Serving Task Force Marne -

214th Fires Bde. joins ranks of TF Marne

MND-C PAO

BAGHDAD - The 214th Fires Brigade became part of Task Force Marne April

"The (3rd Infantry Division) has been extremely gracious in welcoming us," said Col. Peter Baker, 214th Fires Bde. commander. "Although we have only been here for a short time, it feels as if we have been part of the Marne Division for much longer.

"We are excited to be part of the Marne team and excited about the mission with 3 ID."

Because of the brigade's configuration, it has the ability to deploy and assume almost any mission.

"A fires brigade is a very versatile brigade. It is a great example of modularity," Baker said. "The Fires brigade has the ability to 'plug and play' as needed in different divisions.

"One of the challenges we will face, as well as the families, is that we are very mobile in our assignments," he added.

While the, fires brigade is a relatively new organization to the Army, its capabilities are not, according and the skills that were developed are still fresh with us."

to Baker.

The brigade has capabilities that are similar to those of a field artillery division and field ar-

tillery battalion. The brigade has also inherited new capabilities such as information operations, air

defense and airspace management, psychological operations, and a fires and effects cell.

"With any newly created organization, it is founded on new doctrine. This is a chance for us to develop new doctrine and to try different methods. but the basis is basic field artillery operations," Baker said.

"The brigade is more potent, more lethal, more dynamic, and self sustaining," he said.

The brigade certified its systems prior to its deployment to

"The certification verified that we were able to deploy to do a fires brigade and a fires battalion tasks. The brigade was able to exercise its command and control processes and

systems which is important for this deployment," said Baker.

"The timing was fortunate. All the lessons learned



SPC. BEN HUTTO 3/3RD INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq -The 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division unveiled its combat aid station at Forward Operating Base Hammer Monday.

Col. Wayne W. Grigsby, Jr., the commander of the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, and Command Sgt. Maj. James H. Pearson, the Command Sergeant Major of the 3rd HBCT, and Pfc. Relaine Hughs, the youngest medic in the 203rd Brigade Support Battalion, from Chicago, cut the ribbon on the doorway of the

FOB Hammer SGT Robertson Aid Station.

"The first thing we started setting up on this FOB was this aid station because we wanted to make sure our Soldiers are taken care of," said Grigsby, addressing the Soldiers

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IA uses hands-on approach to training

SGT. ERNEST HENRY 4/25TH INF. DIV. (ABN.) PAO

HUSSANIYAH, Iraq – A training program that teaches Iraqi soldiers tasks such as map reading skills and

Sgt. Ernest Henry

An Iraqi army squad positions itself behind a car during urban combat training. The soldiers are receiving training in basic infantry tactics from Sgt. Mike Jones, a personnel security detachment member for Co. C, 1-501st PIR, 4/25th Inf. Div. (Abn.).

proper building clearing techniques was implemented by a young NCO who wanted to reduce unnecessary accidents or injuries.

The idea came to Sgt. Mike Jones, a personnel security detachment member for Company C, 1st Battalion,

> 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, assigned to Forward Operating Base Hussaniyah when and his team partnered with the Iraqi army to secure a landing zone.

> His goal was to create a team that could work together seamlessly and to build trust.

> "It started when we went to assist the Iraqi army secure a landing zone. We saw then (the differences in techniques), and started training them that week," said Jones, a native of Monroe, N.H. "We were going out on dismounts and we wanted to go out with people we felt secure with, so we've been training them ever since."

> Jones' approach to teaching and mentoring has been so successful that other IA units in theatre are beginning to take notice.

> "I've learned through trial and error, and ... I do a lot of hands-on training with them.

> "I try to work with them independently so that each team can operate at their own level," said Jones. "It's been very effective and is being adopted by other IA units in theater."

> After three months of training, the difference in the performance of the Iraqi soldiers can be seen inside and outside the wire.

> Now the IA Soldiers are bounding backward. moving away from contact, moving toward contact, and are doing it in vehicles or dismounted, Jones said.

> It started with a simple task to secure his base and after months of work, Jones has passed on years of training and experience to Iraqi army soldiers.

THE

Dog Face Daily

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AID — From Page 1

present.

The new aid station will be used by 3rd HBCT medics to help treat injured and sick Soldiers.

"The main benefit that this building provides is that we are all now consolidated," said Sgt. 1st Class Coree Dansler, the NCO in charge of the station, Company C, 203rd BSB, from Chauvin, La. "The weather here makes it difficult to maintain a sterile environment. This building will be much easier to keep clean. The heat out here is also a problem. The air conditioning in this building will help us more effectively treat casualties. The patients here will be our top priority."



Spc. Ben Hutto

Col. Wayne W. Grigsby, Jr., the commander of the 3/3rd Inf. Div., brigade Command Sergeant Major James H. Pearson and Pfc. Relaine Hughs, the youngest medic in 203rd BSB, from Chicago, cut the ribbon on the doorway of FOB Hammer SGT Robertson Aid Station Monday.

1-15 Infantry finds bomb-making materials

SGT. NATALIE ROSTEK
3/3RD INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq – Soldiers of Company A, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division found a weapons cache Monday north of Salman

Pak.

The unit located two barrels dug into the ground. One barrel contained various bomb making materials and weapons including one mortar, eight projectiles, a battery, two sticks of dynamite, a roll of crush wire, and detonation cord.

A bomb disposal unit destroyed the cache.

Safety Thought of the Day

Lithium Batteries

- The batteries contain pressurized Sulfur Dioxide(SO2) gas, so do not abuse or allow to rupture.
- If you hear a hissing sound or smell an irritating gas, turn off the equipment and leave the area until any signs of danger have passed.
- Do not use Halon fire extinguishers to combat fires involving lithium sulfur dioxide batteries. Use an approved Class-D fire extinguisher.
- If the battery compartment becomes hot to the touch, turn off

equipment and cool battery for at least 1 hour before removing.

- Never test the battery with conventional test sets not specifically designated to test lithium sulfur dioxide batteries.
- Do not use any battery past its expiration date.
- When replacing batteries, replace all of the batteries at the same time with the same contract number, lot, and date code. Never mix partially expended batteries with new batteries.

HEADLINE HIGHLIGHTS

Poland to probe if Teletubbies are gay

REUTERS

WARSAW — Poland's conservative government took its drive to curb what it sees as homosexual propaganda to the small screen on Monday, taking aim at Tinky Winky and the other Teletubbies.

Ewa Sowinska, government-appointed children rights watchdog, told a local magazine published on Monday she was concerned the popular BBC children's show promoted homosexuality.

In comments reminiscent of criticism by the late U.S. evangelist Jerry Falwell, she was quoted as saying: "I noticed (Tinky Winky) has a lady's purse, but I didn't realize he's a boy."

"At first I thought the purse would be a burden for this Teletubby ... Later I learned that this may have a homosexual undertone."

Poland's rightist government has upset human rights groups and drawn criticism within the European Union by apparent discrimination against homosexuals.

Polish Education Minister Roman Giertych has proposed laws sacking teachers who promote "homosexual lifestyle" and banning "homo-agitation" in schools.

But in a sign that the government wants to distance itself from Sowinska's comments, Parliamentary Speaker Ludwig Dorn said he had warned her against making public comments "that may turn her department into a laughing stock."

The 10-year-old Teletubbies, which features four rotund, brightly colored characters loved by children around the world, became a target of religious conservatives after Falwell suggested Tinky Winky could be homosexual.

Woman seeks fame as face of Mao

REUTERS

BEIJING — Chen Yan waves at a crowd of onlookers bemused at seeing China's late helmsman, Mao Zedong, brought back to life by a middle-aged woman.

Chen, 51, from Mianyang, in China's southwestern province of Sichuan, has been dressing up as Mao since she was discovered on a local TV show in 2005 impersonating another actor who had played Mao in movies.

"I was impersonating (the actor) when the beautician saw some similarities between me and Mao," Chen said, as makeup artists fussed over her in a Mianyang hair salon. The beautician saw a dollar to be made in Chen's prominent cheekbones and imperious demeanor, and invited her for a make-over, she said.

Suited up in a grey, button-up waistcoat, Chen looks similar to the man who ruled China with an iron grip for decades, and is happy to ham it up for the cameras. But the effortless poses belie fastidious preparations behind the scenes.

Chen spends up to 800 yuan on makeup and styling to create Mao's famous receding hairline.

"I need to wear a pair of specially designed shoes to increase my height to 1.80 meters since I am only 1.55 meters. Then I dress up in Sun Yat-sen suits which Mao also likes, and hold a cigarette without the filter," Chen said.

The financial hardships had forced her to call the media for a public photo shoot to "gain support and understanding from the public."

"My family are against me doing this," Chen said. "They don't think it's a good thing for a woman to impersonate a man."

Chen, however, is determined to make a living from impersonating Mao, even to the point where she is cagey about revealing details about her former occupations.

"I'm not telling anyone anything until I become famous," she said.

Marne Weather Watch Wednesday, May 30 Thursday, May 31 Partly Cloudy Low: 81F/High: 103F Low: 82F/High: 106F

ARABIC PHRASE OF THE DAY

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from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

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Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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