

THE Dog Face Daily

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Serving Task Force Marne



Infantrymen bring care to Quarghulli

SGT. BEN BRODY
TF MARNE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

YUSUFYIAH — In the farmland south of Baghdad, quality medical care is hard to come by.

There are few doctors, and even if a resident could afford to see a doctor in the city, travel to Baghdad is difficult at best.

The dusty roads, once devoid of any security presence, are now lined with razor wire and punctuated with Iraqi army and U.S. checkpoints, making it as difficult for farmers to travel as it is for armed insurgents.

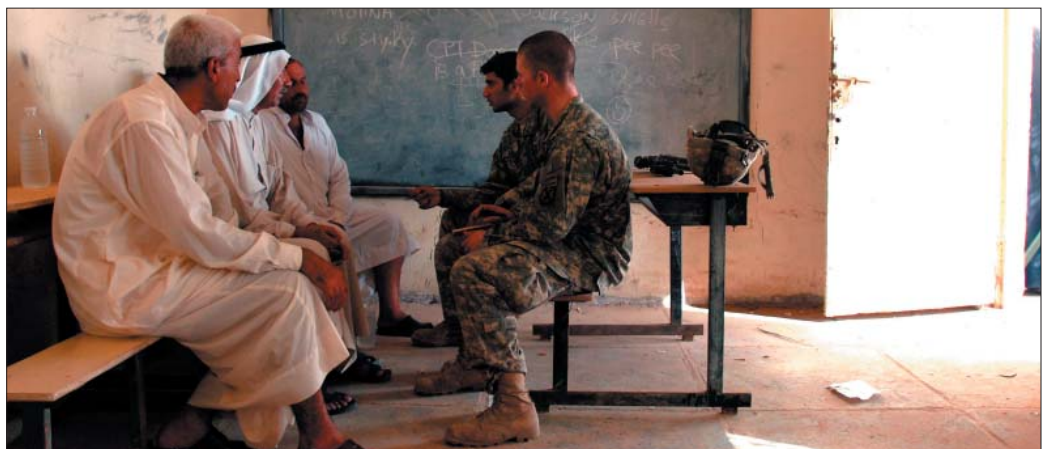
So instead of the farmers going to the doctor's office, a team of U.S. Soldiers brought the doctor's office to the people.

Soldiers from C Company, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, set up a makeshift clinic at the schoolhouse in Quarghulli Village, 20 miles south of Baghdad, and invited residents to come in for treatment, pri-

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Photos by Sgt. Ben Brody

Above: Capt. Chris Dominguez, 210th Brigade Support Battalion, physician's assistant, drains a boil on an Iraqi girl's head at a makeshift clinic set up in Quarghulli Village Aug. 2. At right, Capt. Shane Finn, Co. C, 4-31 Inf. Regt. commander, speaks with local sheiks about security at the clinic.



3rd Inf. Div. dedicates day room to Smith

STAFF SGT. TONY LINDBACK
TF MARNE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CAMP VICTORY — The 3rd Infantry Division's 51st Medal of Honor recipient was the focus of attention at the headquarters building Saturday.

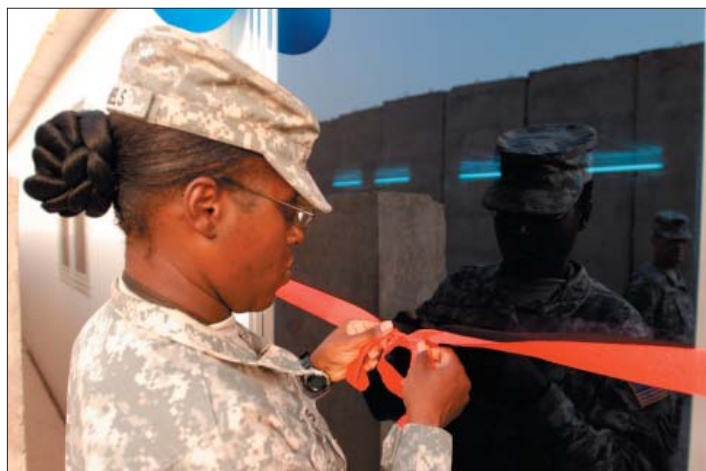
Special Troops Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Thornton dedicated a trailer in memory of Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith.

"One of the character traits I've read about Sgt. 1st Class Smith was that he was very involved with taking care of the Soldiers," Thornton said at the ceremony. "He was not one of those people you noticed right away. What you noticed was that his Soldiers never lacked for anything, never complained for anything because he made it a priority for himself, as a noncommissioned officer, to ensure they had the things they needed."

In Smith's name, Soldiers of Task Force Marne now have an air conditioned day room with plush leather chairs and sofas. While kicking back they have the opportunity to watch television or a DVD on a large flat-panel monitor. There's also a stereo and a stocked refrigerator for cold refreshments.

"Something like this does wonders for people's morale," said Spc. Dylan Brenner, who works at TF Marne headquarters. "It just makes it a little more comfortable for the Soldiers who work 12- and 13-hour days here."

The day room was intentionally placed next to the division headquarters, Thornton said, to allow Soldiers separa-



Staff Sgt. Tony Lindback

Sgt. Patricia Daniels, STB, 3rd Inf. Div., decorates the entrance to the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith room for a dedication ceremony Saturday.

tion between where they work and where they play.

"You want Soldiers to understand that the chain of command is there for them, specifically the noncommissioned officer side of the house," Thornton said.

"If we're taking care of Soldiers ... mission accomplishment, will take care of itself," he added. "Soldiers can stop worrying if their contributions are recognized and appreciated. They know they're appreciated."

Not all of our enemies are outside the FOB...

OPERATIONAL SECURITY

...some have disguised themselves as one of us. Report suspicious activities immediately.

...IT'S EVERYONE'S JOB.

THE Dog Face Daily

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Mobile Unit 3 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Battalion

CLINIC: *Inf. brings medical care*

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marily for stomach ailments caused by drinking from the irrigation canals flowing from the nearby Euphrates River.

In the blazing heat, Soldiers rigged camouflage netting to shade the villagers waiting for treatment. Troops providing security from gun trucks traversed their machine guns across surrounding fields, as loudspeakers broadcast the Soldiers' invitation in a prerecorded Arabic message.

"This is a regular mission for us, because it's one of the best things we can do to improve peoples' lives without spending a ton of money," said Capt. Shane Finn, C Co., 4-31 Inf. Regt. commander. "This is something any rifle company can put together on the spot, and it goes a long way building trust with the people here."

Finn, from Clinton, N.Y., said medical operations have become a "battle drill," a mission that has been rehearsed and executed so often that all the Soldiers know their roles and little advance planning is needed.

As entire families made their way through the village to the school, it became clear that both the Soldiers and the villagers had something to gain from the operation. As residents collected medicine and school supplies, village sheikhs and local medical providers came to speak with Finn.

"The sheiks say that as we push Al Qaeda fighters out of the area, local doctors and nurses are becoming more capable of caring for Quarghulli's people," Finn said. "That's the end state — Iraqis taking care of Iraqis."

The American infantrymen and medics conducting the operation seemed to know most of the people coming in for treatment. Some of the Iraqi men greeted Soldiers by name.

Two brothers, aged 17 and 20 but both under four feet tall, showed up. They were well-known to the Soldiers, who seemed delighted to see the pair. The brothers left with a new soccer ball and water-treatment pills.

"The medical ops help Soldiers understand the village's culture, and they get the locals accustomed to us in a good way," said 1st Sgt. David Simpson of Dallas Center, Iowa, the C Co., 4-31 Inf. first sergeant. "They know that they can come to us if they need help — lately we've been seeing 30 to 50 villagers a week at our gates."

While the main purpose of the operation was to diagnose and treat sick Iraqis, a handful of Iraqi Provincial Volunteers, former insurgents and militiamen recruited to fight Al Qaeda, appeared and briefed the Soldiers on some of their recent successes.

"Say what you want about (alliances with former enemies)



Sgt. Ben Brody

An Iraqi girl waits for her prescription to be filled at a makeshift clinic at Qarghuli Village Aug. 2.

but IEDs have been way down since we started working with the IPVs," said Pvt. Keith Wray, a 4-31 Inf. medic. "It's definitely safer here than it was."

The operation placed a special emphasis on talking to the local women to assess village conditions, said Sgt 1st Class Lita Fraley of 478th Civil Affairs Battalion.

"With the roads blocked by checkpoints, it's easier for women to get through without a hassle — so a lot of the traveling men used to do is now falling on the women," Fraley, from Houston, Texas, said. "The locals think it's about time to open the roads back up."

In about five hours, the Soldiers treated 176 Quarghulli residents and demonstrably strengthened their relationship with the village. The evidence: five hours in a former insurgent hotbed without a single gunshot, explosion, thrown rock or shouted curse. The village was all smiles.

Safety Thought of the Day

Electrical Safety

- Live exposed wires carry a minimum of 220 volts and should be fully concealed or covered to avoid inadvertent contact.
- Most locally purchased extension cords and power strips do not meet U.S. standards and can easily be overloaded.
- Avoid plugging appliances with heating elements into extension cords or power strips.

- Periodic electrical inspections should include:
 - A visual check of electrical cords, outlets, and power strips for signs of overheating, arcing, and cut or frayed wires.
 - A serviceable fire extinguisher is in close proximity to all fire hazards.
 - Electrical installations and repairs are best made by certified electricians.

Headline Highlights

Drunk detection; fake van Gogh; workaholics

Nissan testy to drunk drivers

OPPAMA, Japan (Reuters) — Beer-breaths beware. A new concept car with breathalyzer-like detection systems may provide even greater traction for Japanese efforts to keep impaired drivers off the road.

Nissan's alcohol-detection sensors check odor, sweat and driver awareness, issuing a voice alert from the navigation system and locking up the ignition if necessary.

Odor sensors on the driver and passenger seats read alcohol levels, while a detector in the gear-shift knob measures the perspiration of the driver's palm when starting the car.

Other carmakers with detection systems include Sweden's Volvo, which has developed technology in which drivers blow into a measuring unit in the seat belt before an engine can start.

But Nissan's car includes a mounted camera that monitors alertness by eye scan, ringing bells and issuing a voice message in Japanese or English if a driver should pull over and rest.

The car technology is still in development, but general manager Kazuhiro Doi says the combination of detection systems will ultimately keep an eye on who's behind the wheel.

"We've placed odor detectors and a sweat sensor on the gear shift, but for example if the gear-shift sensor was bypassed by a passenger using it instead of the driver, the facial recognition system would be used," said Doi.

Also keeping a short leash on drivers, car seat belts tighten if drowsiness

is detected, while an on-road monitor checks if a car is keeping its lane properly.

Japan's No. 3 carmaker has no specific timetable for marketing, but aims to yoke all technology to cut the number of fatalities involving its vehicles to half 1995 levels by 2015.

Nissan's Doi says they still have to distill exactly what impairment means: "If you drink one beer, it's going to register, so we need to study what's the appropriate level for the system to activate."

Gallery says van Gogh a fake

CANBERRA (Reuters) — A painting long thought to be the work of Dutch master Vincent van Gogh has been proven a fake after a series of tests by art experts in Amsterdam, Australian gallery officials said on Friday.

The painting, titled "Head of a Man", has been in the possession of the National Gallery of Victoria in Australia's second largest city of Melbourne since 1940 and was estimated to have been worth A\$25 million (\$21.4 million) if authentic.

Gallery officials on Friday said while they were disappointed at the finding, experts at the van Gogh museum in Amsterdam found the work was painted during the artist's lifetime, although it had stylistic differences to van Gogh's work.

"The reattribution of paintings is part of the daily life in any major gallery with a large and complex collection," National Gallery of Victoria director

Gerard Vaughan said on Friday.

Doubts were raised about the painting's authenticity a year ago when critics viewed it at an exhibition in Edinburgh, Scotland, prompting its owners to send the work to the van Gogh museum in Amsterdam for further examination. The painting, portrait of an unknown man, was first brought to Australia by the late newspaper publisher Keith Murdoch in 1939 as part of a traveling exhibition.

Vaughan said the painting was purchased as a van Gogh, and had been accepted as a van Gogh for more than a decade before it was purchased.

News about workaholics

BERLIN (Reuters) — German workaholics may be suffering from a lack of sex, according to a university study published Friday.

A survey of 32,000 men and women by researchers at the University of Goettingen found over 35 percent of those reporting unsatisfying sex lives tended to use hard work as a diversion. Some 36 percent of men and 35 percent of women surveyed for the "Apotheken Umschau" newsletter said they were likely to put in extra time at the office and volunteer for extra assignments.

The hard work ethic was even more pronounced among those who reported having no sex -- 45 percent of men and 46 percent of women said they voluntarily took on more responsibilities.

"These findings are worrying," the leader of the study, Ragnar Beer, was quoted as saying.

Sudoku

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

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

Inside

joe-weh