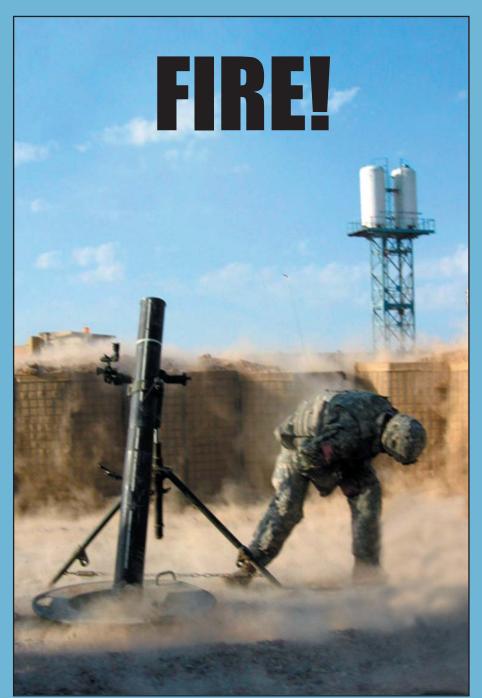
Serving Task Force Marne -



Courtesy photo

Spc. Anthony Gormley, a native of Jackson, Mich., and a mortarman with the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) out of Fort Drum, N.Y., fires a 120mm mortar from Patrol Base Gator Swamp, southwest of Baghdad recently.

Excalibur destroys rigged house

2ND BCT, 3RD INF. DIV. PAO

ARAB JABOUR, Iraq- The 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division used one of its newest munitions, the Excalibur, a precision-guided artillery round, to destroy a house laden with explosives Friday.

A suspected vehicle-borne improvised explosive device parked alongside the house was also destroyed.

Area residents told U.S. and Iraqi forces that al Qaeda purposely rigged the house to detonate, and warned the people in the neighborhood to stay away.

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, questioned a resident in a nearby house who informed the patrol that the house was rigged with explosives targeting Coalition Forces.

The resident also stated that the house was often used as a cache for anti-aircraft weapons and other munitions.

Two Excalibur rounds were fired at the house, followed by Hellfire missiles from Apache helicopters to destroy the VBIED.

This is the first time 2nd BCT has used the Excalibur in combat operations.

Like the stories you've seen in the Marne Focus? Search for "Marne Forward" on www.dvidshub.net or watch it on the **Pentagon Channel:** Sat. - 1:30 p.m. (EST) - 9:30 p.m. (Baghdad) Sun. - 11:30 p.m. (EST) - 7:30 a.m. (Baghdad)

Paratrooper has special guest at reenlistment

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

KALSU, Iraq - Reenlistment in the United States Army often times brings many perks. Extra money or choice of duty station, along with free hats, shirts and coffee mugs are just a few of them.

Recently, one paratrooper's re-enlistment came with an added bonus.

Pfc. Jason Steffen, a mechanic with the 725th Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, stationed at Forward Operating Base Kalsu had a special guest at his re-enlistment ceremony June 27 — his father.

Mr. Robert Steffen, Jason's father, is a mechanic working in the International Zone in Baghdad and was able to get a few days off of work to attend his son's ceremony.

"In all my years doing this job I have never seen, heard or had the pleasure of being part of anything like this," said Master Sgt. Douglas Goodwin, the noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the brigade retention office. "For this young paratrooper to be able to re-enlist for one more tour while in a combat zone and have his family there to take part in the ceremony is really something special."

The younger Steffen has followed in his father's footsteps,



Capt. Scott Key, commander of Co. B, 725th BSB, 4th BCT (Abn.), 25th Inf. Div., presents Robert Steffen with a token of appreciation following his son's reenlistment ceremony.

himself a career military man who recently retired after 21 years of service, and joined the Army out of high school.

"I was actually really surprised when he told me he had joined as a mechanic," Robert said. "Until then, he had never even shown the slightest interest in working on cars."

According to Jason, his father had always told him, "as long as there are cars, there will be a need for mechanics," so it seemed to be a logical choice of jobs going into the military.

Both father and son agree that it is nice having family so close while being so far from home, but both agree that they worry for one another constantantly.

"I worry all the time about him," said Jason.

"I know exactly what he means," his father continued. "I'm a dad, I can't help but worry."

While the reunion was shortlived this time because of Jason's mission requirements, both hope they will see each other again in the near future.

"I am trying to go up there and see him at least one more time before we leave," said Jason. "I just hope everything works out."

So far for the younger Steffen, with his re-enlistment bonus and visits with his family, everything has worked out just fine.

THE

Dog Face Daily

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3rd Combat Aviation Brigade

214th Fires Brigade

82nd Sustainment Brigade

720th Military Police Battalion

Mobile Unit 3 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Battalion

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4/25 medic helps pain disappear

Staff Sgt. Sean A. Foley

Sgt. Matthew Ashmead, a Bedford, Texas, native and medic with Company C, 3rd Battalion, 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division places a splint on a young boy's arm during a recent patrol in North Babil.

Ten Commandments of Leadership

People are illogical, unreasonable and self-centered.

Love and trust them anyway. (Mt. 22:37-40)

If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives.

Do good anyway. (Mt. 5:23)

If you are successful you will win false friends and true enemies. Succeed anyway. (Mt. 7:5)

The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow.

Do good anyway. (Lk. 9:23)

Honesty and frankness will make you vulnerable.

Be honest and frank anyway. (Mt. 10:43)

The biggest men and women with the

biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men and women with the smallest ideas.

Think big anyway. (Jn. 13:14)

People favor underdogs, but follow top dogs.

Fight for the few underdogs, anyway. (Mt. 25:40-45)

What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight.

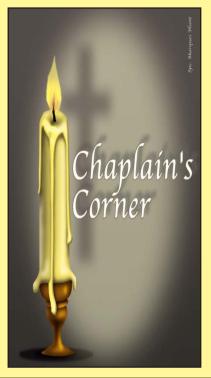
Build anyway. (Mt. 10:28)

People really need help, but may attack you if you do help.
Help people anyway. (Mt. 16:26)

Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth.

Give the best you have anyway.

ive the best you have anyway.
(Mt. 7:12)



Safety Thought of the Day

M1 Armor Skirts

- Use a tanker bar to install and remove armor skirts.
- Always check for missing hinge pins before opening a skirt.
- Do not open two skirts at the same time that have the same hinge line. The extreme weight could cause the skirt to break off. Hinge lines are between
- skirts 1&2, 3&4, 5&6. Skirt #1 must be lifted and then swung open.
- When removing a skirt, always support the skirt on the opposite side of the hinge.
- Make sure all engine compartment doors and access panels are closed when traversing the turret.



HEADLINE HIGHLIGHTS

Plunging necklines a no-no at masses

REUTERS

MANILA — The Catholic Church has issued guidelines on what Filipinos should wear to mass in Manila after some parishioners complained about distracting skimpy attire.

"This is to remind people that it would be good to come in appropriate clothing because other people are scandalized," said Peachy Yamsuan of the archdiocese of Manila on Monday.

"It is for the other worshippers who are distracted. You come to the church to pray and if your eyes wander and you see inappropriate clothes, well, it does not add to your spiritual goals."

The majority of the Philippines' 87 million people are Catholic and worshippers throng sweltering churches each Sunday, although some devotees attend religious services in air-conditioned malls, giving the ceremony an informal air.

But Manila's archdiocese has issued posters advising women not to wear short skirts, revealing necklines and spaghettistrap tops to mass, while men are warned against shorts, caps and basketball jerseys.

Instead, female parishioners are encouraged to wear dresses or long skirts and blouses and men are asked to wear shirts, trousers or jeans.

Bank puts faith in credit for clergy

REUTERS

SEOUL — One of South Korea's top banks has rolled out a new credit card for Protestant clergy that will give them breaks on Bible purchases and allow them to gather bonus points they can turn into donations for their churches.

The state-run Industrial Bank of Korea said on Friday it had introduced its "I am Pastor" card that will give clergy the equivalent of a few dollars off when they purchase religious books or other texts at certain authorized Web sites.

"Pastors are usually not issued credit cards, because they do not meet credit requirements," said bank official Kwon Han-sup. "We do not expect to make much of a profit out of this."

The pastor card also allows users to have discounts when purchasing petrol or movie tickets and allows them to collect

k

points that they can use for donations to charity. The bank said it introduced the card to better help serve religious leaders.

It plans to release similar cards for the other main religions in the country after working out products targeted to Buddhist and Catholic leaders.

"We wanted to make one type of card for all of them but realized the clergy of these different religions have different needs," Kwon said.

Dog helps criminal slip short leash

REUTERS

JERUSALEM — An Israeli criminal slipped away from house arrest by putting his electronic ankle monitor on his dog, police said on Thursday.

It wasn't until police came to take Nabil Farumi, convicted of attempted murder, to a sentencing hearing, that he was gone without a trace.

"After we searched the house we saw that he somehow managed to take the monitor off his leg and place it around he neck of his dog, who continued to walk around the house," said Yoram Danieli, a police commander in northern Israel.

Marne Weather Watch Saturday, June 30 Sunday, July 1 Sunny Sunny Low: 89F/High: 117F Low: 88F/High: 116F

ARABIC PHRASE OF THE DAY

Stay away

KHell-leek beh-AAed

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

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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