



(Photo by Sgt. James P. Hunter, 2nd BCT, 101st Abn. Div. Public Affairs)

Little Friendly Folks

Soldiers with Scout Platoon, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, attached to the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), interact with area children during a patrol of the western Baghdad Bakariya neighborhood Dec. 9.

Iraqis Successfully Complete Postal Training

By Jenna Bisenius
Gulf Region Division

BAGHDAD, Iraq – A nine-month postal employee training program for 27 Iraqis was recently completed in mid-November. The training took place in Baghdad; Dubai, United Arab Emirates; and Amman, Jordan.

The training program was

provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Gulf Region Division as part of the Postal Point of Service (PPOS) project for Iraq. The PPOS project is a key step in helping the Iraqi Post Office (IPO) modernize their services to be better able to effectively and efficiently serve the Iraqi populace.

The recent training will

enable Iraqis to operate the new equipment and understand the modern-day methodology that is the cornerstone of the PPOS project. Twenty males and seven females participated in the course. The students included administrative personnel, engineers, technicians, software and database developers, graphic designers and transportation and procurement

staff.

The PPOS modernization effort includes installing up-to-the-minute hardware and software at IPOs selected for the project. This includes setup of computer-based standardized postal services to allow secured systems and transactions, two-

See Mail Call Page 2



(Photo by Maj. Thomas Munsey, 2nd IBCT, 2nd Inf. Div.)

“Are You Ready for Your Close-up?”

Col. Jeffrey L. Bannister, commander of the 2nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, speaks to a reporter from al Sumeria Television following a reconciliation meeting at the Karada District Council building in eastern Baghdad, Dec. 11. The 2nd IBCT helped facilitate meetings between Iraqi Security Force leaders and area Shia and Sunni sheiks. U.S. and Iraqi leaders are working together to capitalize on the significant reduction in violence in eastern Baghdad communities.

Iraqi Postal Employees Finish 9-month Training

Mail Call

From Page 1

dimensional barcode identification systems and digital scales, all fully integrated. The integration of new-age software technology and advanced postal equipment will enable IPOs to provide improved postal services to Iraqi customers. For example, digital franking machines can be set up to interface with computerized scales to determine and print postage, thereby replacing traditional stamps.

Additionally, the PPOS project will permit IPO managers and the Iraqi Ministry of Communications to have global reporting and management control of IPO financial activity and revenues.

Upon completion, it is expected that the PPOS project will greatly improve Iraq's postal system security and will help to transform the Iraqi postal service into a service-oriented organization capable of competing with retail post office networks.

Arabic Word of the Day

nadef

Defined:
clean out

Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



Today

High: 69
Low: 53



Tomorrow

High: 71
Low: 55



Saturday

High: 68
Low: 51

Commanding General: Maj. Gen. Joseph F. Fil, Jr.
Public Affairs Officer: Lt. Col. Scott Bleichwehl
Command Information Supervisor: Master Sgt. Dave Larsen
Senior Editor: Sgt. Nicole Kojetin
Editor: Spc. Jeffrey Ledesma
Staff Writers: Sgt. Jerome Bishop, Sgt. Mark B. Matthews, Spc. Angel D. Martinez, Spc. Elvyn Nieves and Pfc. April Campbell
Contributing Writers: Jenna Bisenius and Spc. Alexis Harrison

Contact the *Daily Charge* at VOIP 242-4093, DSN 318-847-2855 or e-mail david.j.larsen@mnd-b.army.mil.

The Daily Charge is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the *Daily Charge* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 1st Cavalry Division. All editorial content of the *Daily Charge* is prepared, edited, provided and approved by 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs Office.



(Photo by Spc. Alexis Harrison, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs)

Capt. Christine Ford and East St. Louis, Ill., native Spc. Lisa Beasley, from Company C, 15th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, clean the teeth of an Iraqi man during a medical engagement hosted by Black Jack Troops inside the Baghdad Zoo Dec. 4.

One Last Time:

15th BSB Brings Medical Care to Zoo Employees, Families

**By Spc. Alexis Harrison
2-1 Cav. Div. Public Affairs**

BAGHDAD – One of the main responsibilities the 15th Brigade Support Battalion has taken on since coming to Iraq is the over watch of the Baghdad Zoo and Zawra Park complex just outside the International Zone.

On a number of occasions, the support battalion from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, has held cooperative medical engagements in the park's old restaurant in order to give medical care to employees of the zoo and their family

members.

More than 120 people came to the one-day clinic in the zoo Dec. 4 to be seen and treated in what would prove to be the last commitment of its kind for the "Gamblers" of the 15th BSB.

Although it proved to be the last of five engagements the Gamblers have accomplished – three of which were inside the zoo compound- it was still a first-time opportunity for some Soldiers, like Bellevue, Neb., native 1st Lt. Lincoln Henjum.

"This took a lot of hard work and coordination to put together," he said. "I'm

glad I could be a part of it."

According to Capt. Amy Cronin, the 15th BSB special projects officer, this was the most fluid operation of its kind she's been on since holding them in the park.

"This is the third time we've done this in the park. I think it was a success for many reasons. Good planning, experienced Soldiers and basic troop-leading procedures made this go so smoothly," said the Carlisle, Pa., native.

Operations like the medical engagements – named "Operation: Doc Holiday"

See Care Page 4

Baghdad in Brief



Iraqi Army Gen. Nassir Abadi and U.S. Brig. Gen. Robin Swan talk to Iraqi press about the shipments of vehicles.

Iraqi Army Receives New Equipment

BAGHDAD — Iraqi Army Gen. Nassir Abadi, deputy chief of staff, and U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Robin Swan, Coalition Military Assistance Transition Team commanding general, held a press conference at Old Muthanna air base to announce the delivery of more than 200 HMMWVs, 40 5-ton cargo trucks and 5 Rough Terrain Container Handlers and other types of support equipment that were purchased through the Foreign Military Sales program.

“These vehicles will protect our soldiers from large and small weapons attacks,” said Abadi. “They will help our soldiers complete their missions.”

The Foreign Military Sales program manages government-to-government purchases of defense articles such as vehicles, weapons, ammunition, protective equipment and uniforms.

“This is only a small portion of the equipment that is flowing into Iraq through the Foreign Military Sales program,” said Swan. “We not only have supplies, but services as well. Permanent bases and the construction associated with those bases have been purchased through Foreign Military Sales.”

Soldiers Provide Medical Treatment at Baghdad Zoo

Care

From Page 3

by the troops – are carefully-orchestrated with several elements of the support battalion coming together with one common goal.

Troops from Headquarters Company as well as Companies A and B provided security and logistical support while Soldiers from Company C provided the medical care and pharmaceutical operations to those being seen inside the clinic.

“This took a lot of planning on our part to make this happen,” Cronin said. “Starting out early helped incorporate all the moving pieces and make this a success.”

Outside of what used to be a two-story restaurant the screening process began with personal searches being carried out by troops.

After the quick search, the soon-to-be

patient or guardian would wait in one of two waiting areas before they were called forward to the medical care portion of the clinic.

Here, Capt. Silvana French and Sgt. Crystal Ritz would screen patients for allergies and symptoms before they were seen by a provider.

Upstairs in the restaurant, several medical and dental providers diagnosed symptoms, discussed treatment options and finally wrote prescriptions to be filled by the in-house pharmacy manned by Atlanta native Spc. Stephanie Thompson.

For many of the combat medics working at the clinic, this was the first and only time during their 15-month deployment they’d gotten outside of the base and into the city to help out.

“This was a great chance for a lot of younger Soldiers to get out and interact with the Iraqi people face to face,” Cronin said.



(Photo by Spc. Alexis Harrison, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division Public Affairs)

Atlanta native Spc. Stephanie Thompson with Company C, 15th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, gives dosing instructions to a patient during a cooperative medical engagement hosted by Black Jack Soldiers inside the Baghdad Zoo December 4.