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the **STATIC LINE**

**Army Secretary
announces new
Army motto:
“Army Strong”**





the **STATIC LINE**



Many of you may be familiar with the *Static Line Magazine*, which is produced by Paratrooper and World War II veteran, Don Lassen. However, many of you may not know that *the Static Line* is the name of the first regimental publication, and was originally produced monthly during World War II. So as a tribute, and in honor of our founding Paratroopers of the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, we have named our forward-deployed magazine here in Iraq accordingly - *the Static Line*. Pictured left is the volume one, issue six, edition of *the Static Line*, which was published Sept. 11, 1942, at Fort Benning, Ga.

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the Static Line welcomes columns, commentaries, articles, and photographs from our readers. Send submissions to crdn.carden@us.army.mil. We reserve the right to edit for security, accuracy, propriety, policy, clarity, and space.

Soldiers give compensation to landowners near Balad

Spc. Joshua R. Ford
3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

FORWARD OPERATING BASE PALIWODA, Iraq (September 28, 2006)—When Coalition Forces came to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, they borrowed land from Iraqi landowners throughout the country to facilitate military infrastructure needs to base strategic operations.

The more than 800 acres of land that makes up Forward Operating Base Paliwoda was borrowed in July 2003. Now, three years later, the United States Army is giving compensation for what most of the true landowners of Paliwoda thought they had lost forever.

Lt. Col. Jeffery Martindale, commander, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, and Balad government officials – including Balad mayor Amir Abdulhadi Marhun – paid 64 land owners during a ceremony Sept. 28 on FOB Paliwoda.

“It is a pleasure to pay you today,” said Martindale. “I thank you for allowing us to use your land and I thank you for waiting so long to receive this money.”

The lot owners of Paliwoda were paid from July 2003 all the way up to March 31, said Staff Sgt. Omar B. Dave, paralegal noncommissioned officer, 1st Bn., 8th Inf. Reg.

“We were disappointed when America took our land but, now we are happy because we have legal honor to what is rightfully ours,” said Thana Mohamed, a Balad merchant and owner of a small lot on FOB Paliwoda.

There are approximately



Photo by Spc. Joshua R. Ford/ 3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

Thana Mohamed, merchant and land owner, signs papers to receive compensation for his property Sept. 28 at Forward Operating Base Paliwoda for the first time since coalition forces procured the land in July 2003.

419 true land owners of the FOB and each will receive compensation depending on the size of the lot they own on Paliwoda. Paying all 419 Iraqis will cost the United States Government approximately \$775,000.

Out of the 419 Iraqis, each owns approximately 250 to 300 square meters and will receive \$1,600 to \$2,000 for their property.

Sgt. Brian White, Balad radio station liaison, 310th Psychological Operations Company, reached the owners of the land on Paliwoda with Balad's only radio station to broadcast the message.

Immediately after the broadcast, dozens of landowners went to the local Joint Coordination Center to claim their property for a deserved compensation, said White.

To receive payment each land owner had to go through a series of screenings to determine if they were a legitimate land owner in the first place. The screenings included verification of land deeds dated before July 2003 and identification that matched the name on the deed. Unfortunately, all 419 land owners could not make it in time to receive payment.

“People that did not show up to get paid will get their money when they come forward with the proper documentation,” said Dave. “This is just the beginning. Units that deploy to Paliwoda in the future will pay the leases to the owners.”

It has not been established as to how often the Iraqi landowners will get paid, but it

——— see **LANDOWNERS**, page 2



Photo by Spc. Joshua R. Ford/3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

A land owner of Forward Operating Base Paliwoda signs papers to receive compensation for land he hasn't seen since the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom at the Joint Coordination Center Sept. 28 in Balad, Iraq.

will not be a monthly event. The leases will be paid every six months to a year, added Dave.

"We came here to help the Iraqi people and we needed a base to conduct operations from. Since we aren't an occupation force, we're going to pay these people for the land they've let us use," said White.

"My family is happy. It's like anyone who would lose something and then regain it. It brings true joy to my family," said Mohamed.

Editor's Note: *The Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, are currently attached to Task Force Panther conducting combat operations in and around Balad, Iraq.*

Dep. Ambassador visits Salah ad Din

Capt. Aydin Mohtashamian
3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS BASE SPEICHER, Iraq (September 25, 2006) – Ambassador Daniel Speckhard, Deputy Chief of Mission of the U.S. Embassy in Iraq, and Maj. Gen. Bill Caldwell, Deputy Chief of Staff of Strategic Effects, Multi-National Force – Iraq, met with coalition and Iraqi leaders of the Salah ad Din Province Sep. 25 at COB Speicher to discuss political, economic, and security issues concerning the province.

"I'd like to express my respect and gratitude for your progress and bravery in this very difficult period of Iraq," Speckard said. "The government of the United States will stand by you during these times."

Salah ad Din Governor Hamed Hamood Shekti; Col. Bryan R. Owens, commander, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division; and Stephanie Miley of the Provincial Reconstruction Team were a few of the key-leadership participants of Salah ad Din

present at the meeting.

Concerns for travel and how security in surrounding provinces affected their lives were brought to the attention of Speckhard and Caldwell by the provincial government.

Hamed also addressed the issues of job openings and better opportunities for the people of Salah ad Din as well as concerns about how to move forward in making the province a better place to live for all of its citizens.

"We will take your concerns back to Baghdad and we will work with the ministries to resolve your issues," Speckhard said.

Speckhard and his aides took copious notes as Miley discussed agriculture and infrastructure projects with long-term impacts. This was discussed in great detail as Hamed shared his thoughts on how projects such as date and olive orchards would improve the quality of life for all of his province's citizens.

Caldwell praised Owens' and his 3rd Brigade Combat Team for the progress they've made training Iraqi security



Photo by Spc. Joshua R. Ford/3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

Deputy Chief of Mission of the U.S. Embassy in Iraq, Ambassador Daniel Speckhard (center); Maj. Gen. Bill Caldwell (left), Deputy Chief of Staff of Strategic Effects, Multit-National Force-Iraq; and Stephanie Miley of the Salah ad Din Provincial Reconstruction Team; discuss issues and concerns with provincial leadership during a meeting Sept. 25 at Contingency Operations Base, Iraq.

forces and initializing infrastructure projects. Caldwell emphasized the need for partnership and cooperation among coalition forces and the people of Iraq.

"You have with you one of the best units in the United States Army," Caldwell said. "When the people of New Orleans were in need last year, the President sent the 82nd

Airborne Division, Colonel Owens, and his brigade to help. He is here now to help you."

Sheik Rashid, leader of the Provincial Council also expressed his appreciation for Owen's and his Paratroopers.

"We are pleased with the work you've done," Rashid said. "We consider you a friend here."

Ramadan

the holy month

Most Coalition Force Soldiers have come to know the month of Ramadan as a time of increased attacks from insurgents and a time for increased vigilance. However, Ramadan is intended to be a time of peace and prayer. Unfortunately, certain extremist elements have used Ramadan as an opportunity to spread terror and fear among the population of Iraq.

Muslims believe that Muhammad was visited by the Angel Gabriel in the year Ramadan 610. This was the occasion where tradition reports that the initial verses of the Qur'an (Islam's sacred scripture) were imparted to Muhammad by the angel Gabriel.

Ramadan is observed by a month of fasting. Fasting is one of the five pillars, or guiding principles, of Islam. Muslims understand fasting as a process of purification, a means to attain the consciousness of Allah, and to guard against the schemes of Satan.

Ramadan is considered above all to be the month of the Qur'an and reconciliation,

During Ramadan, communities are encouraged to put more effort into building bridges, making amends, treating others well and acknowledging basic family values such

as respecting one's parents and siblings.

Muslims believe that the gates of Heaven, or Jannah, are open and the gates of Hell, or Jahannam, are locked for the duration of Ramadan.

The dates for the observance of Ramadan are determined by the Lunar Calendar. The Lunar Calendar is based upon 255 days rather than the 365 days associated with Western calendars. As a result of the shorter cycle, the dates for Ramadan begin 11 days earlier each year. The start date for Ramadan is determined locally through a combination of astrological and eye-witness methods. This year the dates are on or about Sept. 24 through Oct. 23.

All Muslims must fast from the first light of dawn until sunset during each day of the month of Ramadan. Fasting means a total abstention from food, drink — including water — and sexual relations.

During the last ten days of Ramadan, reward for prayer and good actions increases and the "Night of Power," or Laylatul Qadr, occurs on either the 21st, 23rd, 25th, 27th or the 29th of Ramadan. It is not known when this night is so

Muslims are expected to increase prayer effort on these days. Laylatul Qadr is said to be a night better than a thousand months.

The festival of Eid-ul-Fitr celebrates the end of the fast and the end of Ramadan. This festival lasts for three days and is exemplified by joyful celebration of enhanced piety, moral victory, peace, and fellowship.

Many understand that security forces — Iraqi and Coalition — may have difficulties in their mission of bringing safety and security to Salah ad Din by merely hunting and killing terrorists. By understanding the importance of Ramadan and other facets of Iraqi culture, every Paratrooper can become more successful in dealing with the Iraqi populace and in discrediting the terrorists who twist religion for their personal agenda.



Paratroopers use radio show to inform citizens

Non-kinetic operations, approach proves beneficial for Iraqis and coalition

Public Affairs

3BCT, 82nd Abn Div

TIKRIT, Iraq (Sept. 25, 2006) – For Army Lt. Col. Barry Di Ruzza and his Paratroopers, past deployments may have focused mainly on rooting out insurgency, but as the Iraqi security forces in the Salah ad Din Province continue to operate and maneuver more on their own, Di Ruzza has put more emphasis on “non-kinetic” operations.

His Paratroopers continue to patrol almost daily, but only as a supporting element for the local army and police.

As the commander of the 1st Battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Di Ruzza focuses much of his efforts to promoting the local security forces and informing the local populace of economic and infrastructure improvements.

The Salah ad Din Radio Show broadcasted from Tikrit, the largest city in the province, is one asset Di Ruzza has used regularly to spread information to the local citizens, he said.

“It’s important that the people of Tikrit have a positive perception of their government, security forces, and coalition forces,” Di Ruzza said. “The show provides an excellent platform for these elements to meet and discuss the current situation in Iraq.”

So far, Di Ruzza has been a guest on the radio show four times and will continue as a guest every other Thursday, he said.

Di Ruzza has addressed and discussed major events, such as Ramadan and civil-military projects that were planned and developed by the Salah ad Din



Photo by Capt. Kenneth Cosgriff/ Task Force Loyalty

Lt. Col. Barry Di Ruzza, commander, 1st Battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, listens to callers during his guest spot on the Salah ad Din Radio Show Sept. 21 in Tikrit, Iraq.

government, and how the overall quality of life throughout the region has improved.

Security is also a common topic. It’s the most imperative area of discussion during the show, Di Ruzza said.

ers and people of the region as passionate, intelligent, and having a strong desire for peace and security.

“I enjoy listening to their concerns and addressing the problems facing Tikrit and the

can relay the answer back to the public.

“Most of our callers address issues that coalition forces can affect,” Di Ruzza said. “I answer the questions that I know, and we have the radio station take down names and contact numbers to answer questions that require further development.”

Di Ruzza said that “non-kinetic” approaches, such as doing the radio show and meetings with the local populace, governance and security officials, is often times the best solution – that it pays dividends in gaining respect and cooperation from the Iraqi people.

“Our goal is to get to the point where kinetic operations are used only when absolutely necessary,” Di Ruzza said. “As the Iraqi security forces and coalition forces eliminate the insurgency, this goal can be slowly realized.”

“If we can achieve peace and security, the city will flourish.”

–Lt. Col. Barry Di Ruzza, commander of Task Force Loyalty in Tikrit, Iraq

“Security is the single most important issue facing the people of Tikrit,” Di Ruzza explained. “If we can achieve peace and security, the city will flourish.”

On average, the show has enough time for six or seven call-ins, which Di Ruzza said is his favorite part of the show. He characterizes the listen-

surrounding region,” Di Ruzza said. “Every response we give to the listeners addresses the fact that their appointed and elected officials are improving peace and stability in Salah-Ad-Din.”

At times Di Ruzza doesn’t have an answer for the caller’s question. He makes it a point to research the question so he



Photo by Spc. Joshua R. Ford/3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

1st Sgt. Micheal Green, Company C, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, is followed by children Sept. 16 while patrolling the streets of Bayji, Iraq

Bayji streets, citizens safer with Paratroopers

Spc. Joshua R. Ford
3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO

BAYJI, Iraq (September 18, 2006) — Mounds of garbage and pools of sewage lined the streets of a Bayji neighborhood as Paratroopers from Company C, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, arrived to evaluate a situation that hadn't been addressed by dismounted patrols in six months.

At first the citizens seemed weary of the American presence but soon accepted their arrival as an opportunity to inform the Paratroopers of problems they've experienced since the absence of coalition forces in the area.

"We are patrolling the streets because we need to assess the condition Bayji is in and what needs to be done," said Capt. Tim Peterman, Company C commander.

During engagements between the

Paratroopers and key figures in the neighborhood, children flooded the street, surrounding the Paratroopers and greeting them with laughter and smiles.

The fact that the children were approaching the troops showed that the citizens of Bayji did not see the Soldiers as a threat to their safety or security, which were some of the issues discussed.

"The resounding answer from the civilians is that they like Americans because we treat them with dignity and respect," said Peterman.

Many problems need to be attended to in the neighborhoods of Bayji. Faulty sewer systems, garbage disposal and security are just a few.

These are all troubles that 1st Bn. Paratroopers are trying to solve by mentoring the city's citizens and government on how to self-sustain.

Earlier in month, 1st Bn., 505th PIR,

presented the public works department of Bayji with maintenance equipment worth \$670,000 to help manage the amount of garbage and sewage that is strewn across the city's streets. Before that, 1 Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), provided the city with more than \$210,000 in garbage dumpsters.

"The whole point of us getting out there is to coach and mentor these guys on how to take care of themselves," said Staff Sgt. Daniel Myers, platoon sergeant, 3rd Platoon, Company C.

Company C also evaluated the condition of the Iraqi Police and what they are capable of in the Bayji area, said Peterman.

Six months ago the Soldiers of the 187th Infantry Regiment handed the security of the city of Bayji over to the Iraqi security

— see **PATROLS**, page 6



Photos by *Spc. Joshua R. Ford/ 3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO*

Cpt. Tim Peterman, commander, Company C, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, holds an Iraqi child after discussing neighborhood security issues with the child's father Sept. 16 in Bayji, Iraq.

PATROLS

forces with confidence that the Iraqi police and army was capable of keeping the peace. But when Company C began running independent operations in the city they were engaged multiple times by improvised-explosive devices, rocket-propelled grenades and small-arms fire.

“Instead of just driving right through the IED, like so many units before us did, we got out of our vehicles and engaged. We are aggressively pursuing the insurgents,” said Peterman. “After the first couple of engagements the insurgency hasn’t attacked. We got into their decision cycle.”

By dismounting their vehicles and engaging, Company C Paratroopers have set an example for the local police, added Peterman.

The battalion will base their overall success of their time in Bayji by whether or not the local authorities are confidently and consistently patrolling without concealing their identity, said Peterman.

“They (Iraqi Police) must stop the low-level criminal activity that has been plaguing the night as well as the high-level kinetic activity we’ve seen from the insurgency,” said Roman S. Olesnyckyj, platoon leader, Company C.

“Being the sixth unit deployed to the Bayji area, you have to prove yourself to these people because a lot of promises haven’t been followed through,” said Peterman. “You have to demonstrate that you will go the extra mile for these guys.”



Cpt. Tim Peterman (middle), commander, Company C, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, takes a knee to discuss the mission Sept. 14 during a patrol in Bayji, Iraq.



Photos by *Spc. Joshua R. Ford/ 3BCT, 82nd Abn Div PAO*

Above photo: Spc. Jaymes Skillman, infantryman, 3rd platoon, Company C, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, observes two children riding their bicycles during a dismounted patrol Sept. 16 in downtown Bayji, Iraq.

Left photo: Spc. Matthew J. Toups, infantryman, 2nd platoon, Company C, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, takes a knee and pulls security during a patrol Sept. 18 in Bayji, Iraq.

Bottom photo: 1st Lt. Roman S. Olesnyckyj, 3rd Platoon leader, Company C, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, patrols the streets of Bayji, Iraq, Sept. 16.



Army unveils new advertising campaign

WASHINGTON (Army News Service, Oct. 9, 2006) – The Army announced start of its communication and education efforts to assist the Army family to communicate to the Nation its new advertising campaign – Army Strong – to an audience of Soldiers, Army civilians and family members today.

Army Secretary Dr. Francis J. Harvey unveiled the effort to tell the Army about the campaign, a key component of the Army's recruiting efforts, during an opening ceremony for the 2006 Association of the U.S. Army Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

"This morning we will launch our internal communications and education phase lasting several weeks until we formally launch the new advertising campaign on Nov. 9," Harvey said. "It is vitally important that the internal Army family understand and embrace this new campaign. I believe it speaks to an essential truth of being a Soldier."

The Army is taking 30 days to educate its internal audience on the campaign's



Photos by Betsy Weiner/Army News Service

Army Secretary Dr. Francis J. Harvey unveiled the effort to tell the Army about the "Army Strong" Campaign, a key component of the Army's recruiting efforts, during an opening ceremony for the 2006 Association of the U.S. Army Annual Meeting Oct. 9 in Washington,

meaning. It will go "public" Nov. 9 with television, radio and online spots, as well as an updated www.goarmy.com Web site. Print ads are scheduled to begin in January, and will be directed to media that appeals to young adults.

The Army Strong campaign will build on the foundation of previous recruiting

campaigns by highlighting the transformative power of the Army. It will also capture the defining experiences of Soldiers – active duty, Army Reserve, and National Guard – serving the nation at home and abroad.

"I am both inspired and confident that the campaign will build on the positive momentum within our recruiting program," said Lt. Gen. Robert Van Antwerp Jr., commander of the U.S. Army Accessions Command.

The Army Strong campaign will address the interests and motivations of those considering a career in the Army, and will also speak to family members and friends supporting prospective recruits.

Developing the campaign is McCann Worldgroup, a marketing communications agency retained last December after a competitive review of potential agencies. To develop the campaign, McCann conducted extensive research among prospective Soldiers and their influencers, and interacted with hundreds of currently serving Soldiers.

"This is a campaign informed by research and inspired by Soldiers," said Eric Keshin, McCann Worldgroup's worldwide chief operating officer and regional director-North America.



Secretary of the Army Dr. Francis J. Harvey gave the keynote address at the opening ceremony of the Association of the United States Army annual meeting Oct. 9 in Washington, DC. Harvey also unveiled the Army's new slogan: "Army Strong."



*IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO HAVE
MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE ...*

*CPL. NICHOLAS ARVANITIS, ALL WHO HAVE
PASSED BEFORE YOU AND ALL WHO MAY
FOLLOW — YOU WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN*

505th Parachute Infantry Regiment 82nd Airborne Division



All the Way!!
H-Minus!!

