



:::: The Official Publication of Camp As Sayliyah ::::

DESERTMESH MAGAZINE

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*Your feedback is important to us.
See the back cover for details.*

Army releases 2012 Modernization Plan

WASHINGTON (June 27)
-- The Army released its Modernization Plan today in support of the Fiscal Year 2012 (FY12) President's Budget Request for Army Research, Development and Acquisition (RDA) equipment funds.

The Modernization Plan is a blueprint for the Army's priority equipment necessary for our Soldiers to succeed in current operations and to prepare for missions in a complex and unpredictable future.

It incorporates lessons learned from almost a decade of conflict and provides details on what is needed to build a versatile mix of tailorable and networked units and what is required to develop, field and sustain the needed equipment in an affordable, incremental manner.

The Army Modernization Plan 2012 is available at: www.g8.army.mil.



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**Brother and Sister make
military a family affair
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All U.S. troops out of Iraq by year's end

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21, 2011 -- All U.S. servicemembers will leave Iraq by the end of the year, President Barack Obama announced today. About 40,000 U.S. service members are in the country, and all will be "home for the holidays," Obama said. The president made the announcement after speaking with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki this morning.

Since American forces went into Iraq in March 2003, more than 1 million Americans have deployed to the Middle Eastern country -- many multiple times. More than 32,200 U.S. service members and civilians have been wounded in the country, and 4,482 were killed.

"Today, I can report that as promised, the rest of our troops in Iraq will come home by the end of the year. After nearly nine years, America's war in Iraq will be over," the president said. "The last American soldiers will cross the border out of Iraq with their heads held high, proud of their success and knowing that the American people stand united in our support for our troops," the president said.

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Actor Robert De Niro shares a laugh with Commander, ASG-Qatar, COL Wayne Grieme's wife, Shana, and sons, William and Jacob (left to right). De Niro visited Camp As Sayliyah recently in conjunction with the Doha Tribeca Film Festival.

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Obama calls on nation to honor military families, caregivers

By Elaine Sanchez
American Forces Press
Service

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1, 2011 – Calling on the nation to celebrate military families' service and sacrifice, President Barack Obama today signed proclamations designating November as Military Family Month and National Family Caregivers Month.

"With every step we take on American soil, we tread on ground made safer for us through the invaluable sacrifices of our service members and their families," the president said in his Military Family Month proclamation.

This month is devoted to celebrating military families' exceptional service, strength and sacrifice, he said. Their commitment to the nation, he added, "goes above and beyond the call of duty."

"Just as our troops embody the courage and character that make America's military the finest in the world," Obama said, "their family members embody the resilience and generosity that make our communities strong."

Families are weathering deployments and long separations while serving with heroism in their homes and neighborhoods, the president noted. Military spouses hold down home fronts, children step up to take on additional responsibilities, and parents and grandparents offer their quiet support as they wait for

their loved one's safe return.

"To these families, and to those whose service members who never come home, we bear a debt that can never be fully repaid," the president said.

Obama cited the Joining Forces campaign as a way the nation can express its gratitude to troops and their families. First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden, launched the campaign earlier this year to call on all Americans to support and honor service members, veterans and their families. This support, he added, should continue not just while the nation is at war, but during every stage of service members' lives.

Obama said his administration is committed to improving military families' lives by enhancing learning opportunities for military children, aiding military spouses in their quest to advance their careers and education, and improving mental health counseling.

"Our service members swore an oath to protect and defend, and with each step we take on this land we cherish, we remember our steadfast promise to protect the well-being of the family members they hold dear," he said. "Every act of kindness we can offer helps cultivate a culture of support for our military families, and I encourage each American to make a difference in the lives of these patriots."

Obama called on Americans to

honor military families throughout the month, whether through personal actions or public service. In that way, he said, the nation can honor these families "for the tremendous contributions they make in support of our service members and our nation."

The president also urged Americans to celebrate and honor caregivers in his National Family Caregivers Month proclamation.

"Across our country, millions of family members, neighbors, and friends provide care and support for their loved ones during times of need," Obama said. "With profound compassion and selflessness, these caregivers sustain American men, women and children at their most vulnerable moments, and through their devoted acts, they exemplify the best of the American spirit."

As Obama cited the contributions of all caregivers, he noted the importance of sustaining military caregiver support. "One of our nation's greatest responsibilities," he said, "is to ensure our veterans, their families, and their caregivers receive lasting and comprehensive support."

Obama noted that he signed the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act last year, which extends additional assistance to family members who care for severely wounded veterans from Iraq and

see *FAMILY* page 18



The installation commander



Wayne C. Grieme, Jr.

Colonel

Commander

Area Support Group - Qatar

I would like to extend a hearty welcome to both the 175th Military Police Battalion, as they take over the mission of Camp As Sayliyah's Security Force (SECFOR), and to the 368th Detachment 2 from Guam, as they assume the Law and Order mission from the 379th Detachment 2 (SF). Please take the time to welcome these units as they continue to ensure our protection and keep the peace. The departure of the 379th Detachment 2 marked the final Air Force detachment that will serve with us. It has been a real pleasure to work with such a great group of professionals.

In this issue, we celebrate the military family and acknowledge the Third Army's significant contribution in the defense of our nation. We've included a great family story about a brother and sister who find themselves serving side-by-side for MEDLOG here at Camp As Sayliyah. We've also included a brief history about how the Third Army began and its significance to our great military history. Both articles demonstrate how small the world can be and help us to better understand how fortunate we are to have family close and live in the United States.

As I thought about this issue and the two main topics, I could only imagine how the Army of the past supported itself without all the family programs or the family support system that exists today.

As we observe Veterans Day this year, I would like to take the time to recognize the role of military families. The sacrifices that our Soldiers endure are

duly shared by family members. Without strong family support, it would be impossible for us to accomplish our daily tasks. A service member who knows his family is taken care of is free to focus on his wartime mission. It is truly a challenge for families to adapt to the military lifestyle with constant deployments and relocations. It is even more challenging for families in our Reserve and National Guard units if they are not located near military installations while their service member is deployed. It takes a very dedicated spouse to endure the long hours and unpredictable schedule of a service member. When a service member joins the military, their family joins as well. I would like to thank the Camp As Sayliyah families here and the families around the world for their tremendous support.

Up until World War II, the military did not place much of an emphasis on families. Families were seen as somewhat of a burden on the military due to the requirement for the military to support the families as well as the service member. After Vietnam and the development of the volunteer force, and as more and more service members got married, the military began to shift its views to recognize the family as an important support system. As time went on, the military was forced to adapt to accommodate not only the Soldier but the Soldier's family as well. It can be challenging at times, especially in contingency areas

see *GRIEME*, page 11

Charles A. Holliday, Sr. Command Sergeant Major

Command Sergeant Major
Area Support Group - Qatar

It is my pleasure to say “welcome” to the 175th Military Police Battalion from Missouri, the 368th Detachment 2 from Guam, and to all our newcomers. As we welcome these outstanding units and individuals to the A-Team, we bid farewell to our Air Force brothers and sisters assigned to the 379th Detachment 2 and those who are PCSing in the weeks and months to come. Thank you for your dedication to duty and commitment to excellence; you will be truly missed.

I would like to take a moment to simply say “thank you” to our military families. You are the cornerstone to our nation’s success. Through your unconditional support, you have given our great warriors the ability to fight and win our nation’s wars. Our nation asks a lot of you when your loved ones are deployed for months, and even years at a time. You must keep the home front, as our Navy brothers would say, “Steady as you go.” Your job is an ongoing one, for example: putting the kids to bed, helping with homework, going to PTA meetings, taking the kids to basketball, football, baseball, cheerleading, band, and dance practice, just to name a few. This list represents only a handful of the things you do every single day. Oh yeah, and did I mention that you do all these things while holding down a full-time job? There’s just one word that comes to mind when describing you (the military family) – awesome!

COL John Sims and I served as the 2nd Battalion, 18th Field Artillery command’s team a few

years ago. While serving together he would often say, “Command Sergeant Major, the Army has really changed. They really put a lot of time, energy, and money into taking care of the Army’s families.” He would go on and speak of the time when he was a little boy in Fort Sill, Okla. His father was a field artillery officer during the Vietnam War, and they lived on post, until his father was called to deploy to Vietnam. As a little boy, all that COL Sims could remember was moving off post when it was dark outside. COL Sims said that because his father was deploying to Vietnam and wouldn’t be living there with his family, they had to move off post; so, his father picked the family up and moved them to Lawton, Okla. In this case, I am glad history did not repeat itself, whereby a service member, who lives on post, would have to uproot his/her family because of a deployment for combat duty. After the Vietnam era, senior leaders soon realized that the military family plays an incredible role in the lives of our warriors.

As we observe Veterans Day on Nov. 11, I ask that you say “thank you” to another veteran for their service. Then, take a moment out of your busy schedule to remember our brothers and sisters in uniform who have sacrificed and continue to sacrifice for our nation. Remember, a simple “Thank you” to a military family or family member goes a long way.

Personally, I’d like to take this time to say “thanks” to my

see HOLLIDAY, page 11



A simple “thank you” goes a long way.



Third Army Milestones

In the Summer of 1944, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., assumed command of Third Army, leading it in eight major campaigns in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Czechoslovakia, and Austria—establishing it as America's premier fighting force.

Third Army became a part of the Army occupation after WWII, and remained in Germany until 1947.

Third Army was deactivated at Fort McPherson in 1973 and reactivated in 1983 as the senior Army headquarters for the newly established U.S. Central Command.

In 1990, Third Army deployed to Saudi Arabia as the senior Army headquarters for U.S. CENTCOM. It was responsible for deploying, receiving, and sustaining all Army forces during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Following the September 11, 2001 attacks, Third Army deployed to Kuwait and became responsible for providing command and control for all Coalition Forces engaged in Operation Enduring Freedom.

Third Army continues to support Operations Enduring Freedom and New Dawn and provide Title 10 support to all U.S. Army Forces in the USCENCOM area of responsibility.

Source: <http://www.arcent.army.mil/hidden/usarcent-history/third-army-historical-summary.aspx>

INSIDE THE W



(Photo courtesy of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library and Museum, Hyde Park, N.Y.)

Third Army's strategic place in history

Established in the closing days of World War I, Third Army served as part of the Allied Army of Occupation in Germany until July 1919 when it deactivated. Reconstituted in 1921 as part of the organized reserves, it was reconstituted in the regular army in 1931 and reactivated at Fort Sam Houston, Texas in 1932, where it was responsible for training Army National Guard and Army reserve forces.

In the early days of World War II, Third Army trained forces for the war effort. In 1944, as the Allies prepared for the invasion of Europe, Third Army was relieved of its training mission and deployed to the United Kingdom ready to assume its role which led to the defeat of Nazi Germany. In the summer of 1944, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr. assumed command of Third Army leading it in eight major campaigns in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Czechoslovakia, and Austria, and establishing Third Army as America's premier fighting Army.

At the end of the war, Third

Army became part of the Army of Occupation, remaining in Germany until 1947. When it returned to Fort McPherson, Ga., it became an administrative headquarters responsible for the training of Army National Guard and Army reserve forces in the southeastern U.S.

Third Army was deactivated at Fort McPherson in 1973 and reactivated in 1983 as the senior army headquarters for the newly established U.S. Central Command. In 1990, Third Army deployed to Saudi Arabia as the senior army headquarters for U.S. CENTCOM. It was responsible for deploying, receiving and sustaining all army forces during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Soon after the September 11, 2001 attacks, Third Army deployed to Kuwait and became responsible for providing command and control for all Coalition Forces engaged in Operation Enduring Freedom. As the Coalition Forces Land Component Command (CFLCC), Third Army directed the

ground war in Afghanistan and surrounding countries from Nov. 11, 2001 to May 31, 2002. Third Army's major mission was to conduct operations to destroy al Qaeda and Taliban terrorist networks. In June 2002, Third Army conducted a transfer of authority for Afghanistan to the newly established Joint Task Force 180, which was comprised of elements from the XVIII Airborne Corps.

Within months, Third Army again deployed to Kuwait. Designated as CFLCC, it prepared for military operations against Iraq. In March 2003, Third Army led decisive military operations to liberate Iraq and remained

there until June 2003. Third Army transferred responsibility of Iraq to the newly established Joint Task Force-7, comprised of elements of the U.S. Army V Corps.

Third Army continues to support Operation Enduring Freedom and New Dawn and provide Title 10 support to all U.S. Army forces in the USCENTCOM area of responsibility. Third Army executes reception, staging, and onward movement support for all Coalition Land Forces entering the theater and also theater sustainment in Kuwait.

Today, Third Army stands ready to organize, plan and on order, command and control joint/combined operations anywhere

in the USCENTCOM area of responsibility. Its Soldiers remain focused on global agility, strategic and operational imperatives, and war fighting leadership required in joint and coalition operations.

The Third Army team stands ready to conduct operations anytime and anywhere as directed in order to deter or defeat adversaries while sustaining forces in theater in order to support combat and shaping operations. It continues to shape the operational environment in order to enable partners.

Source: <http://www.arcent.army.mil/hidden/usarcent-history/third-army-historical-summary.aspx>

November is Native American Heritage Month

What started at the turn of the century as an effort to gain a day of recognition for the significant contributions the first Americans made to the establishment and growth of the U.S., has resulted in a whole month being designated for that purpose.

One of the very proponents of an American Indian Day was Dr. Arthur C. Parker, a Seneca Indian, who was the director of the Museum of Arts and Science in Rochester, N.Y. He persuaded the Boy Scouts of America to set aside a day for the "First Americans" and for three years they adopted such a day. In 1915, the annual Congress of the American Indian Association meeting in Lawrence, Kans., formally approved a plan concerning American Indian Day. It directed its president, Rev. Sherman Coolidge, an Arapahoe, to call upon the

country to observe such a day. Coolidge issued a proclamation on Sept. 28, 1915, which declared the second Saturday of each May as an American Indian Day and contained the first formal appeal for recognition of Indians as citizens.

The year before this proclamation was issued, Red Fox James, a Blackfoot Indian, rode horseback from state to state seeking approval for a day to honor Indians. On December 14, 1915, he presented the endorsements of 24 state governments at the White House. There is no record, however, of such a national day being proclaimed.

The first American Indian Day in a state was declared on the second Saturday in May 1916 by the governor of New York. Several states celebrate the fourth Friday in September. In Illinois, for example, legislators

enacted such a day in 1919. Presently, several states have designated Columbus Day as Native American Day, but it continues to be a day we observe without any recognition as a national legal holiday.

In 1990, President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 "National American Indian Heritage Month." Similar proclamations, under variants on the name (including "Native American Heritage Month" and "National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month") have been issued each year since 1994.

Source: Information provided courtesy of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior and <http://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/about/>

INSIDE THE WIRE

The president's Veterans Day proclamation

Today, our Nation comes together to honor our veterans and commemorate the legacy of profound service and sacrifice they have upheld in pursuit of a more perfect Union. Through their steadfast defense of America's ideals, our service members have ensured our country still stands strong, our founding principles still shine, and nations around the world know the blessings of freedom. As we offer our sincere appreciation and respect to our veterans, to their families, to those who are still in harm's way, and to those we have laid to rest, let us rededicate ourselves to serving them as well as they have served the United States of America.

Our men and women in uniform are bearers of a proud military tradition that has been dutifully passed forward—from generation to generation—for more than two centuries. In times of war and peace alike, our veterans have served with courage and distinction in the face of tremendous adversity, demonstrating an unfaltering commitment to America and our people. Many have made the ultimate sacrifice to preserve the country they loved. The selflessness of our service members is unmatched, and they remind us that there are few things more fundamentally American than doing our utmost to make a difference in the lives of others.

Just as our veterans stood watch on freedom's frontier, so have they safeguarded the prosperity of our Nation in our neighborhoods, our businesses,

and our homes. As teachers and engineers, doctors and parents, these patriots have made contributions to civilian life that serve as a testament to their dedication to the welfare of our country. We owe them a debt of honor, and it is our moral obligation to ensure they receive our support for as long as they live as proud veterans of the United States Armed Forces. This year, as our troops in Iraq complete their mission, we will honor them and all who serve by working tirelessly to give them the care, the benefits, and the opportunities they have earned.

On Veterans Day, we pay tribute to our veterans, to the fallen, and to their families. To honor their contributions to our Nation, let us strive with renewed determination to keep the promises we have made to all who have answered our country's call. As we fulfill our obligations to them, we keep faith with the patriots who have risked their lives to preserve our Union, and with the ideals of service and sacrifice upon which our Republic was founded.

With respect for and in recognition of the contributions our service members have made to the cause of peace and freedom

around the world, the Congress has provided (5 U.S.C. 6103(a)) that November 11 of each year shall be set aside as a legal public holiday to honor our Nation's veterans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim November 11, 2011, as Veterans Day. I encourage all Americans to recognize the valor and sacrifice of our veterans through appropriate public ceremonies and private prayers. I call upon Federal, State, and local officials to display the flag of the United States and to participate in patriotic activities in their communities. I call on all Americans, including civic and fraternal organizations, places of worship, schools, and communities to support this day with commemorative expressions and programs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand eleven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-sixth.

BARACK OBAMA



A Military Family Appreciation Month feature

Brother and sister make Army life family affair

By **JESSICA BAILEY**
ASG-QA Public Affairs

With the month of November being set aside to honor and appreciate military families, one is bound to find countless stories that are fun, interesting, and newsworthy. But, there are also those that can be filed under the “rare” category.

In this particular case, Army MSG Antonio Rowe finds himself in a very unique position. Rowe, who is the senior enlisted advisor for U.S.A. Medical Mater-ial Center-Southwest Asia (US-AMMC-SWA) here, is working, and in some cases, supervising his little sister, SPC Christa Glass, an Army Reserve medical supply technician.

Although one is on Active duty and the other in the Army Reserve, both are working in the medical supply field and at the same command, which is something that doesn't happen very often in the military. But, neither of them could have predicted this particular scenario. In fact, Glass said joining the Army or even working with her big brother, was not what motivated her the most.

“My brother being in the Army didn't affect my decision to join,” she said. “Initially, my goal for joining the Army was because it would help me out with finishing school, and I also wanted to be a veterinarian at some point.”

Rowe, who is a seasoned Army veteran with a good 17

years of duty under his belt, said that although serving along with his sister was not anything he ever expected, he still has to remember that she is a Soldier.

“It's a different experience working with her because I have to remember that she is a Soldier first, while also knowing that she is my sister and family as well,” he said. “But, she is a good Soldier who is learning and working hard, which is something we both inherited from our mother.”

Whatever the future might hold for both of them, Glass said that she will always remember and cherish the experience of working

with her brother.

“It was weird at first,” she said. “But, actually, it's been a good experience. My brother is really a great guy. I've learned a lot from working with him.”

Rowe echoes the same senti-ment. “I'm teaching her lots of things, including how to save money so that there's something left,” he said. “I am glad that I am around to share that with her, along with other things I've learned.”

Glass said the most important thing that she has learned about her brother is how to treat the Soldiers.

“He looks out for the Soldiers because he remembers where he came from,” she said. “His devo-tion to them is what I admire the most.”



MSG Antonio Rowe and his little sister, SPC Christa Glass, never imagined that one day they would be serving together in the Army and in the same field.

2175th Unit History

Organized Feb. 21, 1896 in the Missouri National Guard at Hannibal, Mo., as Company F, 4th Regiment.

Mustered into Federal service May 16, 1898 at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., as Company F, 4th Missouri Volunteer Infantry; mustered out of federal service Feb. 10, 1899, at Camp Wetherill, S.C., and reverted to state control as Company F, 4th Infantry.

Inactivated July 20, 1944 at Camp Shelby, Miss.

Converted, reorganized and federally recognized November 15, 1947 at Hannibal as the 35th Military Police Company, an element of the 35th Infantry Division.

Reorganized and redesignated March 1, 1972 as the 2175th Military Police Company.

In October, 2005, the 2175th Military Police Company reorganized, resulting in the Headquarters in Hannibal, and Detachment in Moberly, Miss.

In August 2008, the 2175th Military Police Company deployed to Louisiana in support of Hurricane Gustav Relief operations. The company provided law enforcement support to the affected region and assisted in humanitarian relief supply distribution.

Today, the 2175th Military Police Company headquarters reside in Hannibal, Miss., with a detachment in Moberly, Miss. CPT Shane Spellman is the company commander and 1SG Bobby Richards is the company first sergeant. The company continues to train and prepare for the Military Police combat support mission.

INSIDE THE WII

First and Ten: The 2175th Military Police Company's journey to Qatar

By **SPC JUSTIN GOAD**
PAO 2175th MP Company

It was Sept. 30, 2011. The plane carrying the Missouri Soldiers, of the 2175th Military Police Company, began its decent from the clear evening sky overlooking Doha, Qatar. The long trip that began in Hattiesburg, Miss., had finally come to an end. The weary Soldiers had trained for the last two months for their upcoming mission in Qatar. As the aircraft squealed to a halt, a flight attendant covered SFC Jason Chance with a blanket and gave him a complimentary pillow. Gear was quickly gathered from the overhead compartments as flight attendants bid farewell to the departing Soldiers. The humid evening air greeted them as they walked weary-eyed across the runway towards the briefing tents at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia. For many of the Soldiers this deployment would be their first.

Over the next 24 hours, the Soldiers would check their belongings through customs, load and unload cargo from their trip all while navigating through an environment to which they weren't accustomed. After a short journey from the Air Force base, the convoy of troops reached its long-awaited destination; Camp As Sayliyah.

After signing for their room keys and meal cards, the Soldiers trudged sleepily to their rooms to unpack and sleep. The morning sunrise would soon be upon them, as well as their mission in Qatar.

Breakfast welcomed the obscured MPs as they navigated through CAS on buses over routes they hadn't yet mastered. During the next few days, the Soldiers would learn the policies and procedures for their upcoming duties and responsibilities. As part of the 175th MP Battalion, the 2175th would not be alone on their mission in Qatar. The 3175th Chemical Company and the 1137th Military Police Company would be along for the deployment to help assist with the security mission on post and at various locations.

As they wandered curiously around CAS, individuals from the 2175th quickly found the PX, the gym, and of course, the Internet hotspots and telephones. Family members were called or e-mailed with information of the safe journey to Qatar.

Each Soldier would be assigned various mission tasks to perform over the next 10 or so months while in Qatar. Some of the responsibilities would include establishing tower guards, a quick reaction force, and entry control points, amongst other duties.

The evening of the 1st of October was winding down. The first day in Qatar was coming to an end, and along with it, the mystery surrounding the previously unknown environment. With one day down and about 10 months to go, the Soldiers of the 2175th had finished their trip by successfully operating in a foreign land.

The expectations put upon them by their leadership would be challenging, but these Soldiers would be up to the task. The next few days would help prepare them for the upcoming responsibilities of their deployment. They had trained hard and were ready to take on the responsibility of the security mission given to them in Qatar.



LTC Sharon Martin, commander of the 175th Military Police Battalion, and the the 175th MP Battalion Command Sergeant Major, CSM Edward Stratton, stand at attention as the battalion guideon bearer, SPC Dustin J. Sitech, presents the battalion colors during their Relief-in-Place Transfer of Authority ceremony.

GRIEME

(continued from page 4)

such as Qatar, to provide families with the quality of life to which they have become accustomed.

President Obama announced earlier this year that supporting the well-being of our military families will be a priority across the federal government. Along with this initiative, I have placed an emphasis on improving the quality of life for the families of Area Support Group-Qatar. We are creating a Family Readiness Group, as well as scheduling activities on the installation in which families can get involved. Most recently, our fire station held an open house in which families were able to tour the fire station, explore the fire trucks, and interact with the firefighters.

This event was a great success, and I look forward to even greater participation in the future. We also have the Troop Medical Center open house scheduled for November in which families can tour the facility, receive checkups, and meet local healthcare providers. There are many Morale, Welfare, and Recreation events that family members can participate in as well.

As we gather to honor our country's veterans on November 11, I encourage you to also honor the military family. For every Soldier that has sacrificed for our country, their family has sacrificed as well. It is important to recognize the accomplishments of those that came before us. There is only a small percentage of Americans that have the honor of serving their country, and

you should be proud to count yourselves among them. What you do every day does make a difference, and I thank you for your service.

HOLLIDAY

(continued from page 5)

grandmother and grandfather, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Jacobs, who are the parents of the late Private First Class John E. Jacobs (my uncle), who was killed in action in Vietnam. It was my uncle who made me realize, at an early age, that I was born to be a Soldier. Although you may not hear it often enough, just know that I am proud of your service, and I am proud to serve with you all here at Camp As Sayliyah.

AROUND CAMP





AS SAYLIYAH

(Additional photos by Devin Butler and Jonald Lalas)

De Niro Quotes:

[On witnessing the 9/11/2011 terrorist attack on New York]

“I left a meeting right after they hit the World Trade Center. I went to my apartment, which looks south, and I watched it out my window. I could see the line of fire across the North Tower. I had my binoculars and a video camera—though I didn’t want to video it. I saw a few people jump. Then I saw the South Tower go. It was so unreal; I had to confirm it by immediately looking at the television screen. CNN was on. That was the only way to make it real. Like my son said: “It was like watching the moon fall.”

[On audition rejection]

I didn't have a problem with rejection, because when you go into an audition, you're rejected already. There are hundreds of other actors. You're behind the eight ball when you go in there. At this point in my career, I don't have to deal with audition rejections. So I get my rejection from other things. My children can make me feel rejected. They can humble you pretty quick.

[On having other interests]

It is good to have a few other interests [restaurants, hotels, the TriBeca Film Festival]. But my main interest has always been movies - making them, directing them, being involved. I have never lost the passion for that.

Source: Robert De Niro bio at: [www. http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000134/bio](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000134/bio)

INSIDE THE WI



Actor Robert De Niro accepts a Certificate of Appreciation from ASG-Qatar Commander, COL Wayne Grieme, during his visit to Camp As Sayliyah recently. This was De Niro's third visit to the command. That's COL Grieme's son, William, taking in all the action.

Actor DeNiro visits Camp As Sayliyah

By JESSICA BAILEY
ASG-QA Public Affairs

Academy Award-winning actor, Robert De Niro stopped by recently for a visit to Camp As Sayliyah's Top Off Club. De Niro, who was visiting Qatar in conjunction with his Doha Tribeca Film Festival, which ran from Oct 24-29, autographed photographs, posed for pictures, and chatted briefly with several hundred Soldiers and base personnel who lined up to meet or catch a glimpse of the talented actor.

“It’s great to be here,” De Niro said, as he accepted a

Certificate of Appreciation from COL Wayne Grieme, ASG-Qatar’s commander. “We thank you back home for your wonderful work, and we will welcome you back with open arms,” De Niro said.

CSM Charles A. Holliday, ASG-Qatar’s Command Sergeant Major, said that this was De Niro’s third visit to Camp As Sayliyah.

“It’s great that the stars come through, but he is number one to me because he makes it about the Soldier and always stays until the last autograph is signed,” he said. “We’re always

see *DE NIRO*, next page

DE NIRO

(continued from previous page)

appreciative of that.”

De Niro has starred in dozens of critically-acclaimed films, including *The Godfather: Part II* (won Oscar for Best Supporting Actor), *Goodfellas*, *Casino*, and *Raging Bull*, for which he won the Academy Award for Best Actor.



Actor Robert De Niro autographs a cap for a soldier during his recent visit to Camp As Sayliyah. De Niro thanked the Soldiers for their hard work and dedication.

TROOPS

(continued from page 2)

“That is how America’s military efforts in Iraq will end.”

The United States will maintain a close alliance with Iraq, the President said, and the withdrawal means the relationship between the countries will be just like that between the United States with any other country. Obama said it will be “an equal partnership based on mutual interests and mutual respect.”

Obama said he and Maliki agreed that a meeting of the Higher Coordinating Committee of the Strategic Framework Agreement will convene in the coming weeks, and that he invited the Iraqi leader to Washington to plan the future relationship.

“This will be a strong and enduring partnership, with our diplomats and civilian advisers in the lead; will help Iraqis strengthen institutions that are just, representative and accountable; will build new ties of trade and of commerce, culture and education, that unleash the potential of the Iraqi people; will partner with an Iraq that contributes to regional security and peace, just as we insist that other nations respect

Iraq’s sovereignty,” Obama said.

The United States will offer to help Iraq train and equip its forces, just as the United States offers assistance to countries around the world.

“There will be some difficult days ahead for Iraq, and the United States will continue to have an interest in an Iraq that is stable, secure and self-reliant,” the President said. “Just as Iraqis have persevered through war, I’m confident that they can build a future worthy of their history as the cradle of civilization.”

The end of war in Iraq reflects a larger transition in world affairs, Obama said. “The tide of war is receding,” he said. “The drawdown in Iraq allowed us to refocus our fight against al-Qaida and achieve major victories against its leadership, including Osama bin Laden.”

The United States also is reducing the number of troops deployed to Afghanistan. He noted that when he took office in January 2009, more than 180,000 U.S. Service Members were deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. “By the end of this year, that number will be cut in half. And make no mistake: It will continue to go down,” the

President said.

The president said the United States is moving forward from a position of strength. The war in Iraq will end in December. The number of Americans in Afghanistan will continue to go down. As these actions continue, there will be fewer deployments and more time for training, Obama said.

The Nation still has the responsibility and duty to provide America’s newest veterans and their families “the care, the benefits and the opportunities that they have earned,” the President said.

“This includes enlisting our veterans in the greatest challenge that we now face as a Nation — creating opportunity and jobs in this country,” he added. “After a decade of war, the Nation that we need to build and the Nation that we will build is our own, an America that sees its economic strength restored, just as we’ve restored our leadership around the globe.”

Preparations to withdraw continue. The United States closed its U.S. Division North at Camp Speicher recently. Only one divisional level U.S. unit now remains in the country.

MWR Operating Hours

- **Main and Small Gyms**
Open all day, every day
- **Cyber Cafe, Phone Ctr.**
Open all day, every day
- **Video Hut**
9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- **Swimming Pool**
5:30 a.m. to midnight, closed
for cleaning 9 to 10:30 a.m.
- **Mini Golf Course**
6 a.m. to midnight
- **Driving Range**
8 a.m. to midnight

Veterans Day Events November 11

Veterans Day 5K
Fun Run/Walk
5:30 a.m., CAC

Single Ping-Pong
10:00 a.m., Gym 109

50-meter Swim
3:00 p.m.
ASG swimming pool

Chess
4:30 p.m., Gym 109

November is Fitness Mania Month

Earn points now for just working out! If you earn up to 75 points, you could win the first place in duty MWR events. Points can be earned in aerobics, spinning class, bench pressing, physical fitness tournament, etc.

Participate in this point-system challenge by signing up at the Gym 106 or 109

Mark your calendar

Swim to Bahrain
Challenge, Nov. 1-30

Biathlon, Wed., Nov. 30
at 6:30 p.m., at ASG
Swimming Pool

INSIDE THE WII

*Billboard Top 100 hits starting at 9 p.m.
on most nights!*



B I N G O

Play bingo at the Top Off club
every Tuesday, starting at
8:30 p.m.

Taebo/Aerobics/Spinning Class

Taebo class, Gym 106
5:00-6:00 a.m., Saturday-Thursday
11:30-12:30, Saturdays, Mondays, Wednesdays

Aerobics class, Gym 106
6 p.m.-7 p.m., Sundays and Tuesdays

Spinning Class, Gym 109
6:30 a.m.-7:30 a.m., Saturdays, Mondays, Wednesday
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sundays, Tuesdays, Thursdays
6 p.m.-7 p.m., Saturdays, Mondays, Wednesdays

Upcoming Events

Thanksgiving Day 5k Fun Run/Walk, Tues., Nov. 22
5:30 a.m., at the CAC
Dodgeball, 10 a.m., Gym 106
Knockout Basketball, 4 p.m., Gym 106
Domino, 5:30 p.m., Gym 109

Christmas Day 5K Fun Run/Walk, Sat., Dec. 24
5:30 a.m., at the CAC
Indoor Soccer, 10:00 a.m., Gym 106
Scrabble, 2 p.m., Gym 109
Single Badminton, 7 p.m., Gym 106

Remember: All MWR events are listed on the Area Support Group - Qatar Intranet page!

MMWF



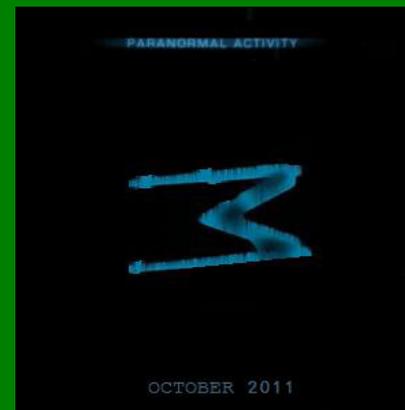
*Camp As Sayliyah
Organizational Day*
at the ASG Compound, November 26
2 p.m.-Midnight
Come on out and enjoy the fun!

AAFES movie schedule for Nov. 15-30, 2011

Contact Mary Lou Tangadik, AAFES Store Manager, for more information.

Movies shown using professional 35 millimeter film reels!

- November 15 • 7:30 p.m. • **Reel Steel** (PG-13)
- November 16 • 7:30 p.m. • **The Big Year** (PG)
- November 17 • 7:30 p.m. • **Warrior** (PG-13)
- November 18 • 5 p.m. • **Paranormal Activity 3** (R)
- November 18 • 7:30 p.m. • **Reel Steel** (PG-13)
- November 19 • 5 p.m. • **Reel Steel** (PG-13)
- November 19 • 7:30 p.m. • **Paranormal Activity 3** (R)
- November 20 • 5 p.m. • **Columbiana** (PG-13)
- November 20 • 7:30 p.m. • **The Debt** (R)
- November 21 • 7:30 p.m. • **Paranormal Activity 3** (R)
- November 22 • 7:30 p.m. • **The Help** (PG-13)
- November 23 • 7:30 p.m. • **Contagion** (PG-13)
- November 24 • 7:30 p.m. • **The Debt** (R)
- November 25 • 1:30 p.m. • **Spy Kids** (PG)
- November 25 • 5 p.m. • **The Debt** (R)
- November 25 • 7:30 p.m. • **Paranormal Activity 3** (R)
- November 26 • 5 p.m. • **In Time** (PG-13)
- November 26 • 7:30 p.m. • **I Don't Know How She Does It** (PG-13)
- November 27 • 5 p.m. • **I Don't Know How She Does It** (PG-13)
- November 27 • 7:30 p.m. • **In Time** (PG-13)
- November 28 • 7:30 p.m. • **Contagion** (PG-13)
- November 29 • 7:30 p.m. • **In Time** (PG-13)
- November 30 • 7:30 p.m. • **Straw Dogs** (R)



FAMILY

(continued from page 3)

Afghanistan.

“Our military caregivers exemplify the heroism found not only on the fields of battle, but also in the hearts of those who tend to our wounded warriors when they come home,” he said. This month offers a time to honor the “tireless compassion” of all family caregivers, Obama said.

“This month and throughout the year, let the quiet perseverance of our family caregivers remind us of the decency and kindness to

INSIDE THE WI

NEA Celebrates the 90th American Education Week November 13–19, 2011

Distressed that 25 percent of the country’s World War I draftees were illiterate and 9 percent were physically unfit, representatives of the NEA and the American Legion met in 1919 to seek ways to generate public support for education.

The conventions of both organizations subsequently adopted resolutions of support for a national effort to raise public awareness of the importance of education. In 1921, the NEA Representative

Assembly in Des Moines, Iowa, called for designation of one week each year to spotlight education.

In its resolution, the NEA called for: “An educational week--observed in all communities annually for the purpose of informing the public of the accomplishments and needs of the public schools and to secure the cooperation and support of the public in meeting those needs.”

Source: <http://www.nea.org>

BASIC FACTS ABOUT LITERACY

- There are **774 million** adults around the world who are illiterate in their native languages.
- **Two-thirds** of the world’s illiterate adults are women.
- In the U.S., **30 million** people over age 16 — **14 percent** of the country’s adult population — don’t read well enough to understand a newspaper story written at the eighth grade level or fill out a job application.
- The United States ranks **fifth** on adult literacy skills when compared to other industrialized nations.
- Adult low literacy can be connected to almost every socio-economic issue in the United States.

Source: <http://www.proliteracy.org/page.aspx?pid=345>

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK ACTIVITIES at Camp As Sayliyah November 13-19, 2011

Opening Ceremony
Sunday, Nov. 13
Noon at the DFAC

Open House
Monday, Nov. 14
11:30 a.m.-13:30 p.m.
at the Education Center

Psychology Lesson
Tuesday, Nov. 15
11:30 a.m.
at the Education Center

Spanish Lesson
Wednesday, Nov. 16
11:30 a.m.
at the Education Center

Basketball Game
UMUC vs. CTC
Thursday, Nov. 17
6 p.m., at the Small Gym

Organization Day/College Fair
Friday, Nov. 18
6 p.m., at the Top Off

Holiday safety: Preventing fire and electrical hazards during the holiday season

By Wayne Proctor
Installation Safety Manager

It's that time of year again--the holidays. The time of year that children wait for, and people across the world bring out special ornaments, twinkle lights, trees and decorations. All to begin that favorite December past time: decorating.

While decorating for the holidays is all about adding fun, warmth, sparkle and maybe a little bit of a reminder of holidays spent with loved ones at home, it is important to remember that with this we carry the added risk of fire or electrical injury. Whether you are excitedly preparing for Christmas, Chanukah, or Kwanzaa, don't let a preventable accident take the enjoyment out of your holiday. Take a few minutes out to read some safety suggestions for decorating and have a happy, healthy and **SAFE** holiday.

1. When shopping for lights, decorations, and extension cords, purchase only ones that are UL or CE listed.
2. If you are planning to decorate outside, make sure that

the lights that you use are rated for outdoor use.

3. Whether they are brand new, or veterans from holidays past, inspect all lights, decorations and extension cords before use.
4. If you find damaged lights, always unplug the string of lights before changing the bulb and keep the strand of lights out of use until you make the repairs.
5. If you need to change a bulb, always insure the replacement bulb has the same wattage. Failure to do so could cause the strand of lights to overheat, creating the risk of a fire.
6. Use lights and decorations in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
7. Before you begin decorating, verify how many strands of lights it is safe to connect, end to end. As a general rule, it is three.
8. Be careful not to overload your electrical outlets or extension cords.
9. Check your light wires often and make sure that they are not warm to the touch.
10. Always turn your holiday lights off before going out or going to bed for the night.
11. When using an artificial tree,

- make sure it is flame retardant.
12. If using candles, make sure they are in stable holders and in a place where they cannot be easily knocked over.
13. Never leave the house with candles burning.
14. Never go near a Christmas tree with an open flame.

As a final reminder, ensure that trees and other holiday decorations do not block an exit. In the event of a fire, time is of the essence. A blocked exit can put you and your family at risk. We owe it to ourselves and our loved ones to follow simple safety rules, to ensure that everyone has a safe and wonderful holiday season.



DOHA LIFE



SGT Eric Nesbitt, SPC Lawrentez Davenport, and SPC Ryan Butler strike a “Who’s laughing now?” pose after winning the “Who Wants to be a Firefighter?” challenge. The challenge was held in conjunction with Fire Prevention Week, which ran from Oct. 9-15.

By **KEITH DIXON**
ASG-QA Public Affairs

The “Who Wants to be a Firefighter” competition was held Oct. 13 at the Camp As Sayliyah Fire Department. The competition was held in conjunction with Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 9-15, and was the third annual firefighting competition held here.

Only the strong need apply for this competition. It consisted of 10 grueling, timed events that tested the heart, mind, and soul of those that chose to take on the challenges. The teams were composed of three team members, each completing a stage of the course, which was designed to emulate a firefighter’s duties in the event of an actual fire emergency. When the alarm sounded, the contestant was required to don full protective gear, including boots, pants, coat, gloves and an oxygen tank. There was no running

allowed during the completion, only speed-walking.

Assistant Fire Chief, Wil Velez, and his crew, demonstrated the course and laid out the ground rules of the challenge. With competitive juices flowing, the importance of competing safely was always stressed.

“Safety is always our biggest concern during any competition,” Velez said.

The first team up was the Desert Rats, one of the two teams from Regional Contracting Command (RCC). The RCC team consisted of MAJ Senoda Sundiata-Walker, the only female competitor, SFC Michael C. Mctague, and SSG George Syring. The Rats finished with a final time of 14:48 minutes.

Sundiayta-Walker enjoyed being a part of the competition. “I have always been a very competitive person,” she said.

The next team on the field was

the HHC ASG Head Hunters which included SSG Lee Elder, SFC Isaac Banks, and SFC Pete Holloway, who set a new record for the competition, completing the course in 9:57 minutes. The team seemed to move through the course effortlessly.

Things started to get very interesting when the Roll-Time Gang, RCC's second team entry, which included LTC Lee MacGregor, MAJ Jeffery D. Harris, and SSG Carlos R. Pritchett, blazed through the course to produce a time that was second to the HHC Head Hunters.

MSG Antonio Rowe, along with SGT Dwayne Hasse, and SPC Jeffery Hogue made up the team from MEDLOG. To avoid being outgunned, they were determined and finished at the top of the list with a 9:15. That spirited determination propelled them to the top of the pack into first place.

But, the 1177th Transportation



MAJ Senoda Sundiata-Walker, the only female competitor in the firefighting challenge, dons heavy gear as fellow challengers look on. Sundiata-Walker said that she enjoyed the competition because of the serious level of competition.

Company Bulldogs, were out to prove a point. The team, consisting of SGT Eric Nesbitt, SPC Lawrence Davenport, and SPC Ryan Butler, endured the playful heckling of the other teams, and took to the course only to shatter the time set by MEDLOG. The Bulldogs finished the competition with a time of 8:57 minutes, putting to rest any question of what the 1177th Bulldogs are made of—STEEL!

All in all, the competition brought out the best in those who fervently competed. They're all looking forward to competing again next year.

"We are excited about the coming year competition, and we know that it will only get better with time," said Camp As Sayliyah Fire Chief John Ellam. "This year, we had the greatest rate of participation and the largest number of events, ever."



LTC Lee MacGregor, commander, Army Contracting Command, assists SSG Carlos Pritchett, also with Army Contracting Command, with gearing up to compete in the firefighting challenge. Although all teams fought valiantly, the 1177th Transportation Company Bulldogs seized the challenge and walked off with the victory.

CAS Weekly Spiritual Fitness Calendar

Sunday

9:15 a.m. at CAC
Sunday School Bible Study

10:30 a.m. at CAC
Protestant Worship Service
and Communion

6 p.m. at CAC
Protestant Worship Service

7 p.m. at CAC
Financial Peace University

Monday

7 p.m. at CAC
Bible Study

Tuesday

10 a.m. at CAC
Financial Peace University

Noon at DFAC
Breakout Room
Spiritual Fitness Luncheon
**Last Tuesday every month*

Wednesday

7:30 p.m. at Top Off
Believe Bible Study

Thursday

Noon at CMPC
CMPC Bible Study

6 p.m. at CAC
Choir Practice

Friday

Noon at CAC
Breakout Room
Catholic Mass

10:00 p.m. at CAC
Friday Night Prayer and
Devotional

Saturday

Noon at DFAC
Women's Bible Study

4 p.m.
Choir Practice

The Chaplain's Corner

Happy Holidays: Celebrating life this holiday season

Whether it's Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanzaa, or New Years, this time of the year is very special to a lot of people. Depending on your faith background, the holidays will no doubt mean different things. I am a Christian—so, I am reminded every year at this time about the birth of Jesus.

While understanding that we each have our own faith background, is there a common theme across the traditions? I think so. I would say "celebration."

To me, the national holiday of Thanksgiving has a strong religious overtone. I see it as a celebration of life and the gifts lavished on us. Christmas, too, continues to burst out in the same explosion of celebration.

But then, I am pretty optimistic. I tend to see the glass "half full." Although it was released when



Chaplain (MAJ-P) Gary G. Payne
ASG-QA Command Chaplain

I was only ten years old, I really like the song, "What a Wonderful World," written by Bob Thiele (as George Douglas) and George David Weiss. It was first recorded by Louis Armstrong and released as a single in 1968:

continued on next page



SPC Gessee Luos, SPC Sarah Carter, SSG Lee Elder, SPC Frankie Slater, ASG Command Chaplain, Gary Payne, SGT George Alexis, and Navy Legalman 2nd Class (LN2) Sarah Trejo, enjoy a "cup of Joe" in front of "Holy Joe's Cafe." The flag was one that was flown over Afghanistan.

Celebrate

(continued)

*I see trees of green, red roses too.
I see them bloom, for me and you.
And I think to myself, what a
wonderful world.*

*I see skies of blue, and clouds of
white. The bright blessed day, the
dark sacred night.
And I think to myself, what a
wonderful world.*

*The colors of the rainbow, so
pretty in the sky, are also on the
faces, of people going by, I see
friends shaking hands, saying,
“How do you do?” They’re really
saying, “I love you.”*

*I hear babies cry, I watch them
grow, They’ll learn much more,
than I’ll ever know.
And I think to myself, what a
wonderful world.*

*Yes, I think to myself, what a
wonderful world. Oh yeah.*

Did I catch you singing?
During these holidays, celebrate
life. Celebrate the good things our
Creator has given us. As much as
possible, celebrate with your family
(even if long distance). Celebrate
with your friends.

Let me leave you with one more
thing. It comes from a Family
Circle cartoon I read years ago.
The kids were sitting next to the
Christmas tree. One says to the
other:

Yesterday is the past.

Tomorrow is the future.

Today is a gift.

That’s why it is called the present.

Happy holidays!



Pro Deo et Patria = For God and Country

Mission Statement:

The United States Army Chaplaincy provides religious support to America’s Army while assisting commanders in ensuring the right of free exercise of religion for all Soldiers. In short, we nurture the living, care for the wounded, and honor the fallen.

Vision Statement: Spiritual leadership for the Army family.

Since July 29, 1775, approximately 25,000 Army Chaplains have served as religious and spiritual leaders for 25 million Soldiers and their Families. From

military installations to deployed combat units and from service schools to military hospitals, Army Chaplains and Chaplain Assistants have performed their ministries in the most religiously diverse organization in the world.

Always present with their Soldiers in war and in peace, Army Chaplains have served in more than 270 major wars and combat engagements. Nearly 300 Army Chaplains have laid down their lives in battle. Six have been awarded the Medal of Honor. Their love of God, Country and the American Soldier has been a beacon of light and a message of hope for all those who have served our nation.

Currently, more than 2,900 Chaplains are serving the Total Army representing over 130 different religious organizations. More than 800 chaplains and Chaplain assistants are currently mobilized or deployed in support of contingency operations throughout the world.

The Four Chaplains

When the troop-transport ship *USAT Dorchester* was torpedoed during World War II, four Army chaplains ministered to the soldiers and sailors on the sinking ship, gave up their life jackets, and sacrificed their lives when the ship sank.

Those chaplains – known as “The Four Chaplains” – were Lt. George L. Fox, Methodist; Lt. Alexander D. Goode, Jewish; Lt. John P. Washington, Roman Catholic; and Lt. Clark V. Poling, Dutch Reformed.

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Four_Chaplains



Engineered for life

What did you think of Desert Mesh edition 73?

Please comment on this form, or make a copy, then drop it into any comment card box on Camp As Sayliyah.

How would you rate this edition? _____

What is your opinion of the content? _____

Was the layout and design appropriate? _____

Do you find it easy to obtain a copy? _____

Additional Comments: _____



We would like your feedback!

Edition 73. The editorial content is the responsibility of the Area Support Group-Qatar Public Affairs Office, located in building 101 across from the command suite. General comments should be addressed to pao@qatar.army.mil or by calling (011) 974-450-2714 or DSN (318) 432-2572/2800.



Global Impact CEO, Renee S. Acosta (center), Commander, ASG-Qatar, COL Wayne Grieme, (right), Command Sergeant Major, ASG-Qatar, CSM Charles “Doc” Holliday, Sr., (left) and CFC Coordinator, SGT George J. Alexis, are presented a large check for \$1,191.84, representing the amount Soldiers here have donated to family and youth programs in the Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas (CFC-O) program in the past year. “CFC is a big deal to me,” Alexis said. “It not only benefits the military but it’s a program that benefits everybody.” Ms. Acosta is in charge of managing the CFC-O for Central, European, Pacific, and Southern Commands. The Department of Defense appointed Global Impact to manage the fundraising efforts of CFC-O. Global Impact is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to raising funds in support of humanitarian relief and developmental programs for the poor people around the world. The current campaign ends Dec. 15.