

THE

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Serving Task Force Marne



Sgt. Ben Brody

During a visit to the Killodi Iraqi Police Station in al-Kut, Sgt. Kennethan Bebar, 984th Military Police Company, records an Iraqi officer's biometric data with a specialized camera Sept. 26.

MP company faces new mission in al-Kut

SGT. BEN BRODY
MND-C PAO

AL-KUT, — After spending a year training Iraqi police in Diwaniyah, Soldiers from 984th Military Police Company are now feeling out new territory in Wasit Province, near the Iranian border.

Forty days into their new mission, the unit's Police Transition Team is forging relationships with Iraqi police in al-Kut, a strongly Shiite city on the banks of the Tigris River.

The Fort Carson, Colo.,-based unit is currently living in a huge concrete bunker on an abandoned Iraqi air force base that is now part of FOB Delta. The bunker's main bay, which

once housed Iraqi fighter jets, now shelters Humvees as they undergo routine maintenance.

A typical day for the PTT in Wasit involves checking up on the local Iraqi police force and trying to help them eventually operate independently of U.S. military support.

The afternoon of Sept. 26, Soldiers from 984th MP Co.'s 1st platoon visited the Killodi Police Station in downtown al-Kut. The IPs were clearly not expecting company, and the station chief was engaged in a conference with regional police leaders.

Rather than disturb the meeting, the Soldiers set up in

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Polar Bears discover 9-11 propaganda in Iraqi home

2ND BCT, 10TH MTN. DIV.

QARGHULLI VILLAGE, Iraq — Coalition Forces discovered a cache which contained Sept. 11, 2001 propaganda in a house in Qarghulli Village, Iraq, Sept. 26.

Soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment “Polar Bears,” 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) discovered the cache while conducting Operation Rock Sweep V and VI.

The purpose of the mission was to target specified al-Qaeda operatives identified to be planning and coordinating attacks against Coalition Forces and concerned local citizens in the area.

While conducting the operation, Soldiers searched the targets’ houses looking for illegal weapons.

In one house they discovered a cache that consisted of three blasting caps, a ski mask, a terrorist manual which

included directions on constructing vehicle improvised explosive devices, propaganda featuring the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, two cell phones and a card to activate the cell phones.

The propaganda was a small booklet featuring images of the attacks and a script praising the attacks.

“Our assessment is that these guys were getting ready to launch attacks during the Ramadan celebration,” said Lt. Thomas Ceislak, battle captain for 4-31 Inf. Regt.

“We got the intelligence for this raid from earlier questioning of detainees and from tips provided by our source network”

The owner of the house was detained and is being held for questioning.

The blasting caps were destroyed by controlled detonation and the other items are being inspected for further intelligence value.

Medics act quickly, save Iraqi lives

SGT. MARCUS BUTLER
4TH BCT (ABN.), 25TH INF. DIV.

KALSU, Iraq — Midway through the day Sept. 17, medics received a call over the radio of casualties heading their way. No number was given or the nature of the injuries, just that a roadside bomb had detonated in the midst of an Iraqi army patrol.

Right away, the medics from Company C, 425th Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division Troop Medical Center at Forward Operating Base Kalsu went into action.

“It was right at lunchtime that we heard the call. We didn’t have a lot of information except that it was an improvised explosive blast,” said Sgt. 1st Class Karl Morneau, treatment platoon sergeant. “I ran to the TMC and started to gather up personnel to help with the casualties once they arrived.

But since I didn’t know how many, I was a little worried since we were under staffed due to a lot of our medics being tasked for combat operations.”

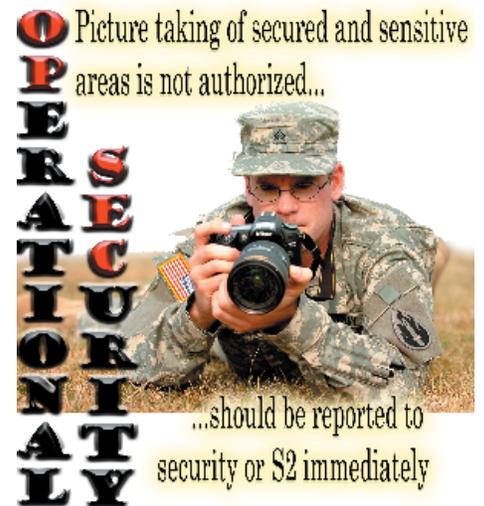
Calling on other medical personnel from the FOB, to include 3rd Inf. Div. and the Kalsu Fire Department, Morneau then waited patiently for the call that the injured Iraqi soldiers had arrived.

Once the call came in, a front-line ambulance containing Pfc. Tiara Padron of Juneau, Alaska, and Spc. Robert Bowome from Staten Island, N.Y., was immediately dispatched.

At the gate, the IA ambulance pulled inside followed by a white pick-up carrying the casualties.

“I really didn’t know what to expect once we arrived,” Bowome said. “But when I went to the ambulance and saw people piled on top of people, I knew

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Daylight Savings Time ends

Set clocks back one hour at 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

NEW: *Military Police in al-Kut finding new ways to help Iraqi police*

From Page 1

the deputy chief's office and began talking with him.

"The IPs here are already pretty well organized compared with Diwaniyah," said Sgt. Adam Brose, an MP with the 984th. "The police chief has worked here in Wasit for 17 years."

Brose, from Colorado Springs, Colo., and his platoon leader, 2nd Lt. Justin Boberg, asked the deputy chief about his station's successes and shortfalls, as well as recent insurgent activity.

Because of its relative homogeneity, al-Kut has not been host to the sectarian violence plaguing much of central Iraq, but the city still faces security threats from criminal gangs and Shiite militias, according to military reports.

Brose said he has been impressed by the al-Kut police force's willingness to

confront criminal and insurgent activity in town.

"On our way in the other day we saw something suspicious on the road, possibly a bomb," Brose said. "We told the IPs about it, and they put a patrol together to check it out with their (explosive ordnance disposal) team."

While Brose and Boberg talked to the IP major, Sgt. Kennethan Beber collected biometric data from a steady stream of officers. The information goes to a central database of fingerprints and retinal scans used to keep track of Iraq's police and military personnel.

An IP came in complaining of shooting pains in his feet, so Spc. David Cook, the platoon's medic, took a look. It turned out the man was likely suffering from diabetes, so there was little that Cook, a specialist in trauma care, could do.

Nevertheless, word quickly spread through the station that an American doctor had come to treat them. A line grew in front of Cook, and he was soon inundated with complaints ranging from headaches to a basketball-sized abdominal cyst.

After dispensing what little medicine he had on hand, mostly Ibuprofen, Cook asked his interpreter why they couldn't get it at the store.

The platoon's interpreter, who came with the unit from Diwaniyah, explained that there is a persistent myth among many Iraqis that American medicine has incredible power to heal.

The unit has about two months left in Iraq before redeploying to Fort Carson, and before they leave, they are trying to facilitate installation of a surveillance system for the police stations in al-Kut.

MASCAL: *Medics react quickly to save more than 120 wounded*

From Page 2

we were going to need some help."

"I had the image in my mind of just two or three people to treat, but when I saw all of those people, the noise and blood, my heart dropped," Padron said.

"I was always told that when the moment comes, I would know what to do. I didn't believe it until I was actually put into this type of situation. Now I know," Padron said. "I am just grateful

that I could assist in saving lives."

Two ambulances were dispatched to aid the two medics already on the scene.

"It only took about 10 minutes for the first ambulance to arrive from the gate to the TMC where we were already set up to receive them," Morneau said.

Once inside the TMC, the injured soldiers were treated by teams of four, consisting of one person controlling the airway, one for bleeding, one for vital

signs and one person to record.

Continuing the triage performed by the medics at the gate, the teams inside of the TMC further stabilized the patients and medically evacuated them.

"I could not be more proud of the way the Paratroopers responded," Morneau said.

The TMC has had more than 120 trauma patients and handled four mass casualties with a 100 percent survival rate among patients that were treated.

Safety Thought of the Day

Aerostat Operator safety

- Leaders ensure that Aerostat crews are properly trained and integrate CRM into all phases of operations
 - Closely supervise individuals during all phases of the operation.
 - Conduct sustainment training.
- A minimum crew of six qualified persons, including an experienced Aerostat flight director, are required for all launch, on station and recovery operations.
- Wind restrictions for launch, flight and recovery are given as Green, Amber or Red status:
 - Green- less than 20 knots at surface, gust reaching 35 knots at flight level.
 - Amber- gust reaching 20 knots at surface, gust reaching 35 knots at flight level.
 - Red- gust reaching 25 knots at surface, gust reaching 40 knots at flight level.
- Ensure crews use and follow the approved checklist, paying particular attention to proper tether tension and weather conditions.
- Unplanned Aerostat events resulting in property damage or personal injury, must be reported in the same manner as any other accident.

Headline Highlights

Cussing judge; In a pickle; Coffee with culture

Judge reprimanded for swearing during trial

OTTAWA (Reuters) - A senior Canadian judge has been formally reprimanded for swearing during a courtroom clash with a prosecutor earlier this year, officials said on Friday.

British Columbia Supreme Court Judge Peter Leask's behavior was "improper and tarnished the reputation of the court and the judiciary," concluded an investigation by the Canadian Judicial Council.

Leask resorted to expletives in March at the trial of a man charged with trafficking cocaine. The judge disagreed strongly with the prosecutor's premise that the accused had hidden the drug in his own storage locker.

"He'd have had to have been out of his f----- mind to store it in his own locker, all right?" the judge told the prosecutor. He also referred to "the whole f----- thing" and used the words "god-----" and "s-----."

A group of schoolchildren on an educational tour witnessed the exchange.

The council decided not to take more severe action against Leask, noting he had called a special session of court the day after the outburst to apologize unreservedly for his behavior.

"Certainly this is not normal. To my knowledge it's a very unique and unprecedented situation," the council's executive director, Norman Sabourin, told Reuters.

"Presumably it's something that happened once and will never happen again."

The man who mistook pickles for anthrax

KUALA LUMPUR (Reuters) - A Malaysian diplomat has apologized to the Iraqi government after he mistook a box of sweet pickles sent to him as a Ramadan gift for anthrax powder, a newspaper said on Saturday.

The incident has sparked a protest from Baghdad, with its envoy to Malaysia expressing displeasure over the diplomat's "panic-stricken behavior."

"It is such a special sweet, and this year I wanted to show my appreciation to the Malaysian government, the ministry and my friends," the New Straits Times quoted Iraq's charge d'affaires, Hoshiar Dazayi, as saying.

He said the diplomat's apology still fell short of an official apology from the Malaysian government.

The Malaysian diplomat had faxed a letter offering his "sincere and deepest apologies" to the Iraqi government, adding that it was "purely a misunderstanding" on his part.

He had received the gift sent to his office on September 13. When he opened the box at his house later that day he only saw white powder. Fearing it might be anthrax powder, he placed the parcel outside his house and called the police.

When police examined the parcel the next day, they found it contained only sweet pickles. The powder was sugar sprinkled on top to preserve them, the newspaper said.

The Iraqi diplomat said similar gifts were also sent to Malaysia's foreign

minister and several other senior diplomats.

Forbidden City coffee shop replaces Starbucks

BELJING (Reuters) - A coffee shop has opened at the heart of the Forbidden City, the former Chinese imperial palace, replacing a controversial Starbucks cafe that was forced out by public protest.

The Starbucks outlet opened in 2000 prompting a media backlash so severe that museum authorities considered revoking its lease after a couple of months. In recent years it had operated without the usual outdoor corporate Starbucks bunting.

A campaign for its closure began building early this year, when a television anchor complained that the U.S. chain's presence at the symbolic heart of the Chinese nation was trampling on Chinese culture. It closed in July.

"With wooden tables and chairs and pictures featuring Chinese culture, the Forbidden City Cafe serves not only coffee but also traditional Chinese beverages such as tea," the China Daily said.

The rectangular Forbidden City, formally known as the Palace Museum, covers 74 hectares (183 acres) surrounded by a moat to the north of Tiananmen Square and has a fabled 9,999 rooms. It was listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site in 1987.

"Unlike the Starbucks coffee shop, the Palace Museum is the managerial authority of the cafe," said Li Wenru, deputy curator, Forbidden City.

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from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

Please

Ru-jah-en