Serving Task Force Marne

Operation Soccer Sweep cleans up town

SGT. MARCUS BUTLER 4TH BCT (ABN.) 25TH ID

ISKANDARIYAH— Iraqi police from the Tahir IP Station near Hay Saskiri Iraq teamed up with Coalition Forces from Forward Operating Base Iskan to help the people of Hay Saskiri clean up their act Aug. 7 during Operation Soccer Sweep.

Iraqi police and Paratroopers from Company C, 1st Battalion, 501st Airborne, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Abn.), 25th Infantry Division devised an incentive program called Operation Soccer Sweep, to help the people of the Hay Saskiri area clean up the trash from their neighborhood.

The incentive behind the plan was that for every two bags of trash collected, the Iraqi police in turn would give out one soccer ball.

"The motive behind this was not just to hand out something free, but have the people take part in helping their area," said 1st Lt. Sean Breen, 2nd platoon, Company C.

Hay Saskiri is located in a very volatile area where both Sunni and Shiite Muslims meet. It is at this fault line where much of the violence occurs in the 1-501st Airborne's area of operations.

"This particular area is a very im-



Above: Coalition Forces and Iraqi police worked together in an effort to get residents to clean up the town of Hay Saskiri Aug. 7 Below left: Two children from the town of Hay Saskiri let air fill up their trash bags before they set out to clean up their neighborhood. Below right: A child finds it easy to wipe away tears of disappointment after getting a soccerball as reward for trash cleaned up. (U.S. Army photos by Sgt. Marcus Butler)

portant place," Breen said. "Hopefully, we made some friends through this operation who may help us on future missions."

The Iraqi police organized garbage trucks to dispose of the trash, handed

out the trash bags, soccer balls and school supplies. About 200 bags of trash were collected, 100 soccer balls were handed out along with numerous boxes of school supplies, all of which where donated by family and friends of the 501st and other organizations back in the United States.

"Just to see the smiles on the faces of the children as they received their rewards made the entire mission more than worth it," Breen said.





Paratroopers nab high value target

2ND BCT, 3RD INF. DIV. PAO

AL BUSAYIFI, Iraq — Paratroopers detained a known insurgent Aug. 8 believed to have played a role in the Aug. 4 improvised explosive device strike that killed three Paratroopers of 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division.

Paratroopers of Company B, 1st Squadron, 40th Cavalry Regiment, 4th BCT (Abn.), 25th Inf. Div. out of Fort Richardson, Alaska, detained the insurgent during Operation White Rockets IV, an air assault raid in the Al Busayifi area of operations.

During the mission, Paratroopers cleared six buildings and confiscated several materials used in the production of IEDs, including one roll of command wire, several weapons and 15 4-liter jugs commonly used for storing and exporting homemade explosives. They also detained nine other suspects.

The 1-40th Cav. Is attached to 2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div.



Golden Dragons provide healthcare to residents



courtesy photo

A Soldier checks vitals during a combined medical engagement at Combined Patrol Base Dragon Aug. 7.

PB DRAGON — Local residents of the area around Combined Patrol Base Dragon, Iraq, on the banks of the Euphrates River, came to the base for medical treatment Aug. 7

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

Army medics from 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment "Golden Dragons," 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) out of Fort Drum, N.Y., joined Iraqi medics from 2nd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 10th Iraqi Army Division to create the impromptu clinic.

Citizens said that they felt much safer in the area – long held by terrorists – since concerned local citizens have begun working with U.S. and Iraqi forces to quell the violence.

The medics treated 100 residents from five different tribes for ailments ranging from upset stomachs to colds and coughs and did what they could for serious medical issues.

"Operations like these are key to developing a good rapport with the Iraqi civilians and tribes," said Capt. Christopher Dominguez, a native of Grand Junction, Colo., physician's assistant with 210th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd BCT.

"It was great," Dominguez said. "These operations give us a chance to get all the medics together, and we learn a lot. We also get to see a lot of children, which is nice."

Dominguez said the combined medical engagement was one of the most successful in the area so far, because the citizens feel safe enough to leave their homes. The service was badly needed, he said.

"Most of the people here don't have medical care," Dominguez said. "Hospitals in Baghdad and even Mahmudiyah are difficult to get to. We can provide a lot of assistance to them."

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

3rd HBCT finds disturbing video

Brigade also nabs most-wanted high value target

By Sgt. Natalie Rostek
3rd HBCT Public Affairs

FOB HAMMER— Soldiers of the 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment conducted a raid Aug. 6, in northeast Nahrawan, resulting in the discovery of the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team's most wanted insurgent. According to Capt. Matthew Carman, of Allentown, Pa., Battle Captain for the 3rd HBCT, the insurgent was found hiding under a bed in a house adjacent to his own by Pfc. Doug Jones of the brigade's Time Sensitive Target team.

After 3rd HBCT intelligence received information on the insurgent's location, the TST team and Troop B, 3-1 Cav. moved to the target site on foot.

"The whole idea was to move covertly to the house so nobody would take off running," Carman said. "They walked a significant distance to the house. Then they brought in the trucks."

Jones said he was clearing the house of people before bringing in bomb searching dogs to the building. He searched a room that had already been searched once. While clearing closets, Jones said he saw one of the beds move.

"He must have been shivering a little because I saw the bed just barely move," he said. "I thought it may have been a kid hiding because he was scared."

Jones said he flipped the bed and still didn't see anything because the insurgent was hiding between a bed and a wall. Jones saw the insurgent's arm when he put the bed back down.



The captured, insurgent-produced video shows the preparation and launching of rockets and motars aimed at FOB Hammer.

"I was smiling and I guess that made him smile because he smiled back up at me," Jones explained. "I told him to stand up and then get on his knees. He smiled really big then, like he was happier about this than I was."

Soldiers searched the entire house and found a video depicting insurgents preparing rockets to be launched against the 3rd HBCT's main operating base. Video footage shows men setting up 49 rockets aimed at FOB Hammer, which were launched July 11, killing one Soldier and wounding 15. The video also shows the set-up and execution of an Aug. 5 rocket attack against FOB Hammer.

The unit detained 9 individuals found inside the house, including the most wanted individual.

Safety Thought of the Day

5- and 25- Meter Searches at Halts

Tips for Soldiers

5-Meters

- Identify a position to halt.
- Visually check 5 meters around the vehicle.
- Look for disturbed or suspicious objects.
- Start search at ground level and continue above head height.
- Be systematic and take your time.
- If the situation permits use illumination at night.
- Remain in your vehicle to take advantage of the armor protection.

25-Meters

- Continue to scan out to 25 meters.
- Conduct a physical search to 25 meters.
- Look for IED indicators.
- If searching off the hardball, scan the area first with optics.
- Watch for potential triggerman.
- If you locate an IED remain calm and do not touch it
- Contact EOD.

Headline Highlights

Tractor attack; superbaby; driving away text

Farmer attacks police with muck spreader

BERLIN (Reuters) - A German farmer angry with police for trying to confiscate his tractor wrecked three patrol cars and evaded capture for seven hours before an elite unit managed to arrest him, a police spokesman said Wednesday.

The farmer, 53, was pulled over by police for driving his tractor without a license, despite several previous warn-

The officers called in three patrol cars for help before asking the farmer to get out of his vehicle.

He refused, and proceeded to ram the cars with his tractor, making full use of its attached muck spreader and hydraulic fork. Officers were only just able to scramble out of harm's way.

The farmer then drove into a forest, where he eluded a manhunt involving two helicopters and an armored car for seven hours.

He was finally found by an elite police team in a barn on his farm in Lauterbach, in central Germany.

"In the countryside we're used to people going at police with muck spreaders, but this was something else," a police spokesman said.

The farmer faces charges of assault and resisting police.

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's a baby...

WELLINGTON (Reuters) - A New Zealand couple is looking to call their newborn son Superman -- but only because their chosen name of 4Real has been rejected by the government regis-

Pat and Sheena Wheaton say they will get around the decision by the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages by officially naming their son Superman but referring to him as 4Real, the New Zealand Herald newspaper has reported.

The Wheatons decided on the name after seeing the baby for the first time in an ultrasound scan and realizing their baby was "for real."

They decided 4Real was the best way to write it, but the name was rejected because the registrar said a name had to be a sequence of characters.

Pat Wheaton said he was considering appealing against the decision through the courts, but whatever happens he won't be budged on his choice.

"No matter what its going to stay 4Real," Wheaton told the Herald, "I'm certainly not a quitter."

A spokesman for the Department of Internal Affairs, which operates the registry told the Herald discussions with the Wheatons about their son's name were continuing.

The baby is now two months old, af-

"No matter what its going to stay 4Real... I'm not a quitter."

> Pat Wheaton parent

ter the Wheatons first applied to register his name in later June.

Nine in 10 Americans say ban texting while driving

NEW YORK (Reuters) — Ninety-one percent of Americans believe sending text messages while driving is as dangerous as driving after having a couple of drinks, but 57 percent admit to doing it, a poll released Tuesday said.

The Harris Interactive survey commissioned by mobile messaging service Pinger Inc. found 89 percent of respondents believe texting while driving is dangerous and should be outlawed.

Even so, 66 percent of the adults surveyed who drive and use text messaging told pollsters they had read text messages or e-mails while driving. Fifty-seven percent admitted to sending

The state of Washington in May passed the first ban in the United States on texting while driving and at least six other states including New York, California and Florida are considering similar legislation, Pinger said in a statement releasing the survey results.

The survey found that men and women sent text messages while driving at equal rates but that the young did so more frequently. Sixty-four percent of those who admitted to sending text messages while driving were aged 18 to 34 while 6 percent were 55 or older.

The poll surveyed 2,049 U.S. adults from June 29 to July 3, giving the survey a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points.

4

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

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

Bomb

kun-boo-leh