



The Mountain View

www.taskforcemountain.com

September 5, 2008

IA, U.S. apprehend criminals in Maysan

MAJ. CHAD CARROLL
4TH BCT, 1ST CAV. DIV., PAO



COB ADDER– Iraqi Army Soldiers conducted an air assault Aug. 30 to apprehend four criminals connected to attacks against Iraqi and Coalition forces in the Dhi Qar and Maysan provinces.

Soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, 38th Brigade, 10th Iraqi Army Division conducted the mission with assistance from Soldiers assigned to Company A, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, Long Knife Brigade in the south-eastern Iraqi province of Maysan.

The operation included more than 100 Iraqi and U.S. Soldiers, multiple UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters and several wheeled vehicles.

“The use of Coalition forces’ helicopters was a great help in the mission,” said 1st Lt. Abu Hussein, an Iraqi platoon leader. “I look forward to working with the Coalition forces more in the future.”

The Iraqi Soldiers maintained custody of the four criminals.

“The fact that this complex air assault operation was planned and ex-



Photo by Spc. Lester Colley

IA troops and Long Knife Brigade Soldiers stage for an air assault mission in the Maysan Province Aug. 30. Soldiers of Co. A, 2nd Bn., 7th Cav. Regt., assisted the troops of the 3rd Bn., 38th Bde., 10th IA Div., during the mission.

ecuted by the Iraqi Army demonstrates their progress in recent weeks,” said Chief Warrant Officer 3 John Deming, tactical air operations officer for 4th BCT, 1st Cav. Div.

Deming coordinated with the Iraqi unit to ensure all necessary elements were in place for the operation. Iraqi Soldiers also seized various small arms and munitions at the scene.

Kut IPs reach out to community with soccer

SGT. DANIEL T. WEST
41ST FIRES BDE. PAO



FOB DELTA– A team from the Karamiya district claimed the al-Kut soccer championship Aug. 28, defeating the Iraqi Police Headquarters team 7-6 on penalty kicks.

The championship game concluded a city-wide tournament, sponsored by the IPs and involving 12 community teams and eight IP teams.

The IPs created the tournament as a way to improve

relationships between themselves and the citizens of al-Kut, said Capt. Hayder Adnan Ali al-Saidy, the chief organizer for the event.

“We wanted to show them we are human too,” said Hayder. “We all come from the same neighborhoods and have the same friends, so why are we fighting?”

The teams come from different neighborhoods in the city, some of which have historically been hostile to the IPs.

“Even some of the players on the opposing teams

See SOCCER page 2

SOCCER

From previous page

fought us in March,” he added. “We told them it was ok to be open about that. Now, we are playing soccer.”

“Everything has changed,” said Hayder.

“It’s the first time we played with IP teams,” said Sadeq Husein Ameer, organizer for the Karamiya team. “Before we played with them, we didn’t like them because we thought they wanted to arrest us because we live in a poor quarter and our neighbors follow [Jaysh al Mahdi].”

The entire cost of the tournament, including equipment for the community’s teams, was provided by the IPs, but there was no room in the official budget for it, said Hayder.

“Policemen volunteered the money to support the tournament,” he said.

“They wanted to send a message to the people,” he added. “We are friends; we are human; and we don’t hate you.”

“Now we respect the IPs and know they respect us, and we hope to help them in our quarter,” said Sadeq.

Since the tournament, the IPs have seen increased support in the areas where they worked to build teams.

“We felt good playing with them because the citizens are starting to understand that the (IPs) are not their



Photo by Sgt. Daniel T. West

A player with a team from the Karamiya district of al-Kut kicks the ball during a championship soccer match against an IP team Aug. 28.

enemies,” said Warrant Officer Jbar Abass, one of the organizers for the event. “They said they felt ashamed to have fought us.”

The IPs recognized the challenges they faced in the area and decided they could cover more ground in a soccer game than in continued patrols.

“When we organized the tournament, we met with the civilian teams and told them we wanted to prove the police are here to support them,” said Hayder.



Photo by Sgt. Daniel T. West

A girl watches the action during a championship soccer match in al-Kut Aug. 28.

The National Association of the 10th Mountain Division, Inc.



The Association was founded after World War II by a handful of combat veterans determined to form an alumni organization that would carry on the traditions of the 10th Mountain Division as one of the most unique

combat forces in American military history. Its purposes include fostering friendships among all Soldiers of 10th Mountain, and encouraging mountain and winter warfare training within the armed forces of the United States.



To learn more go to: <http://10thmtdivassoc.org/>

THE Mountain View

The Mountain View is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of The Mountain View are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 10th Mountain Division. All editorial content of The Mountain View is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Task Force Mountain Public Affairs Office.

TASK FORCE MOUNTAIN PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Commanding General - MAJ. GEN. MICHAEL L. OATES

Command Sergeant Major - COMMAND SGT. MAJ. JAMES W. REDMORE

Editorial Staff

TF Mountain PAO — Lt. Col. Paul Swiergosz
 OIC, Command Information — 1st Lt. Julie Glaubach
 NCOIC — Master Sgt. Stephen Opet
 Managing Editor — Staff Sgt. Amber Emery
 Assignment Editor — Staff Sgt. Michel Sauret
 Copy Editor — Spc. Josh LeCappelain
 Editor/Design — Spc. Sophia Lopez
 Staff Writer — Spc. Tiffany Evans, Sgt. David Turner, Spc. Justin Snyder
 Media queries please contact TF Mountain Public Affairs at MND-Center_PAO@iraq.centcom.mil

Contributing Units

2nd Bde., 1st Armored Division
 3rd BCT, 101st Abn. Division (Air Assault)
 4th BCT, 1st Cavalry Division
 4th BCT, 3rd Infantry Division
 7th Sustainment Brigade
 41st Fires Brigade
 354th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment
 793rd Military Police Battalion
 Division Special Troops Battalion, 10th Mtn. Div.
 Task Force 49



Muslim chaplain covers lots of ground to serve Soldiers



Photo by Sgt. David Turner

Chaplain (Maj.) Ibraheem Rasheem leads Muslim Soldiers in Friday prayers Aug. 29 at Camp Victory. Rasheem is one of only six Muslim chaplains currently serving in the U.S. Army, and he is the only one currently deployed in Iraq.

SGT. DAVID TURNER
MND-C PAO



BAGHDAD – The most frequent question Soldiers ask Chaplain (Maj.) Ibraheem Raheem is the meaning behind the crescent moon patch on his ACUs. He sometimes explains that he's an astronaut; other times, an MRE inspector (you may have to think about that one). Sometimes, he says he's performed 3,000 night jumps.

In fact, the patch does distinguish Raheem as one of a special group of Soldiers. He is one of only six Muslim chaplains currently serving in the U.S. Army, and presently, he is the only one deployed to Iraq.

His serving as both a Muslim and an American Soldier, he said, can lead to confusion for some people, both in the military and in local communities.

"After you talk to people and explain a few things to them, they get it," said Rasheem. "That is, after breaking down a whole bunch of walls that have been put up in people's minds."

Rasheem said he and the Soldiers to whom he ministers have found ways to reconcile their religious beliefs with their military service.

"Most people understand that there's a difference between serving in the military and deliberately going to fight in a particular place for a religious-based reason. Our military is not religiously based. Most people can see that there's a difference there," he said.

Rasheem can relate easily to the problems of both his enlisted and non-Muslim soldiers. Raised in a Baptist household in Kansas City, Kan., he spent his first 12 years in the Army as an enlisted Soldier in the Medical Corps. In a way it was that experience, he said, that led him to become a chaplain.

"The medical field was the first thing that jumped out at me because you get to help people that are sick," he said.

"I dealt with a lot of death and illness. It brought me closer to my spiritual upbringing," he added.

Seeing the work that Army chaplains performed at the hospital inspired Raheem to seek a new path.

"I felt like that's when I got my calling to be a chaplain," he said.

The journey would not be complete, however, until Raheem accepted the Islamic faith.

"I started studying the Bible in college, and later began learning about other faiths," he recalled. "When I came across Islam, I went to visit a mosque. A member there gave me a Qur'an and told me, 'Go and read this, and come back if you have any questions.' I came back the next day with questions, and every day thereafter, each time getting the answers from the Qur'an until I eventually accepted the faith."

After completing seminary school, Raheem received his commission realizing his ambition to become a chaplain. His acceptance of the Muslim faith had not only changed his career path, but affected

his entire outlook on life.

"My experience with Islam opened my mind to the world, its diversity and its many social challenges. Before Islam, I only thought of the people in my neighborhood; after Islam, I thought of the entire world."

Rasheem is currently on his third deployment to Iraq since 2003. Attached to the Iraqi Assistance Group, he performs services and counsels Muslim Soldiers at Camp Victory, where he is based. He holds a prayer service there every Friday, but he also takes his work into the field, finding Muslim Soldiers who otherwise would not have access to his services. He brings copies of the Qur'an with him, and as part of his mission, he also collects damaged copies to be repaired and redistributed to Iraqi citizens.

During the holy month of Ramadan, Rasheem will be travelling to as many parts of Iraq as possible in order to tend to the spiritual needs of his Muslim Soldiers. That means a lot of ground for him to cover.

"It's hard being the only (Muslim

A FEW OTHER FACTS:

- There are 1,675 Muslim Soldiers serving in the U.S. Army, 175 who are women, according to a Jan. 2008 estimate.

- Capt. Abdul-Rasheed Muhammad became the first Muslim Army chaplain in 1993.

- In 1997 Navy Lt. Cmdr. Abuhena Saifulislam became the first Muslim chaplain to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps.

chaplain), and there are people spread out in many different places. Depending on transportation availability, weather and other factors, you may or may not get to a certain place," he said.

While visiting bases around Iraq, Rasheem will perform services and provide counseling for Soldiers, as he does at Camp Victory.

"I'll be getting out and trying to support the Soldiers that are out there trying to practice. I realize that it's hard being one of the few people on the forward operating base that has a different religion, so I try to get out there with them and give them some encouragement," he said.

Staff Section Round-up

IG Corner: Ask the IG, more questions on standards

1. I was told I can't smoke while walking; is that accurate?

Answer: Yes. Paragraph 5. i. "General Conduct" (2) states, "Smoking is only authorized in designating smoking areas." Military personnel are also prohibited from smoking while walking in uniform. The remainder of the policy is similar to standards on all military installations: smoking is prohibited within 50 feet of buildings and in military or U.S. government-owned or -leased vehicles or equipment.

2. What is the correct side of the road for running?

Answer: Soldiers are running on the incorrect side of the road daily. The signs clearly state, as does paragraph 5. b., "Soldiers must use sidewalks or walk/run in a single file facing oncoming traffic." These signs also indicate the use of headphones while running or walking is prohibited.

3. Do I still have time to register to vote?

Answer: Yes, but time is running out. If service members haven't seen their voting assistance officer, please do so as soon as possible and get registered to vote. There are only 60 days left until the November elections. Units are doing a great job getting the word out, now it's time for a strong finish.

4. Is there a requirement to still blouse your trousers when you wear the Army Aircrew Combat Uniform?

Answer: Yes. Like the Army Combat Uniform trousers, the A2CUs must be bloused. MNF-I Uniform policy 5. a. "Uniform Requirement" (1) states, "All uniforms will have trousers bloused at all time." The A2CU trouser will be bloused using the hook and loop fasteners.

Please keep the questions coming and we'll do our best to answer them.

- Task Force Mountain IG Team

G-1 Corner: New policy to prevent loss of leave

Service members expecting to lose annual leave Sept. 30 due to caps on carryover leave will be the first to benefit from a new policy allowing them to keep more annual leave, earn or hold on to certain special leave categories or even sell back accrued leave.

The new military leave policy, outlined in All Army Activities Message 185/2008 dated July 30, 2008, allows troops to carry 75 days of leave into the next fiscal year. The previous limit was 60 days.

The new policy expires Dec. 31, 2010 and is expected to reduce the amount of lost leave caused by a high operating

tempo. Senior noncommissioned officers and officers who have accrued more leave are the most likely to be affected. Soldiers may now retain special accrued leave – leave earned in a combat zone or designated contingency operation – for four fiscal years.

The new policy also allows enlisted members to sell back up to 30 days of special accrued leave beyond the 120-day limit. Enlisted troops can sell back leave when they re-enlist or when they leave the military with an honorable discharge. Officers can sell back leave only when separating from the military under honorable conditions.



What's left undone?

What do you think?
Post your comments
and
read fellow Soldiers'
opinions on the
Mountain Soundoff.

www.taskforcemountain.com

THINK YOU'RE GOOD AT
MADDEN?
LET'S SEE HOW WELL YOU DO
AGAINST THE PROS!



Contact 1st Lt. Kevin Skindell at:
kevin.skindell@iraq.centcom.mil if
you are ready to take on the Eagles!
Deadline is Sept. 5.

Headline Round-up

Iraq News:

Multi-National Forces – Iraq Commander Gen. David Petraeus said the improving conditions and a significant drop in Baghdad violence may make it possible for American combat troops to leave the capital by next summer. “Obviously there has been enormous progress,” Petraeus said in an interview. “We have gone from a situation where 14-15 months ago there were 180 attacks a day in Iraq. Now there are on average about 25 attacks a day.”

U.S. News:

Boeing Company aircraft assembly workers voted Sept. 3 to reject the company’s contract offer and strike for the second time in three years. They were set to walk out Sept. 4, but that was put on hold for 48 hours at the request of Washington Gov. Chris Gregoire and a federal mediator. Boeing’s three-year final offer included bonuses totaling at least \$5,000, raises averaging 11 percent, pension increases, a 3-percent cost-of-living adjustment and \$34,000 in average pay and benefit gains per employee.

Entertainment:

Olympic gold medalist Michael Phelps and other Olympians appeared on “The Oprah Winfrey Show” Sept. 3. Phelps and the other Olympians showed their support for Chicago’s bid for the 2016 Summer Olympics.

Military News:

American forces conducted a raid inside Pakistan Sept. 3 on a suspected terror camp and Taliban haven. This is the first-known foreign ground assault in the country against suspect Taliban safe-houses. U.S.-led troops flew in from Afghanistan for the attack on a village in the country’s wild tribal belt.

Sports News:

Oklahoma City’s new NBA team has a new name six weeks after the name first surfaced. Team officials announced Sept. 3 that the team formerly known as the Seattle Super Sonics would be known as the Oklahoma City Thunder. The team’s new logo is light blue to coincide with Oklahoma’s state flag, with yellow referring to the sun and the reddish-orange color of the sunset.

IF YOU COULD BE ANY SUPER HERO, WHO WOULD YOU BE AND WHY?



Photo by Spc. Justin Snyder

“I’d invent my own super hero who freezes stuff,” said Spc. Amanda Megregor, 13th Psychological Operation Detachment, Hopkins, Minn.



Photo by Spc. Justin Snyder

“Spiderman, he gets to swing all around N.Y.C.,” said Spc. Eduardo Melendez, Headquarters Support Company, Division Special Troops Battalion 10TH Mountain Division, New York City, N.Y.

Quote of the Day

“Everything we hear is an opinion, not a fact. Everything we see is a perspective, not the truth.” –Marcus Aurelius

Submission by Chief Warrant Officer Gerald M. Martini

S	1		8					7
u	7			4			5	8
d	6	5			1	7	3	
o		2	1					7
k				3				
u					6	4		
		1	3		4		9	6
					9	3		5
		4		6	2	5	7	3

Solution to yesterday’s puzzles:

from Sudoku Easy Presented by Will Shortz

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

Palindromes:

1. Midday - Noon
2. A young dog - Pup
3. Flat - Level
4. A word for addressing a lady - Madam
5. An Eskimo canoe - Kayak
6. A system for detecting aircraft, ships, etc. - Radar
7. An action - Deed
8. Pieces of music for one person - Solos
9. Grass that grows on the seashore - Marram
10. In music, half a semibreve - Minim
11. Doctrine - Tenet
12. Restorer - Reviver