

THE Dog Face Daily

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July 16, 2007

Serving Task Force Marne

'Avalanche' descends on Baghdad

MND-C PAO

BAGHDAD – Task Force Marne began a full-scale offensive today in southern Baghdad to drive out anti-Iraqi forces.

Marne Avalanche is an offensive operation aimed at stopping southern Baghdad from being used as a safe haven and preventing the movement of weapons, munitions and insurgents into Baghdad.

The operation's intent is to improve security conditions in southern Baghdad and reduce the influence of insurgents in the area.

Marne Avalanche will build on the success of Operation Marne Torch, which began June 1 and is ongoing.

Operation Marne Torch has resulted in 1,152 structures being cleared, 83 insurgents killed, 278 insurgents detained, 51 caches found, 51 boats destroyed and 872 citizens entered in a biometric identification system.

Swooping down on the enemy



Air Force Staff Sgt. Dennis J. Henry Jr.

A Soldier from 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) climbs a hill east of Lutifyah during Operation Eagle Ares July 13. The operation was largely conducted by troops from 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, with 2-15 elements providing assistance. See Page 2 for story and additional photos.



Photos by Air Force Staff Sgt. Dennis J. Henry Jr. 1st Lt. Britt Cleveland, 2-15th FA, looks up information to share with Iraqi soldiers from 4/6 IA Div. during Operation Eagle Ares July 13. Right, Iraqi troops search reedlines for weapons caches.



Operation Eagle Ares nets 46 captures

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

FOB MAHMUDIYAH — Iraqi and U.S. Soldiers captured 46 men suspected of involvement with al Qaeda affiliated terror networks July 12 under the cover of darkness, east of Lutifiyah, Iraq.

Troops from the 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division and Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) out of Fort Drum, N.Y., air assaulted into the area and then began searching reeds along canals for weapons caches.

The combined air assault detained 29 men on the Iraqi army's list of persons of interest as well as 14 others who were identified by sources as terrorists.

Three other men detained were taken for questioning on suspicion of terrorist activity.

Air assaults are critical in the 2nd BCT, 10th Mtn. Div.'s area of operations, said Maj. Kenny Mintz, a native of San Diego, Calif., and the brigade's operations officer.

"The terrain here is dominated by canals, which makes it difficult to get around," Mintz said. "Some of these canals are more like rivers. An air assault allows us to get around quickly and decisively.

"Another reason is how the enemy fights us," he added. "They can plant improvised explosive devices in the roads, because they know we're essentially road bound, and deny us access to their areas."

Using helicopters avoids the hazards — both natural and manmade. It's also faster, and seconds count, Mintz said, when in pursuit of terrorists who can disappear into tall vegetation in the lush Euphrates River valley.

Use of helicopters also allows Soldiers — with their heavy combat loads and armor — to move farther and faster in the summer heat.

With daytime temperatures that top 110 degrees Fahrenheit, Soldiers rapidly exhaust the supplies of water they can carry. By flying, rather than walking, to an objective, the troops can function much longer, Mintz said.

There were no caches found during the operation. The detainees were taken to FOB Mahmudiyah for questioning.

THE Dog Face Daily

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Contributing Units

2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division

3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division

2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry)

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

Legal Brief

Legal assistance is available to help here at Task Force Mame and at the outlying FOBs.

All active duty servicemembers may obtain services from Legal Assistance.

Reservists who are on active duty for more than 30 days are also entitled to these services.

Legal Assistance provides the following services:

- Notary services
- Powers of Attorney
- Information papers on various topics including: Immigration, landlord-tenant issues, the Servicemembers' Civil Relief Act, USERRA and Identity Theft
- Appointments for Family Law (divorce, child support, custody, etc.)
- Landlord-tenant issues, purchasing or selling real estate
- Consumer complaints, insurance problems
- Financial Liability Investigations
- Letters of Reprimand
- Wills

At Task Force Marne headquarters, the legal assistance office is located in Bldg. 51, second floor.

Appointments can be made in person or by calling the MND-C Legal Assistance Office at VOIP 822-7471.

Contact Information for Legal Assistance at FOBs:

FOB Hammer

3/3 BOLT — Capt. Paul Lloyd
670-9058

FOB Kalsu

2/3 BOLT — Capt. Stuart Hyderkhan
670-7081
4/25 BOLT — Capt. Cory Young
771-2829

Camp Striker

2/10 BOLT — Capt. Nate Hummel
242-4377
3CAB — Capt. Brendan Cromn
671-3082

FOB Delta

214 FIB — Capt. Philip Maxwell
243-8001

New R&R policy in effect

Servicemembers on 15-month deployments to support Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom will receive 18 days of Environmental and Morale Leave instead of 15 days, according to a July 13 memo signed by Dr. David Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

This policy is not retroactive — Soldiers who departed Kuwait before July 13 will receive the original 15 EML days.



Safety Thought of the Day

Heat Injury Recognition

Heatstroke

Heatstroke occurs when the body becomes unable to control its temperature. The body's temperature rises rapidly, the sweating mechanism fails and the body is unable to cool down. Body temperature may rise to 106 degrees or higher within 10 to 15 minutes. Heatstroke can result from overexposure to direct sunlight, with or without physical activity, or to very high indoor temperatures. It can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given. Symptoms of heatstroke include an extremely high body temperature (above 103 degrees, orally); red, hot and dry skin; rapid pulse; throbbing headache; dizziness; nausea; confusion; and unconsciousness. If symptoms are present, find a cool place, preferably an air-conditioned indoor setting. Outside, find a spot in the shade. Put the person in a semi-sitting position. Remove his

or her clothing and bathe the head and body with cold water. Seek medical attention immediately.

Heat Exhaustion

Heat exhaustion can result when too much time is spent in a very warm environment, resulting in excessive sweating without adequate fluid and electrolyte replacement. This can occur indoors or outdoors. Symptoms of heat exhaustion may include dizziness; headache; nausea; abdominal cramps, shallow breathing; cool, clammy skin; muscle tremors and heavy perspiration. A person suffering from heat exhaustion should be moved to an air-conditioned environment if possible. If outside, move the person to shade. Loosen clothing and encourage him or her to drink cool, non-alcoholic, decaffeinated beverages. Keep the person quiet and seek medical attention. If left untreated, heat exhaustion may progress to heatstroke.

Headline Highlights

Plane turns back; memory loss; tourists wanted

In-flight brawl reverses plane

ST PETERSBURG, Russia (Reuters) — A Russian plane flying from St Petersburg in Russia to Doloman in Turkey had to turn back midflight after a drunken brawl over a young woman spun out of control, police said in a statement Friday.

Three young Russians boarded the plane drunk Thursday and “continued their party on board.”

“One of them took a fancy to a girl but she did not want to socialize with the new admirer,” police said.

On rejection, the passenger slapped the woman on her face several times. Another passenger immediately rose to defend her.

“A fight began, the situation started to get out of hand and the crew made the only right decision -- to turn back.”

The three drunk men were detained on landing at a St Petersburg airport. They faced fines of “dozens of thousands of dollars,” police said.

The woman received medical treatment at the airport and the plane resumed its flight to Turkey.

Mobiles mess with memory

LONDON (Reuters) — Can’t remember life before mobiles? Chances are you’ll also struggle to recall your home phone number and family birthdays.

According to a survey released Friday, the boom in mobiles and portable devices that store reams of personal information has created a generation incapable of memorizing simple things.

A quarter of those polled said they

couldn’t remember their landline number, while two-thirds couldn’t recall the birthdays of more than three friends or family members.

The tech-savvy young fared worse than older people. The under-30s could remember fewer birthdays and numbers than the over-50s, according to the survey. Two-thirds said they relied on their phone or electronic organizer to remember key dates.

“People have more to remember these days and they are relying on technology more for their memory,” said Ian Robertson, professor of psychology at Trinity College, Dublin.

Researchers polled 3,000 people over the last two weeks in the survey for Puzzler Brain Trainer magazine.

Drug region pushes tourism

CULIACAN, Mexico (Reuters) — Sinaloa, the northern Mexican state that spawned the country’s most fearsome drug cartel, hopes to lure tourists to rustic cabins in a rugged area infamous for opium fields and violent kingpins.

Generations of farmers have grown opium and marijuana in the hilly and remote Badiraguato region, a stronghold for powerful drug gangs and the birthplace of Mexico’s top capo and most-wanted man, Joaquin “El Chapo” Guzman.

But Sinaloa’s tourism minister Antonio Ibarra said renting out mountain cabins could wean some of the local population off illicit activities.

“Every well-paid job we create gives people an alternative, a decent life,” he

told Reuters on Thursday.

Few outsiders venture outside the state capital of Culiacan, but Ibarra said the “El Perico” cabins, in a pine forested mountain area known for its rich wildlife, could attract adventure tourists who like outdoor activities.

The Sinaloa cartel, led by Guzman, has strong links to Badiraguato, part of a region known as Mexico’s “golden triangle” for its opium output and rugged terrain, which makes it hard for security forces to capture drug shipments.

Since the start of last year, some 3,500 people have been killed in vicious turf wars between Mexico’s half dozen drug gangs, much of it between the Sinaloa, Gulf and Tijuana cartels. In Sinaloa alone, about 600 people die each year in drug-related violence.

Ibarra said the bloodshed should not affect tourism because the cartels were fighting each other, not the public.

“This is not terrorism, it’s drug trafficking,” he said. “The security problem is between them.”

The El Perico project is part of a state-wide scheme to boost Sinaloa’s tourism potential. The state already has some well-known tourist attractions, including the dramatic Copper Canyon train ride and beach resort Mazatlan.

Ibarra said Badiraguato was a small part of the plan, which includes developing the coastline near Mazatlan and attracting conventions to state capital Culiacan.

Businessmen in the state say a recent government assault on the drug cartels using thousands of soldiers in crime hotspots like Sinaloa will increase security and help boost tourism.

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

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to Saturday’s puzzle:

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

ARABIC PHRASE OF THE DAY

Get me a ...

jeeb lee...