

THE Dog Face Daily

Volume 1, Issue 86

July 9, 2007

Serving Task Force Marne



Staff Sgt. Shawn Weismiller

Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment confiscate weapons July 6 from a cache near Wahida, Iraq. Below, Soldiers from Company A, 97th Civil Affairs Battalion, attached to 1-15th Infantry, prepare to enter a suspected insurgent safe house.



1-15 finds weapons

SGT. NATALIE ROSTEK
3RD HBCT, 3RD INF. DIV. PAO

FOB HAMMER — Members of Company C, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment and supporting elements conducted a patrol which uncovered a cache on July 6, near Wahida.

The unit searched two houses based on information from a local Iraqi that claimed the houses contained weapons caches.

Inside the first house, Soldiers from Company C found eight rounds

of ammunition, one Iraqi army uniform, two sets of body armor and two AK-47 rifles. Soldiers also found paraphernalia associated with the Jaysh al-Mahdi, “mahdi Army.”

In the second house, Soldiers found one rocket propelled grenade, two charges, four anti-personnel rockets, two AK-47 rifles, eight full magazines, six empty magazines and two grenades.

The 1-15 Inf. is assigned to the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, from Fort Benning, Ga.

Apollo Fury gives Iraqi commandos time to shine

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

SADR AL-YUSUFIYAH — An operation called Apollo Fury let a company of Iraqi army soldiers demonstrate their growing skills June 6 southwest of Baghdad.

Soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division led the operation in conjunction with troops of Company B, 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) out of Fort Drum, N.Y., near the village of Sadr Al-Yusufiyah, Iraq.

The mission, aimed at capturing high-profile targets responsible for trafficking in foreign fighters, resulted in the detention of 13 men. Eleven were released after questioning at Camp Striker, and two processed into the Iraqi judicial system.

But even beyond capturing the targets, the mission showed how much Iraqi troops of the 4/4/6 are progressing.

"They're the best-trained company in the brigade," said 1st Lt. Michael Keasler, a native of Augusta, Ga., and the executive officer for Co. B. "They were clearing houses and routes, exploiting caches and were absolutely pivotal in finding information.

"They're the best Iraqi troops I've ever worked with, the most energetic and motivated, and their initiative on



Staff Sgt. Dennis Henry

Members of 4/6th IA Division's Commando Company apply flex cuffs to suspected insurgents during Operation Apollo Fury.

the objectives was outstanding. I'd fight with them anywhere."

The company — nicknamed "Commandos" for their capabilities — has not been trained any differently than any other Iraqi troops. They just do a better job than the average soldier, said Keasler.

The operation included checking a mosque known to be hostile to coalition forces, Keasler said. But instead of breaking down the door, the soldiers went to the local imam, who unlocked the door for them, and then followed all the proper customs for entering the sanctuary.

"They were very courteous and gave an outstanding performance," Keasler said. "They deal with the locals very well, they're helping build a large intelligence network, and their actions are definitely based on their stealth and use of tactics and warfare."

The company's presence for Operation Apollo Fury wasn't an accident, he said.

"Gen. Ali Jassim al-Frejee (commander of the 4/6 IA) chose this company for the mission because of its complexity," said Keasler. "They have often been used for the most challenging, immediate reaction missions. Most of them have been serving in the Iraqi army for two or three years now, and for the last 11 months have been training with the 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd BCT, there in Mahmudiyah."

The skills of the Commando Company offer hope in the bleak picture the media often paints of Iraqi security forces.

"I really hope they're an example of what the Iraqi Army will be soon," said Keasler. "They'll be a solid, effective fighting force."

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



Down home entertainment

Pfc. Monica K. Smith

First Sgt. Spencer Davis, Company A, 603rd Aviation Support Battalion, sings "Sweet Home Alabama" with country singer Gina Notrica July 7 on the North Morale, Welfare and Recreation stage at Camp Striker. "I wanted to give back," Notrica said. "This is the most rewarding thing I've ever done in my life. I think this is my purpose in life."

3-1 Cav completes Operation Safe Teach

SGT. NATALIE ROSTEK
3RD HBCT, 3RD INF. DIV. PAO

FOB HAMMER – Task Force Marne Soldiers teamed with Iraqi Security Forces to provide security for Iraqi school children during Operation Safe Teach July 7 in Jisr Diyala.

Soldiers from Company D, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, currently attached to 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, coordinated with the Iraqis to provide security for local students during national high school testing.

The test is conducted annually to certify students' technical proficiency and their suitability for advancement to the university level.

"The ability to safely test allows progress in the commu-

nity," said Capt. Tavares Tukes, from Savannah, Ga., a staff officer with 3-1 Cav. "Students were able to safely participate in the testing."

Thirty-six students attended the testing. According to 3-1 Cav. leaders, their participation is evidence of the relationship growing between Coalition Forces and the local populace.

"Operation Safe Teach provided an opportunity for the students of Jisr Diyala to participate in end-of-year testing," Tukes said. "It also afforded Coalition Forces the opportunity to demonstrate our willingness and interest to improve the Iraqi quality of life and education system."

The 3-1 Cav is part of the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division from Fort Benning, Ga.

Safety Thought of the Day Seatbelts



The right rear passenger was not wearing his seatbelt and was thrown from vehicle. He lived, but remained hospitalized for over a year with permanent disabilities.

Advantages of wearing seatbelts

- Prevents occupants from being ejected.
- Allows occupants to remain oriented during a rollover.
- Lessens the severity of injuries.

Disadvantages of wearing seatbelts

?

Headline Highlights

11-year-old drunk driver; key to marital bliss

Preteen charged with DUI

MIAMI (Reuters) — An 11-year-old girl was charged with drunken driving after leading police on a chase at speeds of up to 100 mph that ended when she flipped the car in an Alabama beach town.

A video camera in the police car captured the look of surprise on the officer's face when he approached the wrecked car and got a look at the motorist.

The Mobile Press-Register newspaper said the patrolman saw the Chevrolet Monte Carlo speeding and flashed his lights to signal the driver to stop. Instead, the car sped faster, traveling at up to 100 mph (160 kph) before side-swiping another vehicle and flipping over in the Gulf Coast town of Orange Beach, Alabama, on Tuesday night.

The young driver, who lived nearby in Perdido Key, Florida, was treated at a hospital for scrapes and bruises and released to relatives. Police also charged her with speeding, leaving the scene of an accident and reckless endangerment.

The car belonged to a relative and police were still trying to find out where

she got the alcohol. There was none in the vehicle but her blood alcohol level was over the limit for adult motorists, police told the newspaper.

Give wife her way in the home

NEW YORK (Reuters Life!) — Men might still dominate most workplaces but a study has proven what many happy couples know -- the wife runs the roost at home and the husband is happy to let her.

A team of researchers from Iowa State University studied 72 couples and found that the wife's view on how to solve problems within the marriage or the home took precedence over the husband's opinion and he was happy to accept that.

"The women were communicating more powerful messages and men were responding to those messages by agreeing or giving in," Associate Professor of Psychology David Vogel, one of the leaders of the study, said in a statement.

The study was conducted by questioning the 72 couples who had on average been married for seven years with

all the couples in the sample relatively happy in their marriages.

Each spouse was asked to independently complete a questionnaire on relationship satisfaction and an assessment of overall decision-making ability in the relationship.

Each spouse was also asked to identify a problem in their relationship then brought together to discuss the problem topics for 10 minutes with their discussions videotaped after the researchers left the room.

The researchers later reviewed and coded the videotapes of couples' interactions using a rating system that calculates demand and withdraw behaviors -- avoidance, discussion, blame, pressure for change, and withdraws.

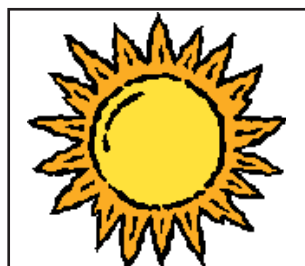
Vogel said that wives didn't just talk more than their husbands in discussions, but drew favorable responses from their husbands to what they said.

"The study at least suggests that the marriage is a place where women can exert some power," said Vogel.

"Whether or not it's because of changing societal roles, we don't know. But they are, at least, taking responsibility and power in these relationships."

Marne Weather Watch

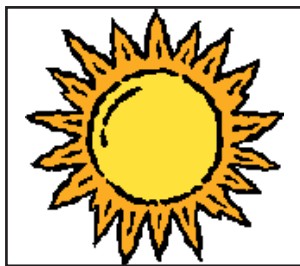
Monday, July 9



Sunny

Low: 92F/High: 117F

Tuesday, July 10



Sunny

Low: 93F/High: 118F

ARABIC PHRASE OF THE DAY

Where is the ... ?

weh-nil ...?

Sudoku

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

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to Saturday's puzzle:

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