where sections trained on individual drills and moved on to integrated training.



Performance evaluations continued throughout the final training.

“We have a master gunner, Sgt. 1st Class [Rodney] Howell, and there is a series of checks that he evaluates section crews on during the dry fire,” Anders said. “He and the platoon sergeants have to go out there and ensure those criteria are being maintained during the live fire.”

Also in attendance at the loud event were Col. Pete Jones, 3rd HBCT, 3rd Inf. Div. commander, members of the Wasit Provincial Reconstruction Team, as well as Maj. Gen. Kalif, provincial director of Iraqi police in Wasit.

The artillery unit regularly works with

the Iraqi police in an advise-and-assist capacity.

“Our battalion, specifically, partners with the Iraqi police, the federal police, and the PRT,” said Anders.

This mission requires little of the battalion’s artillery hardware, and the exercise was important in keeping the Soldier’s skills sharp during the deployment, Anders said.

“The live fire went very well,” Anders said. “The gunners fired real well, the observers were able to pick out the targets well.”

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Apaches, IAF team up, p. 6



Mass cal exercise, p. 7



Logistics improves, p. 10

## Danger Six sends

**C**ONGRATULATIONS! The Big Red One has reached the halfway mark as the command headquarters for United States Division – South. Many accomplishments have been made in those six months and many more await us. Think about the Iraq we encountered six months ago – the elections were anticipated but were an uncertainty . . . could the Iraqis pull it off? The approaching drawdown of personnel, equipment and bases was awaiting us as a steep climb that seemed too difficult . . . would we be able to reduce while conducting operations? Now, come forward to the present and you will find the answers. The elections came later than originally projected but they came nevertheless. More importantly, the people of Iraq came and by every measure the elections were fair and legitimate. The security in the southern 9 provinces where we work was excellent with 8 of 9 provinces reporting ZERO security incidents. The drawdown was difficult, but not too difficult and through your hard work we are nearly complete, well-ahead of an aggressive drawdown plan we made for ourselves. When we arrived in January, USD-S maintained 58 bases. By 1 September we will have reduced that number to 34. Over the next 45 days the headquarters will reduce by 20 percent to meet the new mission required strength – our part of the overall strength of 50,000 directed by the President of the United States. We had 3 brigades providing advice and assistance over the 9 provinces in January, now we have 2 for the same 9 provinces.



How did this happen over the last six months and how will it happen in the months ahead? Through hard work, discipline, focus on mission, engaged leaders, solid advice and assistance to the Iraqi Security Forces in the South, and great teamwork. Now it's time to turn on the afterburners and really get after the initiatives that will help accelerate stability.

Even as we reduce physical presence in Iraq, we've never been more committed to our Iraqi teammates. Our role at this point and into the future is to provide support, advice, assistance, and point them toward opportunities to improve the situation in Iraq for their fellow Iraqi citizens. Mutual respect, trust, and discipline will guide you toward just the right combination to make a difference for the Iraqis. And that applies to more than the security arena. The security achieved makes it possible for economic development to take root and flourish. So our support to the Provincial Reconstruction Teams for each province, backing up their support to Iraqi businesses and government officials will be the part that makes the biggest difference in moving Iraq forward. You can do this too. I want you to stay alert to the hazards around us. Iraq has enemies and so do we. The enemies will not rest and they will not quit. They must be defeated by you ensuring they never get an easy opportunity against us or against the Iraqis.

What I have highlighted will characterize the second half of our deployment. Do not be satisfied with the achievements you have behind you. Be proud of them, and then look ahead. Achievements come from doing your duty – I say again, YOUR DUTY to the best of your ability. I am honored to have the continued opportunity to serve here with you and I will see you “out there” as you do what you do best.

**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



# Weapon awareness is essential

By Joe Zelko  
USD-S Safety Office



The Army averaged one fatality or injury-producing negligent discharge every month at the beginning of this fiscal year — both in at home and in theater.

One Soldier was killed while attempting to clear a jam in his handgun and discharged a round into his chest. Another Soldier suffered disabling injuries when a Soldier in his house was handling a shotgun and it accidentally discharged.

Three other Soldiers were injured in less serious accidents; once when a Soldier forgot to clear his weapon before attempting to clean it; another when an intoxicated Soldier was playing with a handgun inside a vehicle when he discharged it, injuring himself and another passenger; another when a Soldier was handling a newly-purchased pistol when, unaware there was a round in the chamber, he pulled the trigger and shot his left hand.

In USD-S, we've experienced 18 negligent discharges including recently when a Soldier was shot in the left bicep with the bullet lodged in his chest.

Two of the Soldiers involved in the accidental discharges were mishandling Glock pistols. These handguns lack the externally mounted manual safeties common on many other semiautomatic firearms. Instead, their safety is located on the trigger and is disengaged whenever the trigger is pulled.

Because of that, shooters should never place their finger inside the trigger guard unless they intend to fire the weapon. That is essential when handling any firearm. Clearing the chamber is also essential to firearms safety.

The warning, "Always assume a gun is loaded," reflects the fact that people have shot themselves or others with what they thought were unloaded firearms. Never assume a gun is unloaded. Check the chamber every time you pick it up to handle it. Finally, there is muzzle awareness.

The old saying, "Never point a weapon at anything you don't intend to shoot," should be ingrained in every Soldier's mind. Each Soldier in the cases above failed to ensure their weapons were pointed in a safe direction. As a result, one Soldier died, another suffered disabling injuries, and three others experienced painful injuries.

To assist you in raising weapons safety awareness and help prevent the next accident, the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center developed a safety training video entitled "No Second Chances." The video is designed for small-group discussion and based on an actual case in which a Soldier died after pointing a weapon at himself while intoxicated.

It describes the events leading up to the accident and contains personal accounts from the Soldier's peers and leaders, highlighting the impact his death on those left behind. "No Second Chances" is available at:

<https://safety.army.mil/nosecondchances> and can also be found under the 'Privately Owned Weapons' tab of the range and weapons safety toolbox at <https://safety.army.mil/rangeweaponssafety>.

## This week in Army history

### *This week in Big Red One history*

July 9, 1966 – First Squadron, 4th Cav. Regt. of the 'Big Red One' soundly defeated the 9th Viet Cong Division during Operation El Paso II.

### *This week in OIF history*

June 8, 2005 – Al Qaeda in Iraq killed Egyptian ambassador-designate Ihab al-Sharif in Baghdad.

### *This week in 4th Infantry Division history*

July, 1945 – The 4th Infantry Division returned to the United States in July 1945 and was stationed at Camp Butner, N.C., preparing for deployment to the Pacific. However, the Japanese surrendered before the 4th Inf. Div. was deployed. When the division's WWII combat operations ended, 4,097 Soldiers had been killed in action, 17,371 were wounded, and 757 would later die from their wounds. After the war ended, the 4th Inf. Div. was inactivated on March 5, 1946.

# A partnership, a friendship and a legacy

By Chaplain (Capt.) Stephan Buchanan  
3rd EOD Battalion

As a chaplain circulating United States Division-South, I am often asked, "What unit do you belong too?" I proudly respond, "I belong to 3rd (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) Battalion out of Fort Lewis, Wash., and we own the EOD mission in USD-South." The next question many Soldiers ask is "Is the 'Hurt Locker' real?" That question is often followed by, "What else does EOD do?"

The creators of that movie loosely based it on actual accounts, while taking a lot of artistic license. Accurately depicted in the 'Hurt Locker' was the operational tempo that our EOD Soldiers had to endure just a few years ago, sometimes responding to 10 to 12 improvised explosive devices in a single day. As we enter the summer of 2010, we are quickly approaching the end of Operation Iraqi Freedom and the beginning of Operation New Dawn. This new season brings with it a new mission. Instead of responding to multiple IEDs every day, our brave Soldiers are now spending the bulk of their time creating partnerships with their Iraqi counterparts.

According to 1st Lt. James Hawthorne, EOD Platoon Leader at COB Basra, the purpose of partnership is to "teach enduring skills to the Iraqis so that they can become more proficient in conducting their fight against those who make and emplace IEDs." In the EOD world, these enduring skills include methods of defeating IEDs, attacking the network that makes and emplaces IEDs, and training the Iraqi Army and Iraqi Police. The goal of providing these enduring skills is to facilitate the establishment and growth of the Iraqi Army and Iraqi Police so they can be self-sustaining organizations.

On June 21, Hawthorne invited me to sit in on a meeting with his partner, an Iraqi Army Lt. Col. Abduladeem, the Bomb Disposal Company commander in Basra Province. Speaking through an interpreter, I was amazed to see a young Army lieutenant interacting with an Iraqi commander at a peer level, even though Abduladeem was at least 30 years Haw-



Courtesy Photo

Chaplain (Capt.) Stephan Buchanan with members of the 3rd EOD Bn. and their Iraqi counterparts, led by Lt. Col. Abduladeem, commander of the Basra Bomb Disposal Company.

thorne's elder.

After an American lunch of cheeseburgers and french fries, the war stories turned into business. Unlike meetings in the U.S. Army that have a defined agenda, this meeting had ebbs and flows. Listening to the discussion reminded me of Jesus telling Parables in the Bible. Abduladeem would tell us a story or a parable to make his point, and then after some negotiation, an agreement was made. Some of the discussions revolved around identifying military ordnance and defeating IEDs. Equally important was a discussion about training opportunities Hawthorne's platoon could offer to Abduladeem's team of officers.

Although this meeting involved Hawthorne and Abduladeem, the partnership itself is not one person deep. It was apparent that both leaders' success hinged on their very competent Soldiers and the partnerships that they formed with their respective counterparts. I am amazed with the professionalism these young EOD technicians show as they work with one another. The successful completion of this mission is made possible only by the

mutual respect, trust, honor and loyalty these two different yet similar groups of warriors have for each other.

Throughout the meeting, I was pleased to see how this assigned partnership had turned into a genuine friendship. This was most evident when Abduladeem said in a sincere tone, "I must apologize; in the first Gulf War, I fought against the American Army. Like other Iraqis, I feared if I did not fight, Saddam Hussein would kill my family and cut my ear off so that the world would know I was a coward. Now we are here, and I thank the Americans and I thank you for your help."

What started as an assigned partnership between a young U.S. Army lieutenant and an Iraqi Army lieutenant colonel turned into a friendship that crossed cultural and language barriers. Through this friendship, the Iraqi Army EOD will learn to be a self-sustaining force, which will be able to protect those they love and care about from all enemies.

This story does not end with friendship, but with a legacy formed in the hearts and minds of those who longed for and will soon live in a free Iraq.

## 1-1 CAB knowledge help Iraqi Air Force expand mission readiness capabilities

By Sgt. 1st Class Christopher DeHart  
TF 12 Public Affairs Office

**COB ADDER** – The transition of U.S. forces out of Iraq still requires hands-on guidance for the Iraqi Security Forces. Working with the Iraqi Air Force is just one of the ongoing missions that have Task Force 12 doing just that.

Aviators with 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment and 12th CAB began the next phase of mission planning and training with the Iraqi Air Force's 70th Squadron during a meeting June 15 at Contingency Operating Base Basrah, Iraq.

Col. Nazih al-Fahaed, commander of the 70th Sqdn., currently based at COB Basra, met with Capt. Alexander Tesar, 12th CAB plans officer, and Chief Warrant Officer David Reese, 12th CAB targeting officer, to help coordinate future reconnaissance flights for the 70th Sqdn. toward the aim of restarting and expanding their regular missions using their CH-2000 fixed-wing aircraft.

Pilots with Company C, 1-1 CAB will assist their Iraqi counterparts in improving their integration with ground forces, such as the 8th or 14th Iraqi Army Divisions and giving them back-up as they conduct these missions.

As Iraq has recovered from many years of war through rebuilding their infrastructure and government, they are slowly recovering their aviation and civil air capabilities. This recovery makes it temporarily necessary for them to rely on U.S. forces to get off the ground.

Iraqi CH-2000s are two seat aircraft that use digital still-imagery to collect intelligence and conduct surveillance during missions. Although CH-2000s are limited to digital still-imagery, the platform is a viable asset for point reconnaissance, lines of communication (LOC) surveillance, and wide area imagery.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Christopher DeHart  
An Iraqi air crew works on their CH-2000 fixed-wing aircraft inside the 70th Sqdn. hangar at COB Basra, Iraq, June 2.

Nazih requested the assistance and expressed gratitude that crews were able to come talk to him about these missions. He said he is looking forward to starting an autonomous flying schedule soon.

Tesar, Reese and crews from Co. C, 1-1 CAB are optimistic about the progress they have made with Nazih and will be scheduling more in the future to continue this trend.

“The 70th will begin flying operational missions again with minimal U.S. assistance,” Tesar said. “This is a certifying step for the 70th to conduct operations with U.S. forces being able to assist them with reconnaissance and (Air Ground Integration) (Tactics, Techniques and Procedures).”

Co. C began supporting the first missions with the 70th Sqdn. on June 27.

Tesar said the success of these missions will validate the 70th's ability to continue operating without further U.S. support, particularly once they move to Ali Air Base in Tallil, Iraq.

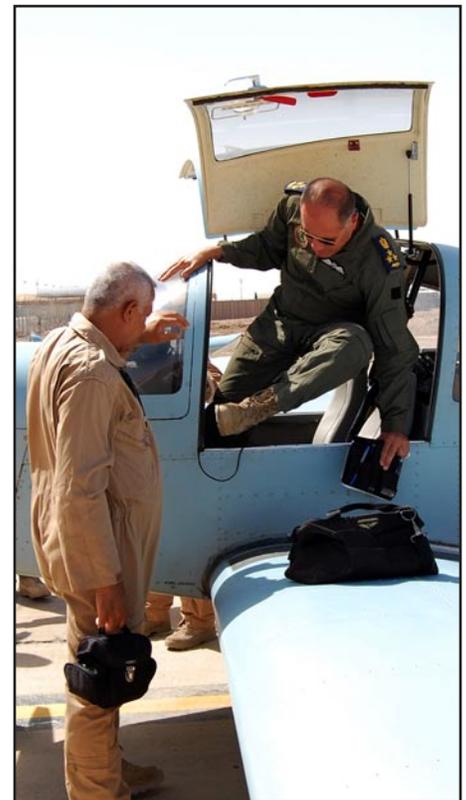


Photo by Sgt. Benjamin Kibbey  
Iraqi Brig. Gen. Sami Saeed, Basra Air Base commander, exits a 70th Sqdn. CH 2000 reconnaissance airplane at COB Basra, Iraq.

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

# Joint forces support Iraqi air recon

By Sgt. Benjamin R. Kibbey  
367th MPAD, USD-S PAO

**COB BASRA** – The air was clear over Contingency Operating Base Basra June 27 as the Iraqi commanders of the Basra Air Base and the 70th Squadron prepped their CH 2000 reconnaissance airplane for a first-ever joint mission with U.S. AH-64 Apaches.

The primary mission was air reconnaissance along the border with Iran, part of the regular responsibilities of the 70th Sqdn., which is co-located with U.S. forces on COB Basra. As the first-ever joint mission of this type between Iraqi and U.S. forces, the flight also served as familiarization and proof-of-concept for future joint missions.

The two U.S. Apaches from Company C, 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Aviation Regiment, based at Fort Riley, Kan., and operating out of COB Adder, Iraq, accompanied Col. Nazih al-Fahaed, 70th Sqdn. commander, and Brig. Gen. Sami Saeed, Basra Air Base commander, on the hour-long flight as back-up.

Both the Iraqis and U.S. Soldiers involved were pleased with the results of the patrol and expressed their hopes for similar success during future missions.

“We’re looking for a good future,” Fahaed said. “It was a great mission; it was good cooperation.”

Whether the 70th Sqdn. remains at Basra or moves to Talil Air Base – co-located with COB Adder further north – the continued surveillance of the border will remain an essential role for them, he said.

Working with the Apaches will be good practice for the Iraqi pilots in the future, Fahaed added.

The lower speed of the CH 2000s, which are propeller-driven, makes the Apaches a perfect match, he said.

Chief Warrant Officer Anthony Kinney, a Co. C Apache pilot from Joplin, Mo., said that the aircraft and pilots had no issues functioning jointly.

“It was good working with them,” he said. “We got the air-to-air coordination piece worked out. Flying with them was

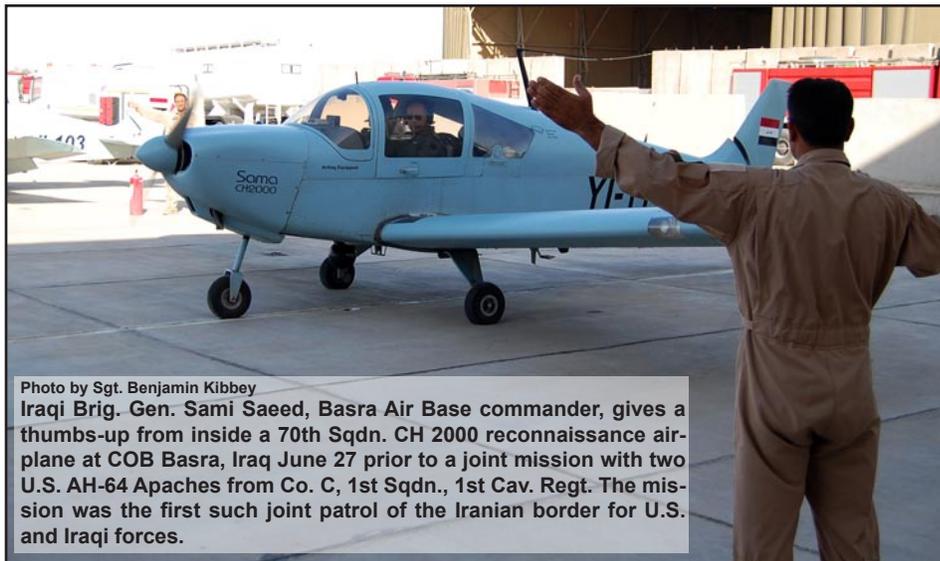


Photo by Sgt. Benjamin Kibbey  
Iraqi Brig. Gen. Sami Saeed, Basra Air Base commander, gives a thumbs-up from inside a 70th Sqdn. CH 2000 reconnaissance airplane at COB Basra, Iraq June 27 prior to a joint mission with two U.S. AH-64 Apaches from Co. C, 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. Regt. The mission was the first such joint patrol of the Iranian border for U.S. and Iraqi forces.

no problem.

“From the little I’ve seen today, they seem pretty competent in the air.”

The 70th Sqdn. provides support to ground forces, Fahaed said, and any immediately pertinent information discovered during missions is relayed back to the air base and to the Basra Operations Center, the headquarters for all Iraqi ground forces in Basra Province.

The Cavalry pilots were there primarily



Photo by Sgt. Benjamin Kibbey  
An AH-64 Apache helicopter from Company C, 1st ARB, 1st Aviation Regt. departs COB Basra after a joint reconnaissance mission along the Iranian border with the Iraqi Air Force’s 70th Sqdn. The mission was the first such joint patrol of the Iranian border for U.S. and Iraqi forces.

to assist the Iraqi Air Force with this section of their responsibilities, Kinney said.

“We are trained, especially as Apache pilots, to integrate very closely with the ground forces,” he said. “So we’re just here to help them reintegrate back into the Iraqi Army so that they can take over their role as primary control of their own airspace.”

This support to Iraqi ground forces goes back to operations in 2005 in Basra Province, Fahaed said.

“If we see something abnormal, like some vehicle crossing or some bad people crossing the border or smuggling, immediately we send a report,” he said.

In addition, the Iraqi pilots have photographic and video equipment in the airplanes in order to document any activity on the ground, he said. The results are saved and distributed to both Iraqi and U.S. forces for analysis.

The Iraqi Air Force has come a long way since the purchase of its first CH 2000s in 2004, Saeed said.

“We started, from August 2004, with nine pilots and five maintenance. Now, in 2010, we are 300, with 40 pilots and, I think, 80 airmen,” Saeed said. “I think there is a big future for the pilots here.”

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# TROOPS IN FOCUS

Danger Forward

July 5, Issue 23

## Exercise helps Soldiers think through the unthinkable

By Spc. Samuel Soza

367th MPAD, USD-S PAO

**COB DELTA** – Contingency Operating Base Delta personnel, comprised of Soldier and civilian medical responders, conducted their first wide-scale medical emergency exercise June 25.

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment and 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regt., aided nearly 20 mock casualties during an exercise which was designed to train Soldiers and analyze the current mass casualty response protocols.

Both regiments are part of 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division based in Fort Benning, Ga.

“The scenario was, we had an indirect fire attack that hit the gymnasium,” said Maj. Jody Dugai, 28th Combat Support Hospital officer in charge of the emergency medical treatment area. “The force protection had to respond to the impact area, and from there they called the fire department to help clear the area and get all their patients to the medical facility.” said Dugai.

First responders from both regiments reacted to the incoming fire alarm and eventually found their way to the gym

where injured role-players such as Spc. Aaron Core, a driver with the 252nd Military Police Company, lay waiting.

The Soldier’s providing first aid were given a welcome boost in manpower when the COB Delta fire department arrived minutes later.

After receiving initial medical treatment, the simulated wounded were moved to a casualty collection point where they waited to be loaded on to vehicles and transported to the hospital, a process easier said than done.

“In my opinion, I’m missing a leg and I’ve been here about 10 minutes, but it’s okay,” said Core, a Chattanooga, Tenn. Native. “That’s why we have these drills.”

Maj. James Adamec, 28th Combat Support Hospital intensive care unit nurse, who worked as an evaluator for the event, agreed that moving the wounded from the base gym to the medical facility was a running behind schedule.

“We definitely identified some weaknesses,” said Adamec, a Cresco, Iowa native. “That’s what these exercises are for – to identify any potential weaknesses in the response structure and also come up with a feasible solution to those weaknesses.”

Planning ahead for the unthinkable is impossible, but planning ahead, to be able to think during this sort of crisis, was really the goal of the training, said Dugai.

“Usually mass casualties are very crazy because even though you plan the best, and you run through the scenarios, it’s never going to go the way you planned,” she said. “So we react with what we get.”

Despite the momentary chaos of the larger event, once the ambulances and SUVs arrived bearing wounded all personnel involved performed well and made the training event successful, said Dugai, a native of Jefferson, Texas.

“I think we did pretty well,” she said. “We got all the patients in, got them all accounted for. I had all the casualties’ names, so I knew what we should be getting. We got all the patients to the appropriate areas with the appropriate providers. And, I think it went well.”

Leading up to the exercise, the medical personnel performed individual training to ensure all knew their roles in a crisis and even conducted a smaller mass casualty event of their own, said Dugai.

The medical center on COB Delta is small enough that two or three casualties constitute a mass-casualty event. Around 11 p.m. the night of the exercise, a vehicle rolled over and the medical facility dealt with a real mass casualty event when three Soldiers were brought in.

The staff worked through the night until 6 a.m. the following morning, according to Sgt. Kimberly Rakestraw, 28th Combat Support Hospital noncommissioned officer in charge of the emergency medical treatment area.

The accident, which followed so closely after the exercise, made Rakestraw’s views about the necessity of these drills that much more real.

“They are absolute critical,” said Rakestraw, a native of Augusta, Ga.



Photo by Spc. Samuel Soza

Spc. Matt Edgeworth, of Cleveland, Tenn., light-wheel vehicle mechanic with 252nd Military Police Co., playing a mock-casualty, is loaded up during a mass casualty exercise on Contingency Operating Base Delta, June 25.

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# USDS psychiatrist fights battle of minds

By Sgt. Jason Kemp  
1st Inf Div, USD-S PAO

**COB BASRA** – Soldiers are known for performing well under pressure, but even the hardest of chargers needs someplace to turn when the going gets a little too tough.

That's where Maj. Scott Williams, the United States Division-South and 1st Infantry Division psychiatrist, steps in and helps them shoulder their burden.

"He is the subject matter expert in the Army's top priority right now, which is behavioral health," Sgt. Jose Carrera, Behavioral Health Specialist, Operations Company, Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 1st Inf. Div. said. "He is a very driven guy, very ambitious."

That energetic drive and ambition has been with Williams since he was a child.

"I have wanted to be a doctor for as long as I can remember," Williams said. "My mother tells a somewhat embarrassing story of me strapping a first aid kit on the back of my first bike and riding around the neighborhood looking for people to patch up."

Williams was born in Bournemouth, England, near the location where the 1st Inf. Div. deployed from in support of D-Day during World War II. The Williams' moved to Princeton, N.J., when he was young where he attended high school.

"I learned about the idea of ROTC in high school and applied for the Army ROTC Scholarship, all the while knowing that my eventual career goal was going to be a physician, and I wanted to do that in the military."

While he was going to college to become a doctor, Williams served on active duty status and attended the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU).

"During my second year of medical school, we actually watched the 9/11 attack on our large lecture room screen," said Williams. "Having gone to school in Bethesda, Md., we were only a few miles from the Pentagon, so most of us went to the Bethesda Naval Hospital to see how



Courtesy Photo

**Maj. Scott Williams, division psychiatrist for the 1st Infantry Division and United States Division –South, Iraq, listens as a Soldier explains a problem he is having.**

we could help."

The attacks on World Trade Center helped solidify Williams' resolve to become a doctor and help his fellow Soldiers in need.

"Most of my military medical training, therefore, was post 9/11, and I have had the privilege of caring for hundreds of wounded warriors at Walter Reed Hospital as an internal medicine physician as well as a psychiatrist," Williams said. "Going in to work during the early hours of the morning, it was inspiring beyond words to see the wounded warriors running outside around our track on prosthetic limbs.

"That kind of dedication makes it very easy to put in the extra hours to make sure the proper care is delivered."

Getting a medical degree is tough, but Williams has two: a doctorate in psychiatric medicine and a doctorate of internal medicine.

"He's one of the smartest people I've ever met," Carrera said.

Hitting the ground running, Williams arrived at Fort Riley and had to turn around to pack his bags to be deployed to Iraq as the division's psychiatrist. His wife, Jeanie, currently the head nurse of the cancer

ward at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., stayed behind only to catch up with him once he returns home.

"Coming from a large hospital to an infantry division was a bit of a culture shock," Williams said. "Despite a relatively steep learning curve regarding policies and procedures, it has been very rewarding. The professionalism that the Soldiers, NCOs and officers demonstrate on a daily basis is quite inspiring."

Williams aspires to create programs within the 1st Inf. Div. and the Army that better care for Soldiers mental health and well-being now and in the future.

"The Behavioral Health Training Program that we are implementing across USD-S and back at Ft. Riley will take a while to establish, but it should pay great dividends in the future," Williams said. "We will not see the full impact that this protracted war has taken on our servicemen for decades, and it is very important that the leadership instill a sense of trust and confidence in their formations that the medical professionals are always ready to stand by to support them."

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1700 and Saturday 0800 to 1200

# Soldiers take lead in supporting COS Garryowen

By Maj. Alan Brown

3rd BCT, 4th Inf Div PAO

**COS GARRYOWEN** – During an age when contractors provide a majority of support and sustainment functions on bases throughout Iraq, Soldiers seldom have to worry about fixing the air conditioner in their quarters, ensure the latrines are in working order, or make force protection improvements around the base, but at Contingency Operating Station Garryowen, Soldiers' power still reigns supreme.

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division conduct the daily missions that enable the rest of the Soldiers and civilians at the base to live and work in a safe and comfortable environment.

The Soldiers of the 'Fighting Eagle' Battalion are responsible for many critical tasks and functions often handled by civilian contractors at other bases in Iraq. Given the remote location of COS Garryowen, contractor support is much harder to come by, said Capt. Bob Stone, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Bn., 8th Inf. Regt.

The Soldiers are responsible for everything from tent maintenance, air conditioner repair and replacement, plumbing and electrical maintenance, and latrine upkeep.

Stone likens his unit's job as running a hotel for 1,200 people, as his team keeps records of who lives in what areas and provides services for all of the 'guests.'

Spc. Tim Goins of Detroit receives and processes maintenance work orders, ensuring the right person is assigned to fix whatever problem may arise, whether it is a broken A/C unit, a plumbing glitch in a shower trailer, or an electrical problem in a living tent.

The infantryman said his desk job is certainly not what he's used to. Instead of going out on daily missions for a couple hours each day, he is now consumed with juggling the different demands of supporting all of his fellow Soldiers.

Still, Stone said his Soldiers have adapted very well to their new jobs and have quickly become vital to making sure



Photo by Maj. Alan S. Brown

**Sgt. 1st Class Michael Tanner of Johnson City, Tenn., and Staff Sgt. Jason Staff of Boulder, Colo., carefully guide a 15,000 T-wall barrier into place with the help of a 20,000-pound crane.**

everything within the living areas runs smoothly.

According to Sgt. 1st Class Michael Tanner of Johnson City, Tenn., his Soldiers enjoy their work because they get to see tangible results every day, even though much of what they do seldom gets recognized.

"Most of them enjoy it. They like getting out, doing hands-on work. They know they're helping out their fellow Soldiers," he said.

Spc. Jason Staff of Boulder, Colo., has the task of supervising a team of Iraqis that provide cleaning services across the base. Despite the lack of glamour, Staff said he likes his job and enjoys seeing the daily progress.

"I thought I was going to be sitting behind a desk [this tour]. This is a lot better," he said. "I have a good group of guys, so that makes it a lot easier."

Like many Soldiers in the battalion, Tanner has always been assigned to a line unit, going out on patrols every day. Until this tour, he said, he never knew how much work and coordination went into running a forward operating base, a challenging

endeavor with many moving parts.

The battalion also has the responsibility of making force protection upgrades across its base. This task primarily involves emplacing 15,000-pound, concrete T-wall barriers and bunkers. The process is ongoing, as COS Garryowen has received over 300 T-wall barriers in the last six weeks. The barriers and bunkers come in from other bases that are closing.

Once the T-walls arrive, 1st Sgt. Henry Chapman of Augusta, Ga., supervises their careful placement using a 20,000-pound crane he calls the workhorse of the base. Soldiers must rig up each barrier with chains so it can be lifted into place.

While the crane does the heavy work, the Soldiers find themselves alongside the giant slabs, maneuvering them into position.

"They go to the gym 12-hours a day, if you think of it," said Chapman. "They've left their mark on COS Garryowen."

Recently, his team of about five Soldiers worked for three straight days from sun-up to sundown, placing over 120 T-wall barriers around the new dining facility, providing a critical force protection measure before it was allowed to open.

"We've done a lot of noticeable work here on COS Garryowen," said Spc. Tim Weber of Gatesville, Texas.

Pfc. Richard Bales, from Nampa, Idaho, enjoys the fact he's learned how to drive several large construction machines, something he never thought he'd do in Iraq. He never had any experience on large equipment before arriving at COS Garryowen, and since his arrival, he's been licensed in operating a bulldozer, front-end loader, and driving the 20,000-pound crane from one work site to the next.

Chapman says his team sees its job as one huge enabler, allowing the rest of the task force to execute its advise and assist mission with Iraqi Security Forces.

"When it's all said and done, they feel like they're members of a team," he said. "They know whatever they built today is going to make life better for everyone else."

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

# Division recognizes benefits of logistics software

By Sgt. Benjamin R. Kibbey  
367th MPAD, USD-S PAO

**BASRA** – The U.S. Army is implementing a revolutionary system that allows commanders and logisticians from the field level to the top to see what they have and where they have it in real time.

The system, which can track everything from bottled water to missiles, is the refined result of software developers asking logisticians what they need and delivering it. It has the capacity to evolve to meet the needs of both the troops on the ground and the commanders moving the pieces.

The effort to have the system widely embraced by the entire Army is being spearheaded from Iraq by the 1st Infantry Division's operations section, and began with a coordinated effort involving the 36th Sustainment Brigade, which is responsible for logistics throughout southern Iraq when the 'Big Red One' came to theater, and the 13th Expeditionary Sustainment Command – the theater-level logistics command at that time.

The 1st Inf. Div. assumed responsibility for the command and control of United States Division-South Feb. 1 and at the beginning of March, Capt. David Shaffer began the long battle to get the unimplemented system into use by the division and its subordinate units in theater.

The software in question is called the Logistics Reporting Tool.

The software tool is a smaller part of a larger system with a mixed reputation due to experiences Soldiers had with the earlier, unrefined version. The larger program, the Battle Command Sustainment Support System, or BCS3, which is now managed by the software company Tapestry Solutions, is a far cry from the software most Soldiers remember, convincing them of that has been a bit of a battle for Shaffer.

Even Shaffer was skeptical at first due to an encounter he had with an earlier version of BCS3 in 2006.

Shortly after taking on the project, he called Larry Wise, a retired Army Inspector General command sergeant major from Dunn, N.C., and field service engineer (FSE) for Boeing subsidiary Tapestry Solutions Inc.



Photo by Sgt. Benjamin Kibbey

**Pallets sit in a yard in Iraq, April 26. The Logistics Reporting Tool allows anything, from sandbags to SUVs, to be accounted for and tracked in real time, presenting commanders and logisticians across the theater with an unprecedented capability.**

"I wanted my people to get training on it, but I wasn't 'drinking from the glass,' I wasn't a big fan of it," Shaffer said.

According to the two, their first meeting was the result of a "heated discussion" and a challenge from Wise for Shaffer to visit Contingency Operating Base Adder and have some of his perceptions "corrected."

"I was going to go up and have a few choice words with this FSE who was trying to tell me what to do or what not to do with BCS3," Shaffer said. "I called him back and told him, 'I'm on the next bird, I'm coming,' and so Larry said, 'Ok, come on.'"

"I felt like I was going to a duel."

Once Wise had the chance to walk Shaffer, an experienced logistician, through the tremendous functionality that the program offered, Shaffer was a full convert.

"It led to a great relationship between Larry and I and led me to 'drink out of the glass,'" Shaffer said of the encounter.

After that first meeting, Shaffer, Wise and every ally they could find worked tirelessly to gain acceptance of the LRT. The key to progress came from working directly with the logisticians who will use the software, Wise said.

"You get them in there and you get them to stop thinking about everything they don't want to do and get them looking at what they need to do," he said.

Chief Warrant Officer Kristie-Marie Dean, sustainment automation support management chief for the 36th SB, said

the current LRT is notably different than the software most Soldiers remember.

"It's more functional, easier to put it online, not so many steps, more user-friendly, and uses terms that deal more with military terms and not civilian terms," said Dean, a guardsman who, as a civilian, works as a federal technician at a combined support maintenance facility in Fort Worth, Texas.

Col. Sean Ryan, 36th SB commander, is familiar with the issues Shaffer and Wise encountered.

In the civilian world, Ryan, a guardsman from Cedar Park, Texas, works with the implementation of software in corporate environments. When he first encountered the LRT during the 36th SB's mobilization, Ryan immediately saw the usefulness of the program.

"I had to do a lot of convincing that we were going to do this," Ryan said. "Having [Shaffer] come in and having that support from the division, gave me the momentum that I needed to push it forward."

Ryan noted that, from his experience in the civilian world, he knows that any software is going to have issues when it is first fielded, and that the only answer is to get into the program and identify the bugs.

"We've spent millions of dollars to field these systems, and I just felt it was my duty to do a proof of concept to start really understanding how to utilize it, figure out what the true shortfalls are," he

See *LOGISTICS*, page 11

**LOGISTICS, from page 10**

said. “For me, it was time to stop having a paperweight on my desk and start really understanding how to use it.”

Though the LRT organizes information in a format familiar to those who previously spent hours of every day compiling the information into spreadsheets, that is where the similarities between the old, manual system and the new, free-flowing, real-time system stop.

Greg Miller, the BCS3 embed FSE with the 13th ESC and deputy BCS3 southwest Asia manager, from Killeen, Texas, a retired logistics sergeant major, said the LRT has come a long way from the original system introduced in 2004.

“It’s an outstanding tool,” he said. “It’s so powerful that it takes things that we do now by PowerPoint or Excel spreadsheet, where people have to collect those through email and they have to combine them — cut, paste, collate everything together and

roll it up – now it starts from the bottom end, with the user, and as soon as the user inputs, everybody can see it.”

“It saves time, it saves effort, it puts logisticians back to work doing logistics work instead of PowerPoint or Excel spreadsheet work,” he said.

The time saved between the old system and the LRT is an added benefit.

“Depending on the level of the unit, the units probably spend three to four or more man-hours per day collecting their reports,” Miller said. “If you add that up over the course of a week, that’s 28 man-hours, that’s a half a person that you’ve given back to the unit.”

In addition, the information entered at the field level is viewable in the U.S. only seconds later, giving commanders an immediate picture of what is on the ground.

“It’s going to free-up a lot of time for Soldiers,” said Dean, a Bloomington, Minn. native. “It’s going to take the time,

down below, to enter the data, but once that data is entered, it just becomes a logistical tool for us to analyze.”

“Instead of going from one spot to another spot through all the echelons, it’s going to free-up your Soldiers’ time,” she said. “Because right now, our Soldiers’ time is very limited.”

With the capability to track not only military equipment, but also non-standard items such as the non-tactical SUVs used on U.S. bases in every theater, and even occupancy of barracks, the system offers a nearly limitless number of ways for commanders to know what they have and where they have it, and all in a real-time and easily updatable format.

“If it’s something that’s essential to your mission or has some effect on your mission, you can track it,” Wise said.

For more from USD-S PAO, visit [www.facebook.com/1stInfantryDivision](http://www.facebook.com/1stInfantryDivision)



All Officers

All Officers

# JOINT QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

All officers, regardless of rank or service, active or reserve component now have the opportunity to nominate their past assignments or duties for consideration as a joint experience credit. **DEADLINE IS SEPT. 30 2010** for Active Duty officers to self-nominate for Retroactive Joint Credit from Sept. 11, 2001 to Sept. 30, 2009. **SEPT. 30 2013** is the deadline for Army Reserve Officers to self-nominate for Retroactive Joint Credit from Oct. 1 1986 to Sept. 30, 2013. Officers, O-1 through O-6 who feel they are eligible for joint experience should login to the Joint Qualification System self-nomination website at:

<https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/jmis/JQSindex.jsp>

Officers in the current grades of O-7 through O-10 should contact their Services’s General/Flag Officer Matters office for procedures on how to self-nominate.

Guidance and procedures can be found on the BRONET:

<http://bronet.iid.army.smil.mil/sites/sustainment/g1/default.aspx>

POC can be reached at DSN: 926-6528

Commercial: 800-525-0102



# ON THE HOMEFRONT

Danger Forward

July 5, Issue 23

## Warrior Zone entertains Fort Riley Soldiers

By Deikeya Greer

Fort Riley Public Affairs

**FORT RILEY, Kan.** – For Soldiers looking for something to do, a place to hang out or a place get a quick bite to eat, the Warrior Zone has it all.

"The Fort Riley Warrior Zone is a great place for Soldiers, particularly single Soldiers like myself," said Pfc. Matthew Keith, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division.

The Warrior Zone has been open since Feb. 7, 2010, for Soldiers use and entertainment. With more than 4,000 square feet of space, the facility is equipped with wireless Internet access, gaming computers, poker and pool tables, a home theater, plasma screen TVs and food service at Java Cafe. The Java Cafe serves a variety of foods including pizza and quesadillas, in addition to beer and Starbucks coffee.

"The facility is a great addition to Fort Riley," Keith said. "It has everything Soldiers want to do. They can come here and hang out, get a beer, play their favorite video games or just watch movies. I come here to play video games and use the computers."

Aside from having computers that are used for entertainment purposes, Soldiers can use the computers for free for personal tasks as well - to send an e-mail, check bank accounts or print their Leave and Earnings Statement.

"Soldiers who take advantage of the Warrior Zone feel like this is their home away from home. They pretty much come and go as they please," said Tracy White, assistant manager.

The Warrior Zone already has plans for the summer to keep Soldiers coming back. They will work with the Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers to coordinate barbecues on the covered patio and basketball tournaments.

"It feels like the Warrior Zone was made for single Soldiers, more or less those on the installation that don't have a



Photo by Deikeya Greer

**Pfc. Matthew Keith, 2nd HBCT, 1st Inf. Div., plays on one of the gaming systems at the Warrior Zone.**

car," Keith said. "We can walk right over. Or if we don't have computer access we can use these (computers). We can come here and have our own place.

"Since the age is 18 to enter, this is a place for adults, and we can come here and simply relax," he added.

In addition to all the amenities the Warrior Zone has, various tournaments also take place at the facility. Chess, 9-ball, rock band, karaoke, Texas hold 'em, domino and Halo-3 tournaments all take place at the Warrior Zone.

The hours of operation were chosen in hopes to meet the needs of the Soldiers; the facility is open 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday through Saturday.

According to White, as a test site, the current Warrior Zone is only the beginning. Construction for a new much larger, about 28,000-square-foot facility is scheduled to begin in July of 2010. The Warrior Zone is a first for the army, with all other installations following suit to build their own facility, she said.

"This is a great place to come after work, when you're tired. We can come in and play games, watch movies and just

kick our feet up," said Pvt. Jeremy Kelly, 201st Special Troops Battalion. "It gives us a lot to do, and I love playing in the gaming tournaments."

According to White, the Warrior Zone is serving its purpose, because the Soldiers return day and night. White said the Warrior Zone has regulars that come in and make themselves comfortable and enjoy themselves.

"This is their home away from home and we are glad about that," she said.

Just about everything in the facility is at no cost to Soldiers, with the exception of food and beverages.

"The Warrior Zone is a convenient getaway spot for Soldiers because it is centrally located, and it provides a service and affordable food," said Cpt. Scott Wesley, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div. "I take advantage of its facilities as often as I can. It provides Soldiers with a great place to relax and enjoy their free time."

**Fort Riley is the home of the 1st Infantry Division, which is currently deployed to Basra, Iraq, as the USD-S headquarters.**

# Morale Call



Dear Basra Betty,

When Operation Iraqi Freedom changes to Operation New Dawn, will there be a different ribbon to go along with the name change?

-Sincerely, Curious

Dear Curious,

A straightforward question deserves a straightforward response. So here goes. Operation Iraqi Freedom will come to an end August 31, 2010. Due to the change in mission for US Forces in Iraq, effective September 1, 2010, the new name will be Operation New Dawn. Nothing has been published as to whether there will be a new ribbon or medal to reflect this transition. As in the development of the Iraqi Campaign Medal and Afghanistan Campaign Medal, it will likely take time for the new decoration to be approved.

Dear Basra Betty,

Last night I had a dream that I was a new math teacher at an East L.A. high school, determined to challenge students to a higher level of excellence. The students did not seem to want to learn and resented that I wanted to teach them. The other teachers told me, "You can't teach logarithms to illiterates." I managed to educate them on basic math and they progressed into Algebra. It was my goal to get them through Algebra and into AP Calculus, but unfortunately I woke up before I could accomplish that. In case I get this dream again, my question is how do I reach these kids?

-Sincerely, J.A. Escalante

Dear J.A.,

Dreams are a fascinating, mysterious topic that can in fact be very indicative of who you are as a person and keys to unlocking your innermost feelings.

That being said, if you were to have this dream again, it could fall into the recurring dream category, which means the message is so urgent that it forces you to find the

deeper meaning, whereas a dream that occurs only once is easily forgotten about as you go on with your day-to-day routine. Such dreams commonly come from the inability to cope with something in your personal life. Perhaps you suffered from math anxiety in your school-age days? Have you considered pursuing a teaching certificate or a degree in math?

Of course, this could be a prophetic dream, a phenomenon where your subconscious mind pieces together information you may overlook throughout today and foretells a certain outcome.

Some people may construe a dream involving a lot of time in a classroom as a nightmare, which usually stem from rocky relationships or post-traumatic stress. Of course only time will tell if your dream is an epic dream. These stay with you for years and years and may fill you with a sense of awe when you wake up. Perhaps this dream will change your life, or maybe you'll forget about it in a week. Who knows?

As for the kids in the dream, you can't reach out to them - they aren't real, except of course for in your dreams.

*Basra Betty*

## ROCK AND ROLL TRIVIA

### FREEDOM ROCK

Rock and Roll - it's as American as baseball, hot dogs, apple pie and Chevrolet. Celebrate freedom with this Independence Day themed quiz.

- 1) Who sang "Free Me" shortly after liberating himself from The Who?
- 2) What 1965 Rolling Stones song did the Soup Dragons have a hit with 25 years later?
- 3) Kris Kristofferson wrote "freedom's just another another word for nothing left to lose" in what song made popular by Janis Joplin?
- 4) What Lynyrd Skynrd song is it that y'all want to hear? (Everybody shout the answer together)

5) Tom Petty declared his independence from the Heartbreakers and went to #7 on the charts in 1989 with this ballad from his solo album Full Moon Fever.

6) Paul Rodgers was "All Right Now" while singing in this band before forming Bad Company.

7) In 1980, Devo hit it big with "Whip It," featured on what album?

- a) Freedom to Rock
- b) Freedom of Choice
- c) Freedom of Speech
- d) Freedom to Wear Flower Pots on our Heads

8) Turn it up, man! In the late 1980s, Sessions Records advertised a compilation of classic rock songs that featured a classic TV commercial with the line "Hey man, is that \_\_\_\_\_?"

9) Elton John got swept up in bicentennial fever in the mid-1970s, writing a tribute to the freedom of what American metropolis?

10) In 1776, the Founding Fathers wrote "all men are created equal," completely slighting women.

Things have changed, fortunately, and by 2000 Destiny's Child was saluting "all the honeys makin' money" on what hit from the Charlie's Angels soundtrack.

Answers to this week's trivia:  
(1) Roger Daltrey (2) 'I'm Free" (3) "Me and Bobby McGhee" (4) "Free Bird" (5) "Free Fallin'" (6) Bobby McGhee (7) Freedom of Choice (8) Freedom Rock (9) "Philadelphia Freedom" (10) "Independent Women"

## Soccer update



Argentina	0	Paraguay	0
Germany	4	Spain	1
Ghana	2	Brazil	1
Uruguay	4	Netherlands	2

**USD - South  
1st Infantry Division  
Yearbook Photos**

The Yearbook is on its way, and the USD-S PAO is offering you the chance to decide what you want to see.

- \*Send in your own photos. Requirements are complete army uniform, no hats/sunglasses.
- \*If you don't have a camera, arrange for a photo shoot with Public Affairs. All you need is a time and a place.
- \*If you are a DHHB Soldier serving in USD-S, photos are required.

If you have any other questions or comments, e-mail Sgt. Cody Harding on Outlook.

cody.harding@iraq.centcom.mil

## Big Red One Puzzle of the Week



*Hint for this week: Cynillic perhaps?*

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

*Solution for last week: Complimentary Angles  
Brought to you by the 1st Inf. Div. ORSA Cell*

## A look around USD-S



Photo by Sgt. Jason Kemp

Maj. Jonathan Doyle, 1st Inf. Div. and USD-S provost marshal, receives the Order of St. Marechaussee from Maj. Gen. Vincent Brooks, 1st Inf. Div. and USD-S commander.

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

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

For solutions visit: [www.puzzles.ca/sudoku\\_puzzles/sudoku\\_hard\\_003.html](http://www.puzzles.ca/sudoku_puzzles/sudoku_hard_003.html)