

THE Dog Face Daily

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Serving Task Force Marne



Sgt. Ben Brody

Crew chiefs from Troop A, 3-17th Cavalry perform a 300-hour maintenance on a OH-58 Kiowa at Baghdad International Airport Aug. 20.

SIZE isn't everything

Cav Kiowas quietly dominate Iraq skies

SGT. BEN BRODY
MND-C PAO

BAGHDAD — One glance at an OH-58 Kiowa, and you recognize its shape from every news, police or hospital helicopter you've ever seen.

The Kiowa, based on the ubiquitous Bell JetRanger, has served as an observation helicopter for cavalry units since the Vietnam War.

Despite its age, the Kiowa still flies more hours in Iraq than any other helicopter because of its proven reliability and utility, according to 1st Sgt. Del Williams, who has been maintaining the aircraft since 1986.

"The airframe gets the least amount of money for upgrades, but we fly the most hours, over 300,000 in combat," said Williams, first sergeant of Troop A, 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry. "It's a low-maintenance bird, and totally dependable."

Unlike Apaches, Black Hawks and Chinooks, which must be extensively taken apart for periodic repairs, the Kiowa is maintained daily in smaller increments.

"Because we constantly maintain the Kiowas, they are mission-capable more often than other aircraft," said Williams, of Valdosta, Ga. "Our squadron has flown about 61,000 hours in the past year in Iraq, versus about 6,000

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CAB Soldier gets phone call from far, far away

Pfc. MONICA K. SMITH
3RD CAB, 3RD INF. DIV.

Chief Warrant Officer Noel Shorts took a call Aug. 14, at 8:16 p.m. The call was from his cousin, Air Force Col. Benjamin Alvin Drew, who placed a satellite phone call from his space shuttle, the Endeavor.

"It's something unique," said Shorts. "It was great. It was the longest distance call I've ever had."

The phone call began after Shorts received an e-mail about his cousin. He mentioned to those around him how Drew would be going into space.

"We talk about how it would be great to get a call from space," said Shorts. "The idea came from Col. Alex Covert, commander of 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment. We wanted to do a video conference, but it was too short notice."

The phone call came through a satellite feed which was brought to Shorts on a cell phone. They had a limited amount of time to talk because the satellite would soon be out of range, said Shorts.

During the seven-minute call, the two talked about family and the work each was doing.

"I think he said, 'The view is epic and the sensation is phenomenal. Words can't really describe it,'" said Shorts.

As children, Shorts and Drew shared a common dream to be aviators. As adults they are the only two males in the family who are active military.

"I thought I was doing well, but I think he got the better end of the deal," said Shorts. "His one flight topped all of mine but I'm proud of him. My only regret is I wasn't at Cape Canaveral to watch the launch, but I was doing better things. I was over here."



Pfc. Monica K. Smith

Chief Warrant Officer Noel Shorts displays the phone on which he received a call from outer space.

Safety Thought of the Day Operations on Narrow Roads

- Conduct a map and route recon, if possible, to ensure road suitability.
- Before patrols, briefings should identify potential road hazards such as narrow roads, how weather may have degraded road conditions, etc.
- Remember to rehearse roll-over drills.
- Adjust vehicle speeds and following distances to allow plenty of reaction time for IED's, wash outs, and other obstacles.
- Avoid driving too close to the edge of a road, canals, or roads with steep soft shoulders that may give way with the weight of the vehicle.



THE Dog Face Daily

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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

KIOWA: Versatile, diminutive aircraft provide crucial mission support

From Page 1

hours per year prior in garrison.”

The unit is part of Combat Aviation Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, from Fort Drum, N.Y., but is currently serving in Iraq under Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, from Hunter Army Airfield, Ga.

The two-seat, single-engine Kiowa does not fly with mechanics aboard, so there is a great deal of communication and trust between pilots and crew chiefs, said Spc. Dan Hurtado, a crew chief with Troop A, 3-17 Cav.

Hurtado, from Parker, Ariz., said a mechanics’ best assets are a “sixth sense” for strange vibrations and a strong working knowledge of the aircraft.

“I’ve got a great team of crew chiefs working on my bird,” said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Joe Carr, Troop A pilot from Bangor, Maine.

Carr said the scouts perform varied missions in Iraq, from providing convoy security to attack missions to area reconnaissance.

“It’s an incredibly versatile aircraft – that’s why we fly so much,” Carr said. “Inside every Black Hawk or Apache pilot is a Kiowa pilot trying to get out.”



Sgt. Ben Brody

Spc. Matt Geery (left) and Sgt. Jason Magno, both crew chiefs with Troop A, 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry, perform maintenance on their OH-58 Kiowa at Baghdad International Airport Aug. 20.

GENERAL ORDER NUMBER 1

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES FOR MND-C

1. Items: The introduction, purchase, possession, use, manufacture, consumption, sale, display, or creation of any of the following items:

- (a) Privately owned firearms, ammunition, or explosives.
- (b) Alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, unprescribed medicine, or drug paraphernalia.
- (c) Motor vehicles not owned or leased by the US government or any company or agency engaged in contracting with the US government.
- (d) Pornographic or sexually explicit photographs, videotapes, movies, drawings, books, or magazines.

2. Visitation Policy/Personal Relationships:

- (a) Visiting living quarters of the opposite gender between the hours of 2300 and 0900, except for lawfully married spouses with permission to cohabitate from the first Colonel (O-6) in each spouse’s chain of command, when quarters are available.
- (b) Sexual contact with foreign and local nationals.
- (c) Visiting the living quarters of anyone other than US servicemembers/Coalition forces, except for a lawfully married spouse with permission of the first colonel (O-6) in the Soldier’s chain of command.

3. Mosques: Entrance into a Mosque, or other site of Islamic religious significance by non-Muslims unless directed to do so

by military authorities or required by military necessity.

4. Photographs and Cameras:

- (a) Filming or photographing detainees or casualties, except as required for official duties.
- (b) Possessing, distributing, transferring, or posting of visual images depicting detainees or casualties.

5. War Trophies/Souvenirs:

- (a) Removing, possessing, defacing, or destroying archeological artifacts or national treasures.
- (b) Taking or retaining public or private property of an enemy or former enemy, to include war souvenirs, and/or any seized currency.

6. Miscellaneous Provisions:

- (a) Selling, bartering, exchanging currency other than at the official exchange rate.
- (b) Adopting as pets or mascots, caring for, or feeding any type of domestic or wild animal.
- (c) Preaching of any religion, faith, or practice with the intent to convert the listener.
- (d) Gambling of any kind, including sports pools, lotteries and raffles, unless permitted by host-nation law and applicable service component regulations.

Headline Highlights

Grave damages; Wild West murder plot

Grave injury for drunk driver

BERLIN (Reuters) — A German woman on her way to pay respects to a dead relative plowed across the cemetery drunk in her car, smashing up headstones and tombs before she ground to a halt in someone's grave, police said Tuesday.

The woman drove into the graveyard in the southern town of Mitterteich on a track running through it but veered off as she struggled to control her vehicle, local police said.

"Eventually she ended up stuck in a grave and couldn't get out, so we had to pull her out," a police spokesman said. "She said she'd come to visit one of her relatives' graves."

Police estimated the total damage to graves and the 53-year-old's car at around 18,000 euros (\$24,000).

China orders rail passengers off trains

BEIJING (Reuters) — China is trying to stamp out protests over rail delays ahead of the Beijing Olympics, threatening passengers with legal action if they stay aboard their train once it has reached its destination.

"Refusing to leave the train will be regarded as an illegal act endangering train safety," the China News said, citing a long list of unlawful measures proscribed by central authorities.

There have been several instances of Chinese passengers refusing to leave their trains after serious delays, demanding compensation and an apology from state-run railway operators.

According to the latest Railways Ministry order, passengers are prohibited from protesting or hindering the railway by crowding the aisles or refusing to leave the carriage.

"When there are train delays, passengers should take legal action to protect individual legal rights via normal channels," the semi-official news service said on its Web site (www.chinanews.com.cn).

In the report, jointly released by the ministry and the Public Security Bureau, passengers must conform in order to ensure a safe and orderly environment before the Games taking place in the capital in August next year.

China's railways are the busiest in the world, moving 24 percent of global rail traffic with just 6 percent of the world's tracks, according to analysts at Deutsche Bank. The Railways Ministry plans to add another 17,000 km (10,500 miles) of track to the current 76,000 km by 2010.

Wild West lives on in rattlesnake murder plot

GOLDEN, Colo. (Reuters) — In a crime that harkens back to Colorado's rowdy frontier past, two men have been

accused of plotting to kill a man with rattlesnakes to recover a poker debt, authorities said on Tuesday.

"It's a story out of the Wild West — there's poker, rattlesnakes and unsavory characters," said Lance Clem, spokesman for the Colorado Bureau of Investigation. "The only thing I haven't heard is someone calling another guy a varmint."

According to arrest affidavits, Herbert Paul Beck and Christopher Lee Steelman planned to kill Matthew Sowash, the owner of Amateur Poker Tour, after Beck failed to recover \$60,000 that he invested in the company.

The pair allegedly hatched a plot to cobble a box filled with rattlesnakes and somehow get Sowash to step into the box with the venomous snakes.

The plot was not carried out, but authorities uncovered it while investigating Sowash's business, which contracts with bars to conduct poker games.

Investigators suspect that the business was illegally charging customers an entry fee.

Steelman was charged on Tuesday with one count of conspiracy to commit first-degree murder, one count of conspiracy to kidnap, and extortion, while Beck was arrested in New Mexico and is awaiting extradition to Colorado.

Clem said all the parties involved have criminal histories.

"You've got a bunch of snakes becoming involved with a bunch of snakes."

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

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

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