



# DANGER FORWARD



October 11, 2010 | Issue 37

## IRAQI SWAT TO LEAD TRAINING

*Current Iraqi SWAT members prepare to train future teams*

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

**BASRA, Iraq** – The only markers on the range are the burnt craters where vehicles were once parked. Steel cable juts out of the ground, rusted and frayed as it sticks up from under the sand. There are no buildings in sight, and only a rough road gives any sense of direction in the desert.

For the Basra Special Weapons and Tactics team and the trainers of Company C, 1st Battalion, 68th Armor Regiment, it's the perfect place to train.

Ten SWAT team members went to the Normandy Range Complex to practice training their fellow Iraqis on close quarters combat tactics Oct. 3.

The Basra SWAT team has trained with various special forces units, including the Navy SEALs and the British SAS, and every bit of training counts. The 1st Bn., 68th Ar. Regt., currently under the

Photo by Sgt. Cody Harding

A member of the Basra SWAT team engages a target while moving during a joint training session in Basra Oct. 4.

*See SWAT, page 8*



*Iraqi Navy sets sail - p. 4*



*BRAC in Iraq - p. 5*



*Risky road trips - p. 6*

# Soldiers, Iraqi students hit high note with music program

By Spc. Joseph Vine  
305th MPAD, USF-I PAO

**CAMP VICTORY, Iraq** – A tuba, two trumpets, a trombone, and a French horn are all it took for five soldiers from the 1st Infantry Division Band to speak to 25 Iraqi music students, with the Peace Through Arts program, at the United States Embassy.

The students sat on the edge of their seats holding their instruments and mimicking the soldiers' movements as they played. They listened intently, learning from every note produced by the instruments of the Cantigny Brass Quintet.

Once the quintet finished playing music that ranged from classical to movie themes, they gave one-on-one classes to the students to improve their playing skills.

The band members showed the students breathing techniques and proper hand placement on their instruments to play louder and longer.

"We showed them classical music, American marches and rock 'n' roll," said Chief Warrant Officer Jeremiah Keillor, a native of Los Fresnos, Texas, 1st ID band commander and band master.

He said that the student's musical skills are based on a good foundation. They only needed to hear the songs and they could play them back.

Mohammed Saad, one of the students from Baghdad, said they will benefit from the band member's experience to help them be better musicians.

This is the first time a musical exchange between soldiers and young Iraqis has happened at the Embassy.

"I'm able to get a point across and communicate through the music," said



Photo by Spc. Joseph Vine

A tuba, two trumpets, a trombone, and a French horn are all it took for five soldiers from the 1st Infantry Division Band to speak to 25 Iraqi music students, with the Peace Through Arts program, at the United States Embassy.

Sgt. Matthew Johnston, a native of Ellicott City, Md., and a trombonist with the band.

"We did some of the Iraqi folk songs together," said Johnston. "We were able to produce music together for their enjoyment and ours."

"Hopefully the students will take this experience and see that the band is made up of not just soldiers, but musicians too," said Keillor. "We're like them. We can play the same music, we can open the same book, we can read it side-by-side," he said.

Ambassador James F. Jeffrey, United States Ambassador to Iraq said although the students associate soldiers with Humvees and protecting them against terrorists, it's great to see the soldiers share

with them their love of culture and music.

"We're really proud of these soldiers from the Big Red One, and proud of their cooperation with these young Iraqis," he said.

"By working with the children, we are able to collaborate and share a piece of their culture as well ours," said Johnston.

The soldiers from the quintet will continue to reach out to the Iraqi students. The band has invited them to Contingency Operating Base Basra to play together again and to continue to develop a bond based on the language of music.

"It's all about small steps," said Keillor. "Hopefully it will shape the lives of the 25 kids that were here today." ■

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# TWO SOLDIERS RECEIVE SAFETY AWARD

By Joe Zelko  
USD-S Safety

On August 31, 2010, while eating lunch in the Patrol Base Minden dining facility, Sgt. 1st Class Paul Whitmore, Troop B, 4th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment's maintenance team chief, noticed a heavy electrical burn smell. Whitmore immediately left the cafeteria and sought out Staff Sgt. Walter Stephens, PB Minden's mayor. Stephens and Whitmore returned to the cafeteria and immediately shut down the building's circuit breaker. Upon further investigation, Stephens and Whitmore noticed the electrical wires and circuit breakers inside the distribution panel were melted. Whitmore's situational awareness and Stephens' quick thinking undoubtedly saved the building, and the people inside, from an impending fire.

Because of their due diligence and quick action in preventing a major fire and destruction of the PB Minden cafeteria, the United States Division-South safety office wanted to present the noncommissioned officers with a safety certificate of achievement. While writing the awards, the safety office found out Sergeant Major of the Army Kenneth Preston would be visiting Basra on September 28 and 29.

Working with the USD-S Command Sergeant Major,

Command Sgt. Maj. Jim Champagne, and his administration NCO, Staff Sgt. Rashawnda Markland, coordination was made between the safety office and the Sergeant Major of the Army's office, and on Sept. 29, in front of an audience of their fellow USD-S soldiers, Preston presented them with a safety certificate of achievement and coin for their quick action in mitigating an electrical fire and saving the lives of those eating in the facility at the time. ■

Sgt. 1st Class Paul Whitmore, Troop B, 4th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment maintenance team chief.



Staff Sgt. Walter Stephens, the mayor of Patrol Base Minden.



## THIS WEEK IN ARMY HISTORY...



### 1st Infantry Division History

October 17, 1967 – The 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment are ambushed by an entrenched regiment of Viet Cong during the Battle of Ong Thanh. The North Vietnamese outnumbered the Americans by a ratio of roughly 10-to-1 and killed 59 Soldiers and wounded 79. The battalion, which numbered fewer than 200 at the time of the battle, also lost its commander, Lt. Col. Terry de la Mesa Allen Jr., the son of Maj. Gen. Terry de la Mesa Allen Sr., who commanded the Big Red One during World War II.



### Operation Iraqi Freedom History

October 15, 2005 – A referendum is held in which the new Iraqi constitution is ratified. The new constitution replaced the Law of Administration for the State of Iraq for the Transitional Period, which was drafted between December 2003 and March 2004 by a body that was selected by the Coalition Provisional Authority. The new constitution describes Iraq as a “democratic, federal, representative republic” and a “multi-ethnic, multi-religious and multi-sect country.”



### 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment History

October 12, 1846 – The Regiment of Mounted Riflemen is formed at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., and is re-designated the 3rd United States Cavalry. This is the pre-cursor to the modern 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment.

# Iraqi Navy celebrates new upgrades

By Spc. Raymond Quintanilla  
305th MPAD, USD-S PAO

**BASRA, Iraq** – Iraqi Defense Minister Abdul Qader Obeidi attended the Iraqi Navy Day celebration, which included the commissioning of a small fleet of American-built boats added to the Iraqi Navy inventory at the port of Umm Qasr Sept. 26.

Vice Admiral Kevin M. McCoy, commander of Naval Sea Systems Command, and Lt. Gen. Michael D. Barbero, deputy commanding general for advising and training with United States Forces-Iraq, were also present.

The occasion signified the working relationship between U.S. forces and the Iraqi Navy, working toward the new mission under Operation New Dawn.

“I am proud to be among the first to witness the historical arrival and commissioning of Iraq’s first patrol boat,” McCoy said. “This occasion reflects the important ties that bound our governments and our commitment to supporting a strong coalition partnership.”

“Honor, courage and commitment,” McCoy said, “these are the very ideals that will validate our future relationship with Iraq and its people, most especially with Iraqi Naval forces.”

Iraqi Navy Day was a chance for the new navy crew to demonstrate tactical skills learned from their partners while training in the U.S.

“It’s an opportunity for them to show off their principal achievements,” said Commodore Tony Radakin, a native of Winchester, England, and the commander of Task Force Iraqi Maritime of the British Royal Navy.

Radakin was part of the coalition effort to protect Iraqi territory waters in 2003 and said he has watched the Iraqi Navy grow since.

“I am delighted to say I’m seeing that operational performance come together,” said Radakin. “The Iraqi Navy has taken responsibility for the northern terminal and everything that we are seeing so far shows that they’re on track to take responsibility.”

Radakin said the Iraqi Navy is scheduled to take full responsibility for all its waterways sometime next year.

The Iraqi Navy also received a small fleet of high-speed P-301 patrol boats and smaller watercraft as part of the build-up of the security forces that defend the coast of Iraq from external threats and protect oil terminals, which produces approximately 85% of the nation’s gross domestic product.

As part of the ceremony, a company-sized group of newly commissioned officers attached their new officer ranks.

Umm Qasr, which is located in the United States Division-South and 1st Infantry Division area of operations, is a major commercial port in southeastern Iraq where cargo ships dock. The port is vital to the Iraqi economy and serves as the home of the Iraqi Navy and its foreign training force. ■

Iraqi sailors man the decks of the Iraqi Navy’s newly-christened P-301 patrol boat at the port of Umm Qasr in southern Iraq Sept. 26. The patrol boat will be used to secure the vital waterways Iraq uses to transport oil, a significant revenue source for the nation.



Photo by Spc. Raymond Quintanilla

# Bucca realignment and closure

By Staff Sgt. Chanelcherie DeMello  
305thMPAD, USD-S PAO

**BASRA, Iraq** – United States Division-South is in the final stages of preparing Camp Bucca for its handover to the Iraqi government in December.

The process for closing a U.S. military base is full of critical, can't-miss deadlines and the criteria for closing a base that will be turned over to the Government of Iraq are even more demanding.

The lion's share of the work preparing Camp Bucca for the turnover is being done by the Bucca Base Closure Assistance Team, or BCAT.

Working with the engineers and logistics shop, BCAT answers the questions military and civilian contractors may have in regards to accountability, equipment and infrastructure, said Tony Cameron, BCAT team leader.

BCAT is comprised of logisticians trained in base closure projects, said Capt. Rahman Ruston, a 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Advise and Assist Brigade, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division logistics officer. The team gives insight into closing bases and turning property over to the GoI.

"I don't think I would be able to turn over a base without the BCAT," Ruston said. "Granted, we have echelons above us that have that knowledge, but to have an actual team right here next door to you made it that much easier to get information and accomplish our mission."

In April 2010, the Theater Internment Facility was turned over, starting phase one of the Bucca closure. The project took about a month. Phase two was scheduled to begin Sept. 2010, but the team received a base closure mission for Safwaan Hill, which was ordered to close within 30 days from notice. BCAT simultaneously worked both closures, completing Safwaan Hill on schedule. The team combined phase two and three of the Bucca closure and is back on track.

So many things go on at the same time, Cameron said. Accountability and movement of troops and civilians have to be initiated, base environmental specialists have to conduct an initial, preliminary and final stage planning process, a thorough inventory from both



Photo by Staff Sgt. Chanelcherie DeMello

Tony Cameron, BCAT team leader, and Sgt. Antonio Gonzales, supply sergeant for Co. A, 3<sup>rd</sup> BSTB, 4<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div., reviews the process of the civilian and military inventory list of items that may be transferred to the GoI once the base is turned over.

military and civilian contractors will take place, and the reduction of services such as laundry, internet and food have to be considered.

"There is a lot of planning that goes into closing a base most people wouldn't think about," he said.

"One thing that is important to know is that the U.S. government will allow up to \$30 million (in value) to be left behind," said Cameron.

This is decided through two condition codes. Condition one, serviceably new, consists of items that have never been opened; their original costs are reduced by 50%. Condition two, serviceably used, consists of used items that are reduced by 40%. Force protection barriers, T-walls and crucial infrastructures are not

calculated as part of the \$30 million that can be left behind.

The closure is at a critical part of the process, Cameron said, but the U.S. has left a footprint, educated their Iraqi counterparts, and left points of contact for when the Americans have left.

"I give a lot of credit to BCAT, especially to Tony 'Tank' Cameron," Ruston said. "He's a civilian, but has green all through him; he's dedicated and wants to see this mission through."

"We are thankful to be here and assist the military, because the drawdown of forces" said Cameron. "I lost a lot of my troops over here during active duty, so every time I get to close a base I get to give a little bit back to them, so it makes something out of what we are doing." ■



Photo by Pvt. DeAngelo Wells

Sgt. 1st Class Tiffany Brown-Ramos briefs fellow Soldiers of the 64th Brigade Support Battalion before a convoy mission. Brown-Ramos, a healthcare specialist from Mobile, Ala., serves as a convoy commander ferrying supplies between the various military installations scattered throughout Iraq's Maysan Province.

## Soldiers hit the road where the road hits back

By Pvt. DeAngelo Wells  
3rd AAB, 4th Inf. Div. PAO

**DHI QAR PROVINCE, Iraq** – Soldiers of 64th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, along with KBR civilians, continue to deliver much needed supplies to their fellow Soldiers in Maysan Province.

The 64th BSB is tasked to bring supplies from their base near Nasiriyah to various military installations at a moment's notice. According to Soldiers, they can bring supplies to a station one day, refuel, and then be tasked to bring more to another the next day.

"As a brigade support battalion, we are the ones to bring the supplies to the other units within the brigade," said Sgt. 1st Class Tiffany Brown-Ramos, a healthcare specialist and convoy commander from Mobile, Ala., serving with Company A, 64th BSB.

These Soldiers have accomplished more than 30 supply shipments throughout the bases of southern Iraq since being deployed. Although the trek to the base is eight hours from Nasiriyah, the Soldiers of 64th BSB have delivered 20 shipments there to keep the Soldiers well-supplied.

Despite the long hours it takes to gather supplies, maintain and perform quality control checks on vehicles, and drive throughout the night, these Soldiers continue to get the job done.

"I tip my hat off to all of you here," said Lt. Col. Geoff DeTingo, 64th BSB commander. "I tip it off to you for what you guys do every day -- going out to these places and always completing the mission."

Soldiers of 64th BSB don't conduct their missions without preparation. Before setting out on any supply runs, Soldiers prepare themselves and each other through pre-combat checks and inspections, mission briefings, rehearsals

and run-throughs.

After staging the vehicles and inspecting equipment and Soldiers, Brown-Ramos and other noncommissioned officers give a thorough briefing on each mission. The briefings contain subjects such as routes to be taken, convoy objectives and duties, call signs, and recent enemy activities on the planned route.

After the mission briefing, Soldiers go through an intensive dry run of improvised explosive device response procedures and dismount routines. Each Soldier runs through the rehearsals, acting out the emergency response for an improvised explosive device. The rehearsals include responding to threats, being hit with an explosive charge, explosive ordnance Soldiers being called out, perimeter control, and convoy movement afterward. The rehearsals are run until each group of Soldiers demonstrates an understanding

See **CONVOY**, page 10

# Honoring Hispanic heritage at home and abroad

By Spc. Raymond Quintanilla  
305th MPAD, USD-S PAO

**BASRA, Iraq** – Service members and Department of Defense civilians in Basra, Iraq, celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month at the United States Division-South Resiliency Campus with music, cultural dances and dinner Sept. 30.

Lt. Col. Enrique De La Paz, a native of Mexico City who immigrated to the U.S. in 1972 and settled in Las Vegas, was the guest speaker for the celebration.

Shortly after his 17th birthday, De La Paz, his brother and sisters left Mexico and headed to Los Angeles to be with his mother. It was his first experience on an aircraft.

De La Paz spoke momentarily about his experience arriving in America and recalled one particular conversation with his Mother.

“I never thought I would work until I graduated from the university,” De La Paz said.

De La Paz recalled a conversation with his mother when he arrived in America. When he said he was enjoying school, she said he had to enjoy working. When the young De La Paz responded



Photo by Spc. Raymond Quintanilla

Sgt. 1st Class George Lloyd, a native of San Antonio and the noncommissioned officer in charge of the 162nd Army Surgical Medical Corps, and Spc. Amila Ortiz, a native of Carolina, P.R., and a promotions clerk for the 1st Inf. Div., perform a salsa dance during the Hispanic Heritage celebration at the USD-S Resiliency Campus in Basra Sept. 30. The pair also performed a dance called bachata as part of the night's entertainment, which included cultural music and dinner.



Photo by Spc. Raymond Quintanilla

Lt. Col. Enrique De La Paz, a staff officer with the 1st Inf. Div., speaks during the Hispanic Heritage Month celebration at the USD-S Resiliency Campus Sept. 30. “I never had any challenges; I had opportunities,” said De La Paz, a native of Mexico City who immigrated to the United States in 1972.

that his father would not make him go to work, she simply asked if he wanted to go back to Mexico.

Thus a new life began; De La Paz found work, went to college and started a family.

De La Paz met his wife, Diane Beatty, in Nevada and are now the parents of six children and seven grandchildren with one more on the way.

“We have a very close relationship,” De La Paz said. “I’ve been privileged to be married for 32 years. There are only two things that can make me cry: my wife and Family and love of my country.

De La Paz is now a staff officer with the 1st Infantry Division and United States Division-South.

Although he speaks proudly of his ethnic background and feels he comes from a rich culture, De La Paz continues to praise being an American and ties the mixes of cultures as part of what makes America great.

“I take the best of what my culture brings, which is love of Family, love of country, and to work hard and excel in everything you do,” De La Paz said, “and that goes hand-in-hand with what our American heritage is, which intertwines many cultures, making a stronger country.”

“I never had any challenges (being Hispanic); I had opportunities,” De La Paz said.

Hispanic Americans like De La Paz have distinguished themselves throughout the Army’s history.

In the Korean War, an all-Hispanic Regular Army regiment, the 65th Infantry Regiment known as the Borinqueneers, defeated a Chinese army division in a three-day battle.

In Vietnam, Roy P. Benavidez saved the lives of eight men while surrounded by a battalion of North Vietnamese soldiers and was eventually awarded the Medal of Honor

Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated Sept. 15 through Oct. 15, recognizing the contributions of Hispanic Americans to the United States, including those 200,000 serving in the United States military.

Today, Hispanic Americans continue to proudly serve the U.S. Army, making up about 12 percent of the service. ■



Photo by Sgt. Cody Harding

A Basra SWAT team member scans the horizon with Capt. Christopher Thompson, the commander of Co. C, 1st Bn., 68th Arm. Regt., during a training exercise in Basra Oct. 4. The 1st Bn., 68th Arm. Regt. and the SWAT team have worked together on several missions, building trust between the two units.

**SWAT, from front page**

operational control of United States Division-South and the 1st Infantry Division, has taken up the task of teaching the SWAT team not just tactics, but how to pass on their knowledge in tactics to others.

The 10 SWAT members will go back to their unit able to train cadre for 52 other policemen, said Capt. Christopher Thompson, the commander of C Company.

“What we’re hoping with these 10 is that we set the training model that these guys will use from here on out,” said Thompson, an Ellsworth, Kan., native. “Once we’re gone, these guys will train future generations of SWAT.”

The range consisted of several wooden targets set up on steel posts that the Soldiers and SWAT members brought and prepared on their own. After a few dry runs with their AK-47 rifles, the SWAT team practiced engaging targets in close quarters, turning to face and engage targets and shooting while advancing.

Sgt. Kent Marshall, a tanker with Co. C and one of the trainers, said the progress of the team has been noticeable since they began their week-long training.

“For the most part we’re not trying to implement our tactics on them; we

just want to make sure they have the capabilities to train their new guys,” said Marshall, a native of Las Vegas. “We will give them a class, then we’ll bring our younger guys in. We’d have them, with the interpreter, train our new guys up to their

standards in the class we gave them.”

Co. C is involved in several missions around Basra, including counter-mortar patrols, time sensitive targets and security for the Basra Operations Center, a joint Iraqi and U.S. installation.

About the only thing they don’t do, according to Thompson, is drive tanks.

“Which is kind of ironic since this is in fact a tank company,” he said.

Marshall said he was impressed by the capability of the forces he’s trained and served with.

“We’ve done missions with these guys already,” Marshall said. “We’ve seen them in action, and they excel ... We just want to make sure they have the fundamentals down to get their guys up to par.”

Mohammad Kareem, a member of the Basra SWAT team, said the training is going a long way to allowing the Iraqis to protect their country.

“We believe the American forces and the experts try to do the best to have the Iraqi Security Forces trained so they can take all of the responsibility in the future so they can attack and face the terrorists and militias in Iraq,” Kareem said.

“Everybody knows that the Basra SWAT team has a lot of experience,” Kareem said. “We need to keep our experience up; we need to keep training; we need to keep trying. The SWAT team is always going to be ready.” ■



Photo by Sgt. Cody Harding

A member of the Basra SWAT team demonstrates the proper form to ready a weapon to other members of the SWAT team during a training exercise in Basra Oct. 4. The team is working with the 1st Bn., 68th Arm. Regt. to learn how to instruct other police officers in Basra.

**CONVOY, from page 6**

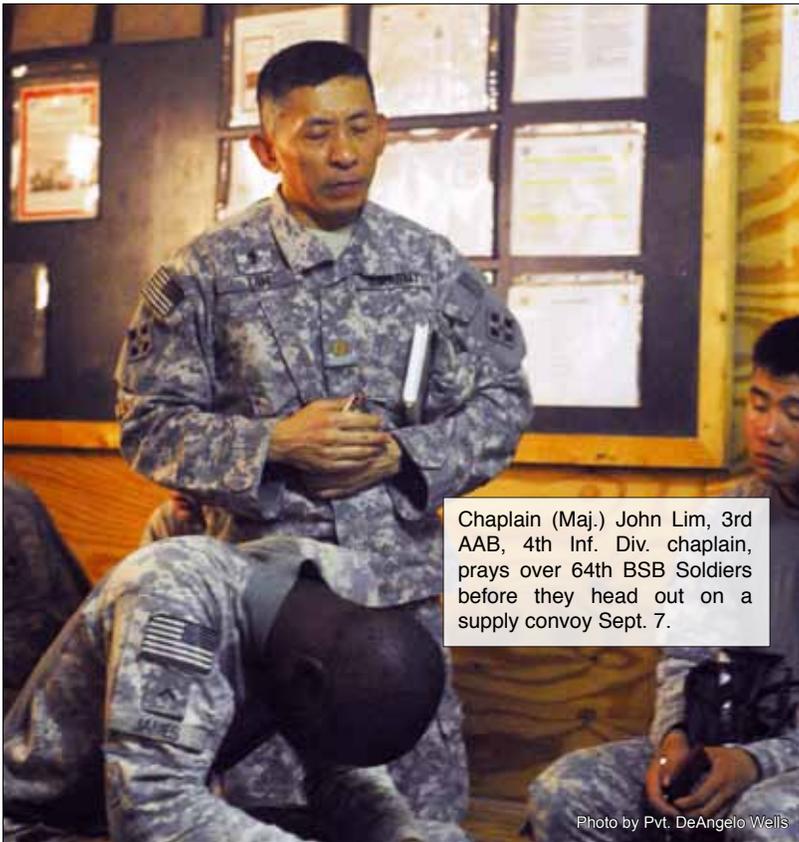
of their actions as part of the team. Soldiers then eat, gear up and start their journey.

“We go through the rehearsal before each convoy,” said Pvt. Tramaine James, a fueler from Sunsea, S.C., with Company B, 64th BSB. “We don’t leave until everyone knows what they have to do.”

The convoy generally arrives at its destination within ten hours of leaving Adder, if there are no vehicle malfunctions or tactical stops. Soldiers are then briefed on the next 24 hours of operations covering where they will sleep, when they will eat, and the preparation for the next day’s mission to return to Nasiriyah.

The ten hour drives can make it hard to remain alert, so Soldiers use many methods to keep their vigilance up. The Soldiers have spent so much time doing these convoys together they have found techniques on keeping themselves alert and entertained, from thought-provoking conversations to cold drinks and a few snacks.

“We train to work long hours and be up all night to accomplish the mission,” said Pvt. George Braithwaite, a truck driver from Jacksonville, Fla., with Company B, 64th BSB. “I was trained to transport supplies and do what I am doing now. That’s what my sergeants ask of me so that’s what I do.” ■



Chaplain (Maj.) John Lim, 3rd AAB, 4th Inf. Div. chaplain, prays over 64th BSB Soldiers before they head out on a supply convoy Sept. 7.

Photo by Pvt. DeAngelo Wells



Soldiers of 64th BSB, 3rd AAB, 4th Inf. Div. rehearse movements before moving a convoy in Maysan Province, Iraq, Sept. 7. The Soldiers completed various rehearsals containing improvised explosive device sightings and response, maintaining perimeters, and maintenance procedures.

Photo by Pvt. DeAngelo Wells

# Pumping out one million gallons and 10 re-ups

By *Spc. Roland Hale*  
1st Inf. Div. ECAB PAO

**CAMP TAJI, Iraq** – Ten Soldiers serving in Iraq with an Army aviation battalion re-enlisted Oct. 2 in a special ceremony on Camp Taji.

The Soldiers, assigned to the 601st Aviation Support Battalion, re-enlisted at a Forward Arming and Refueling Point on the base, as fuelers from their battalion celebrated pumping their millionth gallon of fuel during the deployment.

The support battalion is part of the Enhanced Combat Aviation Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, which deployed from Fort Riley, Kan., this March. The Soldiers who re-enlisted represented several of the battalion's facets, including transportation, supply and maintenance.

Staff Sgt. Justin Puls, the battalion's career counselor and a native of Plantation, Fla., not only helped the Soldiers re-enlist, but also re-enlisted himself. Puls re-enlisted indefinitely, and plans to spend at least 20 years in the Army. This is his third re-enlistment, and also his most memorable, he said.

"As much as it was about me, it was about everyone I re-enlisted with. It was a great opportunity to go out there with those Soldiers," said Puls. "It makes me proud, not only of the Soldiers, but also to be a part of the battalion pumping that millionth gallon."

Pfc. Syrita Wilson, a motor transport operator with the battalion and a native of Warner Robbins, Ga., also re-enlisted.

"It was good to have other people re-enlist with me, and at the same time know that we reached the 1 million mark," said Wilson.

Wilson re-enlisted for six more years of service, and plans to make the military a career after becoming an officer.

The battalion will hold several more re-enlistment ceremonies before it redeploy to Fort Riley next March. The battalion's fueling point on Camp Taji also plans to pump over 2 million gallons by the deployment's end. ■

Soldiers serving in Iraq with the ECAB, 1st Inf. Div. stand in formation to re-enlist Oct. 2 in a special ceremony on Camp Taji, a large U.S. base near Baghdad. The Soldiers re-enlisted as their unit's Forward Arming and Refueling Point celebrated pumping its millionth gallon of fuel that deployment. In the background, a Kiowa Warrior helicopter piloted by Col. Frank Muth and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Adam Garner approaches the FARP. Muth re-enlisted the Soldiers as fuelers pumped the millionth gallon of fuel.



Photos by Spc. Roland Hale



Courtesy photo

Soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division take a knee for a photo at the Kansas Speedway . More than 800 Soldiers were given complimentary tickets to the NASCAR race there, Oct. 3.

# Soldiers enjoy a day at the races

*By Stephanie Hoff*  
1st Inf. Div. Public Affairs

Among the numbers and logos of famous racecar drivers, one number that received particular recognition was a single red '1' that was not painted on any car. The 'Big Red One' patch worn by the Soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division did not race for the checkered flag but still received cheers from fans and spectators.

More than 800 Soldiers were given complimentary tickets to watch a live NASCAR race Oct. 3 at the Kansas Speedway. A contingent of more than 20 Soldiers from the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., represented the historic division during the event and participated in the opening ceremonies where they were able to shake hands with the drivers after they were announced.

"I'm a NASCAR fan," said Spc. Brandon Talsma, 4th Brigade's Special Troops Battalion. "This was definitely a great opportunity to enjoy the race while representing my brigade."

The Soldiers were additionally able to meet Ryan Newman, driver of the number 39 U.S. Army racecar before the stock cars took to the track for the drop of the checkered flag.

"He's my favorite driver," Talsma said. "Getting to meet him made it all worth it."

Command Sgt. Maj. Wylie Hutchison, command sergeant major of 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, 4th IBCT, visited with Newman on Oct. 1, where he presented him and the U.S. Army racing team with an appreciation plaque from the 1st Inf. Div.

"It doesn't matter who our individual

favorite drivers are; we always support the Army car," Hutchison said.

Members of Newman's pit crew showed their appreciation for the Soldiers of the Big Red One by wearing hats that represented the 1st Inf. Div. Wearing the hat was a special honor for Jeff Zarrella, tire specialist for the team.

"My uncle served in the Big Red One," Zarrella said. "I called him this morning to tell him that (the team) were able to meet Soldiers from the division and that I'll be sending him a Big Red One hat."

The warm welcome and support of the U.S. Army racing team was echoed by the fans and spectators, said Spc. Jay Melton of 4th BSTB.

"All the fans keep stopping us and thanking us for our service. Today has definitely given me a new appreciation of NASCAR." ■



Courtesy photo

Sgt. Kevin Carson was awarded the Purple Heart by President Barrack Obama at Walter Reed Army Medical Center from wounds sustained while serving in southern Iraq.

## Web links...\_

[www.facebook.com/1stinfantrydivision](http://www.facebook.com/1stinfantrydivision)

[www.facebook.com/3bct4id](http://www.facebook.com/3bct4id)

[www.facebook.com/3dACR](http://www.facebook.com/3dACR)

### 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](mailto:nathaniel.smith5@iraq.centcom.mil)

You could have it featured here and receive a coin from DCSM Jim Champagne.



# Basra Betty says...



Hey Betty,

Is it only me or is it extremely rude when someone comes in the latrine and leaves the door open behind them? I'd really prefer not to have everyone join me in there!

Signed,  
Private Person

Dear  
"PVT Person,"

Is that PVT, PV2 or PFC Person? Anyway, this is another "touchy one" so I'm going to be relatively brief. No, it is definitely not just you! I prefer a modicum of privacy in the powder room and someone leaving the door open after waltzing in certainly puts me in a clench.

Personally, I just can't profess to understand the thought process of the person that feels it's perfectly fine to let the rest of the division in on what's supposed to be kept behind closed doors. Has civility gone down the drain?

We all live and work in relatively close quarters day after day and I'm certain there are some things about your battle buddy that you now know

that maybe you wish you didn't.

Regardless of however close we may have all become, there should still be a code of common courtesy observed when nature calls. We needn't share 'everything' with each other, including trying to deduce what gastronomical delights we indulged in at the DFAC because someone decided to leave the door open for all to appreciate the scents and sounds that come from the latrine (by the way, that's the 'head' for you nautical types).

When the issue comes up about what goes down in there, let's try to keep a lid on it.

I wash my hands of this,

-Betty

## Rock and Roll Trivia

*"The Autumn wind is a pirate..."*

The high temperatures are now dipping below 100 degrees, college and NFL seasons are in full swing, and the leaves back in the states are turning colors. This week's trivia is devoted to all things autumnal.

- 1) It is now time to wake up Green Day's Billy Joe, according to what song from their *American Idiot* album?
- 2) U2 followed *Boy* with what album featuring "Gloria" as its biggest hit?
- 3) Neil Young has had two hit albums named after what autumn event that helps put food on the table?
- 4) What supermodel, and then-girlfriend of Axl Rose,

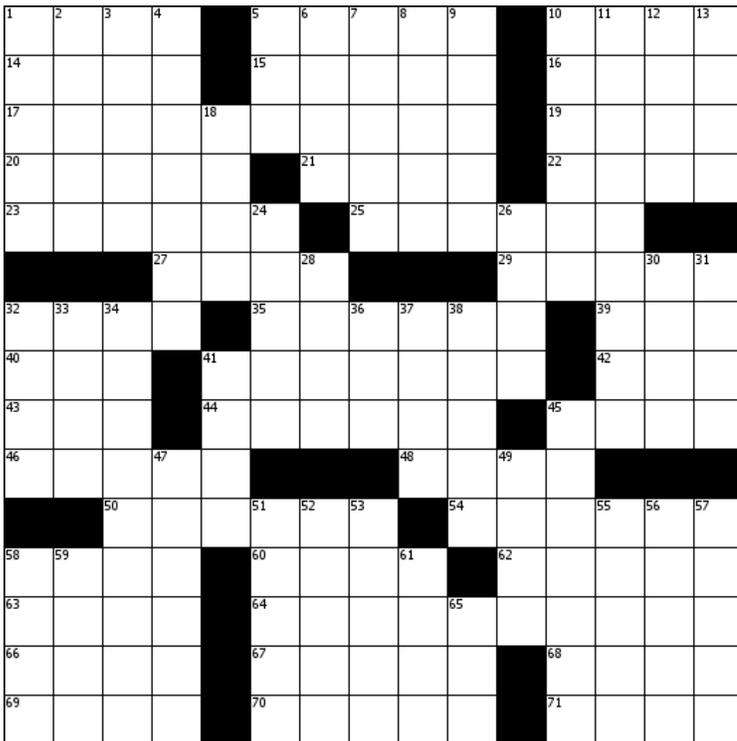
starred in the music video for Guns n' Roses' "November Rain"?

5) What hard rock band joined Witchiepoo from HR Pufnstuf, Tim Conway, Florence Henderson and a host of other 'stars' on the 1976 "Paul Lynde Halloween Special"? Two Octobers later, they starred in their own TV movie where they meet "The Phantom of the Amusement Park"

6) BONUS – "The Autumn Wind is a Pirate" was a poem used by NFL Films in their classic tribute to what 1970s pro football dynasty?

Answers to this week's trivia:

(1) "Wake Me Up When September Ends" (2) *October* (3) *Harvest and Harvest Moon* (4) Stephanie Seymour (5) Kiss (6) The Oakland Raiders



**Across**

1. Mediator's skill
5. Sweetshop order
10. Wax-wrapped cheese
14. Construction piece
15. The sum of all parts
16. Foe of 007
17. Prepare for later viewing
19. \_\_\_-Japanese War (1894-95)
20. In concert
21. Pad site
22. Verve
23. Fitted within one another
25. Put on the register
27. They're heard in rings
29. Cartoon pooch
32. Newswoman Paula
35. Move unsteadily
39. Forever, or close to it
40. In the manner of
41. They're nuts!
42. Cyberspace initials
43. \_\_\_ de guerre
44. Peter fit for this puzzle
45. Award for "60 Minutes"
46. Gulf of Aden country
48. Chubby lover
50. Enter into conflict
54. "For example ..."
58. Surf partner
60. Aitchbone locale
62. Glittered
63. Comic strip pooch
64. Visually sharp
66. "The Ballad of Reading \_\_\_"  
(Wilde)
67. "\_\_\_ a Grecian Urn" (Keats)
68. "... and to \_\_\_ good night!"
69. Drop down?
70. "What's \_\_\_ like?"
71. Summer job seeker, often

**Down**

1. Satellite of Saturn
2. Demean
3. Major mafiosi
4. Garden State capital
5. Jeanne d'Arc, e.g. (Abbr)
6. Joint in the hind leg of a horse
7. Repent
8. Carpenter who could carry a tune
9. Word for a statesman
10. Ford fiascos
11. Halftime entertainers
12. Tolstoy's Karenina
13. "\_\_\_ River"
18. It will hold the line
24. Coup \_\_\_
26. Bireme implements
28. Nothing special
30. Board accompaniment
31. Sole
32. Off-the-wall
33. \_\_\_ vera
34. Digit problem
36. Howe'er
37. BBC receiver
38. Still-life subjects
41. Viet \_\_\_
45. Legal right to property
47. Encompass or envelop
49. Boot out of office
51. Vacuum tube gas
52. Painter Reni
53. Irish patriot Robert
55. Card game authority Edmond
56. Anoint with oil
57. Flint product
58. Glad rags
59. Deseret, now
61. Story line
65. Brian of Roxy Music

# Big Red One Puzzle of the Week



*Hint: Visit the Trinity Site...*

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

*Solution for last week: Entrance fee*

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

## 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 to this week's puzzle and for more sudoku puzzles, visit:

[www.puzzles.ca/sudoku\\_puzzles/](http://www.puzzles.ca/sudoku_puzzles/)