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Serving Task Force Marne

Infantry detains 11 suspected insurgents



courtesy of 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment

Soldiers from 3rd platoon, Company A, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, pull security on suspected insurgents during a combat patrol north of Salman Pak Oct. 16.

SPC. BEN HUTTO
3RD HBCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB HAMMER – Eleven people were detained and 49 buildings cleared Oct. 16 during Operation Belleau Wood II, an intensive search north of Salman Pak to capture or kill al-Qaeda and insurgents operating in the area.

“Acting on local tips, we were able to disrupt an al-Qaeda IED cell,” said 1st Lt. Clifford Cieslak, from Pasadena,

Md., the fire support officer for Company A, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment.

Leaders are optimistic that the capture of the cell will allow 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers and Iraqi Security Forces to better secure the area and allow the local population to continue improving governmental functions, Cieslak explained.

Soldiers from Company A, 1-15 Inf.

Regt., detained the men after they were identified as possible insurgents responsible for attacks against the 3rd HBCT. Improvised explosive device materials, two AK-47 assault rifles, a shotgun and ammunition were found during the search.

The 1-15 Inf. Regt., is assigned to the 3rd HBCT, 3rd Inf. Div., from Fort Benning, Ga., and has been deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom since March.

Concerned citizens round up caches, improve security

SPC. BEN HUTTO

3RD HBCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB HAMMER — Concerned citizens from the village of Al Arafia delivered a large collection of munitions, including a 200 pound bomb, to Combat Outpost Cashe Oct. 16.

The most recent delivery came as no surprise to the Soldiers of Company D, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment and elements of the 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, stationed at Combat Outpost Cashe.

Company D helped organize the first concerned citizen program in the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team's area of operations. Since then, the brigade has integrated the concerned citizens into missions and used their tips to capture key insurgents.

The cache was transported via a civilian truck by the concerned citizens. The cache, consisting of munitions collected throughout Al Arafia, contained two 105 mm artillery shells, twelve 75 mm armor piercing rounds, two improvised explosive devices, one container of homemade explosive, six 50 mm and two 82 mm mortar rounds, one 200 pound bomb, and one unidentifiable artillery round.

Concerned citizen tips have led to the seizure of 10 caches, the discovery of 12 improvised explosive devices and the detention of 103 suspects, according to Maj. Rhett Griner, from Jonesboro, Ga., effects coordinator for the 3rd HBCT.

"The concerned citizens in Tuwaitha have been very proactive," said 1st Sgt. James Woody, from Portsmouth, Va., the first sergeant of Company D, 1-15 Inf. Regt. "They are doing an outstanding job of protecting their communi-

ties. They are the standard that the concerned citizens groups in the qada are following."

Woody pointed out that the Sunni concerned citizens live in a low-crime area alongside the Tigris River and have done an excellent job of staying vigilant and keeping insurgent elements from taking root in the community.

"On a weekly basis they are leading us to weapons caches or munitions," said Woody. "They are really on top of it. Just last week they led us to six different IEDs and two caches."

Now many of the citizens of the

Mada'in Qada — a district east of Baghdad with roughly 1.2 million citizens — have shown their support by joining the Concerned Citizen Program. The 3rd HBCT has conducted numerous missions with group members either leading or providing tips.

There are more than 1,600 concerned citizens operating throughout the Qada, according to Griner. The 3rd HBCT is working with local leaders to create more groups and working with the Ministry of Iraq to eventually transition the volunteers into the Iraq Security Forces.

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THE Dog Face Daily

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2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry)

4th Brigade Combat Team (Abn.), 25th Infantry Division

3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division

214th Fires Brigade

82nd Sustainment Brigade

720th Military Police Battalion

Mobile Unit 3 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Battalion

Militia in Iskandariyah targeted, leaders captured

SGT. J.H. FRENCH

4TH BCT (ABN.), 25TH INF. DIV.

KALSU — During the course of three days, Paratroopers captured four high-ranking militia leaders from North Babil.

Paratroopers from the 3rd Battalion, 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division conducted the operations, captured the leader of the militia in Iskandariyah and several commanders and lieutenants Oct. 12-14.

"We captured four of our 10 most wanted," said Sgt. 1st Class Richard Williams, from Abbottstown, Pa, the non-commissioned officer in charge of intelligence for the 3-509th PIR. "Two of those guys were on the brigade's most wanted list, including the second most wanted man in all of Babil."

The paratroopers have been working hard to bring security and stabilization to the city with the help of concerned citizens and Iraqi Security Forces.

The Concerned Citizens Programs in Iskandariyah are fighting back against a campaign of murder, kidnapping and intimidation waged by Shia militias and other extremist groups.

"CCPs are a huge help. Those guys don't need Shia militias or any other extremist group," said Williams. "We took out their top level leaders and the CCPs are securing their own neighborhoods. Those things combined have put the militia on the defensive. It is something the militias have never had to deal with."

The Paratroopers recently launched a massive offensive to drive al-Qa-eda out of the Euphrates River Valley. Following the Paratrooper's offensive push, CCPs sprang up all throughout

the Valley and Jurf As Sakhr region, making it one of the safest places in all of Iraq.

The Iraqi Security Forces working side by side with the 3-509th PIR are emboldened as well.

"The ISF have more confidence in what they are doing. It is growing every day," Williams continued. "They want to do more because they are finally seeing the fruits of their labor pay off."

While the majority of the militia leadership in Iskandariyah and Haswah have been captured, a challenge remains.

"Right now the Shia militia has started a huge propaganda campaign to try and undermine our efforts, but the locals aren't reacting to it," Williams said. "In fact, the locals are becoming more receptive and we are receiving a positive reaction to our efforts."

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Safety Thought of the Day

Souvenirs

- General Order No. 1 prohibits taking or retaining public or private property of an enemy or former enemy, including war souvenirs.

Weapons

- Old Russian-style weapons may still have radioactive painted sights.

Soldiers in the past have accidentally shot themselves or others because they were unfamiliar with the weapon system and failed to properly clear the weapon.

- Ammunition, explosives, and unexploded ordnance

- Any UXO may become unstable and explode. Age and frequent handling do not indicate the UXO is



safe.

One Soldier was killed last OIF when a UXO fell out of his bag and exploded.

- If you are unsure how to dispose of your souvenirs, place them in an amnesty box or contact EOD.

Headline Highlights

Expensive ring; toaster schnitzel; save the old

The wedding's off -- see you in court!

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Instead of walking down the aisle of a church, a former New York couple will traipse down the aisle of a court room to settle a fight over a \$48,800 diamond engagement ring.

Dean Kuehnen Jr. is suing his ex-fiance, Andria Castellano, to compel her to either return the ring or give him cash — as well as cover his legal fees and costs, according to the complaint filed in New York State Court.

Castellano has threatened to sell or destroy the 3.23-carat ring, even though the couple agreed the ring would be returned to Kuehnen if their engagement was ever broken off, the complaint says.

Both were 21 years old when they became engaged in December last year, but by September this year the wedding was off.

"The sole and exclusive consideration, motivation and reason for buying the ring was the contemplated marriage," the complaint says.

Attempts to contact Castellano were unsuccessful.

According to the United States' Emily Post Institute that offers etiquette and manners advice, "if an engagement is broken, the bride should immediately return the ring to her former fiancé."

"The only 'but' in this case is if the ring is a family heirloom of the bride's. She should then keep the ring," the institute said on its Web site.

And now let's toast schnitzel!

BERLIN (Reuters) - Not enough time to fry your own schnitzel? A German firm has come up with a frozen version that can be cooked in a pop-up toaster in just three minutes.

"We came up with them because increasingly people want something that's convenient," said Dietrich Gumpfenberg, spokesman for meat-producer Toennies. "Who has time to go to the trouble of frying something themselves?"

The toasted version is made of pork coated in bread crumbs. It is sold frozen and can be cooked in any toaster in three minutes.

Toennies unveiled the product, which has been two years in the making, at a food and beverage fair in Cologne Wednesday.

"There has been a great deal of interest," Gumpfenberg said, adding that several large grocery chains, including some in China, are considering stocking them. "The schnitzels don't ooze grease or burn when you put them in the toaster."

"But how exactly that works will remain a company secret. We're patenting our invention."

Australia cemetery trains life-guard gravediggers

CANBERRA (Reuters) - An Australian cemetery is training gravediggers as lifesavers and has installed a defibrillator to jumpstart the hearts of

"A lot of people who die are old, so the people who come to the services are frail and they are vulnerable anyway..."

— Vicki Pridmore, cemetery executive

grief-stricken mourners who regularly collapse at funerals.

"A lot of people who die are old, so the people who come to the services are frail and they are vulnerable anyway, and the additional stress of a funeral tips them over the edge," Vicki Pridmore, chief executive of Melbourne's Cheltenham cemeteries, told local newspapers on Friday.

Pridmore said a family or friend collapsed at a funeral every two months on average, so now gravediggers were being trained to use the defibrillator.

"We have had a couple recently with strokes and we call the ambulance four or five times a year. Everybody is doing their training," she said.

An ambulance spokesman said defibrillators, which deliver an electric pulse to an affected heart to restore regular rhythm, not only treated heart attacks, but could also help assess illness for arriving paramedics.

Sudoku

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

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

Bad

moo-zee-en