

Searching for caches and criminals

By Pfc. Adam Halleck
1st BCT PAO, 1st Cav. Div.

BAGHDAD — Its 3:00 a.m. as American and Iraqi Soldiers rush to their trucks, trading the comforts of Joint Security Station Sheik Amir for the rugged farmland of al-Raood, a village north of Baghdad.

Troopers from Battery A, 1st Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, partnered with Iraqi troops assigned to 2nd Battalion, 37th Iraqi Army Brigade, 9th IA Division, conducted a

massive search for weapons caches and known criminals, here, Oct. 30.

“We compiled an inclusive list of known wrongdoers in the al-Raood area who had outstanding warrants,” said Janesville, Wis. native, Pfc. Jacob Kruzal, an intelligence systems analyst.

“The guys on the ground were given our target list so they could weed out the criminals who live among the people of al-Raood.”

In the early morning darkness, U.S. and Iraqi Soldiers converged on the village, cre-

ating a perimeter around the rural community.

Teams of troops walked through farmland and palm groves looking for criminals and weapons caches, while others provided security from the surrounding roads, while at the same time searching each vehicle entering and leaving the village.

“It took us about forty five minutes to control the security of about eight square kilometers,” explained Capt. Robert Reece.

“At the same time we were in the process of searching

al-Raood for weapons caches and high value targets who used the area as a hideout.”

The troops executed the mission after local residents requested the area be swept for weapons caches and criminal activity in hopes to deter outsiders from using it as a safe haven, added Reece.

“The local residents were pretty receptive and hospitable to us as we cleared the farmland and houses,” said Lakeland, Tenn. native, 1st Lt. Patrick Muldoon. “They even offered us food and chai.”

The Soldiers did a good job and got a good idea about security and civil capacity issues concerning the residents of al-Raood, added Muldoon.

“We got more than we needed during the mission,” said Muldoon.

“We made our point very clear that this area is not a good place for criminals to hide.”

Missions like these provide the residents of rural areas like al-Raood the opportunity to see their security forces at work with Iraqi troops in the lead.

“The Iraqi Army Soldiers were accomplishing some good things the more we got moving around the area,” said Cairo, Ga. native, Sgt. 1st. Class Phillip Cole.

“A lot of the local people wanted us around [U.S. and Iraqi Soldiers] to patrol the area, they were very happy to see us out there.”



Photo by Pfc. Adam Halleck

Staff Sgt. Shad Fowler, from Amarillo, Texas, takes time during the patrol to speak to an Iraqi child during a counter insurgency mission here, Oct. 30.

Raiders search for weapons

Photos by Staff Sgt. Mark Burrell, MND-B PAO



BAGHDAD – Sgt. James Hall, an infantry team leader from Orangeville, Calif., assigned to Company A, 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, searches for weapons or explosives caches in the fields of northwestern Baghdad, Nov. 2.



Pvt. Neil Cortez, a squad automatic gunner from Los Angeles, pulls security as his fellow troops search for suspected insurgent weapons caches in northwestern Baghdad, Nov. 2.



Crouching under a caved-in thatched roof, Spc. Eric Marquez, searches the area for hidden weapons or explosives during a search in northwestern Baghdad, Nov. 2.



Pvt. Anthony Altero, an infantryman from Putnam, N.Y. uses a metal detector to help find buried weapons or explosives during a sweep in northwestern Baghdad, Nov. 2.

Changing from tanker to chaplain

By Sgt Tracy Knowles

101st Eng. Bn. 225th Eng. Bde.

BAGHDAD — Soldiers stomp their boots on the marble floor, raise their voices and make some noise.

This is how Chaplain (Capt.) Paul Barnett, from Wareham, Mass., 101st Engineer Battalion, 225th Engineer Brigade, likes to start his Sunday worship services at the Engineer Chapel, here, on Camp Liberty.

As a 17 year-old who was pushing his luck, making some very risky and costly choices, a judge gave Barnett a choice.

"Jail or the Army, son," Barnett clearly recalled.

Barnett took the opportunity to change his life. The judge encouraged Barnett to show the world that he was a productive member of society and that he was worth something so much more.

In 1989 he left his home for basic training at Fort Riley, Kansas.

"I looked at the opportunity to gain some structure, discipline, self worth, and belonging to something greater than the streets," Barnett remembered.

"Be all you can be," the Army motto at the time was what got Barnett training. Every time he would slack, his drill instructors would press him, and Barnett pushed himself harder and harder in all areas of his life.

Barnett said he started to become a better man; working harder, striving for the best.

Driving a tank during Operation Desert Storm, in 1991, he was affected by what he saw during his tour and started soul searching.

"During a convoy I saw a young girl about seven years old holding a very small baby; she

was giving the sign for food," he said. "I could see the hunger pains in the child's eyes; my own heart changed. I physically felt hunger pains."

After Barnett's tour he returned home and decided college was where he was supposed to be. He was accepted into the University of Massachusetts, located in Dartmouth, Mass.

No longer a Soldier, Barnett said he started to slip back into his high schools ways. Finding he was making bad choices, he was close to being in front a different judge again, one who might not give him another chance. Feeling he needed to balance his life, Barnett joined the Massachusetts Army National Guard in 1995.

"I wasn't being all I could be," sighed Barnett. "I needed the structure, the discipline, the Army values back".

Just like his drill sergeants

used to tell him to do his best, he felt that God, being his spiritual drill sergeant, was telling him the same thing.

"I wanted to follow God's [standard operating procedures] and using the Bible as His [Army Regulations]," Barnett explained.

Barnett met Kenneth Walsh, of New Bedford, Mass., in Oct. 1995, and the seed of friendship was planted.

The two friends, along with others, named themselves the B.A.C., otherwise known as the Born Again Christians. Barnett and Walsh started experimenting with rhyming spiritual rap over secular music and they wrote a few songs during the next few years of college.

In the summer of 1996, they finished recording a three song demo at a local recording studio. As word got out on the UMass campus, churches started to invite them to play at various events.

In August 2000, the group released their first full-length album that opened the doors to the world of mainstream Christian music. They were even invited to be the opening acts for Christian artists such as Rebecca St. James, Sonic Flood, and Nicole C. Mullen.

Becoming a chaplain candidate in 2002 allowed him to help feed the spiritual hunger pains of Soldiers. Like the young girl he encountered during his Desert Storm tour, Barnett has helped to feed the hungry, minister to the sick, and pray with the wounded.

Barnett deployed to Iraq with the 101st Engineer Battalion as the battalion chaplain in June 2009. His church services started with very few people attending. As word got out about his preaching style and music, his has congregation grown.



Photo by Sgt Tracy Knowles

Chaplain (Capt.) Paul Barnett, of Wareham Mass., 101st Engineer Battalion, 225th Engineer Brigade begins choir practice with words of encouragement, Oct.29, on Vic-tory Base Complex, here.

On This Day In History

November 5, 1968

Nixon wins presidential election

Eight years after being defeated by John F. Kennedy in the 1960 election, Richard Nixon defeats Hubert H. Humphrey and is elected president.

Two years after losing to Kennedy, Nixon ran for governor of California and lost in a bitter campaign against Edmund G. ("Pat") Brown. Most political observers believed that Nixon's political career was over, but by February 1968, he had sufficiently recovered his political standing in the Republican Party to announce his candidacy for president. Taking a stance between the more conservative elements of his party led by Ronald Reagan and the liberal Northeastern wing led by Governor Nelson Rockefeller, Nixon won the nomination at the Republican National Convention in Miami Beach.

For his running mate, he chose governor of Maryland Spiro T. Agnew. His Democratic opponent, Vice President Hubert Humphrey, was weakened by internal divisions within his own party, stemming in part from the growing dissatisfaction with the Johnson administration's handling of the Vietnam War. Although Nixon and Humphrey each gained about 43 percent of the popular vote, the distribution of Nixon's nearly 32 million votes gave him a clear majority in the electoral college.

MND-B Pic of the day!



Photo by Staff Sgt. Mark Burell, MND-B

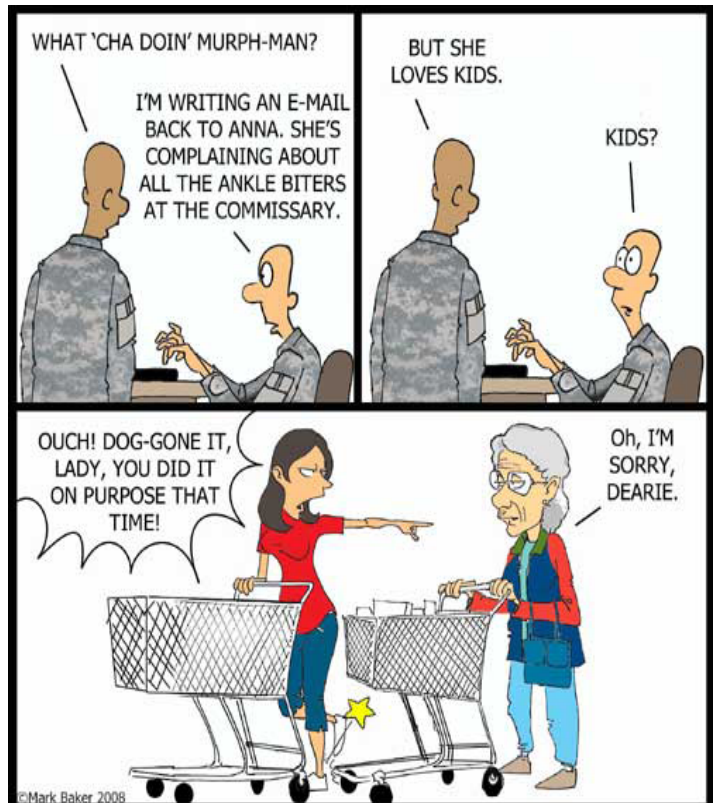
BAGHDAD – Staff Sgt. Andrew Byrnes (front right), an infantry squad leader from Aransas Pass, Texas, 1st Lt. Mike Slapik (left), platoon leader from West Bridgewater, Mass., Pvt. Steven Gamble (middle), an infantryman from Gastonia, N.C., begin a joint patrol with Iraqi Army Capt. Nomas Mohammed Hussein in rural Aqur Quf, here, Nov. 3.

FAMOUS FEATS OF CHUCK NORRIS



DID YOU KNOW?

When Chuck Norris sends in his taxes, he sends blank forms and includes only a picture of himself, crouched and ready to attack. Chuck Norris has not had to pay taxes, ever



Quote For Today

“Wisdom is the supreme part of happiness.”

— Sophocles —

Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



Today
89° F | 69° F



Tomorrow
85° F | 62° F



Wednesday
90° F | 66° F

TRIVIA TIME!!

During World War II, Great Britain, France, the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R., known as the “Allies,” fought against Germany, Italy, and Japan, which were called what?

Last Issue’s Answer: FRANK ROBINSON

Cav Round-Up radio newscast available

MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — The Cav Round-Up is a three-minute radio newscast from Baghdad covering military units and events across Multi-National Division — Baghdad.

Today’s Cav Round-Up # 191 was produced by SGT Ashley Anderson, MND-B Public Affairs Office.

This newscast includes the fol-

lowing stories:

1. Soldiers from the 30th HBCT are preparing vehicles for redeployment back to the states. Story from the field by SGT Erik Fardette, MND-B Public Affairs Office.

The key is accountability of all the basic inventory that is associated with the vehicle. Making sure every piece of the manual says that needs to be there is there.

2. New buildings at a small Army security station are allowing Soldiers more room to work. Interview with SSG Christopher Humphrey, 1434th Engineer Company, 101st Eng. Battalion.

NIPR LINK: Cav Round-Up

SIPR LINK: Cav Round-Up

Check out more news at the 1st Cavalry Division’s homepage:

www.hood.army.mil/1stcavdiv/

Trigger’s Teasers

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

The objective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers. There are three very simple constraints to follow: **Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order. Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order. Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.**

Every Sudoku game begins with a number of squares already filled in, and the difficulty of each game is largely a function of how many squares are filled in. The more squares that are known, the easier it is to figure out which numbers go in the open squares. As you fill in squares correctly, options for the remaining squares are narrowed and it becomes easier to fill them in.

Yesterday’s Answers

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



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