THE Dog Fac

Daily
September 7, 2007

Serving Task Force Marne

Learn how to protect yourself and your stuff "Stealing ... is downright despicable."

LT. Col. Francisco B. Decarvalho Special to The Dog Face Daily

Sergeant Barnes was excited about the recent gift he had received from his four-year old daughter; a pair of Oakley sunglasses.

He had been in need of a good pair of shades, as his Army-issue glasses were damaged during a recent air assault operation. Based on the model, they obviously weren't on the low end of the price scale. He liked the shades not only for their stylish look and utility, but because they were a special gift from a very special girl.

Two days later, Barnes sat dejected at his desk wondering who could have stolen his new shades. Yes, someone had eyed his glasses and seized the opportunity to walk off with them while he was in a meeting. The worst part of the incident was yet to come: having to break the news to his little girl back home.

Does this story sound familiar? Has this happened to you or someone you know?

If this story strikes a nerve, read on and see what you can do to help prevent this from happening again.

Quickly approaching six months de-

ployed, Task Force Marne Soldiers are getting confident and capable in their daily duties and responsibilities. Combat operations continue at a fast and steady pace and Soldiers, for the most part, have adapted extremely well to the stressful working environment. Most Soldiers have found healthy outlets to cope with their particular everyday stresses while others have chosen less appropriate paths.

What I'm referring to is the deplorable act of thievery.

Unfortunately, there have been sev-

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When 'Batphone' rings, Aviators answer

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

BAGHDAD — On average, three hours pass between the moment a mission is received and when a UH-60 Black Hawk's wheels leave the ground.

This includes finding the crew, the pilots being briefed from the battalions, loading equipment onto the aircraft, getting information disseminated to the crew, preflight inspection, and running up the aircraft.

The Division Ready Reserve Force gets it done in 14 minutes.

"You need to have an aircraft ready to go at a moment's notice," said Sgt. Ben Knoepke, crew chief for Company C, 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division. "When the 'Batphone' rings, we all jump to answer it. We're called

when they need to put infantry guys somewhere as quick as possible."

Unlike the Apache's quick reaction force, which is a comforting display of force and power to Soldiers who may be stuck in a bind, the DRRF team is used to move ground troops quickly.

"We pick up teams of infantry and take them to high value targets, and we

See PHONE, Page 3 -

THEFT: Soldiers should guard possessions and report suspicious activity

for others and will

generally not stop their nefarious activities until being physically caught."

From Page 1

eral incidents of thefts occurring throughout our living and working areas. This is hard to believe as we pride ourselves on being part of the distinguished and honored Marne Division. Stealing for personal gain or to save a few bucks is not only a punishable offense under UCMJ, but is downright despicable. "Thieves have no respect

So, fellow Dog Face Soldiers, how can you protect yourself from falling prey to those few individuals who fall outside the category of "professional Soldier?"

First and foremost, all members of the Marne Team must be aware of their surroundings at all times. Being vigilant in securing all your

items is the only way to maintain positive and complete control.

Do not believe that your work desk or hooch is an "off limits" area despite what rules or signs you may display. Thieves have no respect for others and will generally not stop their nefarious activities until being physically caught.

Just as we protect our sensitive material using OPSEC measures, we must continue to practice good physical security measures with all our valuables as well.

Sure, it is normal to think your belongings will be safe on your desk when you walk away. This is rational thought because you're not a thief. But a thief does not share your good values, nor does he/she care for the pain and anger you feel in the wake of their cowardly act.

Take the extra time to secure your valuables, even if you

are going to be gone for a few minutes. Report or address any suspicious person or activity in or around your work and sleep areas to your section leaders or Provost Marshal. If possible, make it a practice to brand all your items with permanent markings and/or identifiers. Lastly, if you know that this type of activity is going on,

don't let peer pressure stop you from either confronting the thief or coming forward to report it to an official.

If we adopt and practice good security measures, we'll stand a much better chance of making it through this long deployment with little heartache.

After all, we are the pride and joy of the Marne Division, so let's bond together and leave no opportunities for shameful thieves to raise their ugly heads.



THE

Dog Face Daily

much more ...

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up personnel, dancers, singers, poets, and

TASK FORCE MARNE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

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Managing Editor — Master Sgt. Marcia Triggs Editor/Design — Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft

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

tanya.toussaint@iraq.centcom.mil

3rd Combat Aviation Brigade

214th Fires Brigade

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Mobile Unit 3 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Battalion

PHONE: Aviation Soldiers stand by, ready to help at a moment's notice

From Page 1

sometimes hover around the area to secure a site," said Chief Warrant Officer Donald Brandt, the standardization pilot for Co. C. "We are also called in for 'fallen angels,' crashes, to keep the place from getting bad."

Because of the time-sensitive nature of situations when DRRF teams are used, aircraft must be maintained to fly at any given moment. Throughout the day, DRRF teams conduct preflight inspections, start-ups, and perform engine health indicator tests, checking all the mechanical parts of an aircraft.

"We run up the aircraft as soon as we come on shift," said Staff Sgt. Rafael Lopez, also with Co. C. "We check everything so if we get a call we're not finding a problem when we're trying to launch."

The DRRF uses Black Hawks of Companies A, B and C of 4th Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment. These companies rotate, with two companies serving on the DRRF team per month while the third continues its own company mission or air assaults.

The DRRF teams maintain two flight crews of two pilots and two crew chiefs per aircraft. The teams stay on shift for 14 hours with a two-hour overlap between the two shifts. Pilots cannot fly a helicopter until the preflight is completed, so the two hours of overlap al-



Pfc. Monica K. Smith

Staff Sgt. Rafael Lopez, a crew chief with Co. C, 4th Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, inspects the cabin top of a UH-60 Black Hawk Sept. 5.

lows the oncoming crew to conduct preflight checks and start-ups while the outgoing crew stands-by in case a call is made requiring a DRRF team.

The majority of the crew's time is spent waiting for the Batphone to ring with a mission. However, during their waiting time Soldiers maintain the aircraft and prepare for future missions.

"With DRRF there are any types of situations to be prepared for," said Chief Warrant Jeff Metter, a pilot with Co. C. "We're in here waiting for a call but we plan missions for future air as-

saults, we study aircraft limitations (and) emergency situations."

Anything can happen during a mission, and the Soldiers on the DRRF teams have plenty of experience.

"We're an assault battalion," Lopez said. "What we do now is what we did in the rear, so we know what to do. I love it. It's a real good feeling when you put a bunch of guys on the ground and they've got to go get a high value target, and you come back and pick them up and they got the target – it's an adrenaline rush"

9/11 Ceremony and Re-enlistment

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: Task Force Marne Headquarters Guest speaker Lt. Gen. Ray Odierno, MNC-I commander

Safety Thought of the Day

Combatives Training Safety

- Take into consideration their physical capabilities, age, competition level and skill when selecting a sparring partner.
- Use physical tapping and verbal signals to indicate to the partner when to stop the pressure in grappling and choking techniques.
- Combatives training should be done in phases to minimize the possibility of injury:
- Crawl New techniques are taught, demonstrated, and executed by the numbers.
- Walk Soldiers practice new techniques by the numbers, but with more fluid movement and less instructor guidance.
- Run Soldiers execute the techniques at combat speed with no guidance.
- See FM 3-25.150 for further guidance

Headline Highlights

'Lion' hunt; math prodigy; airline sacrifice

'Lion' roars spark hunt

CARACAS (Reuters) — Roars from an unidentified feline have scared residents of a mountainous Caracas suburb and triggered a hunt for the capture of what neighbors are convinced is a lion.

But Venezuelan authorities, who have scoured the woods on horseback where the bellowing comes from, could only confirm the presence of some type of feline after finding the carcasses of small animals including a half-eaten armadillo.

"One of the people that saw this animal talks about a lion," said Juan Fernandez, mayor of the affected Las Salias municipality, in an interview with local radio Monday.

"We cannot say if (the animal) is a lion, a tiger, a puma or a little spotted cat," he said.

Venezuelan jungles and mountains are teeming with exotic fauna but encounters with dangerous wild animals are rare around the South American nation's crowded capital that is typically clogged with noisy traffic. Local media reported two lions had escaped years ago from a nearby zoo, but Fernandez said the institution has denied any of the predators were missing.

Adulterers beware — or pay

BOGOTA (Reuters) — Married Colombians engaged in passionate extracurricular activities may soon have to think twice about their philandering ways if a senator's proposed legislation punishing adultery gets the green light.

Sen. Edgar Espindola said he has proposed a law that would impose fines and enforced community service as punishment for adulterers in an effort to protect family values and shield children from broken homes.

"I believe a lot of my companions are going to support this initiative," Espindola said on Tuesday. "This project should motivate Colombians to reflect on the importance of the marriage, the home and the importance of family."

He said aggrieved parties could take complaints and evidence such as photographs to local judges, who would decide to impose fines of up to 20 minimum monthly salaries — near \$4,000 — and obligatory welfare service.

Spouses forgiven by partners would escape punishment.

Some local radio commentators joked the proposal would get short shrift in Colombia's Congress because lawmakers were likely to want to hide their own indiscretions in the mostly Roman Catholic country.

Child math prodigy says university too easy

HONG KONG (Reuters) — A nineyear-old mathematics prodigy has become Hong Kong's youngest undergraduate, waltzing through his first day at university saying classes were too easy.

March Boedihardjo, an Indonesian-Chinese boy resident in Hong Kong, was accepted by Hong Kong's Baptist University to study for a master's degree after gaining straight As in entrance A-level exams usually taken at 17 or 18

"It was too easy," Boedihardjo told reporters after attending a convocation ceremony in a pint-sized black-gown and his first day of classes Tuesday, adding that he'd already learnt the subject matter a year or two ago.

The university has designed a fiveyear program for the child, but it has stirred controversy among some education experts who say he might experience stunted personal and social development as a result.

Airline sacrifices goats

KATHMANDU (Reuters) — Officials at Nepal's state-run airline have sacrificed two goats to appease Akash Bhairab, the Hindu sky god, following technical problems with one of its Boeing 757 aircraft, the carrier said Tuesday.

Nepal Airlines, which has two Boeing aircraft, has had to suspend some services in recent weeks due the problem.

The goats were sacrificed in front of the troublesome aircraft Sunday at Nepal's only international airport in Kathmandu in accordance with Hindu traditions, an official said.

"The snag in the plane has now been fixed and the aircraft has resumed its flights," said Raju K.C., a senior airline official, without explaining what the problem had been.

Local media last week blamed the company's woes on an electrical fault. The carrier runs international flights to five cities in Asia. It is common in Nepal to sacrifice animals to appease different Hindu deities.

S U d O k

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

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

Friday

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