

THE

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Serving Task Force Marne

Nine militants captured

SGT. J.H. FRENCH

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

KALSU — Paratroopers captured nine suspected al-Qaeda terrorists and an anti-aircraft gun in North Babil, Oct. 24.

Paratroopers with Company C, 3rd Battalion, 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division captured the militants, 14.5mm anti-aircraft gun and other weapons during Operation Waal, an early morning air assault and raid northwest of Diyarrah.

"It was a three pronged operation," said Capt. Stew Lindsay, commander of Company C, from Freeport, Pa. "The main effort was the air assault, but we also conducted a mounted and a dismounted infiltration to

reach the target locations."

According to Lindsay, the Paratroopers have numerous contacts and informants in the area who were providing information on the whereabouts of terrorists, roadside bombs and weapons caches.

"We compiled all of the tips and information we had gathered and went after several different targets simultaneously," he continued. "While the air assault was going after a man

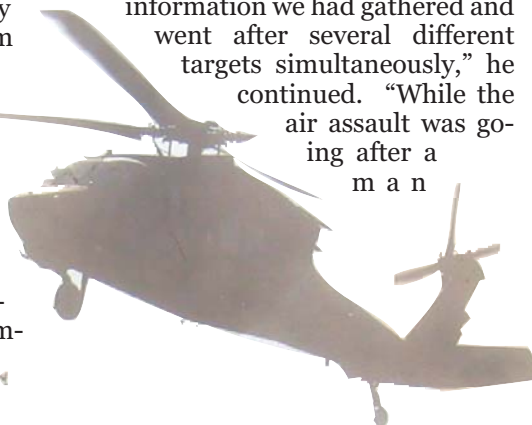
"Thanks to a tip from one of the local citizens, the area is now a much safer place."

— Capt. Stew Lindsay
commander, Co. C, 3-509th PIR

wanted for an [improvised explosive device] attack that wounded five of our Paratroopers, the mounted and dismounted elements were targeting the caches we knew about through tips from concerned local Iraqis."

In addition to the militants and anti-aircraft gun, the Paratroopers also discovered two barrels and a receiver for another anti-aircraft gun, a crate of 14.5mm ammunition, two 91mm

See CAPTURE, Page 3



Sgt. J.H. French

Paratroopers wait for a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter to land after the completion of Operation Waal.

Rakkasans take over for Commandos at Striker

PFC. MARY GURNEE

3RD BCT, 101ST ABN. DIV. (AASLT)

CAMP STRIKER — Rakkasans are beginning to take the lead in conducting full-spectrum counterinsurgency operations in southwest Baghdad.

Soldiers of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), are undergoing a relief-in-place process in which they assume authority from the Commandos of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry).

"It's a very complex part of any operation over here," said Lt. Col. Matthew D. Redding, 626th Brigade Support Battalion commander, 3rd BCT, 101st Abn. Div. (AASLT). "When you have a brand new unit coming into someone else's operational area, it's a very delicate and detailed process of handing over every mission a unit has formed in combat to the brand-new units."

The Rakkasans are in their initial phase of assuming authority and it will take time and effort to complete the

transition.

The RIP process is lengthy because it reaches all the way down to the individual Soldier level.

"You've got to have a lot of patience," said Lt. Elton J. Thomas, the product purchasing officer for 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd BCT, 10th Mtn. Div. (LI).

Thomas will continue to do his job while teaching his counterpart.

"Basically he's coming when we are at the point [in our deployment] where we are starting to slow down a little bit," he said.

Even though things are starting to slow down, the RIP process will not be complete for days.

"We give him four days of right-seat riding where I am showing him everything I can, and four days for left-seat riding when he actually takes hold of the reins," Thomas said. "Once he takes hold of the reins he will take control of the projects. They will be actual projects, not templates or tests."

Spc. Natasha Powell, an intelligence

analyst for 3rd Special Troops Battalion, 3rd BCT, 101st Abn. Div. (AASLT) is another Rakkasan learning from her Commando counterpart.

"This is actually my first RIP," Powell said. "Last time we deployed we didn't have anybody here. We basically had to set up everything by ourselves and learn on our own."

Spc. Tracey Cunningham, an intelligence analyst for 2nd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 2nd BCT, 10th Mtn. Div. (LI), is her counterpart.

"I have a lot of faith in my new counterpart," Cunningham said. "She's very smart and catches on very quickly. This process is trial and error and you've got to keep trying until you get it right."

The Commandos have done a fantastic job of changing things for the better in Iraq, Redding said.

Sgt. Maj. Kevin Martin, Rakkasan top operations NCO, said he agrees.

"We could not have fallen in on a better unit," Martin said. "That will be our mission: to take their success and continue to make it grow."

Marne history

October 28, 1944

Staff Sgt. Lucian Adams, 30th Infantry, 3rd Infantry Division, was awarded the Medal of Honor, for his actions on this date during World War II near St. Die, France.

When his company was stopped in its effort to drive through the Mortagne Forest to reopen the supply line to the isolated third battalion, Adams braved the concentrated fire of machineguns in a lone assault

on a force of German troops.

In the course of the action, he personally killed 9 Germans, eliminated 3 enemy machineguns, vanquished a specialized force which was armed with automatic weapons and grenade launchers, cleared the woods of hostile elements, and reopened the severed supply lines to the assault companies of his battalion.



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



CAPTURE: *Paratroopers capture suspected terrorists, anti-aircraft gun*

From Page 1

artillery rounds, pressure wire used to detonate roadside bombs, two grenades, several assault rifles and magazines, an ammunition vest and a sand table used to plan attacks in the area.

"We also discovered a bull dozer during the operation that had been stolen last month," Lindsay said. "The militants were using the bull dozer to construct small bridges in the area. They use the bridges to avoid main roads and checkpoints while transporting weapons and planting IEDs."

Taking the militants, weapons and equipment off the street has made the area a safer place, Lindsay said.

"We definitely disrupted, if not destroyed, that IED cell," he continued. "It also decreases the risk to aircraft flying over the area."

The biggest benefactor of this find is the Iraqi Security Forces in the area though.

"The militants use the huge guns to shoot at the ISF and concerned citizens securing the area," Lindsay said. "Thanks to a tip from one of the local citizens, the area is now a much safer place."

Photos by Sgt. J.H. French

First Sgt. Karl Zaglauer and his Paratroopers conduct an equipment check. Below, Paratroopers display the 14.5mm anti-aircraft gun discovered during Operation Waal.



Safety Thought of the Day

LSA Electrical Safety

• Periodic electrical inspections should include:

- No electrical system modifications.
- A visual check of electrical cords, outlets, and power strips for signs of overheating, arcing, and cut or frayed wires.
- A serviceable fire extinguisher is in close proximity to living areas.

- Ensure CHUs are properly ground.
- Ensure smoke detectors are operational and replace batteries every six months.
- Self splicing of wires is not authorized.
- Avoid plugging appliances with heating elements into extension cords or power strips.
- Ensure high amperage items such as heaters are turned off when not in use.

Headline Highlights

Sleepwalkers; tight-lipped prostitutes' protest

They sound more like zombies than sleepwalkers ...

LONDON (Reuters) — A surge in naked sleepwalking among guests has led one of Britain's largest budget hotel groups to re-train staff to handle late-night nudity.

Travelodge, which runs more than 300 business hotels in Britain, says sleepwalking rose seven-fold in the past year, and 95 percent of the somnambulants are scantily clad men.

"We have seen an increased number of cases over the years so it is important that our staff know how to help sleepwalking when it arises," Leigh McCarron, the chain's sleep director, said in a statement.

One tip in the company's newly released "sleepwalkers guide" tells staff to keep towels handy at the front desk in case a customer's dignity needs preserving.

The company said naked wanderers often ask receptionists such questions as "Where's the bathroom?" "Do you have a newspaper?" or "Can I check out, I'm late for work?"

Studies have found that sleepwalking can be brought on by stress, alcohol, eating cheese or consuming too much caffeine. It generally takes effect an hour or two after going to bed, when people are first slipping into a deep sleep.

Asked Thursday why she thought 95 percent of its sleepwalkers were naked men, a Travelodge spokeswoman said:

"We have more men staying with us than women, so that could be a factor."

Dead man loses fingers despite carrying identification

TIRANA (Reuters) — A dead man's fingers were cut off for identification in Albania even though he was carrying identity papers and his killer confessed.

Police confirmed a media report that shocked the family of the victim, who had returned to Albania to marry his fiancée.

"This action was performed by the investigative team not only to identify the corpse, but also to clarify some doubts about the evidence," the Police Science Institute said on Thursday.

It said the removal of fingers was justified when the body was decomposed.

The man's best friend has confessed to killing him in a dispute about money on October 4. The body was found in a marsh by a shepherd eight days later.

Brazil prostitutes sew lips together in protest

LA PAZ (Reuters) — Prostitutes in the Bolivian city of El Alto sewed their lips together Wednesday as part of a hunger strike to demand that the mayor reopen brothels and bars ordered closed after violent protests by residents last week.

"We are fighting for the right to work

and for our families' survival," Lily Cortez, leader of the El Alto Association of Nighttime Workers, told local television.

"Tomorrow we will bury ourselves alive if we are not immediately heard. The mayor will have his conscience to answer to if there are any grave consequences, such as the death of my comrades," she said, surrounded by about 10 prostitutes who had sewn their lips together with thread.

Some 30 other women were shown fasting inside a medical clinic nearby.

Mayor Fanor Nava told local radio he would not reopen the brothels and bars closed after city residents fed up with underage drinking and crime stormed the red-light district in El Alto, an impoverished city just north of La Paz.

Prostitution in Bolivia is legal but pimping is outlawed.

Student activists who want the bars and brothels permanently shut down were also on a hunger strike, along with the leaders of an association representing bars, restaurants and karaoke establishments.

"It's not only us owners and the sex workers who are affected, there are thousands of waiters, cooks, bartenders, taxi drivers and street vendors who will be without income," said Ramiro Orellana, spokesman for the business group.

El Alto is one of the largest urban areas in Bolivia, with nearly 1 million inhabitants, mostly Aymara and Quechua Indians.

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				5	8	9		
6	1							

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

Target

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