

THE Dog Face Daily

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Marne Torch commences in south Baghdad

2/3RD INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq — Fixed-wing aircraft dropped four precision-guided bombs on targeted sites preventing insurgents from entering southern Baghdad June 16. This was the beginning of a major offensive operation dubbed Marne Torch.

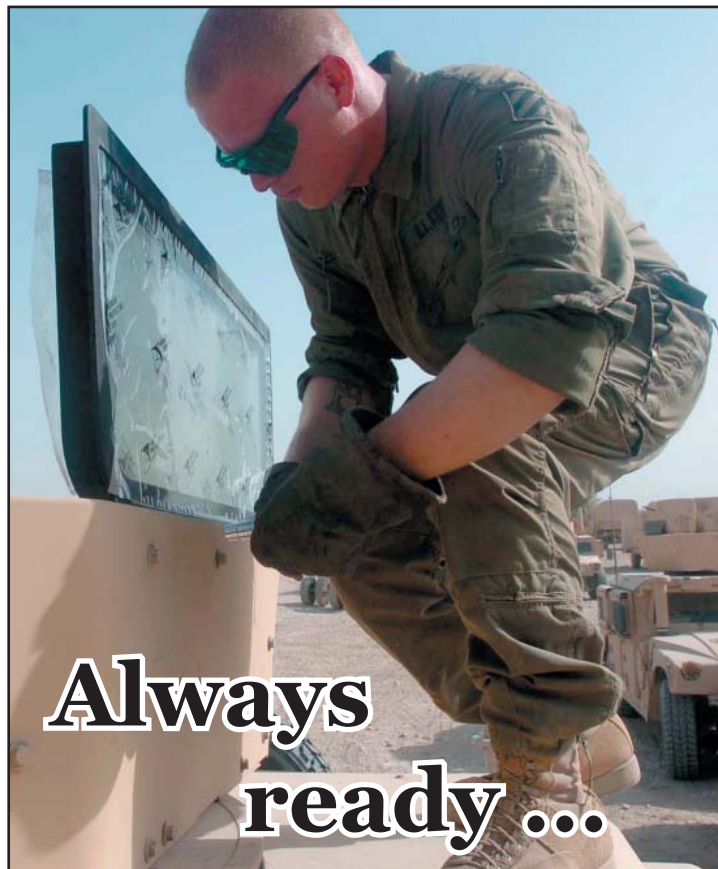
The aircraft supported approximately 1,200 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers who are focused on the security belts surrounding Baghdad.

The 2nd Brigade Soldiers have the mission of defeating insurgent activity, denying the enemy sanctuary and preventing terrorist elements from moving accelerants from the Arab Jabour area into Baghdad.

The brigade's efforts in Arab Jabour are part of the larger operation recently announced by Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates and Gen. David Petraeus, Multi-national Force - Iraq commander.

"Our Soldiers are well trained, and I am extremely proud of the work they have accomplished over the past several weeks in preparation for this operation," said Col. James Adams, 2nd BCT deputy commander.

Marne Torch is named for the historical British-American invasion of French North Africa in World War II that took place in 1942. Soldiers from the 3rd Infantry Division fought alongside its British comrades, and at a modest cost, gave the Allies substantial beachheads in North Africa.



Sgt. Kevin Stabinsky

Spc. Christopher Marshall, B Company, 26th Brigade Support Battalion, tightens nuts that hold ballistic glass onto a gunner's turret. Daily inspections help keep vehicles combat ready. See Page 2 for story.

Marne Torch air assault yields five detainees

SGT. NATALIE ROSTEK

3/3RD INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq — Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, conducted a company-sized operation in the city of Dura'iya Sunday morning, detaining five individuals.

This operation supports the efforts of Marne Torch, an offensive operation against Al Qaeda strongholds around Baghdad recently announced by Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates and Gen. David Petraeus, Multi-National Force-Iraq commander.

The purpose of the mission, according to 1-15 Inf. leaders, was to disrupt key insurgent networks from freedom of maneuver in the battalion's area of operation.

The mission began as elements from 1-15 Inf. air assaulted into the vicinity of targeted houses late Saturday night. During the ground operation, several houses were searched for weapons and improvised explosive device — making materials resulting in the detention of five individuals and the seizure of one rifle.

The 1-15 Inf. is assigned to the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, from Fort Benning, Ga., and is one of the U.S. Army's surge brigades.

P-M-C-S spells mission success

MND-C PAO

FOB KALSU — “In order to have combat power you need to shoot, move and communicate. We are the ‘move’ part,” said an auto mechanic with 26th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, out of Fort Stewart, Ga.

The 26th BSB mechanics help ensure vehicles and equipment are combat ready when Soldiers go on missions.

Readiness is monitored through weekly command maintenance, said Staff Sgt. Javier Castillo, Company B, 26th Brigade Support Battalion.

Such checks help reduce the chance of having a deficiency that may stop the mission or endanger lives.

“If equipment doesn’t work, the mission is over,” Castillo said. “Get to know your equipment, and make sure it is combat ready.”

The best way to get to know equipment is preventive maintenance checks and services, or PMCS.

“A PMCS determines deficiencies. Without one you don’t know what is broke or will break in the near future,” Castillo said. “When you lack a PMCS, you have to ask yourself, ‘Is this combat ready?’”

While mechanics perform PMCS along with their command maintenance, weekly maintenance is often not enough because of the heat, dust and sand in Iraq.

“Some people rely more on the mechanics, and view us as a Jiffy Lube to take care of all their problems,” said Sgt. Sandra Muniz, a B Co., maintenance section NCO. “Thus, they get complacent.”

In Iraq, complacency can be deadly. It is important that units conduct their own daily vehicle inspections in addition to the mechanics checks, said the mechanics.

“You can save a lot of lives on missions from daily routines,” Muniz said.

“Each unit needs to take owner-

ship of their equipment. It can save their lives,” Castillo added.

While individual Soldiers may not be armed with the knowledge the mechanics have, the mechanics said it shouldn’t keep them from doing their own maintenance. To conduct a PMCS, the only thing a Soldier needs is the vehicle’s technical manual, or TM.

Each TM contains a troubleshoot outline that operators can use to fix low-level problems, Castillo said.

See PMCS, Page 3



Sgt. Kevin Stabinsky

Spc. Tanner Wohleb, B Co, 26th Brigade Support Battalion, inspects a crane’s hydraulic line. The mechanics of the 26th BSB work hard to ensure the 2nd BCT’s vehicles are combat ready.

THE Dog Face Daily

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2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry)

4th Brigade (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division

3rd Combat Aviation Brigade

PMCS ————— From Page 2

"The TMs are simple, by the numbers," said Sgt. Robert Monigan, another B Co., auto section mechanic.

"Whenever you work on a vehicle have the technical manual by your side. It takes care of a lot of problems," Muniz stressed.

If a unit loses its manual, an electronic copy can be picked up at the motor pool. All a Soldier needs to do is bring a disk to copy it to, Monigan said.

Once an operation has all the tools needed to do a proper PMCS, the operator should perform a PMCS before leaving on a mission, during mission downtime, and after completion of the mission, Castillo said.

"If you need to get out of a hotspot you want your vehicle to be 100 percent," he said, adding, the best way to maintain this percentage is to do a PMCS at these times.

Monigan knows from recent experience how important these checks are during missions.

Upon arrival at their destination, the crew did a control check and found a water hose leaking. By replacing the hose before rolling out, they prevented the vehicle from breaking down on the return trip, Monigan said.

Besides saving time, such actions may have also saved lives by not having to stop during the mission and possibly become a target.

Just as a Soldier wouldn't want to go on a mission without body armor or a properly functioning weapon, Castillo said Soldiers should remember their vehicle is just as important and that they shouldn't want to leave without it properly maintained and combat ready.

"Take care of your vehicle, and it will take care of you," Monigan said.



MND-C

Caribbean Heritage Observance

Multi National Division – Center will celebrate Caribbean Heritage Month on June 21. Caribbean Heritage Month is observed June 1-30 annually by a Presidential Proclamation signed in 2006, to celebrate the contributions of millions of Caribbean-Americans to the United States.

Island Vibes committee is seeking singers, dancers, poets, to participate in the program. All Islanders, come out and represent your country. If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact SFC Toussaint, MND-C EO Program Manager, NVOIP: 822-7653, SVOIP: 243-4128, email: tanya.toussaint@iraq.centcom.mil. Rehearsals will be held on Tuesdays and Fridays, 1900, TFM Motor Pool, tan tent.

Safety Thought of the Day

Boot Care

- Don't apply waterproofing products to your boots—they are already water-resistant. That just clogs the pores in the leather so it can't breathe.
- Clean boots with a stiff nylon brush. Do not use oil or alcohol-based cleaners, which can damage boots.
- After cleaning, rinse boots lightly in

warm water.

- Air dry the boots—never dry near fire, stoves, or heaters.
- If you spill fuel on your boots, DX them. The fuel cannot be removed.
- Occasionally check the tread on your boots and DX them when the tread is worn.

HEADLINE HIGHLIGHTS

Moms can now compete for Miss Spain beauty crown

REUTERS

MADRID — The Miss Spain beauty contest has changed its rules to allow mothers to compete after its decision to dethrone a 22-year-old beauty queen when it emerged she had a child met with national outrage in February.

Angela Bustillo, who has a toddler son, won the title of Miss Cantabria, a region on Spain's northern coast, in January but organizers disqualified her citing rules that contestants cannot have children.

The decision sparked widespread outrage in the Spanish press and expressions of support for the dethroned queen from feminist organizations to the head of the Cantabrian local government.

"I knew what it said in the contest conditions, but it seemed so absurd. I thought it must be something left over from the 1970s that they had forgotten to

bring up to date," Bustillo, a former supermarket worker, said at the time.

China censors 'Pirates' for 'vilifying Chinese'

REUTERS

BEIJING — China has censored part of the latest installment of hit Hollywood movie "Pirates of the Caribbean" for "vilifying and defacing the Chinese", the official Xinhua news agency said on Friday.

The role of Hong Kong star Chow Yun-Fat, who plays pirate lord Captain Sao Feng, had been slashed in half to just about 10 minutes of screen time, the report said.

It cited local magazine The Popular Cinema as saying: "The captain played by Chow is bald, his face heavily scarred. He also has a long beard and long nails, whose image is still in line with Hollywood's old tradition of demonizing the Chinese."

"Chinese censors also cut Chow's line in which he states 'Welcome to Singapore'

because it hints Singapore is a land of pirates ...," Xinhua added.

It quoted Zhang Pimin, deputy head of the film bureau of the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television, as saying the cuts had been made "according to the country's relevant regulations on film censorship" and "China's actual conditions".

The cuts "will not impair either the continuity of plot or the image of characters," said Zhang, declining to provide more details.

Still, "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End", has already performed well at the Chinese box office, Xinhua added, earning 1.18 million yuan (\$154,800) on its first day in Shanghai alone.

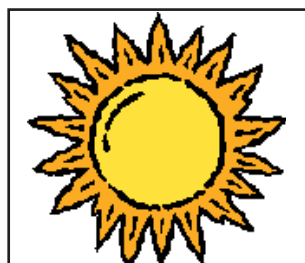
This is not the first time a Hollywood film has angered the Chinese censor.

Martin Scorsese's Oscar-winning "The Departed" ran into trouble due to its mention of a Chinese plan to buy military equipment, government sources told Reuters earlier this year.

But censorship on the big screen has little impact in China, where pirated, uncut versions of the latest movies can easily be bought on the street for around \$1.

Marne Weather Watch

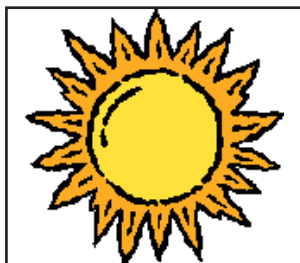
Monday, June 18



Sunny

Low: 83F/High: 111F

Tuesday, June 19



Sunny

Low: 84F/High: 112F

ARABIC PHRASE OF THE DAY

Lower your hands

nezil ee-dee-yek

S
u
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u

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

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to Saturday's puzzle:

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