

THE

# Dog Face Daily

Volume 1, Issue 184

www.taskforcemarne.com

October 31, 2007

*Serving Task Force Marne*



Photos by Sgt. Kevin Stabinsky

Gen. David Petraeus, Multi-National Force-Iraq commander, talks with Col. Terry Ferrell, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division commander, moments after stepping off a helicopter at PB Hawkes Oct. 27.

## Petraeus meets with surge troops

**SGT. KEVIN STABINSKY**  
2ND BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB KALSU — Senior leaders from both the government of Iraq and United States Army came to visit Soldiers at Patrol Base Hawkes Oct. 27 to get an assessment from troops on the ground.

Gen. David Petraeus, commanding general, Multi-National Force-Iraq, Dr. Ahmad Chalabi, director of services in Iraq, and Dr. Safi Al-Sheik,

director of the Iraqi National Reconciliation Committee, met with Soldiers and leaders of the 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Ga., who are operating in the Arab Jabour area.

Col. Steve Boylan, a spokesman for Petraeus, said the visit was meant to provide the leaders a better view for what

**See PETRAEUS, Page 3**



Gen. David Petraeus presents Capt. Neil Hollenbeck, 1-30th Inf. Regt., with a commander's coin for excellence. Hollenbeck was one of eight Soldiers recognized in front of his peers by Petraeus during his visit to PB Hawkes Oct. 27.



# Rakkasans assists Iraqis with legal claims

**SGT. 1ST CLASS KERENSA HARDY**  
3RD BCT, 101ST ABN. DIV. (AASLT)

**CAMP STRIKER** – The nondescript building at the Radwanayah Palace Complex Civil Military Operations Center appears unassuming, but the Government Information Center represents a beacon of hope for some Iraqis.

While the GIC provides several services, one of the most invaluable for local residents is the paying of legal claims.

With the Commandos of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), on their way back home, this is just one of many missions the Rakkasans of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) have taken over.

“(Local Iraqis) come in with all kinds of complaints,” said Huda, the GIC administrator, who also translates between the Iraqis and the U.S. Soldiers processing the claims.

Huda and Faik, the Iraqi attorney who works at the GIC, do most of the claim work.

“(People) come in with requests to be paid for damages, and I help (file) new claims,” Huda said.

Faik determines whether or not a claim is legitimate. He and Huda prepare the paperwork and collect the evidence required to prove that the claim is valid. The 3rd BCT legal office personnel determine whether or not the United States is actually responsible for damages and whether or not the claimant will be paid.

“Sometimes it is not for the United States to pay; it is the fault of an explosion by terrorists,” Huda explained,



Sgt. 1st Class Kerensa Hardy

Pfc. Zach Miron, a 3rd BCT, 101st Abn. Div. (AASLT) paralegal, goes over a claim with an Iraqi woman as Huda, GIC administrator, translates.

adding over the 2.5 years she has worked at the GIC there have been months when less than half the claims are found to be legitimate.

When Faik deems the claims valid, the packets are forwarded to the 3rd BCT legal office for a final review and payment.

“By the time it gets to me, it’s already been determined that the claim is legal,” said Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Williams, from Tampa, Fla., senior 3rd BCT, 101st Abn. Div. (AASLT), paralegal and foreign claims pay agent. He actually makes the payments to the claimants.

“My job is both good and bad,” Williams said. “Obviously, I pay money when the damages were caused by the United States. But at the same time, when a claim is denied, I have to explain that the United States is not going to pay.”

The CMOC is a blessing for some Iraqis, Huda said.

She said now the Iraqis feel that they have a means to get assistance. “It’s very great for them and they are grateful for it.”

She added, “I like to help; it is good for me because I help the (Iraqi) people and the U.S. Army.”

## THE Dog Face Daily

*The Dog Face Daily* is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of *The Dog Face Daily* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 3rd Infantry Division. All editorial content of *The Dog Face Daily* is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Task Force Marne Public Affairs Office.

### TASK FORCE MARNE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

[www.taskforcemarne.com](http://www.taskforcemarne.com)

Commanding General - MAJ. GEN. RICK LYNCH

Command Sergeant Major - COMMAND SGT. MAJ. JESSE L. ANDREWS JR.

#### Task Force Marne Public Affairs Staff

TF Marne PAO — Lt. Col. Randy Martin  
TF Marne Deputy PAO — Maj. Alayne Conway  
TF Marne PA NCOIC — Master Sgt. Marcia Triggs  
TF Marne PA Ops — Sgt. 1st Class Craig Zentkovich

#### Editorial Staff

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  
3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Abn. Division (Assault)  
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

## PETRAEUS: MNF-I commander checks in with 2nd BCT surge troops

### From Page 1

Soldiers on the ground are experiencing as they implement Petraeus' counterinsurgency strategy. Petraeus is the author of the Army counterinsurgency operations manual, FMI 3-07.22.

"You can only gain so much from reports," Boylan said.

The three supplemented their knowledge on the ground with face-to-face talks with Lt. Col. Ken Adgie, 1-30th battalion commander, and Col. Terry Ferrell, 2nd BCT commander.

"It's been hard, but it has worked," said Adgie of Petraeus' counterinsurgency plan. Comparing it to a drop of oil in water, Adgie said the drop, once small, has spread.

Arab Jabour was a safe haven for al-Qaeda before the 2nd BCT entered the area; no Coalition presence or Iraqi Security Forces had been there since the conflict began over four years ago.

However, Adgie said the tide is turning, crediting in part the Concerned Local Citizens in the area, who now number 699.

The program, in which local citizens act as security for their neighborhoods, has helped push al-Qaeda from the area.

Retired Iraqi army Brig. Gen. Mustafa Kamel helped to form the CLC program in Arab Jabour.

"Gen. Mustafa has given the people hope," Adgie said, describing the concerned citizens as "braver than the

---

*The visit was meant to provide the leaders a better view for what Soldiers on the ground are experiencing.*

---

brave."

Displaced citizens are beginning to return to the area, bringing back specialists like doctors and engineers, Adgie said.

Water pumps are also being repaired, an important development because the people of Arab Jabour are primarily farmers, depending on pumps transporting water from the Tigris River for irrigation.

Adgie said he will continue to expand on these successes as the focus changes from security to reconstruction, an important part of Petraeus' counterinsurgency policy.

Petraeus pointed out similar successes exhibited in the Anbar Province and the former "Triangle of Death," which he now calls the "Circle of Life."

As Arab Jabour experiences a rebirth, an important step is involving the Iraqi central government.

"How do we connect the dots between pieces of the government?" Adgie asked. "They are smart guys (the leaders in Arab Jabour). They just need some help."

Keeping al-Qaeda out is a priority, Ferrell said, now that operations are being geared toward reconstruction in Arab Jabour.

Toward that end, a Provincial Reconstruction Team was added to the 2nd BCT at the beginning of October.

The team is already working to restore such basic infrastructure such as clinics, schools and fresh drinking water, Ferrell said, noting that about \$1.9 million in commander's emergency relief program funds was available to contractors in the area.

One pressing need is local health care facilities — Arab Jabour residents can only get health care by traveling to Baghdad.

Hearing Adgie and Ferrell's comments and concerns, Chalabi said he would speak with the minister of health about getting the government involved in the area.

Chalabi said he would also work with the ministry of water to help with the repair of a sewage treatment facility.

The facility, currently inoperable, is repairable. Once repaired, the facility can provide 200 jobs and help relieve sewage problems in the outskirts of Baghdad.

Before leaving, Petraeus recognized one Soldier from each of the 1-30th Inf. Regt.'s seven companies by presenting them with a commander's coin of excellence.

Soldiers on their third tour of duty were also awarded with a coin.

## Safety Thought of the Day

### Humvee Rollover Reminders

- Reports indicate a high gross vehicle weight and a rapid steering action at speeds as low as 30 mph increase the likelihood of a rollover.
- Contributing factors in documented rollover mishaps include:
  - Road conditions such as sand, debris, gravel, or rain.
  - Cargo placement too high on the vehicle.
  - Drivers' inexperience or lack of training.
  - Over-loading.
  - Inoperative speedometers.
- To reduce potential rollovers:
  - Increase emphasis on operator training.
  - Adhere to recommended payloads identified in the TM.
  - Secure payload well to prevent shifting.
  - Monitor loading of vehicles to ensure that the

heaviest cargo is placed as low as possible in the vehicle.

- Reduce speeds, particularly when anticipating rapid maneuvers.
- Maintain front and rear tire pressure of 50 psi.
- Check tire pressures when tires are cold and the vehicle has not been driven in the last three hours.
- Braking distances rapidly increase with the vehicle weight.
- At 60 mph on smooth dry pavement, a HMMWV at max GVW has a stopping distance of 13 vehicle lengths.
- As loads increase past max GVW, stopping distances in excess of 20 vehicle lengths have been encountered.
- Reduced traction from poor road conditions will further increase stopping distances significantly.

## Headline Highlights

# 'Longest' firecracker string; burglars-in-a-box

## City lights 'longest' firecracker string

**BELJING (Reuters)** — A city in China's central Hunan Province set off a 20 km (12.4 mile) string of firecrackers this week — despite failing to persuade Guinness World Records to verify the event, the Xinhua news agency said on Saturday.

The string of firecrackers stretching from Dayao Town to Liuyang City, China's biggest firecracker producer, exploded for 68 minutes, littering the ground with debris and touching off an explosion of criticism from newspapers across the country.

"We hope the success of making the longest firecracker will increase the confidence of producers and make our city well known across the country," Xu Qiangguo, head of the Liuyang Firecrackers Bureau, was quoted as saying by Xinhua.

The event, co-sponsored by local fireworks plants and the local government, cost more than 800,000 yuan (\$107,000). But no official Guinness World Record representative accepted the invitation to attend the event, and outside media said the town's efforts had been wasted.

"Unless the firecrackers are supposed to be part of a cinema scene of raging war, what benefits can come from setting off 20 kilometers of fireworks?" asked the Beijing Times.

Xu disagreed. "I don't think it's a waste of money because we got what we wanted: extensive media coverage and more orders."

Chinese are frequent and enthusi-

astic users of firecrackers during traditional festivals, especially the Lunar New Year holiday which falls next year on February 7. They are traditionally believed to scare away evil spirits and bring good fortune.

Chinese towns have staged a variety of fantastic 'records', including the world's largest mooncake, the world's longest whisper and the most people ever to fit on a golf course.

"It's high time to call off applications for the professed 'longest' or 'most' records, such as 10,000 people eating hotpot and 10,000 people washing their feet together. They lack social significance as well as scientific and technical skills," said an editorial in the Guangzhou Daily, which called the event a "real burden for the local economy."

A ban on firecrackers in central Beijing was lifted in time for last year's lunar New Year festivities, to the loud joy of Beijingers.

## Burglars-in-a-box busted

**TORONTO (Reuters)** — Two men and a woman who used an ordinary cardboard box to break into over 200 Toronto area fast-food joints were caught by lucky timing, police said on Friday.

The trio arrived at their target with an oversized cardboard box, which they propped up against the restaurant's front door. One person hid in the box and used specialized tools to break into the restaurant, while the others stood guard with a police scanner and two-way radios.

"They were able to, by experience,

literally remove the glass from the pane of the door and then set the glass aside," said Detective Sergeant Reuben Strober of Toronto Police, adding that the burglars managed to disable most alarm systems at the same time.

Even if the alarms were triggered, the suspects got away before police arrived. Over the course of their crime spree, they made off with some C\$250,000 (\$260,000), police said.

Strober said the three were finally caught after police responded to an unrelated call in the neighborhood.

They face 355 charges.

## Fighters get life bans after shoplifting spree

**BANGKOK (Reuters)** — Three Romanian boxers have been given life bans after they were caught shoplifting in a plush Chicago department store during the world amateur championships.

Marius Bogdan Dinu, 21, Ronald Gavril, 21, and Gabriel Julian Stan, 20, were caught red-handed Friday and have already been sent home, the Amateur International Boxing Association said in a statement.

"This misbehavior tarnishes the image and reputation of AIBA and the sport of boxing," AIBA president Wu Ching-kuo said.

"The measures AIBA has taken are a strong illustration of the new AIBA and its zero tolerance for misbehavior inside or outside of the ring."

Romania's boxing chief Rudel Obreja has already issued a public apology for the incident, the AIBA said.

**S  
u  
d  
o  
k  
u**

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

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

**Solution to yesterday's puzzle:**

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

## ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

Money

*Floss*