

THE Dog Face Daily

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Serving Task Force Marne



Spc. Ben Hutto

Sgt. Antonio Harris, a Tuscaloosa, Ala., native, fires mortar rounds in support of his fellow Soldiers from 1-15th Inf. Regt., 3rd HBCT, 3rd Inf. Div., while conducting operations south of Salman Pak, June 24.

Operation Bull Run disrupts insurgent operations

SPC. BEN HUTTO

3RD HBCT, 3RD INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq – Operation Bull Run and Operation Blore Heath II were conducted with the Iraqi National Police and the Iraqi army. Both operations are a part of Multi-National Division-Center's Operation Marne Torch, the latest Coalition Force initiative to eliminate insurgent sanctuaries southeast of Baghdad.

Two insurgents were killed and seven were detained during operations in Al

Dura'iya.

The 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team completed two simultaneous operations in a 48-hour period in Al Dura'iya June 24.

Soldiers from 1-15 Inf. neutralized suspected enemy cache sites and denied insurgents safe haven in Al Dura'iya. The operation resulted in two insurgents being killed and four individuals being detained.

Three caches were found. The caches consisted of artillery rounds, mortars,

cell phones, weapons, propaganda, ammunition magazines, and other bomb-making materials.

Operation Blore Heath II, spearheaded by Iraqi army soldiers in conjunction with Iraqi 1st National Police Brigade and indirect fire assets from the 3rd HBCT, cleared insurgent caches south of Salman Pak and southeast of Baghdad.

Three individuals were detained, mortar rounds and command wire were found, two boats and one vehicle destroyed, and two vehicles were confiscated.

3rd HBCT helps Soldiers deal with combat stress

SPC. BEN HUTTO

3RD HBCT, 3RD INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq – With any deployment there are rumors, one very dangerous one is that only Soldiers who leave the forward operating base is susceptible to combat stress.

“Combat stress is all the physical and emotional reactions to being in a combat zone or extended combat operations,” explained Capt. Angela Mobbs, from Corpus Christi, Texas, the brigade psychologist for the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team.

Mobbs explained that combat stress can happen to anyone. It can be triggered by a violent event, such as an improvised explosive device attack on a convoy. Combat stress can also be triggered by being away from a person’s normal surroundings for an extended amount of time.

There’s combat stress and there’s post traumatic stress disorder -- they are not the same.

“PTSD is much more severe and rare,” said Mobbs. “PTSD is a cluster of symptoms that happen for an extended period of time that interfere with situational and occupational function. The symptoms do not regress. Combat stress can be worked through and the symptoms will regress.”

Mobbs said Soldiers have a variety of ways to get counseling.

“They can make an appointment though sick call or have their chain of command set up an appointment for them,” she said.

An appointment with the brigade psychologist is not the only avenue Soldiers

have for dealing with combat stress. Every battalion has a chaplain who is there for Soldiers, she said.

“When Soldiers come to me, the number one thing I try to do is listen,” said Chaplain (Capt.) Anthony Randall, from, Arvada, Colo., the chaplain for the 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment. “I provide them with a safe place to process their feelings without feeling weak, insecure or less of a Soldier. They don’t have to worry about being made fun of. My goal is to get them to see that combat stress is a simple reality of what we do. Since it is real, my goal is to help them identify and overcome it.”

Randall explained that there are many aspects that a Soldier can concentrate on to relieve combat stress.

“They can control combat stress with mental and physical coping mechanisms and faith,” explained Randall. “I believe faith is paramount. If we truly have faith in God, we can truly believe in hope when we are surrounded by evil.”

Randall also pointed out that Soldiers who aren’t leaving the FOB are just as susceptible to combat stress as Soldiers who go out on frequent missions.

“Complacency and boredom can lead to combat stress,” said Randall. “Combat stress isn’t just the Soldier with the 1,000-yard stare and the shaky hands because a sniper round bounced off his Kev-

lar. Soldiers that have time on their hands can start concentrating on where they are and the things they don’t have.”

Randall points out that no matter what reasons Soldiers have for experiencing combat stress they have avenues to relieve it.

Sgt. 1st Class Larry Seals, 34, Camden, Ark., the senior data systems integrator for 3rd HBCT, believes that Soldiers need to

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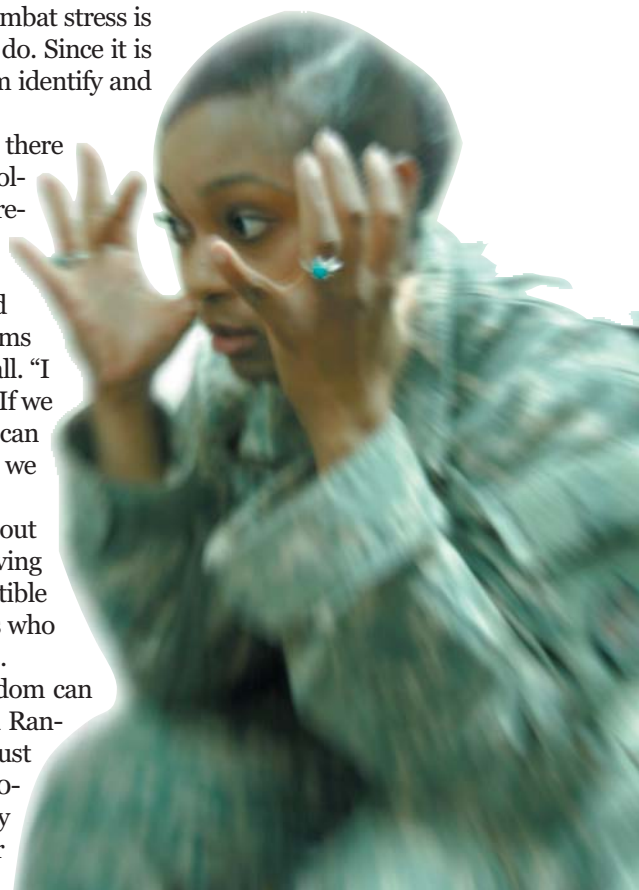


Photo illustration by Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft

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Military working dogs continue proud history

1ST LT. MIKEY EVANS

4TH BCT (ABN.), 25TH INF. DIV.

KALSU, Iraq – Military working dogs have a proud history that dates back to March 13, 1942, shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Originally operated by the Army's Quartermaster Corps, the "War Dogs" program was jump started by volunteers across the country that donated dogs, volunteered as trainers, and ensured that dogs assigned to units had the highest level of technical and tactical ability to offer Soldiers in the field.

Thanks to a drive spearheaded by the American Kennel Club and a private group of citizens known as "Dogs for Defense," the Army was soon equipped with

a variety of dogs trained to work as sentries to guard static positions as scouts, as well as to locate bombs and bomb-making material.

With their help, the military was given more than 19,000 dogs of a variety of breeds, to include German shepherds, Belgian sheep dogs, Doberman pinschers, collies, and giant schnauzers.

The program was so successful at its inception that by fall 1942, the program was expanded to provide trained dogs to the Navy and Coast Guard, and the first technical manual, "War Dogs," was published July 1, 1943.

Canine teams still have a presence on the battlefield, and Multinational Division – Center continues the tradition by employing two working dog teams at Forward Operating Base Kalsu, Iraq.

Spc. Marvelt Adamson, a military policeman from Columbus, Ohio, and his dog, Asta, a 4-year-old female Belgian Malinois from the 34th Military Police Detachment, Fort Knox, Ky., provide military police at FOB Kalsu and commanders in the North Babil area with unique capabilities.

"We have been together for the past two years," Adamson said. "Asta is trained specifically in explosives detection and attack, and she brings a tremendous amount of security to any detainee operation. She is capable of reacting to situations where I might need assistance dealing with a suspected insurgent without me giving her a command."

From the trenches of World War II, to the deserts of Iraq, military working dogs continue to provide the Army and its Soldiers a unique war fighting capability.

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look out for one another and help their fellow Soldiers when they believe combat stress is becoming a problem.

"As a battle buddy you can do a lot," said Seals. "Soldiers need to look for changes in people's behavior. Loud Soldiers might become quiet. Quiet Soldiers may start talking a little more. Soldiers might start distancing themselves from their peers. Soldiers need to look out for each other and know how the people around them act so they can pick up when things aren't right."

Seals pointed out that Soldiers are more likely to identify when one of their own is having a hard time because they live with them and interact with them regularly.

"If you think your battle buddy is having a hard time, you need to occupy his time," he said. "Spend more time talking to them. Ask them to go to the MWR (Morale, Welfare and Recreation) tent with you. Ask if they want to go to chow with you. Volunteer to go to the chaplain with them. You have to spend time with them and get them out."

Mobbs, Randall and Seals all agreed that ignoring combat stress isn't an effective solution. Soldiers have a variety of avenues they can use to relieve the pressure caused by combat stress. An important step for a Soldier affected by combat stress is finding the avenue that works best for them.

"It's not important who a Soldier talks to," said Seals. "It is important that they talk to someone. In general, Soldiers want to help each other and I think it's important for people to remember that and not get caught up in a negative thought process."



1st Lt. Mikey Evans

Pfc. Bernabe Flores, a Paratrooper with 725th Brigade Support Battalion, 4th BCT (Abn.), 25th Inf. Div., pretends to be a fleeing insurgent to assist with the military working dog training.

Safety Thought of the Day

Complacency Kills!

• Complacency is "the feeling of security, often while unaware of some potential danger or defect."

The road to complacency:

- Individual does something successfully without negative consequences.
- Individual is now experienced and soon believes he/she is an expert.
- Individual downplays the threat or the environment and takes safety for granted.
- Individual takes shortcuts and then rationalizes violating the standards ("we've always done it this way").

Examples of complacent behavior (Do you know anyone who does this?):

- Physically present but mentally absent from guard duty (headphones, reading magazines, napping)
 - Unsafe driving (not wearing seat belts or PPE, driving near the edge of the road, not slowing down in limited visibility)
 - Smoking near the tents, in vehicles, or around explosive or flammable products
- Fight complacency. Think about what you are doing and how you can make your task safer.

HEADLINE HIGHLIGHTS

Fake priest arrested while baptizing baby

REUTERS

LISBON — A man pretending to be a priest was arrested by police as he prepared to baptize a baby in a small town in the north of Portugal.

"When the man said 'in the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit' police came in and grabbed him," a member of the church was quoted by local daily Jornal de Noticias as saying.

A spokeswoman for the Portuguese police said the 34-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of impersonating a priest and had several similar arrest warrants to his name.

"We had to interrupt the religious ceremony to identify the suspect," said spokeswoman Amelia Moutinho, adding that the public prosecutor would now investigate the case.

The baby was later baptized by a

real priest, the local daily said.

The man was arrested on June 16.

Man set for execution wants to die laughing

JIM FORSYTH
REUTERS

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — A Texas man scheduled to be executed on Tuesday wants to die laughing.

Patrick Knight, 39, has been soliciting jokes on the Internet and plans to tell one of them before receiving a lethal injection, Texas Department of Criminal Justice spokeswoman Michelle Lyons said on Monday.

"He says he wants to keep his execution light," she said.

Knight was sentenced to die for the August 1991 murder of his two elderly neighbors in Amarillo, Texas.

Lyons said a friend of Knight's set up a page on the social networking Web site MySpace.com to solicit

jokes, and "hundreds" of suggestions have arrived in the mail.

"I'll be enjoying my last days on Earth," Knight wrote on the Web site. "I'm not asking for pen pals, but I'm asking you to spread the word that I am holding a contest. I want people to send me their best jokes, and to keep me and others with (execution) dates laughing."

Texas leads the nation with 396 executions. None of those put to death have ever joked about it, Lyons said.

"We've certainly had some people who have recited a poem or a Bible verse, some people who have asked forgiveness or who pray," she said. "This is, to my knowledge, the first time anybody has told a joke as their last words."

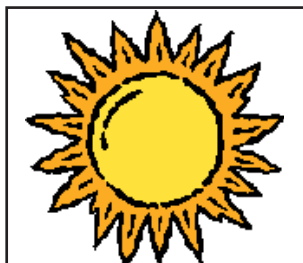
While she says Knight will be allowed to tell his joke, none of his executioners in the state death chamber at the Walls prison unit in Huntsville, Texas will be laughing, Lyons said.

"Everybody who is there takes it very seriously and will not be participating in the joke," she said. "So knock-knock jokes are out."

Marne Weather Watch

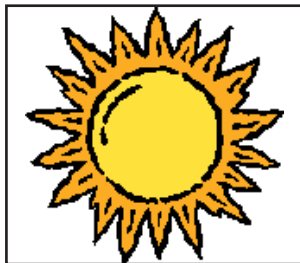
Wednesday, June 27

Thursday, June 28



Sunny

Low: 86F/High: 108F



Sunny

Low: 93F/High: 112F

ARABIC PHRASE OF THE DAY

What color is it?

shih-noo loh-neh?

Sudoku

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

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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