

# The GREYWOLF Howl

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## ‘Saber’ Squadron arrives in Kuwait; begins preparations to return home

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

In the early hours of Oct. 25, 6th ‘Saber’ Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division drove its final vehicles out of the Contingency Operating Base Delta gate en route to Camp Virginia, Kuwait, where they turned in their equipment and prepared to return to Fort Hood, Texas.

Prior to 2003, COB Delta was an Iraqi Air Force Base with the third longest active runway in Iraq, but the base was not used by United States Forces-Iraq until early 2008 as part of the surge. By mid 2009 it had grown to about 1,200 Soldiers.

Earlier this year, ‘Saber’ Squadron assumed authority of the base, with a population of 750 Soldiers and approximately 1,400 civilians providing various services in support of the Soldiers



Photo by 2nd Lt. Stuart White

Troops board a C-17 plane ready to fly from Contingency Operating Base Delta to Kuwait.

there. ‘Saber’ departed COB Delta in multiple air and ground movements to Camp Virginia, Kuwait, leaving the Wasit province with no remaining U.S. Forces.

“Every unit that came before us transferred authority of their area of operation to another United States Forces unit, but we completely transitioned the base to the capable hands of the Iraqi Security Forces,” said Lt. Col. Cameron Cantlon, commander of ‘Saber’ Sqdn., and a native of Etrick, Wis.

While conducting operations in Wasit province, ‘Saber’ Soldiers quelled an inflamed enemy, reestablished partnerships with Iraqi Leaders, conducted security force assistance throughout the province and conducted multiple humanitarian aid missions and reconstruction projects. They built lasting relationships and vital partnerships

with key ISF leaders creating a more stable environment throughout the province.

“The deployment is not over yet. We have to remain focused on finishing the logistical portion of redeployment as well as taking care of our Soldiers through reintegration,” said Maj. Dexter Holley, the battalion’s operations officer and an Aulander, N.C. native.

The last ‘Saber’ vehicles arrived in Kuwait in the early hours of Oct. 27, and began the process of turning in their ammunition and weapons, and will eventually turn in all of their equipment so it can be returned to Fort Hood or transferred to units in Afghanistan.

Once the logistical operations are finished in Kuwait, the Squadron will return to Texas to begin reintegration training and take some well-earned leave over the holidays.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Stuart White

Staff Sgt. Luis Roldanneris, native of Meridan, Conn. checks equipment that has been loaded on trailers ready for transportation to the Retrograde Property Assist Team in Camp Virginia, Kuwait.

# 'Steel Dragon' Soldiers write the final chapter of their Iraq-era legacy

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

After deploying earlier this year, 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division is busier than ever on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq as they prepare to apply the final touches to a legacy that has been forged since March 2003.

The 'Steel Dragon' Battalion assumed the role as a maneuver battalion working with Iraqi Security Forces and the local populace in Muthanna and Dhi Qar provinces. These provinces encompass a large portion of southern Iraq and more importantly, the main supply route that United States Forces in Iraq have been using to get to Kuwait.

All 'Steel Dragon' Soldiers are scheduled to redeploy back to Fort Hood, Texas before Christmas as part of the re-posturing efforts by U.S. Forces here.

'Steel Dragon' remains dedicated to advising and assisting the ISF as they prepare to assume full responsibility of Iraq's sovereignty and security.

"Our Soldiers remain vigilant and devoted to the mission and will do so until the last member of the team is home safe," said Capt. George Gordon, a native of Sealy, Texas and the battalion's battle captain.

Gordon oversees the battalion tactical operations center, managing all of the route clearance patrols that



Photo by Sgt. Darius Hicks

Command Sgt. Maj. David Osborne, 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, recognizes Sgt. Anthony Asadi and Cpl. Kristine Tejada who earned Non-Commissioned Officer of the Quarter honors during their deployment.

are conducted between 'Steel Dragon' Soldiers and their ISF partners, ensuring a safe and secure passage for thousands of U.S. Soldiers and their equipment as they leave Iraq on historic tactical road marches.

Gordon explained how Soldiers are not letting up on their patrols and anticipate accomplishing their new mission of getting every Soldier home safe.

The re-posturing efforts do not come without a cost. The battalion has worked in an area on COB Adder encompassing a few acres including a fully operational motor pool with hundreds of vehicles, tactical operation centers, training centers and a medic

station.

Since September, U.S. Forces have made preparations to turn the base over to Iraqi forces. As a result, that multi-acre battalion footprint has shrunk to a single building, housing all operational stations, five artillery batteries and one company headquarters.

'Steel Dragon' is ready to bid farewell to the highly trained and competent ISF they have partnered with during the deployment. As the battalion moves forward, the Soldiers remain committed to finishing the job, remaining safe and forging the historical path into a new post Iraq War era.



# Maintenance Company prepares for redeployment

**2nd Lt Samuel Eldridge**  
**215th Bde. Support. Bn.**

As the United States Forces-Iraq continue to transfer their responsibilities and the possession of key bases to Iraqi Security Forces, the Soldiers of Bravo Field Maintenance Company, 215th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division were busy preparing to turn in equipment on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq Oct. 28.

Every member of the company has been extremely busy, but they remain committed to the mission and the Security Agreement with Iraq.

The BFMC executive officer 1st Lt. Tiffany Bradley, a native of Columbus, Ga., is responsible for ensuring all the company's property and equipment gets turned in on time or is shipped back to Fort Hood, Texas. Not only does she manage all of the documentation for the equipment, but she is also the tasking authority for the Soldiers that are preparing the equipment for turn in or shipment.

"Managing the equipment is a tough job but I know I have the entire company supporting my efforts. The amount of work the Soldiers have accomplished is amazing." said Bradley.

One of the first areas to be closed was the Class I point where Staff Sgt. Valeria Gregg, a native of Columbia, S.C. has supplied food and ice for Soldiers going out on combat missions for the past eight months. She has now switched her focus to helping other sections.

"Even though we had to close the area I was in charge of, I am happy that I get to assist other members of the company in closing down their areas of responsibility." said Gregg.

The Security Platoons have shifted their focus from Sustainment Replenishment Operations to recovery and helping with the equipment turn



Photo by 2nd Lt. Samuel Eldridge

Spc. Rodrigo Rangel, a native of Mission, Texas cleans a Caiman, Mine-Resistant Ambush-Protected vehicle prior to turn in Oct. 24, 2011 on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq.

in process. They are still working hard and assisting other sections of BFMC when they get the opportunity.

"Both of the security platoons are ready to help out with the transition of COB Adder to the Iraqi Security Forces. They are also grateful for the possibility of getting to come home

before February." said 1st Lt. Justin Hackett, a native of Beloit, Kan.

The work ethic displayed by the Soldiers of BFMC has not gone unnoticed and has been greatly appreciated during this pivotal point in Iraq's future; they have truly lived up to their motto "No Task Too Tough".



Photo by 2nd Lt. Samuel Eldridge

1st Lt. Tiffany Bradley, a native of Columbus, Ga., works at her computer in an effort to get equipment turned in at Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq.

# 'Hellraiser' Company prepares to redeploy under new leadership

**1st Lt. Luis Gonzales, 1st Bn., 12th Cav. Regt.**

Change is something that is all too common in the Army. Whether it's the uniforms Soldiers wear, vehicles Soldiers drive or doctrine implemented on the battle field, change encompasses the Army. This is especially evident in the change in leadership.

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division had a change of command ceremony Oct. 7, to bid farewell to Capt. Brian Panaro and welcome their new commander Capt. Greg Lockhart.

Under Panaro's command, HHC successfully completed a rotation to the National Training Center, and deployed in support of Operation New Dawn. It's been said that every great leader has a dedicated and supportive wife. Mrs. Marcy Panaro personified selfless service as the Hellraiser Family Readiness Group leader. Panaro and his wife will be greatly missed by the Hellraiser family.

Lockhart comes to HHC from Delta Company, he and his wife Kristen joined the 'Charger' family in Aug. 2010, and they are excited about remaining with the 'Charger' Battalion. He commissioned as an Armor Officer out of Western Kentucky University and has served with 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, in Hawaii and 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas. Capt. Lockhart has deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq. With the highly anticipated redeployment of the Hellraiser Company, many Soldiers are grateful for a timely return to their loved ones.

On October 21st, President Obama announced that all Soldiers in Iraq would be home for the holidays. This news reassured many Soldiers that their hard work and



Photo by 1st Lt. Luis Gonzales

Lt. Col. Andrew T. Poznick, commander, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment hands the Headquarters and Headquarters Company guidon to Capt. Greg Lockhart signifying the Change of Command of HHC from Capt. Brian Panaro to Lockhart.

determination was for a worthy cause and successfully coming to a close.

Sgt. Anthony Woestman, a medic on his third deployment with the company acknowledged the sacrifices United States Forces have endured to reach this point.

"Many Soldiers have come and gone in order to ensure Iraq's freedom. I'm proud to say that Iraqi Security Forces are fully prepared to assume responsibility of their country. Most importantly, I'm proud to say that the U.S drawdown of forces in Iraq signifies the accomplishment of our mission."

In preparation for redeployment, the Hellraiser Company has worked closely with the Department of State in order to ensure a successful transition before their departure. The U.S. Department of State is the federal executive department responsible for international relations and has been supported by the HHC mortar platoon.

The mortar platoon helped DoS set-up communications between vehicles and command post platforms, as well as providing security during political, economic and security meetings with the Government of Iraq. The platoon also familiarized the DoS with the operating environment, something that can prove to become vital if they were to encounter a threat to their safety.

"It's our mission to quickly and efficiently share the knowledge we have gained over the past year in our battle space to ensure a safe transition to the Department of State." said 1st Lt. Travis Seale, mortar platoon leader as he expressed the importance of his platoon's mission.

By Dec. 31, DoS will be fully operational and the 'Charger' Battalion will return to Fort Hood, Texas, where they look forward to being home with their loved ones for Christmas and New Year.



Photo by 1st Lt. Luis Gonzales

1st Lt. Travis Seale, and Pfc. Kareem Farley escort two Department of State officials to a city council meeting in Basrah.

# Spartan Support Platoon prepares for redeployment

**Capt. Christopher Prange**  
3rd Bde. Special Troops Bn.

The Spartan Support Platoon, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division continues to prepare for the transition between Iraqi Security Forces and United States Forces-Iraq, stationed on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq during the final months of their deployment.

The Spartan's mission has remained the same: provide logistical support to the battalion, remain vigilant and combat ready, enable a seamless transition between USF-I and the ISF, and most importantly, return each Soldier home safely.

HHC's mission set has been one of the more complex and diverse missions a company size element has supported during the brigade's re-deployment operations. To successfully support such a wide ranging mission set, the company had to rely on its Support Platoon.

These Soldiers have been responsible for providing medical, maintenance, and force protection support to the battalion and the 11,000 tenants on COB Adder.

The Medical Platoon is essential to the battalion's preparations to return to Fort Hood. The Grave Robbers are responsible for the planning, coordination and execution of the Reverse Soldier Readiness Processing for more than 600 Soldiers. Additionally, the Grave Robbers have provided combat medics to the bases entry control points and route clearance patrols, enabling them to execute their security missions with adequate and timely medical care.

The medics aren't the only platoon busy supporting the battalions re-posturing efforts.

Spartan mechanics's aptitude for keeping vehicles rolling, generators



Courtesy Photo

Soldiers layout their equipment for an inspection on Contingency Operating Base Adder prior to loading their Connex ready for redeployment.

running and the world spinning has been pivotal to the battalion's mission success. They have maintained a 95 percent operational readiness rate despite shipping more than 50 percent of their equipment and tools back to Fort Hood. The mechanics also support Entry Control Points for COB Adder checking vehicles for potentially dangerous contraband and making sure that only authorized personnel enter the Base.

Some of the most underappreciated Soldiers in the Support Platoon are the cooks. Recently, the cooks closed the Class I yard which was responsible for supplying convoys with food and water for outlying bases and facilitated the consolidation of COB Adder's largest dining facility.

Consolidation of an operational DFAC and Class I yard is no small task. The cooks have literally turned in tons of food and supplies, forecasted, received and allocated ration support that ensured that COB Adder has sufficient food to sustain operations until it is handed over to the ISF.

Whether Soldiers are in the United States, Afghanistan or Iraq, base defense and the security of its populace is a top priority.

On COB Adder, this job has been performed by the fuelers of HHC. Their full time job has been preventing the enemy's ability to penetrate base perimeter defense systems. They have manned dozens of cameras, maintained a 34 kilometer perimeter fence, constructed guard towers, and tackled numerous projects focused on mitigating vulnerability. The platoon also assisted in the coordination of the battalion's movement of heavy equipment mission requirements. This requires significant planning, resourcing and above all networking since most of the MHE capacity on the COB is controlled by non-organic units or contractors who do not directly support the brigade.

All in all, America's sons and daughters serving as Spartans are without question mission essential to the successful transition of COB Adder to the ISF. Support Platoon's Soldiers should raise their heads high for their accomplishments, skill, and improvisation that will enable the entire battalion to successfully and safely re-deploy to Fort Hood.

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# Generator mechanic keeps COB Adder flowing

**2nd Lt. Joel Fecke**  
2nd Bn., 82nd FA Regt.

As United States Forces-Iraq prepare to re-posture back to America, Soldiers such as Pfc. William J. McCloskey, a native of Portland, Maine and a generator mechanic with Golf Forward Supply Company, 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, have recently been working vigilantly on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq to accomplish the mission.

McCloskey joined the Army to do something different with his life; more than what the average job could offer him.

His military occupational specialty is a 91D or generator mechanic, but as his unit prepares vehicles for turn in and get ready for the drive south to Kuwait, he has been working on humvees and Light Medium Tactical Vehicles or LMTVs. This job is usually performed by light wheeled vehicle mechanics, at least until there is a problem with a generator either on or off COB Adder such as the main water

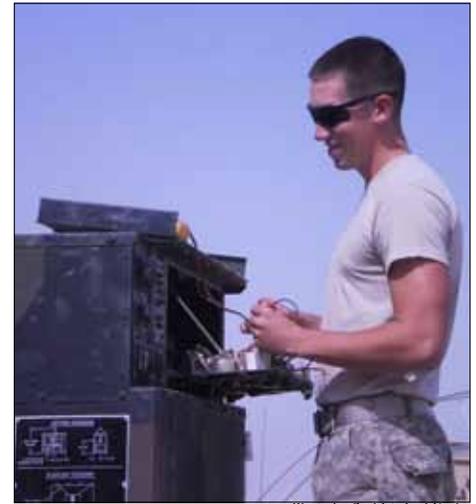


Photo by 2nd Lt. Joel Fecke

Pfc. William McCloskey, a native of Portland, Maine and a generator mechanic works on a generator in the battalion motor pool on Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq

supply generators.

McCloskey is one of the few Soldiers from his platoon that leave COB Adder on a regular basis to inspect and fuel the generator that powers the water pumps supplying COB Adder with water at a location close to the base.

“He is an instrumental part of the operation that supplies COB Adder with water.” said Staff Sgt. Johnson, McCloskey’s first line supervisor.

During his deployment with the GREYWOLF Brigade, he has earned the Army Physical Fitness Test Badge, qualified as an expert with his M-4 rifle and has been named Warrior of the Week for the company.

In Jan. 2013, McCloskey’s current contract with the U.S. Army will end, and he must decide whether to stay in the Army or leave and pursue a civilian career. If he decides to stay in the Army, he wishes to attend the Prime Power School and become a prime power production specialist, but if he decides to leave the Army he plans on attending the Universal Technical Institute and become a certified mechanic.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Joel Fecke

Pfc. William McCloskey works on the generator that powers the water pumps supplying COB Adder with water at a location close to the base.