



DANGER FORWARD



September 20, 2010 | Issue 34

Final homecoming for a hometown Hero



Courtesy photo

In the town of Kirksville, Mo., young and old line the route to Sgt. Brandon Maggart's final resting place, Sept. 1. Maggart served with the 5th Battalion, 5th Air Defense Artillery Regiment and died August 22 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in Basra, Iraq.

See *HOMECOMING*, page 2

Saying goodbye...

A final tribute from Basra

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

BASRA, Iraq – The death of Sgt. Brandon Maggart made international news.

He was the first Soldier to die in Iraq after the last combat brigade left the country, and the last Soldier to die supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

But for those men and women who knew him, Sgt. Brandon Maggart will always be much more than a name in a news blurb. For them, the end of OIF will always be synonymous with the loss of a dear friend and good person.

Maggart lost his life during a rocket attack on the U.S. base at Basra International Airport in southern Iraq. At the time he was serving as a Counter Rocket Artillery Mortar, or C-RAM, system operator with Battery A, 5th Battalion, 5th Air Defense Artillery Regiment, attached to the 1st Infantry Division Headquarters Battalion.

Four days after the attack, every seat in the Basra chapel was filled for his memorial service. People stood shoulder-to-shoulder and back to the entrance to pay their respects.

Speeches from his command, his Soldiers and his colleagues were given. The Last Call was rendered, and the 21-gun salute roared in memory. After the ceremony, civilians and Soldiers alike stood before the memorial to give a trinket, render a salute, or just remember the kind of man he was.

Less than a week later, on Sept. 1, Sgt. Maggart was returned to his hometown of Kirksville, Mo. The people of Kirksville (pop. 17,000) lined the streets as a convoy of vehicles brought Maggart to his final resting place, American flags flying as he passed. The Soldier, who was a part of their community, had returned home, and the people who knew him as a neighbor, husband and friend welcomed him.

It was an uncommon sight, but not an uncommon response as Americans continue to show their support to Soldiers in this ninth year of conflict.

Last week, Joint Base Lewis-McChord memorialized the young air defense sergeant who had called the base home for most of his military career. According to news reports, over 200 people filled the chapel.

Statements from Maggart's Alpha Battery comrades were read at the service, remarking on his kindness and cheerful nature. They couldn't attend because they are continuing their mission defending the Soldiers and civilians on Basra from incoming fire, their loss adding to their resolve to complete the mission assigned to them.

Even after the final memorials were done and he was laid to rest, Maggart continued to touch the lives of those around him. His loss was remembered by the 162nd Area Medical Support Group by naming their remodeled Combat Stress Clinic after him.

Survived by his wife, Teresa, and his three-year old son, Blake, and remembered fondly by his friends and fellow Soldiers, Sgt. Brandon Maggart will always be more than just a footnote in OIF history. ■

BRANDON EDWARD MAGGART
SGT 5TH BN 5TH ADA
22 JULY 1986 - 22 AUGUST 2010

"Brandon was a man whose life could be summed up in one word: excellence. In my years of military experience, I've never met a man of greater character."

Capt. Lloyd Spurlock
Commander
Battery A, 5th Btn, 5th ADA

"In addition to being a great Soldier, Brandon was one of the rare people you meet that single-handedly raised the morale of the people around him."

Staff Sgt. Richard Hauser
Platoon Sergeant
Battery A, 5th Btn, 5th ADA

"Sergeant Maggart was a great NCO, leader and friend. He loved to make everyone laugh and was always trying to make the most of every day."

Spc. Kandise Phillips
Battery A, 5th Btn, 5th ADA



HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES FORCES – IRAQ BAGHDAD, IRAQ

8 September 2010

USFI-CG

Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen and Civilians of United States Forces – Iraq (USF-I), I consider it a distinct honor to return to Iraq and serve with each of you at this historic time. Operation New Dawn represents a change in our mission, but it does not mean an end to our commitment to Iraq. The United States of America, the Iraqis and our coalition partners have committed many lives and resources to this endeavor -- but our work is not over. We must remain committed to working with the Iraqis so they can be a more stable, secure, self-reliant nation and enjoy many of the freedoms we enjoy back home. I cannot think of a more important task. What we do over the next 16 months will have an impact for years to come.

I commend each member of the USF-I for your contributions. I know many of you have served on multiple deployments, leaving Family and loved ones behind. I am personally grateful for your hard work and sacrifices -- past, present, and future. We have a remarkable team of professionals from all uniformed services as well as a corps of dedicated and capable civilians to undertake the hard work ahead.

Under Operation New Dawn we must maintain vigilance and appropriate force protection. I fully expect our enemies to take advantage of any opportunity to inflict harm upon our forces and other US personnel. Maintain daily contact with your counterparts in the ISF to make the most of the time we have with them. Continue to train, advise and assist them to ensure they have the capability to maintain lasting security in Iraq. Finally, work closely with our State Department partners, including our teammates on the provincial reconstruction teams (PRTs) so they are fully prepared to assume the lead role in continuing to build our enduring relationship with Iraq.

Remember, our individual actions can have strategic consequences and a lack of discipline may jeopardize that relationship. Adhere to our code of conduct and the values that make our military the most respected institution in the United States. Demonstrate inspired leadership by doing what is right, embodying the warrior ethos, respecting the dignity and rights of others, and being accountable in everything you do. Through your disciplined conduct, honor the sacrifices of the thousands of brothers and sisters in arms who served before you.

Our work is of paramount importance and will impact the future of Iraq for many years. We have enjoyed many successes; however, there is still work to be done. I have every confidence that our service members and civilians will do what is required to achieve lasting success. I am proud to serve with you.

LLOYD J. AUSTIN III
General, US Army
Commanding



Commanding General
Major General
Vincent K. Brooks



Command Sergeant Major
Command Sergeant Major
Jim Champagne

DANGER FORWARD

PAO

1st Inf. Div. PAO: Lt. Col. Sophie Gainey

Command Info OIC: Capt. Brian Melanephy
Command Info NCOIC: 1st Sgt. Charles Owens

Email: MND-S_PAO@iraq.centcom.mil
Phone: (Iraqna) (0790)-194-2865
(770)-263-9379.

Danger Forward

Print NCOIC: Staff Sgt. Nathan Smith
Editor/Layout: Sgt. Jason Kaneshiro

Staff Writers: Sgt. Cody Harding, Sgt. Jason Kemp, Spc. Raymond Quintanilla, Spc. James Benjamin, Spc. Eve Ililau

Contributing Units

- 3rd BCT, 4th Inf. Div.
- 3rd HBCT, 3rd Inf. Div.
- 305th MPAD



SPORTS INJURIES

By Joe Zelko
USD-S Safety

Sports and recreational activities help Soldiers achieve and maintain a high level of physical fitness, but many of these activities carry some degree of injury risk. Sadly, many of these injuries are avoidable.

Investigations conducted by the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine's (USACHPPM) Injury Prevention Program showed physical training (PT), and sports were the most frequent causes of injury resulting in sick-call visits and limited-duty days.

Sports and PT-related injuries are also common among deployed Soldiers. About 20 percent of air evacuations in Iraq and Afghanistan were for noncombat injuries; PT and sports activities.

Basketball, football, PT and weightlifting account for 76 percent of these sports-related injuries during deployments. USACHPPM has noted more serious weightlifting injuries among deployed Soldiers. At least one-third of these injuries occurred with the bench press and involved serious muscle tears.

There are several injury hazards associated with weight training, including lifting too much weight, using improper technique, and using anabolic steroids. To reduce the risk of injury, Soldiers should

include the following measures in their weightlifting routine:

- Use caution when loading and unloading weight plates.
- Train with a spotter, especially when doing high-weight, low-repetition exercises.
- Be sure you know and use proper lifting technique.
- Warm up with repetitions of lighter weight before attempting heavier weights.
- Don't hold your breath; inhale lowering the weight, exhale pressing it back up.
- Avoid anabolic steroids — they're illegal and cause long-term health effects.
- Increase the amount of weight and number of repetitions gradually.

Soldiers and Leaders have learned, through use of composite risk management (CRM) to identify hazards and control risks across the full spectrum of Army missions and activities. Soldiers must implement CRM for their specific activity to assess risks of injury. Once hazards are identified, Soldiers and Leaders must implement the controls proven to reduce these injury risks.

See **INJURIES**, page 10

THIS WEEK IN ARMY HISTORY...



1st Infantry Division History

September 24, 1917 – Maj. Gen. Peyton March takes command of the 1st Field Artillery Brigade, 1st Infantry Division. March, for whom March Air Force Base in Riverside, Calif., is named, would move on to become the Army Chief of Staff. During his tenure as the Army Chief of Staff, March was responsible for establishing several technical branches, including the Air Corps, Chemical Warfare Corps, Transportation Corps, and Tank Corps.



Operation Iraqi Freedom History

September 26, 2003 – The first group of Soldiers to take leave from Operation Iraqi Freedom returned to American soil for their two-week R&R. The 192 troops, primarily from the 101st Airborne Division and 173rd Airborne Brigade, were the first wave of the military's largest home leave program since the Vietnam War.



4th Infantry Division History

September 26, 1918 – The last great battle of World War I, the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, begins with the Ivy Division's 7th Brigade assaulting German lines through a narrow valley, eventually reaching Cuisy, France. On the first day of the offensive, the brigade captured 1,700 prisoners and seized more than 40 guns.



Photo by Spc. Eve Illiau

Sgt. 1st Class April Boucher, a vocalist for the Volunteers from Coshocton, Ohio, gets the audience drawn in while performing at the Basra Resiliency Campus Sept. 15. "We're Soldiers representing Soldiers. This is our favorite tour ever; it's amazing that we get to do it for y'all," Boucher said.

Volunteers rock Basra on their first 'combat tour'

Staff Sgt. Nathaniel Smith
1st Inf. Div., USD-S PAO

BASRA, Iraq – For the past 19 years, the U.S. Army Field Band's 'Volunteers' have performed at thousands of venues across North America.

They have serenaded wounded Soldiers bedside at Army hospitals. They've rocked out for 100,000 spectators at major sporting events. But they had never performed in a combat zone ... until this month.

The six-piece band of Soldier-musicians brought its act to southern Iraq, Sept. 15, performing contemporary country, jazz and rock and roll at the Basra Resiliency Campus.

"As a group, we are really excited to have the chance to come over (to Iraq)," Staff Sgt. Glenn Robertson, the Volunteers' drummer, said. "This is the first time, and it's kind of ground-breaking. We're really

excited to have the opportunity to do this."

The Volunteers are one of four components of the U.S. Army Field Band, along with the Concert Band, Soldiers' Chorus, and the Jazz Ambassadors. Their primary mission is to travel the globe as part of Army Public Affairs' community outreach program.

Staying so busy performing for civilian communities means they rarely get a chance to entertain their fellow Soldiers. The trip downrange is one the Volunteers relished.

"To be here, it's kind of overwhelming," Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Lindsey, the Volunteers' guitarist from Daytona Beach, Fla., said. "It's great to finally give back the best service that we can do to the Soldiers who have given their best service to this country... We owe it to our brothers and sisters; it's an honor to do this."

Sgt. 1st Class April Boucher, the lively

and spunky vocalist for the band, echoed the sentiment.

"We're Soldiers representing Soldiers," the Coshocton, Ohio, native said to the crowd. "This is our favorite tour ever; it's amazing that we get to do it for y'all."

Boucher's enthusiasm showed when she leapt off the stage to get the audience to sing the lyrics to a well known rock 'n' roll oldie.

"This group is so full of energy they make me want to jump on stage and just rock the house," said a spectator.

Lindsey also thanked his hosts in southern Iraq for helping to make the band's experience a memorable one.

"Basra has been amazing. The (1st Infantry Division) Band has been our host, and they've been great, showing us around, hooking us up, gave us a chance to call our Families," Lindsey said. "It's a unique experience." ■

U.S., Iraqi troops conduct mass casualty training

By 2nd Lt. Jon Morgan
64th BSB, 3rd AAB, 4th Inf. Div.

CAMP UR – An ambulance races down the street, leaving a dust cloud in its wake. Coming to an abrupt halt, doors fly open, and a medic jumps out. Fellow Iraqi Army soldiers are wounded and in need of medical care at Iraqi Army Camp Ur Aug. 16.

Patients are stabilized for transportation and placed into the ambulance. The back doors are closed and the ambulance furiously races back to the camp's aid station. A 10th IA Transportation Headquarters treatment team advised by a 64th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 4th Infantry Division medical noncommissioned officer is standing by waiting to receive casualties.

Luckily, all of this was only a drill. It was an effort to evaluate what the 10th IA learned after three months of Iraqi Army led training, advised by the 64th BSB.

During the mass casualty exercise, Brig. Gen. Ali Jawad Kazem, 10th IA Transportation HQ commander, observed the work of the medics at the aid station.

"I am confident that my medics can handle multiple casualties and save many lives," he said after the exercise.

Sgt. Francisco Solis of El Paso, Texas, a medical NCO with 64th BSB, has spent three months advising Iraqi instructors on how to plan for mass casualty operations, how to set up casualty collection points, triage, trauma treatment areas, and how to evacuate casualties to a higher level of care.

Partnered with two Iraqi medics, Solis taught four basic first aid and medical classes similar to a combat lifesaver program. The classes illustrated mass casualty situations are not only about giving medical treatment but also on security, logistical and personnel support, and leaders' command and control to bring order to chaos.

Warrant Officer Marquest O'Neil of Fort Gibson, Miss., logistical training and advisory team chief, has been advising Ali over the last few months on the importance of the operational side, establishing casualty collection points and ensuring the evacuation plans were established for Camp Ur.

"Brig. Gen. Ali is constantly focused on

training and improving his organization. All of his officers and [soldiers] understand his priorities and take training events very seriously, which causes them to

continuously improve as a unit," said Capt. Tiffany Bilderback from Milwaukee, 64th BSB, logistical training and advisory officer. ■



Photo by 2nd Lt. Jon Morgan

Sgt. Francisco Solis of El Paso, Texas, medical NCO, 64th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, overlooks as a 10th Iraqi Army Transportation Headquarters medic stabilizes a casualty for evacuation during a training exercise at Camp Ur Aug 16.

Combat Stress Clinic named after fallen Soldier

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

BASRA, Iraq – The new Combat Stress Clinic on the American base at Basra International Airport was named in honor of Sgt. Brandon Maggart in a ceremony, Sept. 10.

Maggart, who served with Battery A, 5th Battalion, 5th Air Defense Artillery Regiment, was killed in an Aug. 22 rocket attack.

The facility provides a place for Soldiers to meet with mental health professionals to deal with the stress that comes with operating in a combat zone. Controlling stress is an important part of the military's overall fitness, and the support center aims to help Soldiers cope.

The Combat Stress Clinic renovations, under the direction of Sgt. Sonja Young, a behavioral health technician with the 162nd Area Medical Support Group, were completed the day before the attack. After helping the Soldiers in Maggart's unit, Young, a San Antonio native, advocated that the new CSC be named after him.

Lt. Col. Pamela Breedlove, the commander of the Combat Stress Clinic, said Maggart's leadership was the reason behind his name being placed on the clinic.

"As Sgt. Maggart truly exemplifies the Army Values, Soldier Resiliency, and the tenets of combat stress control," said



Photo by Sgt. Cody Harding

From left, Maj. Gen. Vincent Brooks, the United States Division – South commanding general, Lt. Col. Pamela Breedlove, the Combat Stress Clinic commanding officer, and Capt. Lloyd Sporluck, commander of Battery A, 5th Battalion, 5th Air Defense Artillery Regiment, unveil the placard dedicating the facility to Sgt. Brandon Maggart Sept. 10.

Breedlove, a Topeka, Kan., native. "Sgt. Young advocated that the new clinic area be dedicated in his name."

Before the renovations, the CSC was an unattractive place for Soldiers to visit. The building would often become uncomfortably hot, and thin walls kept many discussions from being confidential.

The building was improved by adding

new air conditioning units, increasing the thickness of the walls, and remodeling the inside of the clinic.

Sgt. Jose Carrera, a Phoenix native serving as the 1st Inf. Div. behavioral health NCO, said the improved atmosphere helps Soldiers open up to the staff.

"Staff members are able to do their job better," Carrera said. "Just by improving the environment of the clinic helps improve the Soldier's [ability] to open up and be able to disclose more things the staff can use to help."

Breedlove said the renovations to the clinic help her and her Soldiers do their jobs more effectively.

"We're here for all Soldiers," Breedlove said. "It is our role to do what we can to help Soldiers and return them to duty."

Carrera described the CSC and caring for the needs of the Soldiers under stress as a force multiplier.

"When you have Soldiers coming in and are able to receive the treatment they need, they go back to their units and become more resourceful, more effective, and therefore able to carry out the mission," Carrera said.

The clinic is situated across from the Troop Medical Clinic and is open Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon. ■



Photo by Sgt. Cody Harding

Spc. Devin Swanson, a Soldier in Battery A, 5th Battalion, 5th Air Defense Artillery Regiment, left, and Staff Sgt. Joshua Medina, also with 5-5 ADA, stand beside the plaque to commemorate the dedication of the Combat Stress Clinic Sept. 10. The clinic is used to help Soldiers deal with stress of a combat zone.

Combatives 'bleeds' into their duties

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

BASRA, Iraq – The high demands military members face, simultaneously fighting two wars, multiple tours abroad, and changes in mission, places an even more important emphasis on their combat readiness.

The physical fitness and mental readiness of a Soldier is of the essence in successfully carrying out missions, large or small, in theater or garrison.

There is a variety of platforms for conditioning the body and mind, ranging from aerobics, yoga, boxing, and even

mixed martial arts. One form offered on Contingency Operating Base Basra is Modern Army Combatives (MAC), which incorporates techniques from Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and other forms of martial arts.

Sgt. 1st Class Carl Fryday, a native of Sterlington, La. and the fire support noncommissioned officer for the 1st Infantry Division and also a level four instructor explained the basic tenants of MAC.

"The idea behind combatives is to teach how to engage the enemy, while your fellow Soldiers out-flank them," Fryday said. "Take them down as a team and achieve numerical superiority."

"If every Soldier is confident in closing the distance with the enemy," Fryday said. "We're going to be more successful, that's the overall goal."

Fryday said adding more striking into the training program emphasizes a combat focus, unlike preparing for a competition.

"We try to train the warrior spirit into Soldiers," Fryday said. "With the right kind of stress, Soldiers are forced to face their trepidations,"

"Through this, we can train courage."

"It's a confidence builder," said Chief Warrant Officer David Hemingway, a native of Utica, N.Y. and the command and control systems integrator with Air Missile Defense, 1st Inf. Div. and also a level two MAC instructor. "To give a junior Soldier the opportunity to face adversity and come beyond it," Hemingway said. "It reflects back in their work environment."

The goal of MAC is to provide realistic training and develop programs made available for different size units. It consists of four levels.

Level one covers basic fighting skills and is the pedestal of the upper three levels. Levels two through four are instructor courses, which in turn provides training from company levels to division, respectively.

Sgt. 1st Class Jeneen Saucedo, a native of San Bernardino, Calif. and the detainee operations NCO with the Provost Marshall Office, 1st Inf. Div. and also a certified MAC instructor said combatives augments her Soldier's instinct.

"It gives me the opportunity to employ tactics that will help defend those under my care as an NCO," Saucedo said. "It gives me a sense of being a Soldier first."

The individual skills and other attributes gained from combatives also enhances the Soldiers abilities in their battle rhythm.

"You see people change," Fryday said. "They start developing a sense of personal wealth, which bleeds into their military occupational skills."

While the work tempo can prove to be hectic at times, it is the responsibility for every Soldier to ensure their overall well-being meets or exceeds Army standards.

"We are Soldiers," Fryday said. "Whether with combatives or not, find a way to enhance your capabilities, find a way to be that warrior." ■



Photo by Spc. Raymond Quintanilla

Sgt. 1st Class Carl Fryday, a native of Sterlington, La., and the fire support noncommissioned officer with 1st Infantry Division Headquarters, spars with Sgt. Justin Overton, a native of El Reno, Okla., and a targeting analyst also with 1st Inf. Div. Sept. 4. Fryday instructs Modern Army Combatives on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 6 p.m. in the post hospital gym.

"THE LONG TERM SUCCESS OF THE
IRAQI NATION RESTS WITH

"THE LONG TERM SUCCESS OF THE
IRAQI NATION RESTS WITH
THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT AND LEADERS.
ISF HAVE BEEN AND WILL CONTINUE
TO BE THE LEAD PROVIDER OF SECURITY
TODAY AND INTO THE FUTURE."

*Maj. Gen. Vincent K. Brooks
Commander, USD-S*

A NEW DAWN
A NEW IRAQ

A NEW IRAQ



Photo by Spc. Raymond Quintanilla

Col. Robert Whalen, a native of Tacoma, Wash. and the 201st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade commander, expresses his thanks to the United States Forces-Iraq for their support during a transfer of authority ceremony held at U.S. Army Base in Iraq Sept. 15. The Soldiers of the Joint Base Lewis-McChord unit head home at the closing of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

201st BfSB heads home, minus one

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

COB ADDER, Iraq – Deployed since Sept. 2009 to work with Iraqi Security Forces, Joint Base Lewis-McChord's 201st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade cased its colors and transferred authority to the 67th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade in a ceremony Sept. 15.

The transfer of authority signifies the closing chapter for the 201st BfSB and the start of Operation New Dawn for the 67th BfSB as they take the mission of advising, training and assisting the Iraq Security Forces toward building an independent infrastructure.

The 201st BfSB task force is composed of experts in signal, human and counter intelligence, fusion interrogation and critical support functions such as two aerial surveillance support elements, which provide critical information to command.

Col. Robert Whalen, a native of Tacoma, Wash., and the 201st BfSB commander said the teams are ensuring safety for the people of Iraq.

"We have experts in intelligence and target acquisitions assisting the Iraqis with security," Whalen said, "removing public enemies from the streets and making it safe

for ordinary Iraqi people and their families. This is happening 24/7."

As Whalen spoke proudly of his Soldiers, he also expressed the most difficult experience from his tour in Iraq.

"Absolutely the hardest thing was the death of one of our Soldiers, Sgt. Faith R. Hinkley was killed on August 7," Whalen said. "I really thought that we could bring all 1,000 of our troops home safely from Iraq. The last month of our deployment, Hinkley was killed. That was without question the most crushing and devastating moment of our entire deployment."

Hinkley, a native of Monte Vista, Colo., was a human intelligence collector for the 502nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 201st BfSB who died during support operations.

Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Thornton, the 201st BfSB senior noncommissioned officer said the ISF are a competent security force.

"The Iraqis are excellent human intelligence collectors, they're better at it than we are," Thornton said explaining the Iraqi hometown advantage. "We provide that 'assist' and augment their capabilities."

"They are way ahead to take over," Thornton said.

Col. Philip Stemple, the 67th BfSB commander, said he looks forward to sharing the trials and triumphs with his troops.

"I know, despite what comes your way, you will hurdle every obstacle, meet every challenge with the tenacity and perseverance, and you will succeed," Stemple said. "After all, day in and day out, that's what you have done, every step of the way. That's why, truly, all hell can't stop us." ■

INJURIES, from page 4

Across all military services, more than 25 million limited-duty days occur annually due to injuries, with physical training and sports as the leading cause. Leaders are in the best position to prevent injuries. The Injury Prevention Through Leadership Course is entertaining and engaging while providing concise, evidence-based information Leaders can use to prevent injuries. The one-hour online course teaches practical strategies to help Soldiers meet their fitness goals. Visit Combat Readiness University II at <https://crc.learn.army.mil>. Log in with your AKO ID and password, select the courses tab, open the Joint Forces Safety Training folder, and enroll in the course today. ■

49th Trans donates truckload to area school

By Pfc. Amy M. Lane
4th Sust. Bde. Public Affairs

TEMPLE – Soldiers from the 49th Transportation Battalion, 4th Sustainment Brigade, 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), delivered a truckload of donated school supplies to Meredith Dunbar Elementary School Friday.

Lieutenant Col. Lillard Evans, battalion commander, Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Bivens and several Soldiers arrived with boxes, crates and bags full of supplies such as backpacks, paper towels, hand sanitizers, notebooks and art supplies.

“We just took the school’s list of items that they needed and Soldiers from each section started buying from it,” Sgt. 1st Class Patrice Pruitt said. “We asked for donations and everyone stepped up to help.”

Meredith Dunbar Elementary is the 49th Trans. Bn.’s adopted school. Volunteers from the battalion go to the school every week to tutor students and read to them.

“We find out where the school needs help and then try to develop a program for the school year,” Sgt. 1st Class John Ingram, who has been involved with the Adopt-A-School program in previous years, said.

Ingram said the volunteers also have landscaped at the school and participated in field days with students. One year they donated a silver cougar statue, which is the school’s mascot.

“My mother was a retired teacher, so I’ve had a chance to see the needs of schools,” he said. “The same Soldiers go to the same classrooms every week so they really develop relationships with students. They are able to mentor and be role models for the children.”

After delivering the donated supplies, the Soldiers went into several second- and third-grade classrooms to visit briefly with students.

Evans gave a brief talk to each classroom, welcoming the students to the new school year and introducing the Soldiers that accompanied him.

“We just want to be sure that you start the school year in an outstanding fashion,” he said.

“We will be checking up on you to make sure that you’re learning and doing the right thing,” he added. ■



Photo by Pfc. Amy Lane

Lieutenant Col. Lillard Evans, commander of the 49th Trans. Bn., watches as students and teachers from Meredith Dunbar Elementary School in Temple check out the school supplies that Soldiers collected and donated to their adopted school Friday.



Photo by Spc. James Kennedy Benjamin

A howitzer from 3rd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment fires a 155mm round during a live fire exercise in Kuwait Sept. 14. The squadron is scheduled to deploy to Iraq later this month in support of Operation New Dawn.

Have a photo from around USD-S?

Email it, along with the photographer's name, rank and unit, the date and place it was taken, and a short description, to:

nathaniel.smith5@iraq.centcom.mil

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

Web links..._

www.facebook.com/1stinfantrydivision

www.facebook.com/3bct4id

www.facebook.com/3hbct3id



Basra Betty says...



Dear Betty,

We're deploying soon to Basra. What ranks get their own rooms and what ranks have to share rooms?

Signed,
Sweatin' over Sharin'.

Dear "Sweaty,"

I'm sorry to say, but this is a difficult one to answer without knowing more about your situation. This will be dependent upon several factors, the first being what unit you belong to. Based on your question, it seems as if you may believe there is a set standard across the board. That's not true. There will be obvious factors, such as space allocation and safety concerns, your leadership will use to make their own decision, but it will all boil down to what they decide.

That doesn't really guarantee much for you does it? Let's make a guess then shall we? If you are asking the question, you're probably not E6 or below, because most of them already know their odds are not good for having their own living quarters. So I'm guessing, and this is just a guess, that you are somewhere along the E7-O3 realm. Those are usually the ones in the "questionable" area. If

that is the case, and you need more of a guarantee, I know just the way to get yourself a definite answer. How about you volunteer to bunk up and become someone's year-long "warrior companion!" That way you can focus on other priorities and deal with your room situation once you're actually on ground. Believe me, I know there is a lot going on in your mind right now and having a roommate can be stressful (especially if they have a "frito carpet" as referenced in previous articles), but I recommend you stop and smell the roses before the only thing you can smell is the sweet smell of...well, we all know what it smells like outside.

Until Next Time Basra,

-Betty

Rock and Roll Trivia

THE BEATLES vs. The Rolling Stones

Part 4: Trivia answers!

Keeping up with The Beatles and The Rolling Stones trivia? Here are the answers to the questions posed in the past few weeks. Stay tuned to Danger Forward for our next block of trivia questions.

(1) Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band (2) Eric Idle (3) sitar (4) Elton John (5) James Taylor (6) Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Charlie Watts (7) Muddy Waters (8) Altamont (9) Sleeping. According to Richards he woke up, grabbed a guitar, played the riff into a recorder, and went back to sleep (10) Lips and Tongue

	Beatles	Rolling Stones
1964	Can't Buy Me Love	Time is On My Side
1965	Yesterday	Satisfaction
1966	Peperback Writer	Paint It, Black
1967	All You Need is Love	Ruby Tuesday
1968	Hey Jude	Jumpin' Jack Flash
1969	Something	Honky Tonk Women

USD - South
1st Infantry Division
Yearbook Photos

The Yearbook is on its way, and the USD-S PAO is offering you the chance to decide what you want to see.

*Send in your own photos. Requirements are complete army uniform, no hats/sunglasses.

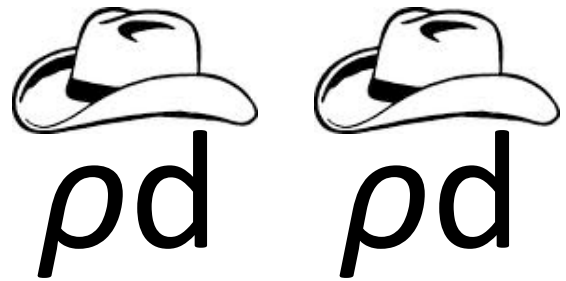
*If you don't have a camera, arrange for a photo shoot with Public Affairs. All you need is a time and a place.

*If you are a DHHB Soldier serving in USD-S, photos are required.

If you have any other questions or comments, e-mail Sgt. Cody Harding on Outlook.

cody.harding@iraq.centcom.mil

Big Red One Puzzle of the Week



Hint: Take me home...

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

Solution for last week: Beach towel

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

Solution to last week's puzzle

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

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

www.puzzles.ca/sudoku_puzzles/

Sudoku

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