

# The Expeditionary Times

Proudly serving the finest expeditionary service members throughout Iraq

Vol. 5, Issue 8

May 25, 2011



Iraqi airmen apply a tourniquet to Spc. Avery Brown, a medic with the 4th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command and a Rosenberg, Texas native, during the final test of their Combat Life Saver training on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq.

## Medics share their skills with Iraqis

STORY AND PHOTO BY  
PFC. AMY M. LANE  
4TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE

### CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE

**ADDER, Iraq** – After three days of classroom training, a class of Iraqi Air Force personnel wrapped up their Combat Life Saver training with hands-on practice May 14 on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq.

Medics from the 4th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command set up realistic combat scenarios for the Iraqi Airmen to practice their new CLS skills.

“They did really well, especially considering the language barrier,” said Pfc. Paul Dalrymple, a medic with the 4th Sust. Bde. and a San Antonio, Texas, native.

Though the medics worked alongside a translator to help them communicate with the airmen, some things don’t need translating. The classroom was filled with smiles and laughter as the Soldiers and Iraq airmen interacted.

“You kind of get to know everyone’s personality, even though you don’t speak the same language,” said Spc. Matthew Haag, a medic for the 4th Sust. Bde., a Killeen, Texas, native, and one of the instructors. “There was a lot of banter back and forth and we tried to keep things fun.”

Haag said they tried to keep the class interesting, with races to see who could apply a tourniquet first and carrying each other around on a litter. The training is similar to the CLS course that U.S. Soldiers receive,

but it’s not exactly the same.

“I’d say it’s more like combat first aid,” Haag said. “We make sure they understand the basics, and we don’t teach them what they probably won’t need to know.”

Soldiers learn about the medical evacuation process, but the Iraqi airmen won’t be using the same process, so that wasn’t included in their training. They also may not have access to the same equipment, so they learned to use what they have.

Haag said the students were very engaged in the class and often asked in-depth questions after they learned basic tasks.

“They want to take everything one step further,” he said. “You can tell they really care about learning the material. They ask tons of questions.”

Staff Sgt. Linda Gatlin, a medic for the 4th Sust. Bde. and a Palmdale, Calif., native, said she was impressed by their enthusiasm and motivation to learn.

“You can tell they want to be here, they want to learn, and that makes you want to assist them,” Gatlin said. “That really stood out to me and it was exciting as an instructor.”

After the training was complete, the Iraqi airmen were honored at a graduation ceremony. Each graduate received a certificate, and the two top graduates received special recognition and a plaque with the 4th Sust. Bde. logo.

“Because the Iraqi airmen are so inspired to learn, they are helping to stand up their Air Force, which helps get us out of here sooner,” said U.S. Air Force Senior Airman James Mamone, a firefighter who works with the Iraqi training and advisory mission-air and a Troy, N.Y., native.



Chaplain preaches fitness  
Page 4



Father, son meet up in Iraq  
Page 6



Transporters working day, night  
Pages 8&9

## Where do you read your Expeditionary Times?

Joint Base Balad:  
318-483-4603

COB Adder:  
318-833-1002

COB Taji:  
318-834-1281

Al Asad Air Base:  
318-440-4103

COB Speicher:  
318-849-2501

For distribution, contact  
the 310th ESC PAO at  
Joint Base Balad, Iraq

e-mail: [escpao@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:escpao@iraq.centcom.mil)

## Do you have a story to tell?

The 310th ESC PAO is looking for Soldiers who have previously deployed for interview opportunities and for photographs from Joint Base Balad, COB Adder, Camp Taji, COB Speicher, and the country of Iraq.

If you are interested in submitting a story or photograph of your own, please e-mail us at:  
[escpao@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:escpao@iraq.centcom.mil).

### The Chaplain's Corner

## What doesn't kill us makes us stronger

LT. COL. BILL HEISTERMAN  
77TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE CHAPLAIN



While many people are familiar with the story of David's victory over the giant Goliath, most are less familiar with David's time on the run while fleeing from King Saul. During the early part of his fugitive days, and finding himself in need of supplies and a weapon, David went to the Tabernacle in the Priestly city of Nob. There, the priest not only provided supplies, but also presented to David the sword of Goliath, the same sword that David had earlier used to behead the giant after killing him in battle with a slingshot and some stones.

Now, David took Goliath's sword—the same sword that his enemy intended to use to kill him—and used that sword as an aid rather than a liability. Understand this point—David was not victorious in spite of Goliath's sword; David used Goliath's sword to succeed.

Like David, each of us must face our own Goliath's sword—the tool the enemy would use to destroy us. It may come in the form of a difficult phone call from home, the loss of a friend or battle buddy, relationship issues, sickness, work-related stressors, inward struggles or a broken heart. Whatever form, Goliath's sword may serve as our personal weapon of destruction. Through the opportunities of difficult circumstance, we can destroy some of our own personal demons—issues of faith, fear, insecurities, selfishness, etc.

We have two options: We can allow that weapon to destroy us, or we can take that sword and use it—first in our immediate battle, then as a weapon in our arsenal for future battles as well. We must say to ourselves, "This sword, this trial, this tribulation, this tragedy, this heartache, this sorrow, has come my way. But, it will not destroy me. I'm going to use it to be something I could otherwise never have been. I'll use it to win victories that I could not win any other way."

It's true—whatever doesn't kill us only makes us stronger. It's true that it makes us stronger when we handle the situation with a healthy attitude and with healthy resources. So, when life throws you a lemon, don't just use it to make lemonade. Instead, pick the lemon up and throw it back, hitting the giants of life right between the eyes! Then use the giant's own sword against him. Use the sword that was a means for our destruction as a tool for liberation. And thank God for Goliath's sword.

What are the "swords" that you can use?

### The Real Barracks Lawyer

## Getting familiar with UCMJ

MAJ. ADAM MELLOR  
310TH ESC LEGAL SERVICES



The other day, I was down at the JBB Pub having a nice cold brew, and I had a conversation with an old, crusty (insert: sergeant major, master chief, chief master sergeant), who was lamenting that the UCMJ just gets in the way of good order and discipline. Obviously, there is no pub here but this conversation occurs all the time. Commanders, leaders and service members at all levels often see the Uniform Code of Military Justice as unfamiliar.

The UCMJ, the statutory scheme for disciplinary matters in the armed forces, is a patchwork of sorts. There are four genres of conduct which are punishable under the UCMJ. The first and simplest source to understand is the "enumerated articles." These are Articles 80 through 133. These articles cover crimes such as murder, larceny and AWOL.

Second, under Article 134, the president may prescribe certain offenses as criminal. All offenses so created by the president have as an element, or in other words, something that must be proven, that the conduct was prejudicial to good order and discipline or of a nature to bring discredit upon the armed forces. Crimes such as abusing a public animal, drinking liquor with a prisoner, and negligent homicide fall into this category.

The third source is what is known as the assimilated crimes act. In conjunction with Clause 3 of Article 134, activity that is criminal under other federal law or the state in which the actions occurred can be prosecuted under the UCMJ. However, if the UCMJ has an enumerated article that otherwise prohibits the conduct, this provision doesn't apply. For example, the UCMJ prohibits assault. Therefore, one could not be prosecuted for a violation of a state assault statute. But if a person were to run an Internet scam and otherwise violate the federal wire fraud laws, Article 134 could be used.

The fourth and final source is Clause 1 and Clause 2. What, you ask, is prohibited by these two magical clauses? Possibly anything. If conduct is prejudicial to good order and discipline and/or of a nature to bring discredit upon the armed forces, it can be punished by up to one year's confinement (with other punishments possible). A decision to proceed under these clauses must be carefully thought out. Not everything that causes a leader to bristle is criminal.

The United States, early on in its history, ditched "common law" crimes, those crimes which were not defined by written law but by custom and judicial decisions. The UCMJ is a critical tool in the maintenance of good order and discipline. Respect it. More importantly understand it. Take a moment and become familiar with it.

# The Expeditionary Times

310th ESC Commanding General:  
Brig. Gen. Don S. Cornett, Jr.

"The Expeditionary Times" is authorized for publication by the 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command. The contents of "The Expeditionary Times" are unofficial and are not to be considered the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government.

"The Expeditionary Times" is a command-information newspaper in accordance with Army Regulation 360-1 and is reviewed by the ESC G2 for security purposes.

"The Expeditionary Times" is published weekly by the "Stars and Stripes" central office, with a circulation of 3,500 papers per week.

The Public Affairs Office is located on New Jersey Avenue, Building 7508, DSN 318-433-2154. Expeditionary Times, HHC 310th ESC, APO AE 09391. Web site at [www.dvidshub.net/units/310ESC](http://www.dvidshub.net/units/310ESC).

**310th ESC PAO, Managing Editor**  
Capt. Michael Garcia  
[michael.garcia@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:michael.garcia@iraq.centcom.mil)

**310th ESC PA NCOIC, Design Editor**  
Sgt. Benjamin Green  
[benjamin.green@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:benjamin.green@iraq.centcom.mil)

**310th ESC Operations NCOIC**  
Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Askew  
[kevin.askew@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:kevin.askew@iraq.centcom.mil)

**310th ESC Marketing NCOIC**  
Sgt. 1st Class Robert Barker  
[robert.barker@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:robert.barker@iraq.centcom.mil)

**310th ESC Staff Writers**  
Sgt. Edwin Gray  
[edwin.gray@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:edwin.gray@iraq.centcom.mil)  
Sgt. Stephen Scott  
[stephen.e.scott@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:stephen.e.scott@iraq.centcom.mil)  
Sgt. Felicya Adams  
[felicya.adams@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:felicya.adams@iraq.centcom.mil)  
Spc. Zane Craig  
[zane.craig@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:zane.craig@iraq.centcom.mil)  
Spc. Aimee Fujikawa  
[aimee.fujikawa@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:aimee.fujikawa@iraq.centcom.mil)  
Spc. Matthew Keeler  
[matthew.keeler@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:matthew.keeler@iraq.centcom.mil)

**Contributing public affairs offices**  
77th Sustainment Brigade  
4th Sustainment Brigade  
53rd Movement Control Battalion  
3rd Combined Arms Battalion, 116th Cavalry Regiment  
1st Combined Arms Battalion, 163rd Infantry Regiment  
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing

**For online publication visit:**  
[www.dvidshub.net/units/310ESC](http://www.dvidshub.net/units/310ESC)  
keyword: Expeditionary Times

**Contact "The Expeditionary Times" staff at:**  
[escpao@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:escpao@iraq.centcom.mil)

**Mission Statement:** "The Expeditionary Times" staff publishes a weekly newspaper with the primary mission of providing command information to all service members, partners, and families of the 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command team and a secondary mission of providing a means for units on Joint Base Balad to disseminate command information to their audiences.

## The Weekly Standard What is an IG?

MASTER SGT. CINDY MESSERSCHMIDT  
310TH ESC INSPECTOR GENERAL



Teaching and training are integral parts of the Inspector General's functions. IGs, by their very nature, possess a wealth of knowledge and experience. They use this knowledge and experience when assisting, inspecting and investigating to teach Soldiers and commanders at all levels about policies and procedures, whether it is an on-the-spot correction, informal guidance or direction during an inspection.

An Inspector General is a member of the commanding general's personal staff. The overall goal of the IG is to support the commanding general and subordinate commanders in achieving disciplined and combat-ready units that will maintain the operational effectiveness and preparedness of the Army. IGs maintain a clear distinction between being an extension of the commander and their sworn duty to serve as fair and impartial fact finders and problem solvers. There are four basic functions for the IGs: teaching and training, assistance, investigation and inspection.

We already discussed teaching and training earlier, so let's discuss the other roles. The assistance function is the process of receiving, inquiring into, and responding to complaints, requests for information, and requests for help. An assistance request for example, can be an issue such as promotions, awards or a pay issue. The majority of the IG day-to-day caseload is assistance. IGs correct problems by bringing the matter to the attention of the command and letting the command do the right thing.

The investigation function focuses on violations of policy or regulations. These violations range from ethic violations to Army command policy violations by an entity, whether it is an individual, a unit, a command or is an Army-wide issue. The commanding general may also direct an investigation into alleged mismanagement, unethical behavior or misconduct of an individual. The investigation function is only conducted when directed by the commanding general.

The IG's inspection role focuses on organizations and organizational functions and is usually initiated once the IG learns of a trend or sees a pattern of individual complaints and/or organizational issues. Some examples of Army wide inspections are the Army voter assistance program or the annual intelligence oversight review. IGs conduct inspections through all levels of commands and operations, teaching and training commands and units, adding to the overall efficiency and effectiveness for commands involved.

When IGs approach you or your section, it is with the intention of improving a process or providing guidance. If you have been conducting business according to policies, rules and regulations, and for the overall good of the Army, then a visit by the IG is just an opportunity to receive confirmation for a job well done. IGs can provide a great deal of assistance to commanders when used as a resource. IGs are dedicated to their mission of maintaining the operational effectiveness and preparedness of the United States Army.

# Pacific Islander legacy lives on

STORY AND PHOTO BY  
SGT. ALLYSON PARLA  
77TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE



**JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq** – Born in Hawaii, Ellison Onizuka entered active duty with the U.S. Air Force in January 1970. Onizuka was initially an aerospace flight test engineer before becoming a mission specialist on the Discovery and Challenger space shuttles. This leader is among thousands of Asian Pacific Islanders who have distinguished themselves as great leaders, warriors, and decorated members of the Armed Forces who continue to serve the United States. Approximately 200 service members, contractors, civilians and other government workers arrived at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Center May 14 to celebrate and pay tribute to the heritage of Asian Pacific Islanders, the people indigenous to the entire Asian continent and the Pacific Islands of Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia.

For at least the past two years, this was the first time that an event honoring Asian Pacific Islanders was organized on JBB, said Kuka Toleafoa, the master of ceremony for the celebration, and a Samoan native who is also an adjutant for the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade. Toleafoa retired from the Army as a Chief Warrant Officer after 24 years of service in human resources.

"Qi," or energy, filled the air of the MWR in which Fijian, Samoan, Tahitian, Chamorro (natives of Guam) and Hawaiian ethnicities, among others were proudly recognized by dancers who performed dances native to these cultures.

"They were very motivated guys, and they wanted to do it. They were just like locals," said Toleafoa of the nine Airmen from the 154th Air National Guard unit based out of Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam who performed a Samoan "slap" dance.

Covered with "tatau," or tattoos in popular culture, the dancers also performed the "haka," a Maori war chant.

"Mauluulu," a dance performed by four female service members representing the Tahitian culture also entertained the crowds here, said Staff Sgt. Salofi Leasiolagi, the noncommissioned officer-in-charge of police services for the 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron.

Dancers for the event ensured guests were well fed.

"We bought two pigs from the PX," said Leasiolagi about the beasts that roasted outside of the center while the celebration commenced.

"When we have these type of things, food is probably the most important," said Toleafoa, a Samoan native. Whether you have a 20-minute presentation or a two-hour presentation, if people's stomachs are full, they are happy."

The feats that Asian Pacific Islanders have accomplished throughout the years is no secret. Their accomplishments are memorable. And their distinction extends beyond the military. Take, for example, Doua Thor, the executive director of the Southeast Asia Resource Action Center, a Hmong refugee who fought alongside the U.S. during the

Vietnam War and who was later appointed by President Obama to the Asian Pacific Islander Committee. Taro Akebono, the world's best sumo wrestler, an American who holds the sole Yokozuna title, the highest classification in Japan's most traditional sport. Dr. Steven Chu, the distinguished scientist and co-winner of the Nobel Prize for physics who, as the United States Secretary of Energy, is working on investing in clean energy, addressing the global climate crisis and reducing the nation's dependence on foreign oil.

"I'm hoping that people who attended realize that the Asian Pacific people are doing well and contributing a lot to the forces," Toleafoa said.

Acknowledgement of Asian Pacific Islanders this month was no coincidence.

May was chosen in order to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese people to the United States on May 7, 1843, Toleafoa said.

"It was enacted into public law 102-450 on 28 Oct 1992," he said.

He added that it also marks the completion of the first transcontinental railroad, which was completed mainly by Chinese immigrants.

It is important to not only understand the history of Asian Pacific Islanders, but of their achievements and courage, he said. They gave their life to serve their country.

We are proud of our culture and we continue to serve our country, Toleafoa said.

"I hope that people do not judge us by our culture, but by our accomplishments," he said.

Aside from the historical recognition of Asian Pacific Islanders, service members were able to display pride for their culture.

Leasiolagi said the main reason he decided to participate in this event was to promote cultural awareness and educate people on what this culture is all about. He said he's fortunate to still have his culture and it's very important to hold onto culture if you have it.

In 1986, the Challenger exploded, and Onizuka died, but there are many great leaders in the armed forces still representing the Asian Pacific community. All they have achieved and accomplished were recognized and guests were given an opportunity to learn something new about an unfamiliar culture. The amount of service members and civilians who came together and worked so hard to ensure that guests were entertained, fed and happy proves the legacy of Asian Pacific Islanders lives on in the military.

"We value friendship and happiness," said Leasiolagi, a Samoan native. "We're known as the 'happy people,'" he said about the people he represented, signifying what it means to be living "Fa'a Samoa" - the Samoan way.



**Spc. Natasha Irving, a container repair yard clerk for the 289th Quartermaster Company and a dancer at Asian Pacific Islander night here May 14, performs a Tahitian dance to the song "Pate Pate" by Tevaka.**

# Chaplain practices what he preaches

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
SGT. 1ST CLASS ROB BARKER  
EXPEDITIONARY TIMES STAFF

**JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq** – Runners have their own motivation for running. For example, some do it to stay fit and some do it to relieve stress. One Soldier deployed to Joint Base Balad, Iraq, started running for another reason.

It all began when Maj. Dale Nelson, now a chaplain with the 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, was a 10-year-old in grade school.

His class had a race, and the results did not end in his favor.

“For physical education class they had us run that day, and I didn’t do very well, plus I got very sick,” said Nelson, a South Beloit, Ill., native. “So after that I just determined that was just not going to happen again.”

Nelson’s drive to better himself physically had just begun.

“So I started running on my own,” Nelson said. “All through grade school, junior high, high school, I ran. At that time, I didn’t run for time. I ran for other things; for enjoyment. In junior high and high school I ran to be in shape for football and wrestling.”

His running didn’t stop when he graduated. He joined the Army shortly after high school and put that training to



**Maj. Dale Nelson, a chaplain with the 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, stays fit by taking advantage of the workout equipment at the gym on Joint Base Balad, Iraq. Nelson is proactive in staying fit by running, lifting weights, swimming and jumping on the elliptical.**



**Maj. Dale Nelson, a chaplain with the 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command and a South Beloit, Ill., native, gives a sermon May 15 at the Freedom Chapel here.**

good use.

“In the Army, I got down where I could run a mile in five minutes,” he said. “That was in my 20s. At one time I did get pretty fast.”

At that time, Nelson was an enlisted Soldier with the 82nd Airborne Division out of Fort Bragg, N.C. He spent nine years enlisted, and then decided he wanted to become a chaplain to help other Soldiers.

“I was in the active Army studying with some people and got really touched and moved and it changed my life,” Nelson said. “I wanted to be able to be a change to other people’s lives. I wanted to serve and help other people.”

Nelson, who has been a minister with the Church of Christ for 30 years in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois, didn’t let becoming an Army chaplain change his motivation to run. It actually increased his drive to become spiritually and physically fit.

“I’m motivated,” said Nelson, who is on his second overseas deployment. “It’s part of my spiritual routine. To exercise in and of itself gives some benefit, but it’s only a short benefit. You hope to get in better shape by exercising. There’s actually no 100 percent guarantee. Generally, that should be the case, but strange things do sometimes happen. If you approach it as part of your spiritual plan, you’re always doing better.”

Nelson is achieving his desired results. He recently got 295 out of 300 on his physical fitness test, but he really wanted to score a 300. He still wears his Physical Fitness Excellence badge with honor, though.

“A number of times I’ve had a perfect score,” he said. “So I’m always trying for that. There’s always a little bit of disappointment if I don’t get that. But at the same time, I did

as well as I thought I could.”

Running is not the only way Nelson stays in shape these days. He maintains a healthy diet, and hits the gym regularly.

“I try to get a balance of [foods] we are supposed to get,” said Nelson. “I try not to eat too much, which has been really hard with the dining facility and all the food and all of the choices.”

“I also lift weights. I pretty much work out every muscle. I like to lift weights where you do arms one day and legs the next. Because of shortness of time here, quite often when I go in I do everything. I also get on the elliptical machine. I’ll do that two or three times a week. [Also] I started to do some swimming.”

Lifting weights and eating smartly combined with two or three days of elliptical and three or four days of running four to seven miles, helps Nelson achieve his goal of being spiritually and physically fit.

“The workout facilities here at [Joint Base] Balad are excellent,” he said. “The gyms are really nice. They have just about anything a person could want. They have all kinds of extra stuff, too. How many places can a person be deployed to when you have indoor and outdoor pools? There are a lot of nice things here.”

He encourages Soldiers to use the facilities provided to them and stay fit.

“I would tell Soldiers to be spiritually and physically fit,” Nelson said. “You need to develop a plan that works for you and you need to stay with it with consistency. Not to be discouraged when others are on a different track. We always want to compare ourselves to them. Sometimes that can be good, but sometimes it can be bad.”

# 15th Trans. Co. preps for redeployment back to States

STORY AND PHOTO BY  
1ST LT. MATT FRANZ  
15TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

## CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE ADDER, Iraq –

Every Soldier looks forward to the day their mission is complete and they are ready to go home. For the Soldiers of the 15th Transportation Company, 749th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 4th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, their mission in support of Operation New Dawn is winding down.

The “Roadwarriors” arrived at Contingency Operating Base Adder from Fort Sill, Okla., in July 2010 with the mission of supporting the logistical aspects of Operation Iraqi Freedom and crossing over into Operation New Dawn.

For the “RuffRyders” of the 3rd platoon, this deployment was filled with mile after mile of transporting all classes of supplies, from toilet paper to military tracked vehicles. They completed more than 141 missions, with more than 730,000 miles.

Sgt. Tyler Mangum, a heavy-wheeled-vehicle operator with the 15th Trans Co., and a Florence, Ala., native, said the load of responsibility for him and his Soldiers has been outstanding.

“It is a great feeling being able to support the responsible drawdown of U.S. forces out of Iraq,” Mangum said. “It is great to see our efforts paying off in the end. Excellence was earned, not given.”

Sgt. Angel Rivera, a heavy-wheeled-vehicle operator with the 15th Trans Co., and New York, N.Y., native, said the Soldiers just can’t wait to get back to their loved ones now that everything is completed successfully.

“It is going to be a great feeling to march into that auditorium and see all of our families waiting for us,” Rivera said. “I can’t wait to get back and eat some Chili’s.”

The company will transition its responsibilities to the 68th Transportation Company out of Fort Bliss, Texas.

Spc. Christiana Bankole, a heavy-wheeled-vehicle operator with the 15th Trans Co., and an Oakland, Calif., native, said her mind is just on seeing her children.

“I have two small children waiting for me back home,” Bankole said. “They don’t understand now, but later on they will be proud of all their mother did for another country’s chance at democracy.”



Spc. Robert L. Stallings, a heavy-wheeled-vehicle operator with the 15th Transportation Company, 749th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 4th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, stands in front of a group of Soldiers after he won a competition between two transportation companies.

# Troops help deployed moms celebrate their special day

STORY BY  
SGT. ANGIENE MYERS  
4TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE

## CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE ADDER, Iraq –



The mothers of Contingency Operating Base Adder were given special treatment in a two-part celebration that included a Mother’s Day tea party and a Mother’s Day barbecue.

The event was coordinated by Soldiers of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Special Troops Battalion, 4th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, who are currently deployed to Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn.

The Mother’s Day celebration was sponsored by Capt. Tracet Bradley, the commander of the HHC, and hosted by Sgt. Suzanne Samson, an administrative assistant for the directorate of logistics and a Brooklyn, N.Y., native, both with the 4th STB.

“Although I am not a mother myself, I have seen the faces of mothers who have been separated from their little ones during this time and it is a heart-wrenching experience,” Bradley said.

“So when the opportunity came to celebrate the mothers of COB Adder, I asked how could I help and ensured my support without reservation.”

For the first part of the celebration, mothers gathered into the Mayor Cell conference room where they were treated to musical selections by COB Adder’s men’s choir. Male Soldiers, who volunteered their time to make the day special, served refreshments and handed out gift bags.

“We know you are far from home, but we recognize that it’s Mother’s Day, and we appreciate you as moms, and we wanted you to come out in fellowship with us,” said Samson.

Staff Sgt. Shemeka Gulley, the logistical noncommissioned officer-in-charge with the 4th Sust. Bde., and a Jacksonville, N.C., native, said she appreciated the thought that went into putting the event together.

“It’s a good morale builder,” said Gulley, who is a mother of two. “Who would have thought that when we deployed to Iraq, there would be something special like this for mothers who had to leave their children to do their jobs?”

Later in the evening, the celebration continued at Memorial Hall where both male and female service members came out to listen to music, play games, win prizes and eat food hot off the grill in celebration of all the mothers on COB Adder.

“I’m deployed with a lot of Soldiers that are females,” said Sgt. Dathan Toson, a garrison billeting sergeant with the 4th Sust. Bde., and an Albany, Ga., native. “I want to make sure that on their day they can maybe let the day-to-day stressors of this deployment go for a second and enjoy their day as a mother. I’m going to give the mothers all the support I can on their day.”

As the celebration came to an end, there were smiles on the faces of all the mothers of COB Adder that attended the event.

“I saw joy and happiness in the faces of our mothers as they celebrated their day with their extended Army family,” said Bradley. “This day was truly a day I will remember forever.”

With Father’s Day approaching, the fathers on COB Adder can expect the same special treatment from the mothers of COB Adder.

“I am working with the team to honor fathers next month,” Bradley said. “Many of the fathers came out to the Mother’s Day event to serve the mothers of COB Adder and show their appreciation. I feel it is our obligation to show them the same love.”

# Soldiers help keep COB Adder stocked

STORY BY  
1ST LT. PATRYK KORZENIEWSKI  
565TH QUARTERMASTER COMPANY

## CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE ADDER, Iraq –



Soldiers of the 565th Quartermaster Company, 749th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 4th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, run two subsistence sites on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq.

The first subsistence site is located within the Supply and Services footprint and is run by two soldiers, Staff Sgt. Devon Landers, the subsistence noncommissioned officer-in-charge and a Baltimore, Md., native, and Spc. Jason Butler, a subsistence clerk and a Dayton, Ohio, native, both Soldiers with the 565th QM Co.

“We give out a lot drinks, particularly the Rip-Its. Those are extremely popular,” Landers said.

The Supply Support Activity Class 1 site also stores Meals Ready-to-Eat for use throughout COB Adder.

The southside subsistence site is similar to the SSA site. It offers the same drinks as the SSA, but it serves convoys. It also has water and unpacked MREs.

“We can get pretty busy here as all the convoys stop to pick something up for the road,” said Sgt. Liney Hernandez, the southside subsistence noncommissioned officer-in-charge and a Los Angeles, Calif., native, with the 565th QM Co.

As the temperature continues to rise here in Iraq, the 565th QM Co.’s subsistence sites will be even busier giving out the beverages to thirsty Soldiers.



Albert Iganchio, a subsistence clerk and a Agana, Guam native, with the 565th Quartermaster Company, 749th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 4th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, restocks the potato chips at the Southside subsistence site on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq.

## Father, son reunite in Iraq

STORY BY  
LT. MATTHEW CASTIGLIONE  
89TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

**CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE SPEICHER, Iraq** – Staff Sgt. George Chisholm II, a platoon sergeant for the 89th Transportation Company, 275th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 77th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command has not seen his son, Spc. Ryan Lamar Chisholm, a military intelligence analyst attached to Task Force Odin, 4th

Infantry Division and a native of Killeen, Texas, since his son's high school graduation.

Many Soldiers, past and present, have followed in their father's footsteps and joined the Army, keeping a tradition of service intact through the decades. A small amount, however, can say they have served alongside their father in a deployed environment. These two service members are an example of the few lucky fathers and sons to



Staff Sgt. George R. Chisholm II, a platoon sergeant for the 89th Transportation Company, 275th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 77th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command and Spc. Ryan Lamar Chisholm, a military intelligence analyst attached to Task Force Odin, 4th Infantry Division and a native of Killeen, Texas, enjoy spending time together during their deployment.

## Wrangler Dome opens for business

*Building serves as location to conduct pre-combat checks, training, rehearsals*

STORY BY  
LT. MATTHEW CASTIGLIONE  
89TH TRANSPORTATION COMPANY

**CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE ADDER, Iraq** – The Wrangler Brigade is wrapping up construction on its new Wrangler Dome on Contingency

Operating Base Adder, Iraq, though the facility has already been in use for several weeks.

The project, which began in March, created a location for all of the battalions within the 4th Sustainment Brigade to train Soldiers.

It will also serve as a central location for operation orders, pre-combat checks and pre-combat inspections before convoys.

"The Wrangler Dome is a multi-use facility for Soldiers," said Command Sgt. Maj. Erik Frey, the command sergeant major for the 4th Sust. Bde., 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command and a Pierce, Neb., native. "It's the perfect site for joint rehearsals with the battalions."

The air-conditioned facility previously housed vehicle egress training for units on Adder. The updated facility has a separate classroom and a briefing room.

Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Patterson, the force protection noncommissioned officer-in-charge for the 4th Sust. Bde., and an El Paso, Ark., native, said the first stages of construction involved removing the egress trainers, repairing the air conditioning and painting.

"It's been open for business for weeks but we're always improving the foxhole,"

be stationed at the same location, especially in Iraq.

The Chisholm family's military ties are abundant, and it is clear that the entire family is proud of their service. Ryan's mother-in-law is serving in the Army as well and is currently stationed at Fort Hood, Texas. George's step-son enlisted in the Navy and his step-daughter is currently serving in the Air Force.

When the decision needed to be made to choose a career, the decision was easy.

Following his parents' footsteps, Ryan joined the United States Army and went to basic training immediately after his high school graduation.

"Oh, here he comes," Ryan said jokingly, when he found out that his father will be joining him at COB Speicher.

George's unit was ordered to deploy in support of Operation New Dawn six months before his unit was slated to deactivate.

Not many Soldiers can say they have deployed with their father and stationed at the same post," Ryan said.

However, there are negative aspects of serving in the military together, such as the realization that your family member may be in harm's way. Ryan knows that his father must perform convoy missions and other tasks required of Soldiers.

"It makes me a little nervous, but he has been doing it for a long time, so I know he's going to take care of himself," said Ryan of the tasks his father is required to perform while at work.

"Also, my unit provides over-watch and route surveillances for the convoys, so I'm watching his back when he is on a mission," Ryan said.

Due to demanding schedules, the father and son duo can only meet once a week, but the limited time spent together is definitely enjoyed and cherished.

"We sit down to enjoy a nice meal and talk about family and work," George said.

The ability to enjoy the deployment-time together is already one of the fondest memories of his Army career, George said.

Patterson said, referring to the building.

They also installed a floor-to-ceiling projector screen and bleachers, along with a map of Iraq.

Command Sgt. Maj. John Wood, the command sergeant major for 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 163rd Infantry Regiment, 4th Sust. Bde., and a Corvallis, Mont., native, said Soldiers are in the process of crafting models of trucks and Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles to use for rehearsal of concept drill scenarios.

"We'll get the troops input on how we can use it and improvements we can make," he said. "We want to keep the good-idea machine rolling."

Wood said the building will help bring the units together as a team because it can be used for joint operation orders. The 1-163rd Infantry Regiment provides convoy security for the 749th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion's transportation assets.

"It will be used as a place to certify Soldiers on their battle drills and warrior tasks before they go out in harm's way," Frey said. "It is essential for us because we continue to add new units. It's important to continue to train while we're in the fight and it is vital to keep our skills sharp."

## IMO office hits ground running

STORY BY AND PHOTO BY  
1ST LT. JIM PEELMAN  
1729TH FMSC

**CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE ADDER, Iraq** – As the 1729th Forward Support Maintenance Company, 749th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 4th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, arrived at Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq, individual sections immediately began their work to replace the 632nd Heavy Maintenance Company.

One of these sections is the Information Management Office which is the communications hub for the entire company. The IMO supports communication aspects including: both secure and non-secure telephones and computers, printers, tactical radios and communication security material.

Staff Sgt. Jason Crook, the noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the IMO, 1729th FS Maint. Co., and an Ellicott City, Md., native, has served 19 years in the Maryland National Guard. He has also worked at Covad Communications in Columbia, Md., for the past ten years as a transmission engineer.

"The most rewarding aspect of working in the IMO office is the feeling I get when I am able to help someone out," Crook said.

Sgt. Melvin Scott, an information management office technician for the 1729th FS Maint. Co., and a Baltimore, Md., native, said he derives a high degree of motivation from working with people in this capacity. He has been with the Maryland National Guard for four years. Scott's civilian job is in the information technology help desk field.

"Getting to work with everyone in the unit is a great way to spend my day," Scott said.

Since their unit arrived in Iraq, the IMO team has assisted the 1729th with various communication and computers needs ranging from fixing network printers, to setting up network log-ins, and coordinating with higher headquarters on detailing all communication assets throughout the company.



Staff Sgt. Jason Crook, the information management office noncommissioned officer-in-charge with the 1729th Forward Support Maintenance Company, 749th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 4th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, and an Ellicott City, Md. native, updates a tracker spreadsheet, on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq.

# Maintenance Soldiers keep gears turning

STORY AND PHOTO BY  
1ST LT. JAMES D. EDIE  
1729TH FMSC

## CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE

**ADDER, Iraq** – The 1729th Forward Support Maintenance Company, 749th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 4th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, from Havre De Grace, Maryland, has been keeping the units of Contingency Operating Base Adder in the fight with their automotive platoon. This platoon performs two different types of maintenance operations: direct support and maintenance support.

The direct support maintenance shop provides units under the 749th CSSB with maintenance support ranging from repairing oil leaks to replacing vital sensors and installing new engines in a multitude of Army vehicles.

The direct support shop is overseen by Chief Warrant Officer 2 Patricia Swinney, an automotive shop technician and a native of Waldorf, Md., and Master Sgt. David

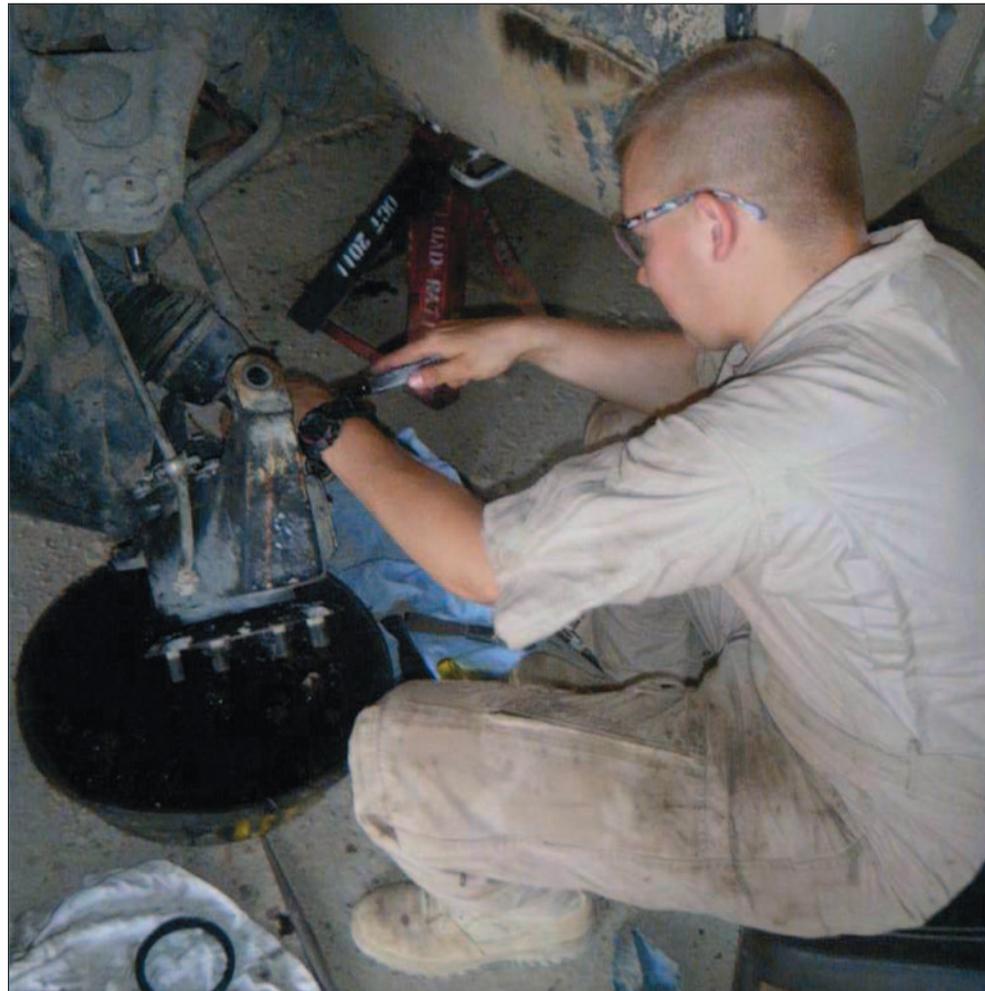
Semans, the automotive shop noncommissioned officer-in-charge and a native of Barclay, Md. Back in the U.S., Swinney runs a field maintenance shop for the Maryland National Guard. Semans also works as the NCOIC for a field maintenance shop for the Maryland National Guard.

“Our responsibility is to make sure the Soldiers who use these vehicles receive the best quality maintenance support from us at all times,” said Pfc. Christopher Hine, a wheeled-vehicle mechanic and a Havre de Grace, Md., native with the 1729th FSMC.

The Maintenance Support Team is the other half of the automotive platoon. This element of the platoon is responsible for supporting any unit that may need maintenance support before rolling out on a mission.

“We do what we do to keep the vehicles of COB Adder up and running,” said Staff Sgt. Gwendolyn Cox, a senior wheeled-vehicle mechanic with the 1729th FSMC, and a Wilson, N.C., native. “Without maintenance support, our customers are unable to take the fight to the enemy.”

The MST is operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The main purpose is to handle quick-fix repairs of Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles.



**Pfc. Christopher Hine, a wheeled-vehicle mechanic with the 1729th Forward Support Maintenance Company, 749th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion, 4th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, and a Havre De Grace, Md., native, replaces the seals of a hub on a Humvee on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq.**

# ‘Thunderhorse’ Soldiers earn their spurs

STORY AND PHOTO BY  
SPC. ANDREW INGRAM  
UNITED STATES DIVISION-NORTH

## CONTINGENCY OPERATING SITE WARRIOR, Iraq

– “Thunderhorse” Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, deployed to U.S. Division-North in support of Operation New Dawn, participated in a long-standing cavalry tradition at Contingency Operating Site Warrior in Kirkuk province May 14.

During the Spur Ride, 74 participants, or “shave tails,” sought to prove themselves worthy of their spurs—an honor reserved for those within cavalry units who have mastered their craft as warriors—during a day-long test of mettle, said Command Sgt. Maj. William May, senior enlisted leader of 2nd Bn., 12th Cav. Regt., and senior spur holder for the event.

The name “shave tail” derives from the cavalry tradition of shaving the tails of horses to mark new troopers as amateurs who had not yet earned their spurs. Troopers could only wear spurs once they proved themselves capable of proper performance with a horse and saber.

“We carry forth the tradition of the Spur Ride to maintain the history of the cavalry,” said May, who hails from Monument Beach, Mass. “We don’t have colts and carbines and horses anymore, we have our warrior tasks that we have to be proficient in. We have our own mounts, which are our tanks or our humvees. Those Soldiers who have proved their proficiency in these tasks prove their worthiness as cavalry troopers to be spur holders.”

To be inducted into the Order of the Spur, Soldiers must complete a series of physical and mental tests to demonstrate tactical and technical skills and exhibit knowledge of cavalry traditions.

The Order of the Spur is open to all Soldiers serving with a cavalry unit, regardless of military occupational specialty.

Shave tails of 2nd. Bn., 12th Cav. Regt., part of 1st Advise and Assist Task Force, 1st Cavalry Division, began the competition at 5 a.m. with a six-mile foot march to test

their endurance.

After the march, which the shave tails were required to complete within 90 minutes, they conducted a layout of their gear, took a written test on the history of the 1st Cavalry Division, and recited “Fiddler’s Green,” the official poem of the cavalry.

Shave tails who could not complete any assigned task immediately became disqualified, and by 8 a.m., only 18 Thunderhorse troopers remained.

During the next 10 hours, remaining Soldiers traveled by foot to sites throughout COS Warrior to test skills at six stations.

Soldiers working as a part of a team instead of just trying to win something for themselves is one of the benefits of the Spur Ride, said Sgt. Anthony Ceppaglia, senior mechanic, Company F, who hails from Fresno, Calif.

“I’m having a lot of fun out here,” said Ceppaglia after completing three of the six stations. “I’ve got my teammates here and they are keeping me motivated. I am keeping them motivated, and we are going to finish this thing together.”

By the 6 p.m. finish, Soldiers covered an estimated 12 miles and completed tasks ranging from first aid to troop movements to reflexive rifle firing drills.

After 13 hours of constant action, the 17 remaining shave tails mounted wooden horses and senior battalion spur holders placed spurs on Soldiers’ boots, inducting them into the Order of the Spur.

Darr said he almost decided not to compete due to an injury he sustained earlier in the week, but decided to push through the pain to support his teammates.

May said he hopes the success of the new spur holders will motivate their comrades to strive for excellence.

“To do this in a combat environment means just a little bit more than doing it back at Fort Hood,” said May. “These Soldiers finished this challenge in the environment in which they are executing their craft, and our craft as combat Soldiers is to close with the enemy and destroy them as quickly as possible.

“To do that, you have to possess these skills as an individual and as a team member,” said May.



**1st Lt. Tyrie Carroll, left, a platoon leader for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Advise and Assist Task Force, 1st Infantry Division, and Spc. Josh Maze, an infantryman serving with Company B, 2nd Bn., 12th Cav. Regt., assemble a .50-caliber machine gun as part of a battalion Spur Ride at Contingency Operating Site Warrior, Iraq. Soldiers serving with cavalry units earn their spurs during the tradition, which requires Soldiers to conduct a variety of tasks proving their skills.**



The 370th Transportation Company, 275th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 77th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command finishes unloading equipment and prepares to make the journey from Contingency Operating Base Cobra, Iraq, to Joint Base Balad.

# Big wheels keep turning

STORY BY AND PHOTOS BY  
SPC. MATTHEW KEELER  
EXPEDITIONARY TIMES STAFF

**JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq** – With gumball-sized raindrops hitting the windshield of the Heavy Equipment Transport truck, Spc. Viktor Guerrero, a HET driver with the 370th Transportation Company, smiles as he guides the large truck through the rain and the storm.

Chained on-board the 40-wheeled trailer hooked to his HET is a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle. All total, Guerrero controls 48 wheels as they churn the mud-stained roads exiting Joint Base Balad, Iraq, en route to their destination of Contingency Operating Base Warhorse.

The mentality of the 370th Trans. Co. is that transportation spearheads logistical support in Iraq. That means no rain, dirt, sand, or flat tires will stop these Soldiers from completing their mission.

The 370th Trans. Co., 275th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 77th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, is an Army Reserve unit out of Brownsville, Texas, and it's their training and leadership that makes them one of the best transportation companies in Iraq.

For Guerrero's truck commander Sgt. Jose Garza, also with the 370th Trans. Co., and a Houston, Texas, native, this is a return trip to Iraq.

"I was deployed from '06 to '07 with the same unit, and stationed at [Contingency Operating Base] Speicher," he said. "The only difference is that Iraq is far advanced from the last time I was here."

Garza explained that when they would convoy during his past deployment, they were mostly travelling at night because there was a curfew for Iraqis in the areas that they travelled. Even when they transported during the day, there were very few children or girls outside of their houses, and the quality of life was poor.

"Now I can see girls and women walking the streets and kids are playing outside," he said. "There are brand new cars and minivans on the road, sharing the roads with our convoys."

On his last deployment to Iraq, then Spc. Garza was a driver and a gunner with the 370th Trans. Co., he said. It was the experience and training he received as a junior enlisted Soldier that he now teaches and imparts upon the Soldiers under him—particularly his driver, Guerrero.

"I graduated from [Advanced Individual Training] in May of 2010, then we went to [the National Training Center] and began our mobilization training," said Guerrero.

For many Soldiers graduating from Basic Combat Training and AIT, they are afforded time to join their units and a chance to adjust to the Army life. With Guerrero, he found out shortly after AIT that he was deploying to Iraq.

"When I first heard that I was deploying, I said, 'hell yeah,'" he said. "I was excited because how often does someone get to see a different part of the world? Since my

arrival in Iraq in December, I've been able to see the deserts, the countryside and even the cities."

Drivers and truck commanders, or TCs, spend more time on the road than many other jobs in Iraq, as they are tasked to transport all types of different supplies and vehicles across the country. For Guerrero, in early January he got to transport something a little more special.

"When an M1A1 Abrams tank rolled up to our trailer, it was like a real dream come true," he said. "Every truck driver wants to be able to say that they transported a real tank."

With the re-posturing of forces and equipment throughout theater, the 370th Trans. Co. has been hitting the roads even more, Garza said. "Depending on the mission and the equipment that needs to be moved, we might convoy twice a day."

The drive of the 370th Trans. Co. is to get equipment to Soldiers who need it, as fast as possible, he said. It's also the drive to be the best that keeps these Soldiers dedicated to performing their jobs during each mission.

Staff Sgt. Zachary Harding, a driver with the 370th Trans. Co., and a Tucson, Ariz., native, has deployed several times and understands the importance of a Soldier getting the experience needed on the road as a driver.

"It's good for the younger Soldiers to get this kind of experience on their first deployment," Harding said. "Because of our missions, they are getting the kind of chance to do their jobs on a steady basis."

During the trip to COB Warhorse, one of the HET trailers' tires was torn. Without missing a beat, Soldiers of the 370th Trans. Co., provided security and went to work replacing the blown tire. It took less than five minutes to complete the tire change and load the Soldiers back into their vehicles.

To Garza, being back in Iraq on certain roads reminds him a bit of his childhood back in Monterrey, Mexico, especially during the crossing of one of the rivers.

"The river reminds me a lot of a river where my grandparents used to take me when I was younger," he said. "In Mexico, there are good parts and the bad, just like here."

After arriving at COB Warhorse, the Soldiers go to work as if they could perform this labor-intensive job in their sleep. Drivers and TCs work in tandem to unhook chains, lower the ramps on the back of their trailers, check the trailer's hydraulics and then unload their cargo—a fresh MRAP.

But this is not the end of the day for these Soldiers; they will get some water, food, and a bit of rest before they are back on the road.

With nothing but a single light to illuminate his work, Garza inspects the HET one more time after arriving back at JBB. He checks the dipstick, the oil and gas levels, and the battery. He checks his truck and makes sure that it is ready to go. Ready for inspection by his convoy commander and ready for the next mission. A task mirrored by every TC and driver in the 370th Trans. Co.

Whether the next convoy is tomorrow or the next day, the Soldiers of the 370th Trans. Co., make sure they are ready. As long as a unit needs something transported around Iraq, they will keep their big wheels turning.



Like clockwork, Sgt. Jose Garza, a truck commander with the 370th Transportation Company, 275th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 77th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, Brownsville, Texas, native, goes to work with his driver, Spc. Viktor Guerrero, to transport a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle from their staging area at Contingency Operating Base Warhorse, Iraq.



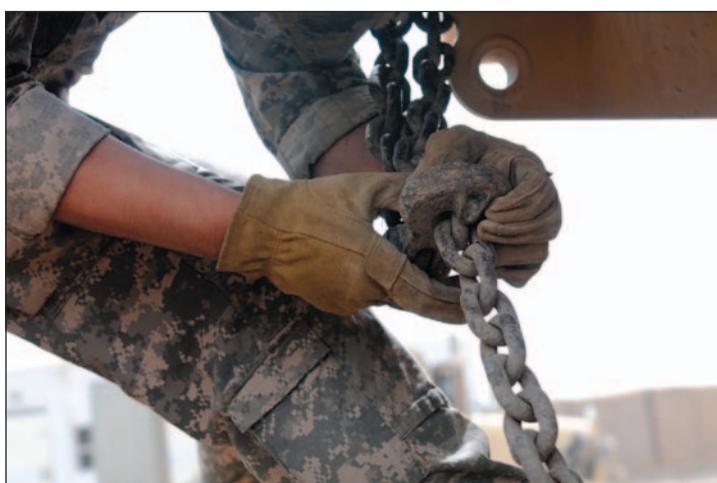
the 370th Transportation Company, 275th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 77th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, and a Houston, Texas, native, to unhook and unload heavy equipment transport on Contingency Operating



Spc. Viktor Guerrero, a Heavy Equipment Transport truck driver with the 370th Transportation Company, 275th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 77th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command and a Los Fresno, Texas, native, directs Sgt. Jose Garza, a truck commander with the 370th Trans. Co, and a Houston, Texas, native, as he drives the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle off the back of the HET trailer on Contingency Operating Base Warhorse, Iraq. One of the strengths of the 370th Trans. Co. is their teamwork: Upon arrival, the two-Soldier team of driver and truck commander go to work unloading their transport and then assisting any other truck that needs help.



After unloading the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle from his trailer, Spc. Viktor Guerrero, a Heavy Equipment Transport driver with the 370th Transportation Company, 275th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 77th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command and a Los Fresno, Texas, native, along with his truck commander, Sgt. Jose Garza, a Houston, Texas, native make sure to reattach all hooks and reset all ramps on their HET's trailer. The strong leadership and work ethic instilled into the Soldiers drives them to complete all their tasks before they are allowed to rest on Contingency Operating Base Warhorse, Iraq.



Wearing leather work gloves to protect his hands, Spc. Viktor Guerrero, a Heavy Equipment Transport driver with the 370th Transportation Company, 275th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 77th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command and a Los Fresno, Texas, native, disconnects the chain on the front of the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle that is linked to the HET's trailer on Contingency Operating Base Warhorse, Iraq. As soon as the convoy arrived, the Soldiers went to work unhooking and unloading their cargo.

# Soldiers attend Diyala Provincial Police team's training event

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
SGT. DAVID STRAYER

109TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

**CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE WARHORSE, Iraq** – “Warrior” Brigade Soldiers with the Diyala Province Police Transition Team attended a crime scene investigation exercise conducted by the Iraqi provincial police’s Emergency Response Force and Crime Scene Management Team at Baquba, Iraq, May 15.

Iraqi Police members used the course as an opportunity to exhibit their ability to respond to an emergency, use first responders to secure and cordon the scene, and allow CSM Team members into the area to preserve the crime scene and collect evidence.

“The ERF training exercise exemplifies things that the Diyala police have been training for over the past year,” said Lt. Col. John B. Shattuck, chief of the PTT, 2nd Advise and Assist Brigade, 25th Infantry Division. “The ERF has come a long way with their tactical proficiency as well as under-



**Members of the Diyala Provincial Police Force Crime Scene Management Team mark, document and collect evidence at a simulated murder scene during a training exercise in Baquba, Iraq, May 15, 2011. CSM team members enter crime scenes already secured by first responders, such as the Emergency Response Force, and immediately begin preserving the integrity of the crime scene to collect and process evidence, take witness statements and begin an investigation leading to an arrest warrant.**



**First Lt. Ali Khalid, officer-in-charge of a Crime Scene Management Team, takes a statement from a witness at the scene of a simulated murder during a training exercise in Baquba, Iraq, May 15, 2011. As OIC of the CSM Team, Khalid ensures integrity of the crime scene, oversees evidence collection and processing, and takes statements from witnesses. After conducting collections at the scene, the CSM Team uses the information to build an investigation that will eventually lead to arrest warrants and prosecutions.**

standing their role in the police force.”

ERF members acted as first responders during the murder scenario. After entering and securing the area, the ERF questioned witnesses and called in the CSM Team to take over the investigation.

Chief of Police Training in Diyala province, Lt. Col. Ali, said he enjoyed seeing different agencies of the provincial police working side by side to achieve a common objective.

Once the CSM Team arrived on scene, the ERF team leader ensured a positive handoff of authority on the crime scene, providing the CSM officer-in-charge with all of the collected information.

The CSM officer ensures preservation of the crime scene as well as evidence collection and processing to enable arrest warrants, and ultimately, prosecutions.

“Preservation of evidence is crucial; perhaps the most crucial part of the legal process,” said Ali. “It allows us to make identifications and find suspects so that we can detain them.”

During Operation New Dawn, U.S. forces remained present in an advisory role, assisting when requested, while Iraqi Policemen took the lead on operations and built up their forces.

Shattuck and his team advised provincial police forces on advanced law enforcement skills and identified areas for the IP leaders to improve their efficiency and skills to get more in depth with crime solving.

Iraqi Police units then trained their officers to go beyond fundamentals of crime scene investigation to take a deeper look into patterns and crack organized extremist networks, said Shattuck.

“One year ago, the IPs in the province were very good at solving individual crimes, such as murder cases, however, if the crime was backed by a complex network of organized crime or an insurgency, that was a bit beyond their level of expertise,” said Shattuck.

“They are much more capable now; they are able to map and identify networks, put the evidence together so that they can issue warrants and eventually prosecute.”

Shattuck said the PTT’s goals at the start of partnered operations were to identify the police force’s developmental needs and then begin to synchronize efforts of different agencies within the Iraqi Police to help develop those areas to reach mission essential capability.

Members of the PTT worked with Iraqi leaders of the

various police agencies within Diyala province, focusing on three developmental areas: criminal investigation, evidence procedure and institutional training development.

“With criminal investigation, we wanted to work together with the IP leaders to focus on improving their ability to investigate and prosecute a criminal network,” said Shattuck.

“This has been the area of greatest gain, really. It’s something that will be more and more evident over time. The IP ability to map and investigate criminal and insurgent networks has done a lot to stabilize the cities in the province.”

The Crime Scene Management Team’s main objective is to follow up first responders at a crime scene and act as technicians to preserve the scene and collect the evidence that will lead to prosecutions.

“The IP had 63 crime scene technicians with the criminal evidence directorate when we first arrived,” said Shattuck. “Since we have been here, they have gotten more equipment fielded, and they are tied in with the forensics crime labs down in Baghdad. Teams like the Crime Scene Management Team are now out there preserving, collecting and processing evidence for court.”

Provincial police also focused on institutional training and development for officers, said Shattuck.

“The Iraqi Police agencies have been able to make great gains with their ability to institutionalize training and the development of individual policeman over the past year,” said Shattuck.

Iraqi Police forces run a completely self-funded and self-directed training center for operations and development courses, Shattuck said.

Nearly 500 Iraqi policemen now cycle through the institution each month, focusing individual certification training on a wide variety of police courses ranging from initial scene processing to prosecution and detainee rights.

The progress made has been tremendous, said Ali, but there are still criminals out there and they are getting harder to catch. It is up to police to stay one step ahead of criminals, get the job done and bring them down.

“For the Iraqi Police, the line between counterinsurgency and solving crimes is blurred,” said Shattuck. “These guys are by far the best suited to counter a ... insurgency, where the terrorist networks have receded into the criminal population. They are the best trained to not only detect networks, but also to prosecute once they have captured an individual.”

# Crew lays asphalt on COB Adder's Convoy Support Center road

STORY AND PHOTO BY  
CAPT. ANTWONE WILSON  
4TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE

## CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE



**ADDER, Iraq** – Much time, energy and effort has gone into planning for the anticipated surge of Soldiers and equipment moving in and out of Contingency Operating Base Adder in support of the reposturing of U.S. forces in Iraq.

One important aspect of that planning has been the asphalt laying project at the Convoy Support Center.

COB Adder Facilities Engineering Team along with Regional Contracting Center South worked tirelessly to get the asphalt project sourced and approved within a narrow, two-week timeframe.

“I understood the mission from the beginning and how important the new roads would be in the Convoy Support Center,” said Tech. Sgt. Robert Ruston, a Fountain, Colo., native, and the contingency contracting officer with RCC South. “We viewed this project as priority number one.”

Staff Sgt. Eric Gorham, a Lena, Ill., native and the noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the Directorate of Public Works, 4th Special Troops Battalion, 4th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, is the acting contractor officer representative for this project.

This is Gorham's fourth combat deployment, but he said that hasn't dampened his drive and motivation to tackle the daily challenges in DPW.

“I like my job, because I get to do something new and exciting every day,” he said. “I also enjoy meeting new people and working with the local citizens on various projects.”

Gorham said he understands the importance of this project being finished correctly

and on time. This project began in early April and is projected to end in mid-June. Gorham said he is confident that the project will meet its deadline without major setbacks.

“The new asphalt will make it easier for trucks to move within the CSC and limit the dust which currently causes low visibility that slows down the convoys,” Gorham said.

He said he is pleased with the current progression of this project and is eagerly looking forward to the next big challenge.



**Construction workers with a local company work alongside the Contingency Operating Base Adder Facilities Engineering Team and the Regional Contracting Center-South to complete asphalt laying at the Convoy Support Center on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq, May 17. The project began in early April and is projected to end in mid-June.**

JOINT BASE BALAD, IRAQ

Equal Opportunity  
Ensuring Great Opportunities... Together

Asian Pacific  
Islander Month

COME, LET US CELEBRATE!!!!!!!

310th ESC POC: MSG Pamela Johnson - 318-483-4139

## WANTED

The U.S. Army's Criminal Investigation Command is seeking qualified, high-caliber Soldiers to become CID Special Agents and conduct felony investigations, provide executive protection for DOD leaders and to help safeguard the community by providing criminal investigative support into terrorist activities.

- CID has a long proud history of being the premier criminal investigative agency within the Department of the Army
- Our special agents rank among the very best of federal law enforcement
- Our highly trained agents not only have to be expert detectives, they also must be Soldiers able to execute their investigative responsibilities in the harshest of expeditionary and combat environments
- As a CID Agent, you will contribute to a safer community and a stronger Army

For more information, check out [WWW.CID.ARMY.MIL](http://WWW.CID.ARMY.MIL), or contact Special Agent Jesus H. Goytia, Joint Base Balad CID Office, at DSN 483-4597 or [jesus.goytia@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:jesus.goytia@iraq.centcom.mil).

*It's time to take all those bottles you've been collecting and construct a water craft.*

Collect a bunch of plastic bottles; lash them together with duct tape; make boat and paddle; and race the contraption in the JBB outdoor pool.

Fastest boat wins the grand prize. Additional prizes awarded for creativity in boat design and costumes.

## 310th ESC Water Bottle Boat Regatta

1500, 29 May 2011

**The Fine Print:**

**Size:** Maximum craft length is 6 feet.

**Design:** Unlimited. Unit insignia must be displayed on craft.

**Hulls:** Craft must be made entirely of plastic bottles and duct tape.

Other material allowed for decoration only.

**Crew:** Two crew members must ride on the craft.

**Power:** Paddle power only. Paddles must be made from water bottles and duct tape ONLY (no broom handles).

**Appropriate swim attire is mandatory!**

POC this debacle: MSG Stevens, [roger.stevens@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:roger.stevens@iraq.centcom.mil), 433-2329

## Tactical Physical Training

**Who:** Everyone on JBB is welcome

**What:** A high-intensity circuit training workout that tests your will, perseverance and combat preparedness

**When:** Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday 0530-0630  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 1830-1930

**Where:** JBB East Gym (behind circuit gym)



## Conflict resolution, realizing what it is

BY SGT. STEPHEN SCOTT  
EXPEDITIONARY TIMES STAFF



I used to think everyone who doesn't agree with me should be packed in a spaceship and sent to the moon to work as slaves

for the NASA people who are trying to colonize it, but then I saw "Roots" and "Amistad". Apparently... these types of things are frowned upon in our society, so

I've settled on learning conflict resolution to deal with people and their opposing views.

In all seriousness, though, I hadn't realized how serious conflict resolution had become in our culture. It's so important that some universities offer a doctorate program in it.

The reason I hadn't realized conflict resolution was such a big deal was because I didn't really understand what a conflict was. I thought that it was just a disagreement, but it's actually a disagreement where the people involved perceive a threat to their needs or interests.

Think about it. If you've just met a man or woman and your taste in movies or television shows differ, is there a conflict? No, you just disagree on what you like to watch. Six months later when you are a couple that spends a lot of time together, it becomes a conflict because you both perceive a threat to cinematic tastes.

The most important thing to realize about conflict is it's a normal part of life, and it's not always a bad thing. If nothing else, it helps you appreciate the times when things are actually running smoothly.

On the more idealistic side of the spectrum, resolving a conflict can be a chance to learn something about yourself and others that will help you grow as a person. I know it sounds cheesy, but really, dealing with conflict is a matter of perception.

There are many factors that influence our perceptions; cultural background, gender, knowledge, and previous experiences are just a few of them.

There are so many different ways to perceive the same thing, that it is imperative to take the time to review your situation. You first need to realize what the actual conflict is.

If your coworker takes a pen off your desk, and you get angry, is that the root of the conflict?

Are you angry about the pen, or are you angry because that coworker doesn't respect your personal space?

In order to know what your real issue is, you have to really know yourself. If you don't have a good understanding of your

needs and perceptions, you may address the issue of the missing pen when there is a more relevant large-scale conflict at hand.

However, before you rush over and tell that person they're horrible and their mother raised them wrong, you need to also try to understand their view of the situation.

How would that person react in your position?

What are their views on personal space?

What are their perceptions?

Once you have evaluated both sides of the conflict, then you can go about the business of trying to resolve it. There are five basic ways to address conflict:

**Accommodation** – This is where you give up your needs to meet the needs of the other person.

**Competition** – This is where you assert your needs over those of the other person.

**Compromise** – This is where both parties give a little to get a little.

**Avoidance** - This is where you... well... avoid the conflict altogether.

**Collaboration** – This is where both parties work together to meet a goal that is mutually beneficial.

Avoidance is generally the least useful of these, but they all have their place in the realm of conflict resolution. Although, I think a quote from a University of Wisconsin-Madison Web site sums what it takes to resolve conflict:

"It takes courage to honestly and clearly articulate your needs, and it takes courage to sit down and listen to your adversaries. It takes courage to look at your own role in the dispute, and it takes courage to approach others with a sense of empathy, openness and respect for their perspective."

Below are steps to coming to a safe resolution from the University of Wisconsin-Madison site. Go there, and you will find more information about each:

1. "Know Thyself" and Take Care of Self
2. Clarify Personal Needs Threatened by the Dispute
3. Identify a Safe Place for Negotiation
4. Take a Listening Stance into the Interaction
5. Assert Your Needs Clearly and Specifically
6. Approach Problem-Solving with Flexibility
7. Manage Impasses with Calm, Patience, and Respect
8. Build an Agreement that Works

## Word on the Street

What do you do to stay cool in Iraq?



**"I build up a good sweat; the breeze on your shirt keeps you cool."**

Staff Sgt. Michael Baker is a SPO integration noncommissioned officer with the 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command and an Indianapolis, Ind., native



**"Pretty easy, it is called 'dark to dark'! I'm not talking about the next 'Twilight' movie, either. You just go to work early in the morning when it is cool, work all day, then leave when it cools off in the evening."**

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Rodney Bearman is an ammunition technician with the 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command and an Indianapolis, Ind., native.



**"[To stay cool I] maintain my daily swimming program, conforming to the U.S. Navy SEAL and Surface Warfare Combatant Craft Program."**

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Michael Carr is a watercraft master with the 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command and an Indianapolis, Ind., native.

# THEATER PERSPECTIVES

**“The U.S. presence has definitely been beneficial to the people here in Karbala. As I have said, I believe that the Iraqi security forces are fully capable of providing security to the mid-Euphrates area and to Karbala.”**

This is a statement made by Col. Reginald E. Allen, commander of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, during a transition ceremony recently in Karbala, Iraq, where the 3rd ACR relinquished its responsibility to the 33rd Iraqi Army Brigade.

**“The transition of Mo’Oscar Bagarrah is one of the first and most important transitions in Kirkuk. Although we are leaving our footprint here, we will continue to advise, train and assist.”**

This statement was said by Lt. Col. Andrew Ulrich, commander of 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt., part of 1st Advise and Assist Task Force, 1st Infantry Division.

**“You could imagine someone going around with a bin Laden clip on their cell phone, that would be a great photograph to use for a fundraising pitch. The bottom line is, bin Laden as an advertising icon is as potentially effective in death as he was in life, maybe even more so.”**

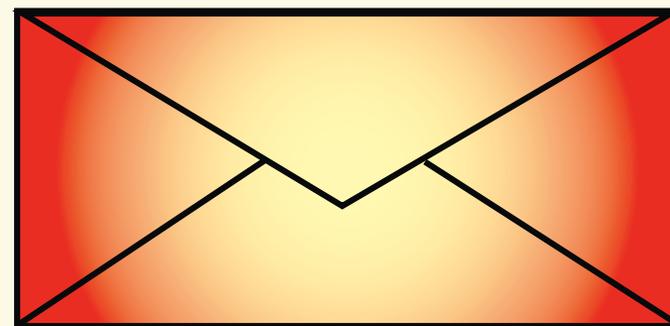
This was said by Matthew Levitt, a counterterrorism and intelligence expert at the Washington Institute for Near East Studies, commenting on the potential fundraising and marketing strategies of terrorist organizations surrounding bin Laden’s death.

**“It was good to see; [the Iraqi Soldiers] were mad that it had happened near their checkpoint. They did all the right things. When it came time to take care of business, they did their job.”**

Said by Staff Sgt. Brien Gibson, of 3rd Battalion, 116th Cavalry Regiment, 77th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command about the reaction of the Iraqi Army and how crucial it was in the wake of the IED attack, and their pride in ownership was evident.

## You’ve got (new) mail!

Say “goodbye” to government e-mail as you know it. Within the next two years, the suffix “us.army.mil” will begin to disappear from all government e-mail addresses and will be replaced with “mail.mil.” The future of Army Knowledge Online’s e-mail service will allow Soldiers to store more information and access their Army e-mail from any Department of Defense location. They can also collaborate with any Army user worldwide through a global address list.



Delete		Actions	Move to Folder...
Quota : 0% of 1024MB			
felicya.adams@us.ar	<input type="checkbox"/>	The main difference Soldiers should see are in access and storage improvements	
Inbox	<input type="checkbox"/>	It comes with a mailbox 40 times larger than the current 100 megabyte standard	
Drafts	<input type="checkbox"/>	The Army’s new enterprise e-mail is gradually being turned on for 1.6 million users	
Sent	<input type="checkbox"/>	For the Army, the move should result in \$100 million cost savings in fiscal 2013	
Spam			
Trash			
Manage Folders			

# Sudoku

The objective is to fill the 9x9 grid so each column, each row and each of the nine 3x3 boxes contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.

Last week's answers:

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

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

## Test your knowledge

1. What was the name of Cheerios when it was first marketed 50 years ago?
2. What are the two top selling spices in the world?
3. What animals milk is used to make authentic Italian mozzarella cheese?
4. What is the most widely eaten fish in the world?

1. Cheerios 2. Pepper 3. The water buffalo 4. The Herring

## JBB Worship Services

### PROVIDER CHAPEL

Tuesday / Wednesday / Thursday  
1130-Roman Catholic Mass

Friday  
1200-Muslim Prayer

Saturday  
1000-Seventh Day Adventist  
2000-Catholic Mass

Sunday  
0900-Contemporary Protestant  
1100-Roman Catholic Mass  
1300-Latter Day Saints  
1530-Church of Christ (Annex)  
1700-Traditional Service  
1900-Gospel Service

### GILBERT CHAPEL (H6)

Wednesday  
2000-Contemporary Prot Service  
(Bible study starting 25 May)

Friday  
1700-Catholic Mass  
1800-Jewish Shabbat

Sunday  
0800-Roman Catholic Mass  
0930-Contemporary Protestant  
1100-Gospel Service  
1900-Latter Day Saints

### HOSPITAL CHAPEL

Tuesday / Thursday  
1715-Roman Catholic Mass

Sunday  
1230-Roman Catholic  
1800-Protestant Personal  
Reflection Time – materials  
provided

### MWR EAST

Sunday  
1100-Gospel Service

**FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:**

Warrior Support Center: 483-4108

Gilbert Chapel: 433-7703

Provider Chapel: 483-4115

## JBB Activities Schedule

<b>INDOOR POOL</b> Swim Lessons: Mon., Wed., 6 p.m. Tue., Thu., Sat., 6:30 p.m. Aqua Training: Tue., Thu., 7:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m.	Edge Weapons & Stick Fighting Combative Training: Tue., Thur., Sat., 8-10 p.m. <b>EAST RECREATION CENTER</b> 4-ball touney: Sunday 8 p.m. <b>EAST FITNESS CENTER</b> Open Court Volleyball: Sunday 6 p.m. Aerobics: Monday 8 p.m. Fri., 5:30-6:30 a.m. Yoga Class: Mon., Friday, 6-7 a.m. Step Aerobics: Mon., Wed., Fri., 5:30 p.m. Conditioning 7 p.m. Training Class: Mon., Wed., Fri., 7:15-8 p.m. Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu: Mon., Wed., Fri., 8-9 p.m. Abs-Aerobics: Tue., Thu., 6-7 a.m., 5-6 p.m.	Caribbean Night: Friday 9 p.m. 8 p.m. Chess & Dominoes Touney: Friday 8 p.m. Salsa Class: Saturday 8:30 p.m. Poker: Saturday 7:30 p.m. <b>H6 FITNESS CENTER</b> Spin: Sunday 9 a.m. Mon., Wed., Fri., 2 a.m., 8 a.m., 2 p.m., 7 p.m., Tue., Thu., 5:45 a.m., 9 a.m., 8:30 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m., 7 p.m. Boxing: Sunday 4 p.m. Tue., Thu., 2 p.m. Boot Camp: Sunday 8:45 a.m. Tue., Thu., 7 p.m. Power Abs: Mon., Tue., Thu.,	8 p.m. Friday 9 p.m. 8 p.m. Mon., Saturday 10:30 p.m. Cross Fit: Mon., Wed., Fri., 5:45 a.m., 7 a.m., 3 p.m., 6 p.m. Tue., Thu., 7 a.m., 3 p.m. Sunday 5:45 a.m., 7 a.m., 3 p.m., p.m., 10 p.m. Midnight Soccer: Tue., Thu., 8 p.m. Yoga: Wednesday 8 p.m. MACP Level 1: Friday 8 p.m. 5 on 5 Basketball: Saturday 8 p.m. <b>H6 RECREATION CENTER</b> Bingo: Sunday 8 p.m. Texas	Hold'em: Mon., Fri., 2 p.m., 8:30 p.m. Tuesday 2 a.m., 8:30 p.m. Ping-pong touney: Tuesday 8:30 p.m. Spades: Wednesday 2 a.m., 8:30 p.m. Salsa: Wednesday 2 a.m., 8:30 p.m. 9-ball: Thursday 8:30 p.m. Dartos: Saturday 8:30 p.m. <b>WEST RECREATION CENTER</b> Green Bean Karaoke: Sun., Wed., 7:30pm Monday 8 p.m.	Ping-pong touney: Tuesday 8 p.m. Foosball touney: Tuesday 8 p.m. Jam Session: Tuesday 7:30 p.m. 8-ball touney: Wednesday 8 p.m. Guitar Lessons: Thursday 7:30 p.m. Game touney: Thursday 1 p.m., 8 p.m. Enlisted Poker: Friday 1 p.m., 8 p.m. Officer Poker: Saturday 1 p.m., 8 p.m. Squat Competition: Saturday 8 p.m. <b>WEST FITNESS CENTER</b> 3 on 3 basketball touney: Saturday 7:30 p.m. 6 on 6 volleyball touney: Monday Friday	7 p.m. Aerobics: Mon., Wed., Friday 7 p.m. Body by Midgett Toning Class: Tue., Thu., Dodge ball Game: Tuesday 7:30 p.m. Furman's Martial Arts: Mon., Wed., Sun., 1 p.m. Gaston's Self-Defense Class: Fri., Sat., 7 p.m. Open court basketball: Thursday 7 p.m. Open court soccer: Mon., Wed., 7 p.m. Zingano Brazilian Jui Jitsu: Tue., Thu., 8:30 p.m. <b>CIRCUIT GYM</b> Floor hockey: Mon., Wed., Fri., 8-10 p.m.
--	--	---	---	---	--	--



# AFN SPORTS SCHEDULE



### Wednesday 5/25/11

NBA: NBA Playoffs, Delayed 0400, AFN | sports  
NHL: Stanley Cup Playoffs, Live 1700, AFN | xtra  
NBA: NBA Playoffs, Live 1800, AFN | sports

### Thursday 5/26/11

NHL: Stanley Cup Playoffs, Delayed 0000, AFN | sports  
NBA: NBA Playoffs, Delayed 0400, AFN | sports  
NBA: NBA Playoffs, Live 1730, AFN | sports  
MLB: Boston Red Sox @ Detroit Tigers, Delayed 2200, AFN | xtra

### Friday 5/27/11

NBA: NBA Playoffs, Delayed 0500, AFN | sports  
MLB: Cleveland Indians @ Tampa Bay Rays, Live 1600, AFN | xtra  
NBA: NBA Playoffs, Live 1800, AFN | sports

MLB: New York Yankees @ Seattle Mariners, Live 1900, AFN | xtra

### Saturday 5/28/11

MLB: Cincinnati Reds @ Atlanta Braves, Delayed 0000, AFN | sports  
NBA: NBA Playoffs, Delayed 0400, AFN | sports  
Tennis: 2011 French Open, Live 0900, AFN | sports  
MLB: Cleveland Indians @ Tampa Bay Rays, Live 1300, AFN | sports  
UFC: The Ultimate Fighter, Delayed 1500, AFN | xtra  
MLB: Philadelphia Phillies @ New York Mets, Live 1600, AFN | prime Atlantic  
NBA: NBA Playoffs, Live 1730, AFN | sports

### Sunday 5/29/11

NBA: NBA Playoffs, Delayed 0400, AFN | sports  
Indy Car: Indianapolis 500, Live 0900, AFN | sports

MLB: Boston Red Sox @ Detroit Tigers, Live 1000, AFN | prime Atlantic

NASCAR: Coca-Cola 600, Live 1500, AFN | xtra  
MLB: Cincinnati Reds @ Atlanta Braves, Live 1700, AFN | prime Atlantic  
NBA: NBA Playoffs, Live 1800, AFN | sports

### Monday 5/30/11

UFC: Rampage vs Hamill, Delayed 0700, AFN | xtra  
Tennis: 2011 French Open, Live 0900, AFN | sports  
MLB: New York Mets Military Appreciation Day:  
Pittsburgh Pirates @ New York Mets, Live 1600, AFN | xtra

### Tuesday 5/31/11

MLB: New York Yankees @ Oakland Athletics, Live 1900, AFN | xtra

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## The Sports Lounge

### This year's tourney lacks usual names in final stretch

BY SGT. EDWIN GRAY  
EXPEDITIONARY TIMES STAFF



The NBA playoffs have been nothing short of competitive. In the last 10 years, there was always a powerhouse, star surrounded, New-York-Yankee-like basketball team winning the NBA championship. In fact, in the last 10 years, even the team who lost the finals was filled with proven, well-known stars. In my opinion, watching a playoff series in the last 10 years was so predictable. Before the season started, when sports fans and analysts would "guess" who would win the title at the end of the year, it was almost like going back in time to watch a game after you already saw the outcome. If you didn't choose the right team to win the finals, it was probably because they lost in the finals. If you didn't choose who would make the finals, it was probably because you weren't a Lakers, Celtics, Spurs, Magic, or Cavs fan, or you couldn't bet against your hometown team.

This year, nobody would've guessed the Dallas Mavericks would be playing the Thunder in the Western Conference finals. Who would've thought the Chicago Bulls would enter the playoffs with the No. 1 seed? OK, maybe someone that went too far back in their time capsule and Michael Jordan guaranteed a win while playing for

Chicago, or they were playing with the Bulls on Xbox. The only team still in the run for the title that many thought would be here is the Miami Heat, due to their having the biggest free-agent-acquisitions during the off season. It didn't take a rocket scientist to figure that out. Although, Rockets forward Shane Battier is highly educated and would have probably agreed, as a scientist would.

In my belief, the Bulls will beat the Heat in six games because they are the best rebounding team in the league and the Heat's big men aren't physical enough. In fact, I think they're soft and Chris Bosh being positioned at center on any team during any game at any time doesn't help at all. Also, Derrick Rose is awesome.

In the Western Conference, the Mavs' surprisingly hope-building playoff run is still current. For Maverick fans, this has to be a dream come true. I believe by the end of this series, they will realize it was truly just a dream. In Game 1, I believe the Mavs hit the Thunder as hard as they could by scoring 121 points. Russell Westbrook struggle from the field and couldn't complement Kevin Durant's 40-point effort in their Game-1 loss. Dirk Nowitski also hit his first 10 shots from the field and the Mavs only won by nine points at home. With all that went wrong in Game 1 and all that was against the young Thunder, they managed to go into an undefeated building and beat the veteran-filled Mavs in Game 2.

During this series, Westbrook has had more turnovers than he has had assists with seven assists and eight turnovers. If he would've done that against any championship-caliber team, I believe the Thunder would be down 2-0 with two depressing 20-point blowout losses. With that being said, I don't think the Mavs are ready to become the champs, and I think the Thunder will take the series in six. But hey, who am I to tell anyone who will win? I don't own any time capsule.

## The Reel Review

### 'Elephants' is nothing less than wonderful



Review: 4.5 / 5 stars

BY SGT. FELICYA ADAMS  
EXPEDITIONARY TIMES STAFF



'Water for Elephants' tells the story of Jacob (Robert Pattinson), a veterinary student who abandons his studies after his parents are killed and joins a traveling circus as their veterinarian. He soon lays eyes on Marlena (Reese Witherspoon), the star performer of the show and the wife of the circus boss August (Christoph Waltz). I honestly don't want to spoil the movie for those of you who haven't seen it yet, so I'm not going to tell you anything else about the movie's plot or how it plays out.

But what I will say is that the movie is unarguably charming. The actors are absolutely gorgeous and the sets and costumes artfully recreate the vision of a depression-era circus.

The movie's settings certainly look authentic and without a doubt take you back in time during the Great Depression in America.

There's something fascinating about the good old days, and I loved how they stayed true to that specific time period. They kept

everything elegant, classy and magical even though it was based around a dark circus life.

I loved this movie. It compared to 'The Notebook' with the biggest difference being that Ryan Gosling and Rachel McAdams are better at convincing romantic chemistry.

However, the romance of the carnival is very strong. It was well made through the detail in the clothing, the colors, the props and scenes.

The cinematography is just plain beautiful, period.

'Water for Elephants' was amazing in every way: romance, action, tragedy, happiness, sadness, everything you can imagine.

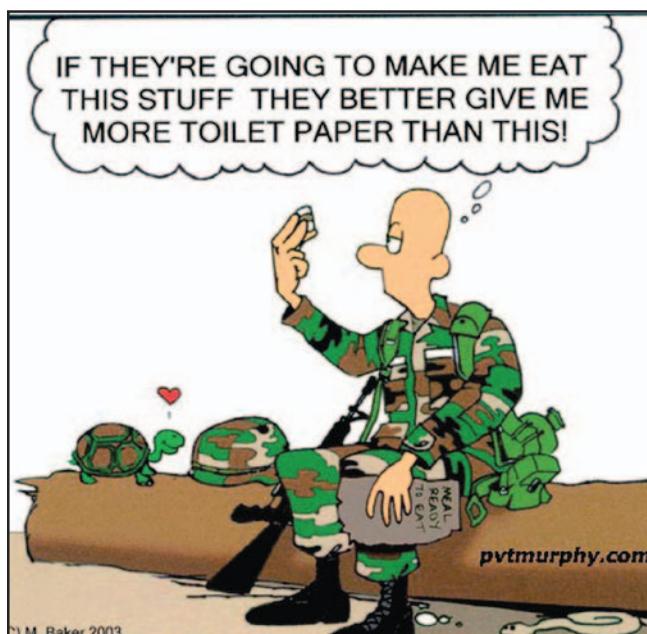
The main characters were unquestionably easy on the eyes and very appropriate for the time period in which the movie is set.

Pattinson showed compassion for his coworkers, the animals and Witherspoon. Waltz's, on the other hand, was brutal to the animals, obsessed with his wife and handled his financial situation by tossing his circus employees off the moving train. And Witherspoon's character, I'll admit, was a little bland. But, I can't think of anybody else that would have been a better choice for the movie.

To be honest, I can't think of anything to criticize in this film. Don't get me wrong, it's not the best movie in the world, but it's definitely worth seeing, especially in the theaters.

I give 'Water for Elephants' 4.5 out of 5.

## PVT MURPHY'S LAW™ BY MARK BAKER



## Reel Movie Times

### Wednesday May 25

1700 HOP (PG)  
2000 PRIEST (PG-13)

### Thursday May 26

THEATER RESERVED

### Friday May 27

1800 HANNA (PG-13)  
2100 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER (N/R)

### Saturday May 28

THEATER RESERVED

### Sunday May 29

1400 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER (N/R)  
1700 YOUR HIGHNESS (R)  
2000 HANNA (PG-13)

### Monday May 30

1700 YOUR HIGHNESS (R)  
2000 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER (PG-13)

### Tuesday May 31

1700 ARTHUR (PG-13)  
2000 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: ON STRANGER (PG-13)

# History in the closing

*(Right) Staff Brig. Gen Mohsin, commander of 46th Brigade, 12th Iraqi Army Division, officially takes responsibility of Contingency Operating Location McHenry from U.S. Army Lt. Col. Andrew Ulrich, commander of 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 1st Advise and Assist Task Force, 1st Infantry Division, during a base transfer ceremony in Kirkuk province, Iraq, May 15, 2011.*

*(Below) "Golden Dragons" Soldiers assigned to 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 1st Advise and Assist Task Force, 1st Infantry Division render honors as the American flag is lowered for the last time at Contingency Operating Location McHenry during a base transfer ceremony in Kirkuk province, Iraq, May 15, 2011. After conducting operations at the base since 2003, U.S. forces transferred responsibility of COL McHenry to the Iraqi government.*



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Andrew Ingram



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Andrew Ingram

**Victory  
Through  
Support**