



## Biometrics technology reveals true identities

Story by Marine  
Cpl. Frances L. Goch  
MNC-1 PAO

According to the National Science and Technology Council and Committee on Homeland and National Security, fingerprinting is one of the most reliable and convenient methods used to identify people because of the uniqueness of fingerprints and the ease of obtaining them.

Today coalition forces are using fingerprints, iris scans, and facial pictures, or biometrics, to identify insurgents.

Multi-National Corps – Iraq biometrics office hosted an Iraq Theater of Operations Biometrics Conference at Camp Victory, Baghdad, Iraq, to bring the biometrics community together.

The conference gave the members of the biometrics community a chance to network, and share tactics, techniques and procedures, said Lt Col Robert Huckabee, MNC-I biometrics staff officer.

“Insurgents don’t wear uniforms or name tags, so how do you identify them?” he asked.

According to Huckabee biometrics is the key.

Databases are formed by collecting fingerprints, iris



Photo by Tech Sgt. Cohen A. Young  
Sgt. Edward Dixon, Task Force Regular, acquires the retinal scan of an Iraqi man that wants to join the Sons of Iraq in the Sadr City district of Baghdad May 30.

and facial scans at collection checkpoints. With this database, if an improvised explosive device is recovered and a fingerprint is found, then Coforces can compare that fingerprint to the ones in the database. If there is a match, then has a name and face so it can find, arrest and prosecute the maker of the IED and take him off the street.

“That is how you do it in a world where the bad guys look like everyone else; when they hide in plain sight,” said Huckabee.

So far the system has proven to be a valuable tool.

“Biometric capabilities are now being used to aggressively fight terrorism, and they offer the single

most effective tool for identifying and tracking enemies,” said Dr. Myra Gray, Department of the Army, biometrics task force director. “Leveraging the full range of multimodal biometrics - finger and palm prints, iris patterns, facial geometry, voice patterns, and even DNA - we now have the ability to uncover suspects that hide in plain view, access forensic evidence linking suspects to past attacks, and track and neutralize terrorists before they strike.”

Biometrics is not only beneficial to Coalition forces and coalition forces, it helps protect the Iraqi people. By identifying, locating and capturing

insurgents and criminals it removes them from the towns and neighborhoods and the Iraqi people do not have to fear being threatened or harmed by insurgents and criminals and can go about their everyday lives.

Gen. David Petraeus, Multi-National Forces – Iraq, commanding general, spoke of the impact of biometrics.

“Your systems and databases and the dedicated people who run them are helping to eliminate the ability of insurgents and criminals to remain anonymous, hidden amongst an otherwise law-abiding, peace-desiring population,” said Petraeus.

# Baghdad Bad Boys beat deployment blues



Maj. Steve Howell, force generation officer, Multi-National Corps-Iraq, Lt. Col. Greg Rawlings, Force Management Division chief, MNC-I, and Chaplain Mike Charles, 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division, jazz out while performing at the Joint Visitor Bureau June 24. The group welcomes everyone to practice and 'pick' at their Friday night jam sessions at Building 24F, the mini chapel, at 9 p.m.

**Story and photo by  
Pfc. Eric J. Glassey**  
*13th Public Affairs  
Detachment*

Bluegrass is a mixture of old-time music, blues, ragtime and jazz which no one person can claim to have invented. However, Bill Monroe is often referred to as the founding father of bluegrass music because the music was named after his band, "the Blue Grass Boys."

On Victory Base Complex the local 'Blue Grass Boys' go by another name,

"Baghdad Bad Boys." Although when they play during the Sunday morning service held at 8:30 a.m. at Hope Chapel they do not refer to themselves as such.

"Bluegrass music, for the most part, is very simple," Chaplain Jeffrey Houston, chaplain, Multi-National Corps – Iraq, said. "You can enter a bluegrass group at any point, as a brand-new beginner or an accomplished picker."

"We do it for the stress release and we have a good time," Houston said.

"Smiling and laughing is the best therapy there is," Houston said. "We

didn't intend for it to be group therapy it just turned out that way."

"It's therapy," said Chaplain Charles Hamlin, 716th Military Police Battalion. "I look forward to every Friday night and playing music with these guys. Music is good therapy."

"It has been going on for several months now," Houston said "We'll just keep this up as long as we can."

The group which varies from 15 to 20 people plays every Friday night at 9 p.m. at Building 24F, the Mini Chapel near the bus stop just north of Dodge City North.



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## INFORMATION

# “NO SHIRT, NO SHOES, NO SERVICE”

### **STANDARDS OF DRESS AND APPEARANCE FOR ALL MULTI-NATIONAL CORPS-IRAQ DINING FACILITIES**

-All U.S. military personnel will be in uniform, to include possession of their assigned weapon, in accordance with the regulations that govern their branches of service. Uniforms, to include the physical fitness uniform, are to be free of excessive sweat and debris.

-Civilian and coalition personnel are not allowed to wear clothing that is soiled or excessively sweaty, bathing suits, halter tops, short shorts, exercise tights, garments that expose the midriff or underarms, sheer or transparent garments or any garment with foul, provocative, racially inflammatory, sexist or tasteless words or drawings.

-Proper hygiene is imperative to maintaining a healthy and ready force. As such, all military and civilian personnel will wash their hands at the wash stations prior to entering a dining facility.

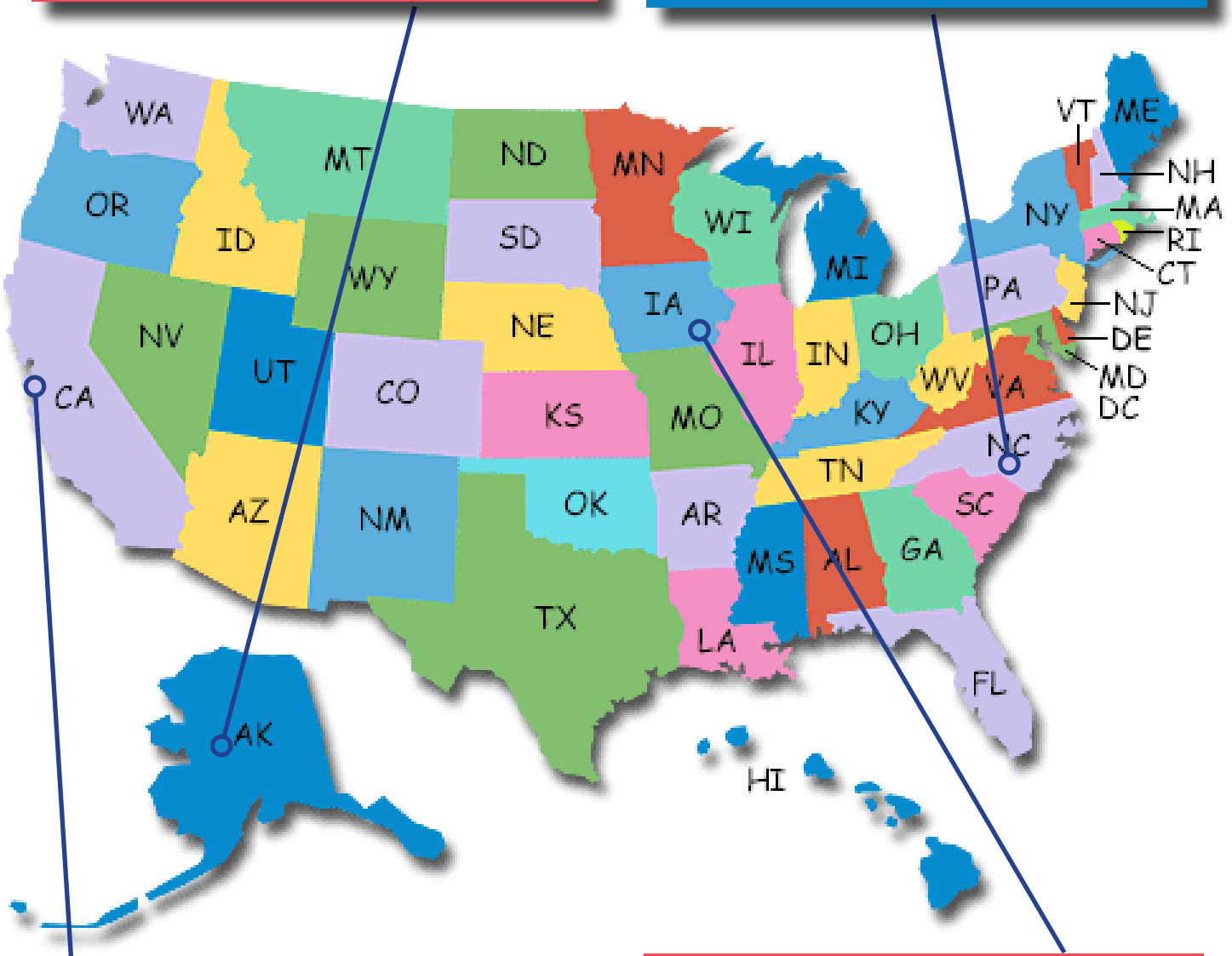
-No cell phones or cameras will be used within the dining facility and no bags of any form will be allowed into the dining facility.

-Personnel in violation of any of these regulations shall be denied access to the respective dining facility.

The point of contact for these regulations is Sgt. Maj. David W. Hankins, MNC-I C-4, at 822-2481 or david.hankins@iraq.centcom.mil.

**ALASKA** - Shell Oil said on Friday it would delay its 2008 drilling plan in Alaska's Beaufort Sea for a year because of an ongoing legal challenge filed by groups concerned about the potential impact on whales, walrus and other marine mammals.

**FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.**- Authorities are investigating the death of a pregnant soldier whose body was found Saturday morning in a motel, police said. Spc. Megan Lynn Touma, 23, was a dental specialist from Cold Springs, Ky., according to a statement from Fort Bragg, N.C., where Touma was assigned to the 19th Replacement Company.



**SAN FRANCISCO**-An electrical storm unleashed nearly 8,000 lightning strikes that set more than 800 wildfires across Northern California. The “dry lightning” storm brought little rain but plenty of sparks to the state’s parched forests and grasslands. Such storms usually don’t arrive until late July or August and typically from southeast of California.

**IOWA**- A railroad bridge leading to a Tyson Foods Inc meat plant near Columbus Junction, Iowa, collapsed late Tuesday, sending a locomotive and its engineer into the Iowa River, said the U.S. Federal Railroad Administration and county sheriff’s office on Wednesday.

# NEVER LEAVE A FALLEN COMRADE

**Buddies can Prevent Suicide**

**Not all Wounds are Visible**

**Be willing to listen.**

**It is your responsibility to get help for a fellow Soldier**

Talk to your Chaplain or a Behavioral Health Professional or Call Military OneSource **1-800-342-9647**

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



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