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December 2, 2009



Photo by Capt. Paulgh Despeignes

Capt. Norlan Ulad, an intelligence advisor from Philadelphia, Pa., assigned to Border Transition Team Scimitar, reviews tactical questioning methods with Dept. of Border Enforcement personnel at Shirhani Border Fort, Battalion Headquarters. BTT Scimitar trains BDE officers on various intelligence gathering tasks.

Building a foundation through partnership

By Capt. Norlan Ulad
Border Transition Team "Scimitar"



JSS CHALAT – As U.S. time moves closer to an Iraq in which there are no American forces to provide assistance, the importance of the lessons they passed on to Iraqi partners has never been greater.

One such effort, the train-the-trainer program instituted by Border Transition Team Scimitar, has vastly increased the technical and tactical competence of Iraq's 3rd Battalion, 11th Brigade, Department of Border Enforcement officers.

The training allows the DBE to effectively patrol and secure the border between Iran the southern Iraq province of Maysan.

The intent of the program is to develop junior Iraqi leaders and provide a common set of tactics, techniques and procedures that the DBE can use

"I'm very impressed with the progression of the DBE Officers. Since the beginning of this endeavor, I can clearly see improvements in their abilities."

~ Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Brown



Photo by Capt. Norlan Ulad

Sgt. 1st Class Christopher E. Brown, a medical advisor from Temple, Texas, supervises Shurta (police officers) providing first aid instruction at Zubaidat (1st Company) Border Fort, Maysan Province.

Soldiers and civilians keep supplies stocked

By Sgt. Andy Mehler
28th CAB



COB ADDER – In the modern Army, Soldiers often find themselves working alongside civilian contractors doing almost the exact same jobs.

The supply platoon of “A” Company, 628th Aviation Support Battalion, 28th Combat Aviation Brigade, has been tasked with running supply operations at the Supply Support Activity at Contingency Operating Base Adder, which is also staffed by civilian employees of the Black Hawk Management Corp., based in Killeen, Texas.

Sgt. Matthew Bircher, of Etters, Pa., is the senior enlisted in charge of his platoon’s mission.

“We receive, store, distribute and turn in Class-9 aviation parts,” said Bircher. “We distribute parts throughout the entire brigade.”

The operation also supplies all of Iraq and Afghanistan with parts that other SSA warehouses may not have readily available, said Bircher. The warehouse

carries 3,467 authorized items in its inventory, with a cash value of \$56 million.

The supply platoon also orders and distributes food items used to stock the Grab & Go trailers, where aviation brigade Soldiers can get sandwiches, chips, cold drinks and other assorted food items for a fast meal on the run.

There have been as many as 15 civilian contractors working with Bircher and his team.

“The civilians work for me and provide assistance in parts distribution and other warehouse operations,” Bircher said. “We all work integrated together.”

The civilians are trained to use the same online Army supply program used by Bircher to order and track the delivery status of parts requested by the units deployed in theater.

“I think we have a great rapport with the civilians,” said Sgt. Wendell White.

White, a resident of Anville, Pa., is the first-shift supervisor and also the



Photo by Sgt. Andy Mehler

Sgt. Matthew Bircher, of Etters, Pa., tracks and orders supplies on his computer at COB Adder. Bircher is the non-commissioned officer in charge of the “A” Company, 628th ASB’s supply mission.



Photo by Sgt. Andy Mehler

Sgt. Wendell White, from Anville, Pa., is first-shift supervisor and operations manager for the supply section of “A” Company, 628th ASB.

SUPPLIES
Page 3

HOMETOWN HIGHLIGHT

Founded in 1866 as a private coeducational institution on the site of the Anville Academy, Lebanon Valley College in Anville Pa. became a four-year institution by 1883 as the lower grades were phased out.

THE RED BULL REPORT

34th Red Bull Infantry Division
Public Affairs Office



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- 28th Combat Aviation Brigade
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From Page 1
FOUNDATION

to conduct unilateral law enforcement operations.

BTT Scimitar focuses the training on intelligence operations, detainee search procedures, tactical questioning and other tasks. The Soldiers then certify the battalion-level DBE trainees.

"I'm very impressed with the progression of the DBE officers," said Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Brown, a medic from Temple, Texas. "Since the beginning of this endeavor, I can clearly see improvements in their abilities."

Now the DBE-certified personnel can train their comrades at the company level.

To further assist with this effort, personnel from "C" Troop, 2nd Squadron, 13th Cavalry Regiment, will arrive at the company border forts to ensure DBE personnel are prepared and ready to receive the training.

Company DBE personnel were very receptive during the instruction, and demonstrated a clear understanding of the concepts behind each task.

"C" Troop Soldiers also conduct follow-on training that incorporates practical exercises to replicate real-world scenarios.

"Many of the DBE personnel have seen this kind of training on American television episodes and are excited to learn how to actually apply

them," said Spc. Steven Wike, a cavalry scout from El Dorado, Ohio. "This training allows us to differentiate between Hollywood shows and the real world."

The intelligence training improves the battalion's capabilities to teach the DBE to effectively conduct patrolling operations, specifically searching individuals and collecting information from personnel moving throughout the area.

For more of Capt. Ulad's stories, visit: www.TheRedBulls.org/Ulad

From Page 2
SUPPLIES

operations manager at the Supply Support Activity.

"I make sure all the cylinders are turning," he said.

White said it is a group effort at the SSA between the civilians and military teams.

"There are civilians in every section of the SSA," he said "They play a major role."

Aside from their supply activities, the platoon runs escort for incoming delivery drivers. They also run water missions, delivering pallets of bottled water to the air field, fuel point and other areas of COB Adder which are manned by Soldiers of the aviation brigade.

While working in the SSA, the platoon has made an important security improvement to the grounds by placing "HESCO" barriers - essentially very large sand bags -- to create a one-way-in and one-way-out traffic pattern, Bircher said.

The platoon has faced some environmental challenges being in a desert climate, Bircher said.

"We've had to adapt to the environment. Heavy winds bring dirt and dust into our storage area," he said.

The large tents used for storage areas are open at both ends, which can cause dust problems for the computers and cover the parts shelves in dirt.

The experience has taught everyone

in the platoon something, said White.

"We have a lot of young Soldiers that grew a lot here," he said. "It's made them more responsible."

For more of Sgt. Mehler's stories, visit: www.TheRedBulls.org/Mehler



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ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

Endek Ae - ilah?
Do you have a family?



بندك هل له عيلة؟

The 34th ID Band
Red Bull Riders



COUNTRY BAND

This Saturday, 05 Dec 2009

1500-1700



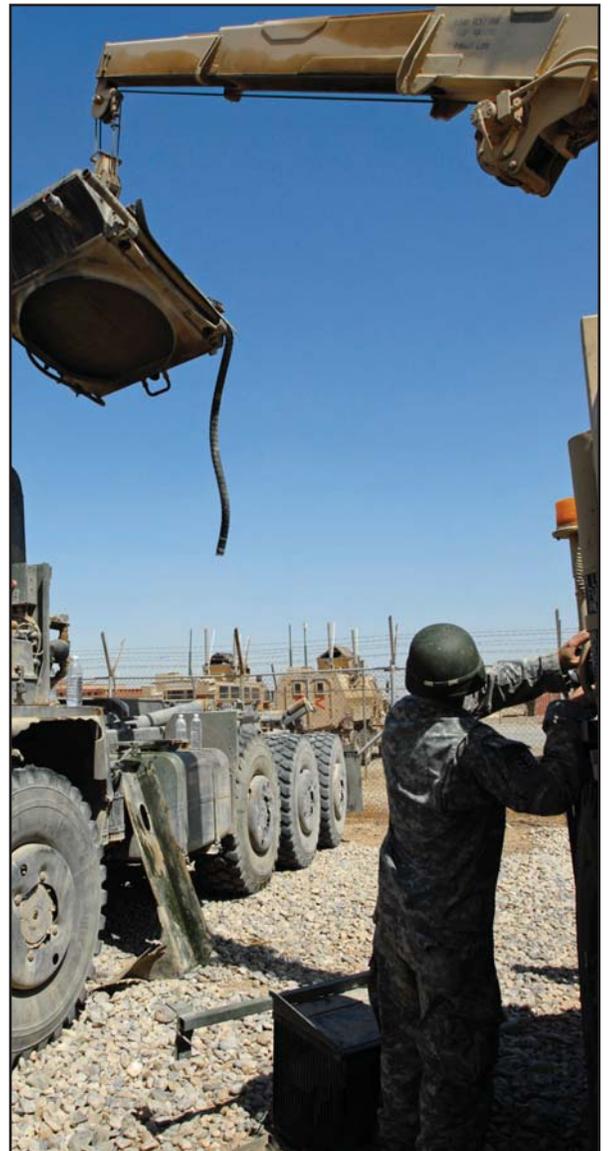
Live at the OASIS Bazaar
(Next to ECP Delta) (hookahs, fresh baked bread, camel rides, gifts, and much more...)



From the humvee to the mighty Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle to the great, lumbering supply truck, the Army's wheeled mechanics are trained to keep their machines mobile.

ADDER MECHANICS KEEP THE ARMY ROLLING

Photos/ Photo Illustrations by Pfc. J. Princeville Lawrence
34th Red Bull Infantry Division PAO



Warrant Officer Richmond Minton, an Allied Trades Technician with the 121st Brigade Support Battalion, removes the radiator from an M1075 Palletized Loading System.



Spc. Jason Hooper, a Longville, Texas native and a mechanic with Bravo Company, 121st Brigade Support Battalion, repairs a M1075 Palletized Loading System in Contingency Operating Base Adder.



The Army's wheel vehicle mechanics spend 12 weeks at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md., where they learn to maintain the Army's wheeled vehicles, their associated trailers and automotive equipment.



Mechanics from the 121st Brigade Support Battalion safely stage a radiator after removing it from a M1075 PLS.



Staff Sgt. Rudy Delgado, a San Antonio, Texas native and a mechanic with Bravo Company, 121st Brigade Support Battalion slides beneath a Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle.

Do not Take Falls Lightly

It is easy to take the subject of falls lightly - unless you or someone you know has had a serious fall. Then you realize how deadly this commonplace accident can be. Millions of people are injured or killed by falls every year. Most of these falls occur on the same level. That means they do not involve a fall from a height above ground level. Instead, most falls occur from slipping on a slick surface, or tripping over an object. To understand how a fall occurs, we have to review a little high school physics.

Three forces are involved in falls - friction, momentum, and gravity.

- ◆ Slips occur when there is not enough friction between your foot and the surface you are walking on. That is why you slip on surfaces such as ice, wet floors and banana peels - there is not enough friction to slow your foot down.
- ◆ The next principle is momentum, which is at work when you trip over something. Your feet are stopped by the object, but momentum carries the rest of your body forward.
- ◆ The final principle is gravity. When you lose your balance by slipping or tripping, the force of gravity pulls you down.

Falls are a commonplace kind of accident. They can cause serious injuries or death - so take fall prevention seriously.

Please Contact your Camp Basrah Safety
Office for more information 318-858-4255

For more about safety, visit:
www.TheRedBulls.org/SafeandSound



Fall prevention tips:

- ◆ Keep clutter picked up.
- ◆ Arrange workspaces so there are clear passages for walking.
- ◆ Close desk and cabinet drawers and doors as soon as you use them.
- ◆ Keep walking surfaces free of water, oil and mud.
- ◆ Wear footwear that will prevent slipping and tripping.
- ◆ Work areas and traffic routes must be well-lit.
- ◆ Stick to established traffic routes.
- ◆ If you must walk on a low-friction, slippery surface, take small, deliberate steps.
- ◆ Use the handrail on stairways.
- ◆ Report any walking surface hazards
- ◆ Never use makeshift climbing devices.

If you do start to fall, you should relax your muscles. Do what you can to protect your head and spine from injury. Try to land on a soft, fleshy part of your body. Roll in the direction of the fall so that you do not stop all at once.

C A T H O U K U L E L E M U R D G R
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Word Search: Musical Instruments

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Around the world in 34 seconds



TEHRAN – Iran’s announcement of plans to build 10 more uranium enrichment facilities is largely bluster after a strong rebuke from the U.N.’s nuclear agency, analysts said Monday. Nonetheless, the defiance is fueling calls among Western allies for new punitive sanctions to freeze Iran’s nuclear program. U.S. and European officials were swift to condemn the plans, warning that Iran risked sinking ever deeper into isolation. Iran responded that it felt forced to move forward with the plans after the International Atomic Energy Agency passed a resolution Friday demanding that it halt all enrichment activities. Iran’s bold announcement Sunday appears to be largely impossible to achieve as long as sanctions continue to throw up roadblocks and force Iran to turn to black markets and smuggling for nuclear equipment, said nuclear expert David Albright. “They can’t build those plants. There’s no way,” he said. “They have sanctions to overcome, they have technical problems. They have to buy things overseas ... and increasingly it’s all illegal.”



WASHINGTON – After months of debate, President Barack Obama will spell out a costly Afghanistan war expansion to a skeptical public Tuesday night, coupling an infusion of as many as 35,000 more troops with a vow that there will be no endless U.S. commitment. His first orders have already been made: at least one group of Marines who will be in place by Christmas. Obama has said that he prefers “not to hand off anything to the next president” and that his strategy will “put us on a path toward ending the war.” Obama’s war escalation includes sending 30,000 to 35,000 more American forces into Afghanistan in a graduated deployment over the next year, on top of the 71,000 already there. There also will be a fresh focus on training Afghan forces to take over the fight and allow the Americans to leave.



NEW ORLEANS – Drew Brees and the unbeaten Saints left Tom Brady in the dust, zipping up and down the field in a dominant romp over the New England Patriots. Brees threw for a season-high 371 yards and five touchdowns, carving up coach Bill Belichick’s defense like few quarterbacks ever have in New Orleans’ 38-17 victory Monday night. By harassing Brady all game and routing one of the NFL’s top powers, the Saints joined the Indianapolis Colts at 11-0 — the first time two NFL teams have opened with that many consecutive wins in the same season. “It only counts for one win on the stat sheet, but emotionally, those types of wins can mean a little more,” Brees said. “Anytime you can win, and win that way, it builds confidence for you.” The convincing victory left little doubt about New Orleans’ credentials as the Saints try to match the Patriots’ 16-0 regular-season mark in 2007. New England remains the only team to go undefeated in a 16-game regular season — for now.



OHIO – A man in Ohio said he had to do some running of his own while watching football on TV when a deer came crashing in through a window. Jeff Berger said he managed to get out of the way when the animal charged at him Sunday evening inside his fiancée’s house in Lima, in northwest Ohio. The deer jumped on the living room sofa Berger had been lying on. The deer, which authorities said appeared to be a doe, had smashed through a patio window making a noise that Berger said led him to fear someone was trying to break in to kill him and fiancée Marianne Tate. Neither was injured. Police officers arrived and chased the deer from behind the couch and out the front door. It was last seen going into nearby woods.