

Helmet saves life, Soldier returns fatal fire

2ND BCT, 10TH MTN. DIVISION (LI) PAO

CAMP STRIKER, Iraq – Coalition Forces killed one suspected terrorist and detained eight others near Koresh, Iraq, four miles south of Baghdad Sunday.

Soldiers from Troop C, 1st Squadron, 89th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), from Fort Drum, N.Y., conducted the mission based on tips from sources they had built in the area over the initial months of their deployment. The squadron launched an immediate air assault to nab the time sensitive targets.

One of the BCT's most wanted terrorists fired at one of the Soldiers with a nine millimeter pistol, striking the Soldier in the helmet, causing no injury to the Soldier. The Soldier returned fire, killing the terrorist.

The terrorist was wearing a suicide vest and carried two hand grenades.

Initially, seven other suspected terrorists were detained at the target

house.

A follow on sweep of the objective netted another suspect from the most wanted target list .

The al Qaeda suspects were wanted for orchestrating attacks against Iraqi Security and Coalition Forces as well as intimidating and murdering locals who did not collaborate with the al Qaeda fighters.

Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams were sent in to deactivate the vest.

The individuals are being held for questioning.

Commandos conduct 100th air assault of deployment

2ND BCT, 10TH MTN. DIV. (LI) PAO

RADWANIYAH, Iraq – Troops from the 1st Squadron, 89th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) out of Fort Drum, N.Y., conducted the brigade's 100th air-assault mission west of Radwaniyah June 29.

The 2nd BCT has conducted many air assaults over the last 11 months, using helicopters to gain rapid access to the far-flung rural villages in the area of operations.

The raid, called Operation Wolverine Visegrip, was conducted to clear a former stronghold of al-Qaeda in Iraq just southwest of Baghdad.

Coalition and Iraqi army check-



Capt. Ryan Lieberhaber, commander of Troop A, 1-89 Cav., 2nd BCT, 10th Mtn. Div. (LI), scans the area for possible enemy combatants during an air assault mission south of Baghdad June 29.

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1-15 Soldiers strengthen ties with Salman Pak

SPC. BEN HUTTO

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

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq — Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment stationed at a combat outpost in Salman Pak are getting to know the town's citizens up close and personal. Soldiers from 1-15th Infantry are spending more times these days interacting with the Salman Pak citizens during dismounted patrols.

Maj. Steve Delgado, the executive officer for 1-15 Infantry, explained that Soldiers live amongst the people they are trying to assist, and are able to respond to threats quicker than if they were liv-



Spc. Ben Hutto

Cpl. Aaron Wait, a San Antonio native and a rifleman with Company A, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, escorts a young girl across the street during a dismounted foot patrol in Salman Pak June 20.

ing on Forward Operating Base Hammer -- miles away. Living in Salman Pak also helps the 1-15 Infantry Soldiers understand their environment better.

"This helps us in two ways," said Delgado. "One, we become closer to the populace by sharing some of the same experiences and trials as they do, and it helps us think like the threat force. We now know where they live, hide, run to and attack."

All of this information has been very helpful to 1-15 during Operation Marne Torch, a Multi-National Division-Center operation which aims to eliminate insurgent sanctuaries southeast of Baghdad.

"We have been extremely successful in accomplishing our purpose for this operation, disrupting the extremists' activities and denying them safe havens," said Delgado. "We have accomplished this by conducting numerous operations which have uncovered a plethora of caches and we have detained numerous individuals."

All of the operations, according to Delgado, will help secure the area making it safer for troops operating in the area and the people who live there.

"Generally, the response from the populace has been positive," said Delgado. "The good people of Iraq know we are conducting operations to secure them and disrupt insurgent activities. They want to help us and try to provide assistance by giving us information. This operation is another opportunity to demonstrate to the populace how we are here to help."

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From Page 1

points along Route Yankees, a major road in the area, often come under small-arms fire attacks, which prompted the operation.

Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd BCT provided ground interdiction along the road, preventing terrorists from fleering, as five platoons of 1-89 "Wolverine" troops were airlifted in by UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters.

A strip of houses along Route Trailblazers was searched and cleared, and empty AK-47 magazines were found, as well as firing positions on and around the homes, but the isolated settlement was "a ghost town," said Capt. Michael Murphy, a native of Springfield, Mo., and the operations officer for Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 1-89. Soldiers came under sporadic small-arms fire during the

operation, but were unable to find the persons shooting at them.

Iraqis living in the vicinity intend to keep the area cleared of anti-Iraqi forces, Murphy said, adding that 1-89 will increase civil-military operations in that vicinity to aid local residents with basic necessities such as trash removal and water and sewage services as soon as possible. Many residents fled the area due to the presence of al-Qaeda affiliated terrorists.

"Now that this area has been cleared, I think families will begin moving back in," Murphy said.



Lining up to serve

Air Force Master Sgt. Jonathan Doti Iraqi Police and members of the United States Army's 23rd Military Police Company, 720nd MP Battalion, 89th MP Brigade, Fort Bragg, N.C., process potential police recruits near the city of Lutafiyah. Lutafiyah is located in the southern sector of Baghdad June 23.

Safety Thought of the Day Knight Vehicle Davit Notice

• The davit is used to raise and lower the Fire Support Sensor System and Sensor Mount Assembly from the M707 Knight and M1200 Armored Knight Vehicles. It is also used to lower the Gunners Shield from the M1200.

• The plastic sheathing surrounding the braided wire cable is prone to separate in the thimble clamp to which the lifting hook is attached. This allows the wire cable to slip out of the clamp and the object to fall.

• The hazard is a potential for equipment damage

and/or personnel injury if the item being lifted/ lowered free falls.

Immediate Precautions:

• Discontinue use of the davit for raising or lowering any equipment, pending corrective action.

• In lieu of the davit, a two-man lift should be used to raise or lower the FS3, SMA, and Gunners Shield, or any other equipment.

An investigation by the Program Manager is under way to determine the root cause of the failure. REUTERS

Playing electrical

Russian roulette

HEADLINE HIGHLIGHTS

and a woman jogger was killed when she stepped into it," he said.

Four decades of military rule and economic mismanagement have turned Myanmar -- the world's number one rice exporter when it won independence from Britain in 1948 -- into one of Asia's biggest basket cases.

Despite huge off-shore natural gas reserves, the southeast Asian nation's 53 million people have access to less than 10 percent of the electricity per capita of neighboring Thailand.

Crackdown on officials with mistresses

Reuters

BEIJING — China plans to sack all officials found to have secretly "kept and supported" mistresses, in a move aimed at raising social morals, state media reported on Friday.

The step hardens up previous policy.

"It is a misunderstanding that officials who have mistresses would only be sacked when the situation is serious," the Beijing News quoted a Ministry of Personnel spokesman as saying.

Mistresses and "second wives" are common among government officials and businessmen in China, and Chinese media have said the financial pressures of keeping mistresses have driven some officials to seek money through bribes or abuse of power.

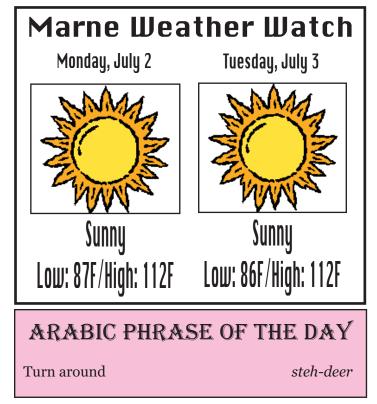
Corrupt officials are a major cause of public outrage in China, and the country's Communist rulers have warned that if graft is not checked it could threaten the party's grip on power.

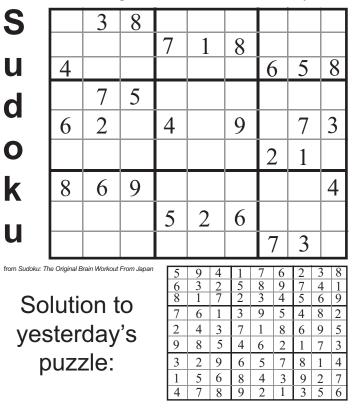
The ministry said it had studied the issue and found it "necessary to make a clarification and emphasis" on the punishment for officials who supported mistresses.

"The morality of government officials shown in their management or power operation... directly affects the moral level of the whole society," the spokesman was quoted as saying.

"Therefore, officials should set up good examples, and abide by social morality rules."

Last year, a Chinese vice admiral was jailed for life on embezzlement charges after one of his many mistresses blew the whistle on him when he refused to give in to her demand for money.





tary-ruled Myanmar is cursing the blackouts. Thieves in the former Burma's main

YANGON - Not everybody in mili-

city, Yangon, are taking advantage of outages often lasting for more than 20 hours a day to steal the copper power cables, police said on Friday.

Sometimes, of course, they get unlucky.

"The thieves are risking their lives as it is impossible to know exactly when the power is going to be restored. It's just like playing Russian roulette," said one Yangon police officer who did not want to be named.

"I've seen a few cases in which thieves were electrocuted. In April, a 16-year-old boy was found dead, holding a broken cable from a lamppost. Only God knows for sure whether he was a thief or not."

Innocent passers-by are also falling victim.

"In one case, the broken cable end left by the thief dangled into a puddle