

# THE Dog Face Daily

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June 21, 2007

*Serving Task Force Marne*

## Operation Commando Eagle starts off strong

2/10TH MTN. DIV. (LI) PAO

MAHMUDIYAH, Iraq — A joint operation geared toward curbing terrorist activity southwest of Baghdad is yielding results almost immediately.

Operation Commando Eagle, a mix of helicopter-borne air assaults and Humvee-mounted movements, included Soldiers from several battalions of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) out of Fort Drum, N.Y., and the 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division.

The operation, which began today,

targeted a series of houses which locals indicated were being used by al Qaeda cells to intimidate locals and launch attacks against Iraqi and Coalition Forces.

Troops of the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd BCT, detained three men when their truck was found to contain documents requesting rockets as well as a spool of copper wire, commonly used to build improvised explosive devices.

Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 4th Brigade, 6th IA Division found a cache containing four AK-47s, a 60mm mortar

tube with three See **COMMANDO**, Page 3

rounds, an SKS rigged with sniper optics, three bolt-action rifles, a camcorder with tapes, a roll of copper wire, 20 homemade grenades, four ski masks, 75 CDs of propaganda and terror techniques instructing methods to commit kidnappings and to shoot down coalition helicopters, and various other IED-making materials.

Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd BCT discovered multiple series of caches during the operation.

The first cache complex contained

## 1-15 Infantry Soldiers meet with local Iraqi council

**SGT. NATALIE ROSTEK**

3/3RD INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq — Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team and 97th Civil Affairs Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division, met with the Al Wahida city council June 18.

The meeting with Mr. Abbas, contracting manager, was held to discuss renovations and projects in the area to include rehabilitation of a local school and clinic, and enhancement of the sanitation and security of the Nahia council building.

"Progress was made in the meeting," said 1st Lt. Matthew Givens, 1-15 Inf. civil affairs officer, of Columbus, Ga. "There are a lot of new, friendly faces that are glad to see the Americans have come."

Prior to the meeting, Soldiers of the 1-15 Inf. and the 97th CAB con-



Courtesy photo

**A Soldier from the 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, patrols the streets of Al Wahida June 18.**

See 1-15, Page 3

# MND-C assumes control of FOB Delta, Wasit Province

**SGT. 1ST CLASS STACY NILES**  
MND-C PAO

FORWARD OPERATING BASE DELTA, Iraq — Multinational Division - Center extended the lines of its control to Iran Wednesday.

Task Force Marne, represented by Brig. Gen. Edward Cardon, 3rd Infantry Divisions deputy commanding general-support, assumed control of FOB Delta in Wasit Province from Multi-National Division-Center South commander Maj. Gen. Pawel Lamla.

The 214th Fires Brigade will take over the Polish 17th Mechanized Brigade's mission of advising and training the Iraqi army. Soldiers from the Republic of Kazakhstan, El Salvador, the Iraqi Army and the United States will comprise the force conducting the mission. The 17th Mechanized Brigade leaves the legacy of military

operations, civil military cooperation and humanitarian assistance, said Lamla.

"That work has proved to the Iraqis that MND-CS did a lot ... in order to improve the life of the people in Wasit province," he said.

The Polish contingent has been partnering with the El Salvadoran, the Kazakhstani and the Iraqi armies, as well as the Iraqi police to provide assistance to the Wasit citizens.

"During that time, we (have had a lot of) activity concerning operations and especially reconstruction and humanitarian assistance addressed to the local Iraqi population. I would like to underline fruitful commitment of (the El Salvadoran and Kazakhstan) contingents for Wasit province," Lamla said.

"I would like to say thank you to the commander of the 3rd Iraqi Army Brigade for good training and operational activities.

This brigade did a lot of work in establishing security in the province. I also would like to express my gratitude to the Chief of Police for his activities against terrorist groups in this province."

Taking the reigns, Cardon assured those in attendance of TF Marne's commitment to improve on the efforts of the Polish forces.

"Each of you

helped build a stronger Iraq, and you should feel very proud of your accomplishments," he said. "It is impressive to see the results of your work -- from direct combat operations to training with Iraqi security forces to improving essential services to building economic and governmental capacity -- you have done it all very well.

"We will follow in your footsteps and build on your efforts with our Iraqi partners. We, along with all Iraqis, look forward to building on your foundation.

"We look forward to working with the forces that remain to build on previous efforts," Cardon said to the departing soldiers.

The remaining soldiers were charged by Cardon to build the province's capacity, defeat, and destroy those who attack Iraq with the help of the Iraqi security forces. "We will help build a better life for Iraqis in the Wasit Province," Cardon said.

The 214th FiB, from Fort Sill, Okla., and commanded by Col. Peter Baker, will lead those efforts. The brigade will upgrade force protection, help facilitate and synchronize the operations with the Iraqi security forces that will contribute to MND-C's overall objectives. The brigade will also take the lead on humanitarian and civil assistance missions in Wasit.

The new mission gives 214th FiB's officers and NCOs the opportunity to showcase its capability and versatility, according to Baker. With the Polish forces returning home, Baker and his brigade will be reinforced with approximately 2,000 Georgians who will provide engineering, mortar, logistics, signal, and reconnaissance support. The Georgian brigade will be fully manned and operational by Aug. 15.



Sgt. 1st Class Stacy Niles

**Soldiers from the Iraqi, U.S., El Salvadoran, and Kazakhstani armies stand in formation for the transfer of authority ceremony between MND-CS and MND-C Wednesday.**

## THE Dog Face Daily

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4th Brigade (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division  
3rd Combat Aviation Brigade  
214th Fires Brigade  
82nd Sustainment Brigade  
720th Military Police Battalion  
Mobile Unit 3 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Battalion



## COMMANDO

From Page 1

five AK-47s with three magazines, a roll of IED wire and a shotgun.

A second cache included seven AK-47s.

The third complex included an anti-tank mine, an anti-personnel mine, two rocket propelled grenade rounds, an RPG launcher and multiple pounds of TNT.

Task Force 2-15 detained 16 individuals.

Company A, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment detained nine men and Troop B, 1st Squadron, 89th Cavalry Regiment detained four, all wanted for terrorist attacks or for possessing illegal weapons.

Commando Eagle was named after

the 2nd BCT, known as the Commandos, and the 4th Bde, 6th IA, called the Baghdad Eagles.

This operation was timed in conjunction with a larger Multinational Division-Center operation coined Marne Torch. The caches were seized and disposed of. The detainees are being held for questioning.

## 1-15

From Page 1

ducted analysis of sewage, water, electricity, education, and trash removal systems in the area.

Givens feels the projects will prove beneficial in the relationship between 1-15 Inf. and citizens in the area.

"The schools that will be rebuilt here will go a long way to build credibility and trust between us and the people of Al Wahida," Givens said.

1-15 Inf. is a part of the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, Multi-National Division-Center, which is currently executing Operation Marne Torch to deny insurgents and terrorists sanctuaries southeast of Baghdad.

"In Marne Torch, we are hunting down insurgents, who are terrorizing the good people of Iraq in an area that has seen little Coalition Force influence during the past several years," said Maj. James Carlisle, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, civil military operations officer, of Palm Beach, Fla. "Now that we are here and the insurgents are on the run, we are able to assist the local government in rebuilding the communities that have suffered for so long. We do this by repairing schools and hospitals and reestablishing public services and local police forces."



Courtesy photo

**A young boy from the city of Al Wahida smiles as he holds a soccer ball given to him by Soldiers of the 1-15th Inf. Regt. and 97th CA Bn., June 18. The unit met with the Al Wahida contracting manager to coordinate CF and governmental efforts to revitalize services in the area.**

## A Message from the MNC-I Commander

**LT. GEN. RAYMOND ODIERNO**

MULTINATIONAL CORPS - IRAQ COMMANDER

Today there were reports in the media about possible further extensions of tours of duty in Iraq, based on coverage of Acting Secretary of the Army Geren's Senate confir-

mation hearing.

Let's be clear — no one extended here now to 15 months will be extended further.

I ask leaders to move quickly to quell potential rumors. Inform your Soldiers and Family Readiness Groups without delay.

## Safety Thought of the Day

### Jack Stands

- All jack stands shall bear on a foundation of sufficient size and strength to spread the load from the base over a sufficient area to prevent settlement.
- Vehicle stands **MUST** be inspected for damage, defects or excessive corrosion prior to every use.
- If a vehicle support stand has

a U.S. Army data plate affixed with a contract number stamped on the data plate, the stand has already been tested and does not require subsequent testing. If there is no indication of completed testing by the manufacturer, the stand must be tested prior to first-time use and annually thereafter.

- Jack stands should be used as a matched pair to support one end of a vehicle only. Stands are not meant to be used to simultaneously support both ends of a vehicle at once.
- Refer to TB 43-0156 (Vehicle Support: Safety Inspection & Operation of Stand, May 2006) for proper inspection procedures.

## HEADLINE HIGHLIGHTS

### Human bone smuggling racket uncovered

BAPPA MAJUMDAR  
REUTERS

KOLKATA, India — Indian police have discovered a stash of hundreds of human skulls and thigh bones and arrested a gang for allegedly smuggling them to the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan for use in Buddhist monasteries.

"During interrogation they confessed that the hollow human thigh bones were in great demand in monasteries and were used as blow-horns, and the skulls as vessels to drink from at religious ceremonies," investigating officer Ravinder Nalwa said Tuesday.

It was the second cache of bones found in eastern India since April and police now believe the region could be the center of a much broader trade in human bones. They suspect some bones may even have ended up as far away as Thailand and Japan.

Officers found the latest collection in Jaigaon, a town in eastern India on the border with Bhutan, and arrested four people who said they were smuggling

them across the border, Nalwa told Reuters by telephone from the northeastern town of Siliguri.

In April, police discovered what they called a "human bones factory" in the state, and arrested six people for illegally trading in skeletons.

The bones were apparently being sold to medical students and for use in traditional medicine.

Both caches of bones appear to have originated in Varanasi, a Hindu holy city in northern India where millions of people are cremated every year on the banks of the Ganges.

"The skeletons seized in Jaigaon had all come from Varanasi's cremation centers and all these years we thought they were just going secretly to medical students," Nalwa said.

"We have never come across such large-scale cases before, maybe one or two," Ninda Wangdi, a senior Bhutanese police officer, told Reuters by telephone.

Buddhist monks in India said human thigh bones and skulls were used by followers of a Tibetan school of Buddhism.

"But one or two bones would last a lifetime, so a racket this huge might have links to other countries," said Bhikkhu Bodhipala, chief priest of the Mahabodhi temple in Bodh Gaya.

### China to its pilots: Speak better English

REUTERS

BELJING - Less than a tenth of China's pilots meet international aviation English standards, the airline regulator said Tuesday, encouraging them to rise to the challenge of bolstering their linguistic skills.

But some pilots have the wrong attitude and are prevaricating, the civil aviation authority said in a statement on its Web site ([www.caac.gov.cn](http://www.caac.gov.cn)).

"The requirement to raise pilot's English abilities comes from a formal decision by the International Civil Aviation Organization," it quoted deputy aviation minister Li Jian as saying.

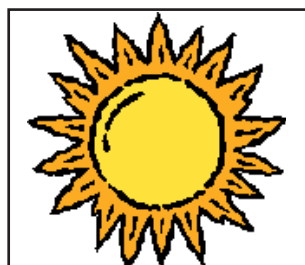
"I hope those comrades who have the wrong thinking drop their illusions, don't wait around and don't rely on others, grasp the present good conditions for studying English and dare to fulfill their responsibilities," Li said.

"This will be long, hard, comprehensive work," he said.

At present, only 651 Chinese pilots had passed the English exams, the statement said. That leaves some 8,000 who still need to pass.

### Marne Weather Watch

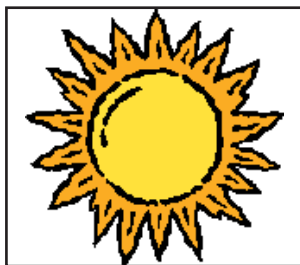
Thursday, June 21



Sunny

Low: 84F/High: 111F

Friday, June 22



Sunny

Low: 84F/High: 112F

### ARABIC PHRASE OF THE DAY

Lie on your stomach

nam AA-leh but-neck

### Sudoku

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

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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