

The GREYWOLF Howl

Vol. II Issue XV

The Operation New Dawn Edition

September 20, 2011

3-8 Cav Soldiers treat enemy wounded in southern Iraq

**1st Lt. Richard Vogt
3rd Bn., 8th Cav. Regt.**

War can be a confusing place. One moment you are trying to kill a determined enemy and the next moment you are in a desperate struggle to save his life. Soldiers from the Battalion Aid Station and the Field Surgical Team (FST) 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division found themselves fighting time in the early morning hours on August 25, as they rushed to save the lives of three insurgent fighters who only moments before were setting up to attack a United States Forces logistical convoy.

The insurgents were caught setting up an explosively formed projectile, a roadside bomb that fires a molten copper slug capable of penetrating the heavy armor plating of military vehicles.

Soldiers from 1st Platoon, Dragoon Company, 3rd Bn., 8th Cav., were providing security for the logistics patrol when they spotted an ambush using special night-vision optics. They immediately called for air support. Within minutes, Apache attack helicopters arrived on the scene and engaged the insurgents killing one and injuring three others.

U.S. Soldiers are required to treat enemy fighters' injuries when practical, so the troops began life-saving proce-



U.S. Army photo

Soldiers assisting the MEDEVAC crew carry a wounded insurgent to a helicopter in southern Iraq.

dures on the insurgents, who were then flown back to a small U.S. base in southern Iraq for treatment.

Staff Sgt. Adam Conn, a native of San Diego, called a 9-line MEDEVAC to get the insurgents airlifted back to the U.S. base for treatment. Once medical personnel landed, the Soldiers carried the wounded on stretchers to the waiting helicopters.

"I was very happy with their (Soldiers) performance," said 1st Lt. Michael Benson, platoon leader and a native of Las Vegas.

"This is my third deployment, so it's not my first time coming across IEDs or dead bodies," Conn said. "I know a couple guys, it was their first

time seeing that, but they took it like champs and performed better than I expected, which is good."

The helicopters landed at the U.S. base, the wounded were brought to the aid station and the struggle to save lives continued.

Pfc. Ashley Walter, a medic and native of Senecaville, Ohio, was right there when the enemy fighters arrived. Capt. Manuel Galaviz, 3rd Brigade Nurse from Foley, Ala, and Pfc. Theodore Carey joined Walter in the fight against the clock. The patients had received treatment while on the way to the base, and so the team was able to go right to work.

Continue on next page

Capt. Troy Bettencourt, a native of Mililani, Hawaii, and a Physician's Assistant with the BAS worked with acting clinic NCOIC Sgt. Lloyd Schulz a Barron, Wisconsin native, Sgt. Michael Atwood, a native of Hubbard, Ohio, and treatment medic Spc. Adam Gade, Chicago native, on one insurgent's wounds.

"We just focused on good medical care," Schulz said. "Basically, we just made sure he could be stabilized and evacuated to a higher level of care."

"I didn't have any reaction," Sgt. Atwood said. "We were just worried about his airway. I was taking all commands from the tower. We performed a needle-chest decompression, and then the surgeon took over."

The actions of the medical personnel reflect the U.S. Army's core values.

"It's no different when an insurgent comes into this facility," said Capt. Galaviz. "We treat him as another patient instead of focusing on what it was they were doing. I do understand that yes, they are the enemy, and they're sitting there trying to harm U.S. Soldiers, but in the end, medical personnel will do no harm, will treat the patient no matter who they are or what they do. [Terrorists] are willing to sacrifice their own lives or kill many others in the process, and we're here on this end trying to save lives."

"We're not here to make moral judgment calls, we're just here to take care of people," said Maj. Allen Anae, General Surgeon from Laie, Hawaii. To that end, the Soldiers of 3rd Bn. 8th Cavalry Regiment ensured that the deceased was returned to his family where he could receive a proper burial, and



U.S. Army photo

A Soldier provides security for the MEDEVAC team called to transport three wounded insurgents.

that the wounded insurgents were flown to Contingency Operating Base Adder where they could receive continued urgent medical care.

For these Soldiers, conducting themselves honorably is important, even when face-to-face with their enemy.

2nd Bn., 82nd Field Artillery Regt.

Steel Dragon medic provides medical aid to Iraqi boy

2nd Lt. Christopher Molaro 2nd Bn., 82nd FA Regt.

It was the morning of August 31, the last day of the first month without a United States Soldier death in Iraq since 2003. This unfamiliar, yet mind-easing fact has allowed U.S. Forces to focus some of its attention and resources to accomplishing good and helping the local Iraqi populace.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Christopher Molaro

Pfc. Thomas Adgate, a medic, checks the vitals of a local Iraqi boy who had recently been burned by boiling cooking water that was accidentally spilled on his arm before treating his burns.

Lt. Col. Robert Wright, commander of Task Force Steel Dragon, 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division was visiting the local Bedouin population, providing some help with humanitarian aid. It was then, in a tent surrounded by goats, sod and grateful children, that an older man carrying his two year old son explained how he had recently been burned by boiling cooking water that was accidentally spilled on his arm.

Without hesitation, Wright waved for a medic to help the little boy and instinct took over.

"His arm was burned badly," said Pfc. Thomas Adgate, a medic with TF Steel Dragon. "Even a week old, the boys second and third degree burns were still raw, excruciating for anyone to endure let alone a two year old boy."

Adgate's years of training were being utilized for the greater good, in a country that has seen anything but for the last eight years. Perhaps, what was most impressive about the medic was



Photo by 2nd Lt. Christopher Molaro

Pfc. Thomas Adgate, a medic, treats a 2 year old Iraqi boy for second and third degree burns during a visit to a southern Iraqi village.

his professionalism. He attributes his collected ability to act under pressure to his chain of command and his fellow medics who have trained him.

The good news is that Adgate is not unique. TF Steel Dragon has dozens of medics qualified and ready to do the same and all look forward to making a positive impact as U.S. Forces stride toward the final months in Iraq. One thing is for sure: everyone feels a sense of comfort when the medic is around.

Tribal leaders visit COB Adder

Sgt. Omar Estrada, 3rd AAB PAO

Tribal Leaders from the surrounding areas of Contingency Operating Base Adder came to pay a visit to Steel Dragon 6 and GREYWOLF 6. Four sheikhs and a government official had a long and pleasant meeting with the 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, Brigade Commander, Col. Douglas C. Crissman.

Walking in to the conference room wearing typical Iraqi clothing consisting of a white dishdash or thobe which is an ankle-length loose fitting shirt-like garment, a checkered or white kaffiyeh over their heads which is scarf folded into a triangle being held by an agal that's a circular black rope to hold the kaffiyeh in place, and sandals, the four sheikhs were greeted by several United States Army officials.

The visiting Sheikhs were: Sheikh Hizam Al-Jorani the tribal leader for the Al-Joareen tribe, and his two brothers; Sheikh Fahad Al-Jorani and Sheikh Ali Al-Jorani. Accompanying them was Sheikh Ghazi Al-Husseinawi the tribal leader of the Al-Husseinat tribe, and Haji Munadhil Al-Jorani the town council president for Sefwan.

Col. Crissman had a long conversation with Sheikh Hizam Al-Jorani, whom acted as the spokesman for his tribe and the voice of Iraq as well. He encouraged the United States Forces-Iraq to stay past the allotted time and made several comments on how much a USF-I presence was needed in Iraq from both political and socio-economic perspectives.

One of the requests that were given by Sheikh Hizam Al-Jorani was to allow sheikhs to impose order in their tribe, since they already knew who had established roots in that tribe and who was a new comer.

"The true strength and power of Iraq is through the tribal leaders," said Sheikh Hizam Al-Jorani. "We need to work



Photo by Sgt. Omar Estrada

Col. Douglas C. Crissman shakes hands followed by an accustomed Iraqi greeting with Sheikh Hizam Al-Jorani.

from the bottom up, instead of top to bottom, why I say this is because we need to change the way of thinking of our country and make us self sufficient." he said.

"We fully believe that this country is ready to stand on its own," said Crissman. "We pay you to provide a service to us and in return you are giving us far more; knowledge and connection with the population that we wouldn't be able to reach on our own." he added.

Another comment made was the fear of an invasion by the country of Iran once the USF-I leaves.

"We don't believe the Army needs to leave Iraq yet, we are not prepared incase Iran decides to move in after the Army leaves." said Sheikh Hizam Al-Jorani.

Crissman assured the country of Iraq not to fear, saying that the Iraqi government and most of all the Iraqi Army was fully prepared and trained by the U.S. Army. Crissman followed by giving a thumbs-up and led everyone in the meeting to the dining table.

Eyes of amazed Soldiers were wide open when they noticed the vast amount of food that there was to eat and choose from.

The dining table was fully decorated with food: hummus bread which looks like a big tortilla wrap, grilled kebab made from ground meat, dates, bamia or okra stew and quzi as the main dish consisting of two silver bowls with rice and topped with grilled half lamb on each.

The Americans and Iraqis gathered at the table where food and smiles were being passed around. For some Soldiers it was their first time feasting on this type of meal.

The meeting between Steel Dragon 6, GREYWOLF 6 and the sheikhs ended with an agreement to repeat this kind of meeting, a handshake and a Salam Aleikum.



Photo by Sgt. Omar Estrada

Col. Douglas C. Crissman met with local tribal leaders at Contingency Operating Base Adder.

Civilians supporting the war effort

1st Lt. Michael Escalera
215th Bde. Support Bn.

With football season just around the corner, the Dark Knights of Alpha Distribution Company, 215th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division took an opportunity to hand out awards to some hard working individuals for an aspect of war that is seldom recognized. The support of Department of Defense civilians and contractors.

If you turn on the news you are almost certain to hear about Soldiers that are deployed in support of the war on terrorism. You may even see pictures or video clips of troops getting off aircraft or going across the sands of Iraq and Afghanistan. Lost in the mass of combat fatigues are the plain-clothed individuals known as the DoD civilians and contractors who deploy along with service members.

On Contingency Operating Base Basrah, those same individuals work alongside the Dark Knight Soldiers in the maintenance bays and the Class I (Subsistence (food), gratuitous (free) health and comfort items) and Class IX (Repair parts and components required for maintenance support) yards in support of our deployed service members in the GREYWOLF operational environment.

“DoD civilians and contractors are



Photo by 1st Lt. Michael Escalera

Capt. Vernie Param, a native of Goose Creek, S.C. and Sgt. 1st Class Michael Thomas, a native of Hartsville, S.C. presented the Class IX Yard contractors with Certificates of Appreciation for the hard work and dedication they provide to the unit to accomplish its wartime mission.

an intricate part of the Dark Knight family and a cornerstone that we base our daily operations on. We would not be successful without their hard work and dedication.” said Capt. Vernie Param, the ADC commander and a native of Goose Creek, S.C.

They work and live in the same living conditions as the Soldiers, face the same challenges the Soldiers face on a daily basis, everything from the 130 degree temperature, long work days and months away from their loved ones.

The Dark Knights support extends

beyond the borders of Iraq. They have received support from outside agencies located back in the United States. From care packages, containing sweet gifts of deliciousness, to personal hygiene items, and letters and CDs sent by local Girl Scouts, Soldier Angels and a plethora of other agencies doing their part to show service members that they are not forgotten.

“These items are small reminders of the tokens of support that we receive as Soldiers. This display of support is what we would like to pass along to the Iraqi nation.” said Sgt. Jessica Brown.



Photo by 1st Lt. Michael Escalera

Spc. Christopher Pease a native of Lubbock, Texas and Mr. Laquentin Hastie, a native of Rockledge, Fla., verify RFI identification tags in the Joint Distribution Center Yard.



Photo by 1st Lt. Michael Escalera

Staff Sgt. Cadalia Dornellas, a native of Los Angeles; Sgt. Jessica Brown, a native of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Pfc. Bridgette Holloway, Meridian, Idaho and 1st Lt. Michael Escalera of San Antonio, sort care packages received from Girls Scouts.



Photo by 1st Lt. Michael Escalera

Capt. Vernie Param, a native of Goose Creek, S.C. and Pfc. Anh Tuan Nguyen, San Jose, Calif., present certificates to four local nationals who have helped at the Class IX Yard.

3-8 Cav. says farewell to Command Sgt. Maj. Peare

Sgt. Omar Estrada
3rd AAB PAO

The 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, bid farewell to one of its key leaders with a transfer of responsibility ceremony for the Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Scott R. Peare, who is relieved by Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy L. Metheny. The ceremony was held at the dining facility on Contingency Operating Station Garry Owen, Iraq Sept. 9, 2011.



Photo by Sgt. Omar Estrada

Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy L. Metheny passes the guidon back to its bearer after assuming responsibility.



Photo by Sgt. Omar Estrada

Command Sgt. Maj. Scott R. Peare (center), receives an award from Col. Douglas C. Crissman (left), and Command Sgt. Maj. Ronnie R. Kelley (right) during a transfer of responsibility ceremony at the dining facility.



Photo by Sgt. Omar Estrada

The Soldiers bow their heads for the Invocation by Chaplain (Capt.) Robert Holsinger during a transfer of responsibility ceremony.

An advertisement for shipping services. It features logos for the United States Postal Service, FedEx, and UPS. Below the logos are images of a blue mailbox, a hand dropping a letter into a slot, a white FedEx delivery van, and a brown UPS delivery truck. In the foreground, there is a blue trash bin labeled "BRUTE" overflowing with crumpled paper, and several cardboard boxes, some with shipping labels.

The Postal service will be shutting down operations on COB Adder as of mid - November. To guarantee that your Soldiers receive any packages you send them in a timely manner, it is suggested that you do not mail anything after the middle of October. Anything that is sent after this date may not make it in time and could end up lost.

“The Why generation”

Capt. Chris Prange
3rd Bde., Special Troops Bn.

The current generation of Soldiers are part of what has been titled by many as the “Why?” generation. They are the ones always asking questions and wanting to know the reasoning behind a task. They are a generation defined by curiosity and a need for explanations. They are a generation that often infuriates previous generations with their questioning methods.

For the Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, that are manning the Entry Control Points on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq, being part of the “Why?” generation has proven to be a blessing. Go to any one of the various search points at either of the ECPs and you will hear a word repeated like it is part of a mantra: Why?

WHY does this local national have three cell phones in his car?

WHY is this man bringing in empty fuels can and rubber hoses?

WHY was this third country national banned from another United States military installation?

WHY?

“Yes, we do want to stop unauthorized weapons from entering the Forward Operating Base, but we also have to look beyond that. We look for potential threats, whether by the actions of terrorists or simple criminal



Photo by 2nd Lt. Jennifer Farland

Pfc. Tabatha Krohn mans the radio desk at entry control point five. Krohn is responsible for helping conduct background checks of personnel identified through biometric checks.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Jennifer Farland

Spc. Rusty Carter uses biometrics to verify the identity of a contracted truck driver. Each person entering COB Adder is screened against an Iraq wide watch-list that has been compiled since 2003.

acts.” said 1st Sgt. Helbert Izquierdo, HHC, 3BSTB.

The Visitor Control Center is responsible for the screening of all local nationals and third country nationals coming onto or leaving COB Adder.

Entry control point five is the access point for all of the installations logistical traffic.

“I won’t say that we have it harder than ECP 5,” said Sgt. 1st Class Nicholas Ochs. “We deal with personnel on an individual level while ECP 5 focuses on convoys and larger vehicles. Each ECP has a unique mission and we each operate accordingly.”

Each civilian accessing COB Adder, whether a local or third country national coming on for the first time to find work or someone that has been driving convoys for years, falls under the same level of search. At a minimum, they must have their identifications verified against multiple federally and internationally updated biometric watch lists. They will then undergo an X-ray screening and a search of their belongings followed by a thorough vehicle search.

In an era of technological advances, our security inside the wire has never

been more certain.

“We have all of these great electronics that enhance our capabilities,” said 2nd Lt. Jennifer Farland, ECP 5’s officer in charge, “but nothing replaces our Soldiers or the Ugandan security guards actually conducting a hands-on search. You won’t be able to always find a SIM card (small memory card like in a camera) in someone’s wallet with a metal detector or a knife hidden on a semi truck.”

While these systems have served as excellent deterrents, it is the Soldier on the ground whose inquisitive nature and inability to stop asking “Why?” that has led to the success of the VCC and ECP 5 in support of COB Adder.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Jennifer Farland

Pfc. Sadie Haughton uses an iris scan to confirm the identity of a local national. Biometrics is used heavily throughout the Entry Control Points to cross-match identities with an Iraq-wide data base of persons deemed to be a threat to U.S. Forces.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Ryan Tucker



Photo by 2nd Lt. Ryan Tucker

Col. Khaled, commander of the 4th Iraqi Army Commando Battalion, speaks with local civilians in the Al-Jezaizeh neighborhood of Basrah, Iraq, about the security situation and the overall thoughts on their living conditions and the local government. During the conversations, several civilians expressed their gratitude to the Iraqi Army and other Iraqi Security Forces for their continued operations.

Capt. Micah Shockley, commander Company A, and the 14th Iraqi Army Commando Battalion commander Col. Khaled discuss the security posture prior to their dismounted patrol through the Al-Jezaizeh neighborhood of Basrah, Iraq, Sept. 5, 2011. Col. Khaled had his commandos set up traffic control points on each side of the intersection of Route 6 and Route Apple. The commandos searched vehicles for munitions and other illegal items.

'Charger' Soldiers partner with Iraqi Army Commando Battalion

2nd Lt. Ryan Tucker, 1st Bn., 12 Cav. Regt.

The Soldiers of Company A, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division along with their partners from the Commando Battalion, 14th Iraqi Army Division conduct dismounted patrols through the city of Basrah, Iraq on a weekly basis. During these patrols, the Iraqi Army and the U.S. Soldiers get the

opportunity to meet with the population and address their current concerns and any other issues they may have. The Commando Battalion already has a strong partnership with the GREYWOLF Brigade Soldiers, and have improved their competency and skill level on every mission, demonstrating their ability to take the lead on securing the future of Iraq.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Ryan Tucker



Photo by 2nd Lt. Ryan Tucker

Col. Khaled speaks with a local civilian during a patrol. The civilians stated that they were glad to see the Iraqi Army and other Iraqi Security Forces continue to develop and build a partnership with the United States Advisors in their missions and operations.

Sgt. Ahmad, of the Commando Battalion, inspects a vehicle at one of the check points that was set up by Col. Khaled and the 14th Iraqi Army Division Commando Battalion.





Photo by 2nd Lt. Stuart White

Combat medics work with a crew of the 1/111th Medical Evacuation Battalion to practice preparing and loading casualties into a helicopter during a mass casualty exercise.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Stuart White

Soldiers begin initial treatment of casualties during a training exercise to teach Soldiers on the base how to react to a mass casualty scenario at Contingency Operating Base Delta.

‘Saber’ Squadron keeps mass casualty reaction skills sharp

2nd Lt. Stuart White
6th Sqdn., 9th Cav. Regt.

6th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division regularly conducts mass casualty (MASCAL) scenario training at Contingency Operating Base Delta, to keep Soldiers’ medical and evacuation skills tuned.

On August 27, Delta Forward Support Company conducted a rehearsal to give all Soldiers a chance to practice their medical skills after a simulated attack and to prepare non-medical Soldiers to treat and move wounded personnel in a safe and timely manner.

Additionally, the medical personnel practiced medical evacuation and patient stabilization procedures.

The MASCAL began when the squadron’s operating center triggered the alarm so the personnel on base could practice finding cover. Once the “all clear” was sounded, troops ran through pre-planned drills to search and treat casualties and take accountability for personnel.

Troop leadership spends time planning and practicing these drills to teach their Soldiers that finding and treating casualties quickly can be the difference



Photo by 2nd Lt. Stuart White

Medical personnel with 47th Combat Support Hospital, 62nd Medical Brigade of Fort Lewis, Wash. triage casualties in the emergency room during a training exercise to prepare the base for a mass casualty treatment and evacuation scenario.

between life and death.

“6-9 Cav. makes it a top priority to stay prepared for anything we might encounter. So we take our time planning out these drills and rehearsals, and we practice them frequently,” said Sgt. Maj. Van Prier, the operations sergeant major and a New Orleans native.

These drills and rehearsals keep ‘Saber’ prepared and vigilant for any threat.

“We know that it is important to take these drills seriously. When we hear the alert we react quickly, and we remember our training,” said Capt. Michael Caldwell, the commander of D Forward Support Co., and a Jackson, Miss. native.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Stuart White

Medics work with doctors of the 47th Combat Support Hospital, 62nd Med. Brig. during a training exercise, to stabilize patients before the medical evacuation helicopters are called in.

Once the company collected all the casualties, they moved them to the combat support hospital on the base.

“This drill was very helpful for all of us here at the hospital. With all the new staff coming in, being able to go through all of our training together is going to really keep us sharp,” said Sgt. 1st Class Tyrone Johnson, the platoon sergeant for the squadron’s medical platoon and a Fayetteville, N.C. native.

Brigade Commander
Col. Douglas Crissman

Brigade Command Sgt. Maj.
Command Sgt. Maj. Ronnie Kelley

Public Affairs Officer
Maj. Harold Huff

NCOIC
Staff Sgt. Chris Bridson

STAFF

Staff Sgt. Brian Vorhees
Broadcast

Sgt. Omar Estrada
Writer, Photographer

Spc. Sharla Lewis
Writer, Photographer

Spc. April Stewart
Graphics Artist, Photographer

CONTACT US
harold.huff@us.army.mil

chris.alan.bridson@us.army.mil
facebook.com/3bct.1cd
DSN 856-2851

This newsletter is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services and their families. However, the contents of The GREYWOLF Howl are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of or endorsed by the US government. As a DOD publication, The GREYWOLF Howl may be distributed through official channels.



Photo by Sgt. Omar Estrada

Col. Douglas C. Crissman presents a plaque to 1st. Lt. Lindsay McCue, the executive officer of Company D, and native of Reno, Nev. for her first place finish in the womens category.

'Saber' Soldiers conduct 10-mile run as tribute to 9/11 anniversary

Sgt. Omar Estrada
3rd AAB PAO

On Sept. 11, 2011 6th 'Saber' Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, took to the streets of Contingency Operating Base Delta, Iraq to pay a unique tribute to the nearly 3000 men, women and children that tragically lost their lives 10 years ago in the terrorist attacks on the United States.

Col. Douglas C. Crissman, the 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division commander, and the GREYWOLF Command Sgt. Maj. Ronnie R. Kelley flew from Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq to join the 'Saber' squadron in a 10-mile run around COB Delta.

The run started at 5:30 in the morning and did not end until the last Soldier finished the event so that a group picture consisting of over 150 Soldiers and civilians stationed at COB Delta could be taken.



Photo by Sgt. Omar Estrada

Soldiers received a motivational boost when the cavalry colors waved next to them on Sept. 11, 2011.

There were several awards and plaques handed out to the top runners, from top runner in gender category, to age group category.