

Serving Task Force Marne



Courtesy photo

Soldiers from Battery A, 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment, and Iraqi policemen pass out food to the citizens of Worker Village, east of Baghdad, Nov. 1.

1-10th FA deliver food to Worker Village

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

FOB HAMMER — With Iraqi television cameras rolling, Soldiers from Battery A, 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment worked with local Iraqi policemen to distribute food to the people of Worker Village, east of Baghdad Nov. 1.

Ziyad Nihad from Al-Hurrah television was on hand to record the food drop and interview Maj. Luis Rivera, 1-10th FA Regt. executive officer, about the battalion's work in the area.

"We are making steady progress with

"This food drop will allow Coalition Forces to build a good rapport with the (local) citizens."

> — Capt. Patrick Moffett Btry. A, 1-10th FA commander

the Concerned Local Citizens program" Rivera said. "We are still trying to get it up and running, but we have already received two tips a week ago which led to the discovery of an ammunition cache."

The 1-10th FA Regt. has been using efforts like the food drop to help increase local support for Coalition Forces, Iraqi police, Iraqi national police and local leaders in the area. The battalion includes local leadership in all of its humanitarian missions to show the residents that it is working with their leaders to help provide a more secure environment for them.

"This food drop will allow Coalition Forces to build a good rapport with the citizens from Worker Village," said Capt. Patrick Moffett, Btry. A commander.

The Dog Face Daily

UAS provides bird's-eye recon

PFC. MONICA K. SMITH 3RD CAB, 3RD INF. DIV.

BAGHDAD — High above the Iraqi landscape flies the "eye in the sky," taking detailed photos of activities below.

Gazing down from thousands of feet, the unmanned aerial system is able to watch the movements of convoys, see improvised explosive devices being planted and notify ground troops on activities in their area of operations.

"The UAS provides reconnaissance, target acquisition and it can spot convoys," said Sgt. Justin Bramlett, crew chief with Company B, 425th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division.

If troops face resistance the UAS is able to relay information such as grid coordinates on enemy location, Bramlett said.

Since the UAS - named the Shadow - is unmanned, it provides scouting options without endangering a pilot or its crew.

"It's good for everyone because it's unmanned," Bramlett said. "If it crashes, not that it's a good thing, but it's good that nobody is killed or hurt."

The Shadow is launched by a type of pressurized sling-shot, Bramlett explained.

It is loaded onto a ramp which literally throws the aircraft into the sky where it then uses its engine for powered flight.

The Shadow is able to fly at 15,000 feet; it usually flies between 5,000 to 8,000 feet, out of shooting distance yet close enough to gather information to send to those on the ground. The Shad-



Pfc. Monica K. Smith

Sgt. Christopher Maul conducts a pre-flight check on a UAS Oct. 31.

ow costs \$600,000 — the camera alone costs \$300,000.

While the UAS Company at FOB Kalsu is responsible for takeoff and landing of the Shadow, the aircraft is commanded by other units within their area of operations who take control seconds after takeoff to better use the aircraft as their mission dictates.

To take care of the costly aircraft, the UAS Company, which is part of the 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division combined the UAS units from the 2nd and 3rd Brigade Combat Teams of the 3rd Inf. Div., the 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne Division (AASLT), and the 4th BCT (Abn.), 25th Inf. Div., to create four platoons operating out of Forward Operating Base Kalsu.

"The BCTs have been happy with the support of the consolidated company. We have more flights with more flight time which provides more UAS coverage in support of ground brigades." said Chief Warrant Officer Dustin Powers, UAS operations officer with the UAS Company, 1-3rd Avn. Regt.

THE Dog Face Daily

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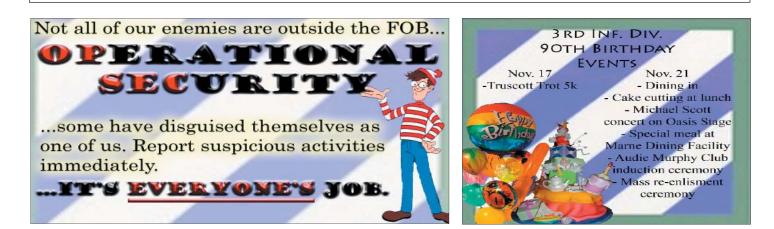
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Caring for the future



Sgt. Timothy Kingston Sgt. Charlie Jones (right), from Wilmington, N.C., Troop B, 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, interacts with children during a patrol in Nahrwan.



Safety Thought of the Day Safety Messages

Not all safety messages are getting down to the lowest levels

Ways to get the message out:

- Monthly/quarterly Safety Councils
- Daily/weekly safety briefs
- Marne Safety Alerts

- BUB Thoughts of the Day
- Dog Face Daily
- Unit safety boards
- Safety incentive items (awards program)
- Oak tree counseling
- Active leadership at all levels

Headline Highlights

Mistaken cremation; blogging grandmother

'Cremated son' turns up alive

LONDON (Reuters) — A mother cremated a body she thought was that of her dead son, only for him to turn up alive later, police said on Friday.

Gina Partington's 37-year-old son Thomas Dennison was reported missing last month and a body was found in Rusholme, Manchester, three days later.

The 58-year-old mother, from Urmston, Greater Manchester, formally identified the body as that of her son and, following an inquest, the body was cremated on October 30.

But police had actually found Dennison, living rough in Nottingham, four days earlier.

The case has been referred to the Independent Police Complaints Commission to discover why Partington was not told of her son's discovery in the days before she attended the cremation.

Inquiries are continuing to formally establish the identity of the body, but Greater Manchester police said they believe they know who he is.

Next of kin have been informed.

Police said in a statement: "This set of circumstances is clearly distressing and urgent inquiries are ongoing to establish how this happened."

Blogging granny a hit

SANXENXO, Pontevedra (Reuters) – "Today it's my birthday and my grandson, who is very stingy, gave me a blog."

So reads the first entry by one of the world's oldest Webloggers, Maria Ame-

lia Lopez, who, at the age of 95, has surprised herself by a sudden conversion from Web-illiterate to cybercelebrity.

"At first I thought a blog was just a type of paper notebook," said Lopez, a great grandmother.

"When I saw my grandson using the Internet, it caught my attention. I said to myself 'What's this? You can find out about anything. I want an Internet!'"

With 60,000 regular readers so far, Lopez's homely mix of memory and chat, available at http://amis95. blogspot.com/, attracts regular readers from around the world and has put her back in touch with the younger generation in a way she had never imagined.

"No one pays any attention to old women any more. Not many people love us. But I was surprised by the Internet, because young people who were 18 years of age, or 14 or 15, tell me about their lives and what they think and ask my advice," said Lopez.

Only one in 10 people over the age of 65 use the Internet in Spain, slightly below the European average.

Although that proportion has nearly doubled over the last two years, it still suggests older citizens are missing the digital revolution even though they make up a growing portion of the population.

"Age is more important (to determining Internet use) than income, gender or level of education," said Domingo Laborda, an official Spain's Industry Ministry.

The proportion of Internet users declines even more steeply after 65. Only 2.7 percent of over-74s has ever surfed the Net. But technology can help break down the isolation brought so often by advancing age.

"Although nothing can make up for affection, the Internet can help communication, with mail, chat or messaging, and it's fun and always available," said the ministry's Laborda.

LOOUACIOUS

Visit Lopez's home in the village of Sanxenxo in the rainy northern Spanish region of Galicia and you see her ability to pour out words on the net is matched by loquaciousness in person.

"I was always talkative, but now I feel more wanted, embraced, because so may people write to me," said Lopez.

On her blog she makes occasional references to her youthful good looks ("Ah, how pretty I was, and how little I realised it"), but today she has white hair and walks with a stick.

"The Internet has given me life," she told Reuters, describing how she receives messages from places as diverse as Brazil, Russia and Japan.

Lopez has called herself as "the world's oldest blogger," although a quick Google search reveals several pretenders to the title, including 108year-old Australian Olive Riley, who can be found at www.allaboutolive. com.au/.

Spain's Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero has written to congratulate Lopez on her blog and she recommends other seniors to take up blogging.

But it's not all easy.

"I'm going to die before I get broadband," read one recent, sad entry.

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