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Serving Task Force Marne

Patrol nets insurgent money handlers

BY STAFF SGT. SEAN RILEY
3RD HBCT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FOB HAMMER — Seven insurgent money handlers were captured Sept. 20 in Al-Ma'amil by military police patrolling the area.

The 2nd platoon of the 59th Military Police Company, part of the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, was patrolling the area known as the brick factory, a large conglomeration of shops specializing in making bricks, based on tips from workers in the area.

The 59th MP Co., tasked as the Police Transition Team for Mada'in Qada, has been working with the 3rd HBCT since the company's arrival to Iraq in July.

Second Lt. Darrell Jones, from Allen, Texas, and 2nd platoon leader for the company, said the company regularly patrols the area because their PTT duties often take them to the Iraqi police station north of the brick factory.

"We were patrolling through that area to get to the IP station," Jones said. "We were linking up with the rest of the platoon to pick up our Iraqi police adviser."

The workers in the brick factory informed Coalition Forces weeks before about insurgents regularly "shaking them down, demanding payment or they would shut down their shops," Jones said.

The informants gave Jones and his men approximate times, days and patterns the insurgents used during their collection rounds.

Jones said though the patrol was planned, it was really chance they were in the right place at the right time.

As a section of the platoon started their patrol south through the brick factory, Jones and the rest of his men traveled north toward them on an adjacent road. Jones said as they were approaching the outskirts of the area,

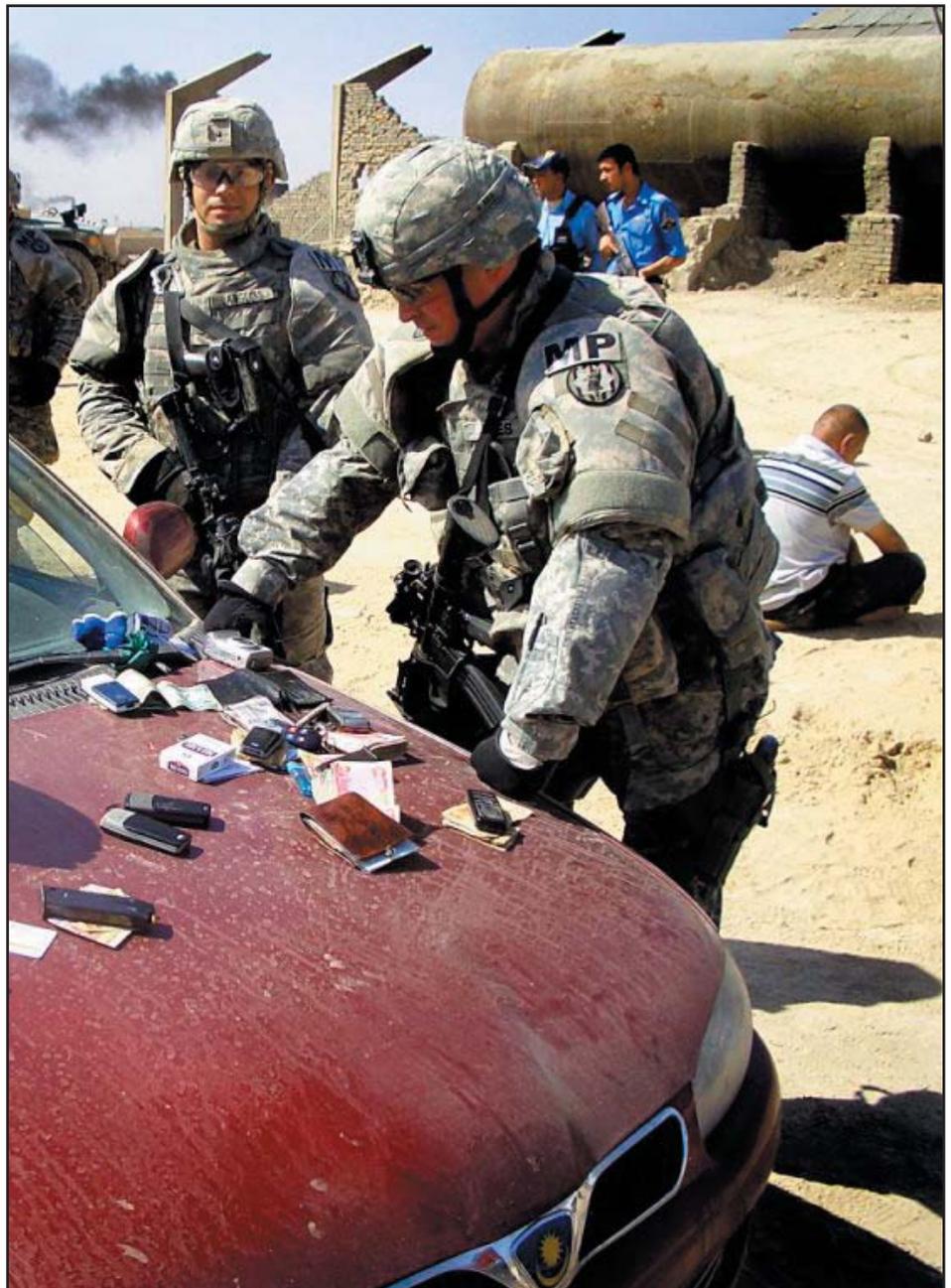


Photo courtesy of 59th Military Police Company

Second Lt. Darrell Jones, 2nd platoon leader, 59th Military Police Company, sorts through items found on one of seven insurgents caught by his patrol in Al-Ma'amil, Iraq, Sept. 20. A search of the seven men and two vehicles netted an AK-47 assault rifle with several loaded magazines, three handguns, several fake identification cards, \$1,200 dollars, and more than 18 million Iraqi Dinar.

See **HANDLERS**, Page 3

Concerned citizens lead Soldiers to caches, insurgents

SGT. 1ST CLASS ANGELA MCKINZIE
2ND BCT, 10TH MTN. DIV. (LI) PAO

SAID ABDULLA CORRIDOR — Since July Coalition and Iraqi forces have been working with concerned local citizens to rid the area of al-Qaeda.

Recently, concerned citizens provided information to Coalition Forces working in the area.

After receiving the tip, Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 15th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), out of Fort Drum, N.Y., and 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, teamed up for Operation Eagle Chancellorsville Sept. 21 in the Said Abdulla Corridor.

The operation, which was intended to deny enemy safe haven within 2-15 FAR's area of operations, yielded mul-

multiple caches and the capture of suspected al-Qaeda members in the area.

"The local population has pledged its support by moving alongside IA and U.S. forces," said 1st Lt. Dave Kendzior, a platoon leader with 2-15 FAR. "They have been instrumental in leading us to caches and buildings that al-Qaeda have been hiding in."

Since the increasing support of the concerned local citizens, al-Qaeda has continued to try to hide weapons in different places, but they have not been successful.

During this mission, U.S. and Iraqi Soldiers discovered weapons caches hidden in cemeteries.

The caches consisted of 12 rocket-propelled grenade rounds, a 152mm artillery round, an improvised explosive device, three PKC machine guns, two

AK-47 assault rifles, a Dragonov sniper rifle with a scope, four RPG launchers, five mortar sights, 70 mortar primers, 20 mortar charges, a 60mm mortar round, a camera flash IED initiator, three Iraqi army uniforms, three Kevlar helmets, 11 mortar fuses, 19 RPG boosters, two bolt cutters, an aid bag, a hand-held radio charger, three Global Positioning Systems, 3,000 rounds of PKC ammunition, various IED components, a roll of copper wire and two ammunition vests.

Significant in the cache finds were the IA uniforms that al-Qaeda members use to confuse the concerned local citizens.

Aside from finding the caches, Soldiers detained three terror suspects who were on the IA and U.S. target list.

"Concerned citizens have not only led us to caches, but to members of al-Qaeda," Kendzior said.

"Because of the true partnership between 2-15 FAR and 4-6 IA disrupting al-Qaeda in the area, we have forced them to find refuge somewhere else," Kendzior said.



Courtesy photo

Multiple caches were discovered in a cemetery by soldiers of the 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, and the 2nd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigaded Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), out of Fort Drum, N.Y., during Operation Eagle Chancellorsville Sept. 21.

Daylight Savings Time

Set clocks back one hour starting 4 a.m. Oct. 1. The change here happens 35 days before the United States, which takes place Nov. 4.

THE Dog Face Daily

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720th Military Police Battalion
Mobile Unit 3 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Battalion

Support units help build patrol base from ground up

SGT. JASON STADEL
2ND BCT, 3RD ID PAO

FOB KALSU – When it's time to build a patrol base from the ground up, it's time for support battalions to shine.

Patrol Base Hawkes is the latest base in Arab Jabour to come to life. The patrol base is being occupied by Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division.

Although the base will be used for missions by 1-30th Inf. Regt. Soldiers, it would not have been possible without 26th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div.; 952nd Engineer Company, 92nd Engineer Battalion, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade; Company F 26th BSB (operationally attached to 1-30th Inf. Regt.), and sections from the brigade staff providing the planning, support, logistics and personnel to build the base.

Capt. Robert Kauffman, 2nd BCT infrastructure team, planned the building of PB Hawkes.

"The building of Hawkes is going remarkably well," Kauffman said. "The walls were up in about four days."

This is the third patrol base built by 2nd BCT since deploying in May. Kauffman said lessons learned from building the previous two patrol bases have helped in building PB Hawkes.

"We came in with ideas of what to do," Kauffman said. "We're getting the patrol base drill down."

The 26th BSB loaded military-owned demountable containers (MILVAN) at Forward Operating Base Kalsu with concertina wire, fence posts, sand-filled barriers, water and other supplies. The MILVANs were sling loaded by CH-47 Chinook helicopters at FOB Kalsu and carried to PB Hawkes. There were

more than a dozen sling-load missions in which supplies were carried to the new patrol base.

"Anything they needed, we loaded and shipped it to Hawkes," said Maj. Paul Stuck, 26th BSB support operations officer in charge.

"They've worked really hard to air lift almost an entire patrol base into position," Kauffman said.

Food, water, gravel, air conditioners and other relevant life support supplies that can be found at FOB Falcon are driven to PB Hawkes via combat logistics patrol by Company F, 26th BSB.

Company A, 26th BSB led the way in

supplying Hawkes, but they had help from every company in the battalion.

"It really was a battalion effort," Struck said. "When we didn't have enough people from Alpha we got help from the other companies."

Work supplying PB Hawkes began in early September. Loading MILVANs and packing supplies made for long days for the "Challenger" Soldiers of the 26th BSB.

After completion, the 1-30th Inf. Regt. will be a more mobile force on the battlefield in providing more safety and security to the people of Arab Jabour.

HANDLERS: *Insurgent moneymen captured*

the insurgents saw their patrol of vehicles on the road and sought to avoid them by driving their two vehicles through the brick factory.

"As we cut up on Route Sooners, they drove right on in to the shops," Jones said. "We cut in behind them."

They ran right in to Jones' men coming south. Due to the narrow lanes in the brick factory the cars had no way to turn around.

"They were pinched with nowhere to go," Jones said. "They gave up without a fight."

As soon as they had the insurgents cornered, Jones called in the report to the squadron's headquarters and his men cleared the cars and detained the men.

First Lt. Luke Self, 1st platoon leader, Troop B, 3-1 Cav. Regt., and his platoon were dispatched from Narwhan. Narwhan is several kilometers west of Al-Ma'amil.

"We were pulling security for the Narwhan IPs as they worked to improve one of their checkpoints," Self said. "We got the call that they had

identified two vehicles and needed assistance processing and transporting the men."

A search of the seven men and two vehicles netted an AK-47 assault rifle with several loaded magazines, three handguns, \$1,200 in U.S. currency, and more than 18 million Iraqi Dinar. Several fake identification cards were also found.

Both Jones and Self agree the capture of these insurgents will have an affect on Shiite extremist cell operations in the area.

"It could have a positive and immediate effect," Self said. "The populace can see the affect Coalition Forces are having in the neighborhood."

Jones offered a similar estimation. "Now the (insurgents) have to find new money handlers; someone they can trust with their money," Jones said. "It shows that we're not messing around."

The 3rd HBCT, 3rd Infantry Division, from Fort Benning, Ga., has been deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom since March 2007.

Safety Thought of the Day

M-16 Weapons cleaning – A few individual Don'ts

- Don't disassemble the lower receiver and trigger assembly, that's the Armorer's job.
- Don't use cotton tips, paper towels or old lint filled rags
- Cotton lint mixes with the lube and plugs up gas ports and the buffer tube.
- Don't use oven or carburetor cleaners.
- They pull out all the oil from weapons metal and strip its protective finish.
- Don't forget to clean your magazines.
- Unload and wipe off ammo daily. Run lint-free rag through magazine, but don't put any lube in the magazine or ammo.

Headline Highlights

English killing hyphens; Possible fish egg ban

Thousands of hyphens perish as English marches on

LONDON (Reuters) — About 16,000 words have succumbed to pressures of the Internet age and lost their hyphens in a new edition of the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary.

Bumble-bee is now bumblebee, ice-cream is ice cream and pot-belly is pot belly.

And if you've got a problem, don't be such a crybaby (formerly cry-baby).

The hyphen has been squeezed as informal ways of communicating, honed in text messages and emails, spread on Web sites and seep into newspapers and books.

"People are not confident about using hyphens anymore, they're not really sure what they are for," said Angus Stevenson, editor of the Shorter OED, the sixth edition of which was published this week.

Another factor in the hyphen's demise is designers' distaste for its ungainly horizontal bulk between words.

"Printed writing is very much design-led these days in adverts and Web sites, and people feel that hyphens mess up the look of a nice bit of typography," he said. "The hyphen is seen as messy looking and old-fashioned."

The team that compiled the Shorter OED, a two-volume tome despite its name, only committed the grammatical amputations after exhaustive research.

"The whole process of changing the spelling of words in the dictionary is all based on our analysis of evidence of language, it's not just what we think looks better," Stevenson said.

"Twenty-odd people came to the party. Or was it twenty odd people?"

— Angus Stevenson, dictionary editor

Researchers examined a corpus of more than 2 billion words, consisting of full sentences that appeared in newspapers, books, Web sites and blogs from 2000 onwards.

For the most part, the dictionary dropped hyphens from compound nouns, which were unified in a single word (e.g. pigeonhole) or split into two (e.g. test tube).

But hyphens have not lost their place altogether. The Shorter OED editor commended their first-rate service rendered to English in the form of compound adjectives, much like the one in the middle of this sentence.

"There are places where a hyphen is necessary," Stevenson said. "Because you can certainly start to get real ambiguity."

Twenty-odd people came to the party, he said. Or was it twenty odd people?

So give up caviar: it's not brain sturgery!

MOSCOW (Reuters) — The rich may have to take black caviar off the menu to let sturgeon stocks recover, Russia's first Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Ivanov said on Friday.

Ivanov, widely regarded as a leading

contender to succeed President Vladimir Putin in 2008, said he could do without caviar if sturgeon fishing was banned.

"If we banned catches for a period of time then I would certainly survive," Ivanov told an investment conference in Russia's Black Sea resort of Sochi, RIA news agency reported.

Ivanov, 54, said black and red caviar, and crab meat was not an essential part of an everyday diet and he could do without his caviar "ration" for five to seven years.

"We would repair our national wealth in this time after we so rapaciously annihilated it," Ivanov said.

Most of the world's sturgeon spawn in the rivers that flow into the Caspian Sea. Their unfertilized eggs -- caviar -- are sold by Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Russia.

Overfishing, poaching, pollution and poor management have cut sturgeon stocks in the Caspian. Experts say beluga is on the verge of extinction after fish numbers fell by 90 percent over the past 20 years.

High prices for caviar have made the sturgeon a target for criminal groups who control poaching gangs and illegal caviar sales in Russia and abroad.

Beluga caviar, a symbol of ostentatious dining and luxury, costs about \$1,400 a kg in Moscow markets but sells for 3,700 pounds (\$7,400) a kg in London.

Russian agriculture officials have pressed Putin to declare a state monopoly on the export of black caviar from Russia and to restrict its sale inside Russia to licensed outlets.

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5				7	6	1		
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7	5	3			9			
8	1					5		

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

good

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