

Air Cavalry partners with MiTT on IA mission

By Sgt. Alun Thomas
1st ACB PAO

CAMP TAJI, Iraq — Helping assist the Iraqi Army achieve independence and the ability to provide an atmosphere of stability is one of the main missions facing the U.S. Army as it gradually draws down its presence in Iraq.

To achieve such results, troopers of Company F, 3rd Bn., 227th Avn Regt., 1st ACB, 1st Cavalry Division, is working with a U.S. Military Transition Team to ensure the Iraqi's are in a constant state of willingness to take over the missions ahead.

This readiness was tested as both the Co. F “Felons” and the MiTT visited two water treatment facilities assigned to the 34th IA Brigade outside Camp Taji, Sept. 16, to check on security improvements that had been recommended by the MiTT members on an earlier visit.

The last visit was a month and a half ago, said Lt. Col. William Bohman, from Cincinnati, MiTT commander, which gave the Iraqi's time to fix their problems, that included implementing new security measures

“They needed to improve security at their access points,” Bohman said. “They didn't have any screening, so someone in the street could look right in and observe what was happening inside the guard points.”

There were also no barriers or walls put up to prevent outsiders from getting into areas they are protecting, Bohman said.

“They are securing water access points which are part of the irrigation system,” Bohman said.

“They are stationed along the pipeline which pumps water out of the Tigris River.”

There were improvements to the previous problems, but work is still needed to be done, Bohman said.

“They are on the right azimuth at this point,” Bohman said. “They've made the improvements at the entrance way for one access point but not the other access point, so we have to keep working with them.”

The relationship with the Iraqi's is good, Bohman said, the MiTT Soldiers attached to the 34th IA Bde. are also helping them increase their proficiency with basic military skills.

“We're working with them now on dismounted patrols outside, using night vision goggles and battery re-supply for that,” Bohman said. The MiTT team is also assigned to the 1st ACB, who kept a close eye on the ground patrol with their aircraft, which pleased Bohman.

“The ACB is partnered with the 34th [IA] Brigade, so I am part of the ACB's partnership efforts, Bohman said. “Today we heard their aerial weapons team on the radios. It's not every MiTT team that has on call [an air weapons team] support like that.”

Joining Bohman on the patrol was 1st Sgt. Derrick Allard, from Charleston, S.C., Co. F, 3rd Bn., 1st ACB, who said his company supplies the MiTT members with select personnel for their missions, such as this one.

“This was our company's first mission so I wanted to get a firm grasp on what we were doing and

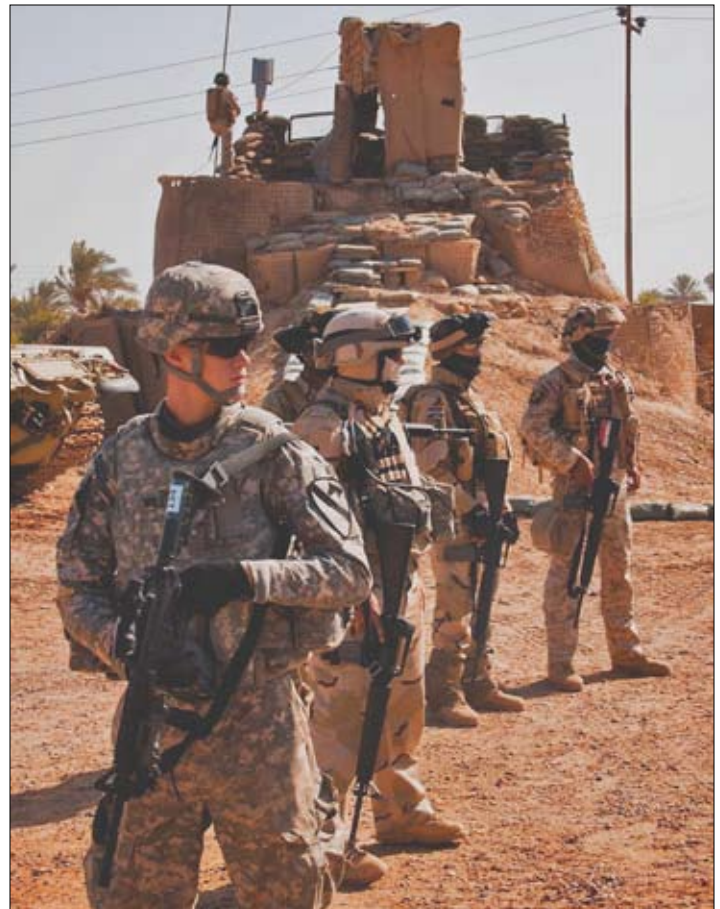


Photo by Sgt Travis Zielinski, 1st ACB PAO

Second Lt. Sean Williams from Eatontown, N.J., the officer in charge of a personal security detail for a military transition team, 1st ACB, 1st Cav. Div., stands guard during a water treatment plant inspection, Sept. 16.

how we were incorporated into the MiTT team,” Allard said. “My guys were the drivers and VC's (vehicle commanders) for the MRAP's and that's the role we play.”

Allard said he will be rotating Soldiers from Co. F every 30 days to go on missions with the MiTT in order to augment combat strength.

While no patrol is routine due to the dangers outside the wire, Al-

lard said, there was nothing complicated about the task at hand.

“It was a standard mission, checking on the Iraqi's facilities and making sure everything is in operating order,” Allard said. “We were also making sure they were doing the right thing.”

“Supporting the Iraqi brigade commander is one of the MiTT team's main missions,” Allard added. “We're here to support them in that.”

Partnered patrol in Salman Pak

*Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Alex Licea and Pvt. Jared Gehmann
3rd BCT PAO*



SALMAN PAK, Iraq – Staff Sgt. Shawn Webb, of York, Pa, hands a small toy to an Iraqi boy during combined foot patrol, Sept. 16.



1st Lt. John Cross (near right), of Kansas City, Kan., and 1st Lt. Andrew Osborn, of Fayetteville, N.C., check their surroundings during a combined foot patrol, Sept. 16, in Salman Pak, Iraq, located 30 miles southeast of Baghdad. During the combined mission, U.S. and Iraqi forces assessed security in the area and handed out some toys and backpacks to a large group of children at a nearby school. Cross and Osborn are both infantry officers assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion, 505th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division.



Staff Sgt. Timothy Bridge, of San Antonio, Texas, receives a “low-five” from an Iraqi boy during a combined foot patrol inside a market, Sept. 16, in the small village of Kersa.



Pfc. Juan Ramirez, of Los Angeles, checks his surroundings during a combined foot patrol inside a market, Sept. 16, in the small village of Kersa. Ramirez and his fellow Paratroopers conducted the presence patrol in order to check on the area’s security and deter any suspicious activity. The patrol also saw Paratroopers and their Iraqi partners spread goodwill to many of the local children by handing out toys and backpacks at a nearby school. Ramirez is an infantryman assigned to Company B, 1st Bn., 505th Inf. Regt., 3rd BCT, 82nd Airborne Division.



Iraqi kids watch in amusement as Staff Sgt. Floyd Smith, of Florence S.C., rides an Iraqi boy’s bike after the boy asks him to try it out for himself during a combined foot patrol Sept 16 in Salmon Pak, Iraq, located 30 miles southeast of Baghdad. Smith, along with several of his fellow Paratroopers talked to residents during the presence patrol in order to build relationship with the local community. Floyd serves as an infantry squad leader assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division.

Nation's Oldest earns combat patch

By 1LT Michael Lind

101st Eng. Bn. PAO

BAGHDAD — Having spent nearly a month in Iraq, Soldiers of the “Nation’s Oldest” engineer brigade, the 101st Engineer Battalion, 225th Engineer Brigade, were awarded the “Yankee Division” Patch during a combat patch ceremony, Sept. 11, at Camp Liberty in Baghdad.

The combat patch is a long-standing Army tradition that recognizes a Soldier for service during war, and indicates the unit command the Soldier fell under.

“The patch is meant to instill pride in you, your service, and your unit,” said Lt. Col. Charles Cody, of Braintree, Mass., commander of the 101st Eng. Bn.,

Though Sept. 11 is a somber day of remembrance for those killed in the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks, the men and women of the 101st can feel uplifted to know they qualify to wear a new patch on their right shoulder.

“This is the first time since World War II that a battalion sized unit is awarded the YD (Yankee Division patch) for former wartime service,” said Com-



Photo by Sgt. Tracy Knowles, 101st Eng. Bn PAO

mand Sgt. Maj. Peter Chase, of Derry, N.H.

1st Sgt. Robert Leblanc (right) of Walpole, Mass., attaches the Yankee Division patch to the right shoulder of Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Chase (left), of Mason, N.H., Headquarters Support Company, 101st Engineer Battalion, 225th Engineer Brigade, during a combat patch ceremony on Camp Liberty, Iraq on Sept. 11, 2009.

mand Sgt. Maj. Peter Chase, of Derry, N.H.

The story of the YD patch dates back to the creation of the 26th Infantry Division. The unit’s design comes from its nickname the “Yankee Division”, originally comprised of National Guard units from Con-

necticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Established in 1917, the division took part in major operations such as Aisne-Marne, Champagne-Marne and Meuse-Argonne during World War I. Following the war, the 26th was deactivated and would have to wait over two decades before being activated for World War II.

In January 1941, the Yankee Div. was reactivated and sent to Europe to fight in World War II. Throughout 1944 and 1945, the unit engaged in operations within Northern France, Central Europe, the Ardennes and the Rhineland. Coincidentally, the 101st Eng. Bn. fought under the 26th Inf. Div. during the war. By the end of 1945, the division was inactivated and would permanently be a structure within the National Guard.

By 1993, the 26th Inf. Div. was deactivated, and the patch

retired. In 2006, as part of the restructuring of the Army, the YD patch was brought out of retirement and awarded to the 26th Brigade Combat Team. In September 2008, the unit was reorganized into the 26th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, and in doing so brought the 101st Eng. Bn. officially under its control.

For Soldiers like Master Sgt. Alan Cyr, of Upton, Mass., the day is a personally historic day. He now becomes the third generation in his family to serve and earn the YD patch.

“My grandfather was in the Yankee Div. and earned a Purple Heart with them, but didn’t leave France until 1919 due to his wounds,” Cyr said. “[Two decades later] my father joined at the end of World War II ... and was with the 26th (that) was part of Patton’s Third Army.”

“I’m really proud of having earned [the patch]; it’s a great source of personal pride for me.”



Photo by Sgt. Tracy Knowles, 101st Eng. Bn PAO

Master Sgt. Alan Cyr, of Upton, Mass., with Headquarters Support Company, 101st Engineer Battalion, 225th Engineer Brigade, becomes the third generation in his family to be awarded the Yankee Division combat patch; his grandfather served in WWI, his father in WWII.

On This Day In History

September 19, 1957

Nevada is site of first-ever underground nuclear explosion

On this day in 1957, the United States detonates a 1.7 kiloton nuclear weapon in an underground tunnel at the Nevada Test Site (NTS), a 1,375 square mile research center located 65 miles north of Las Vegas. The test, known as Rainier, was the first fully contained underground detonation and produced no radioactive fallout. A modified W-25 warhead weighing 218 pounds and measuring 25.7 inches in diameter and 17.4 inches in length was used for the test. Rainier was part of a series of 29 nuclear weapons and nuclear weapons safety tests known as Operation Plumbbob that were conducted at the NTS between May 28, 1957, and October 7, 1957.

In December 1941, the U.S. government committed to building the world's first nuclear weapon when President Franklin Roosevelt authorized \$2 billion in funding for what came to be known as the Manhattan Project. The first nuclear weapon test took place on July 16, 1945, at the Trinity site near Alamogordo, New Mexico. A few weeks later, on August 6, 1945, with the U.S. at war against Japan, President Harry Truman authorized the dropping of an atomic bomb named Little Boy over Hiroshima, Japan. Three days later, on August 9, a nuclear bomb called Fat Man was dropped over Nagasaki. Two hundred thousand people, according to some estimates, were killed in the attacks on the two cities and on August 15, 1945, Japan surrendered to the Allied Powers.

1957's Operation Plumbbob took place during the Cold War and nuclear arms race with the Soviet Union. In 1963, the U.S. signed the Limited Test Ban Treaty, which banned nuclear weapons testing in the atmosphere, underwater and outer space. A total of 928 tests took place at the Nevada Test Site between 1951 and 1992, when the U.S. conducted its last underground nuclear test. In 1996, the U.S. signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, which prohibits nuclear detonations in all environments.

FAMOUS FEATS OF CHUCK NORRIS



DID YOU KNOW?

Contrary to popular belief, there is indeed enough Chuck Norris to go around.

MND-B Pic of the day!



Photo by Pvt. Jared Gehmann, 3rd BCT PAO

COMBAT OUTPOST CARVER, Iraq – Cpl. Jose Norat, of Puerto Rico, makes some adjustments on a hum-vee's break system during a maintenance day, Sept. 15, at Combat Outpost Carver, Iraq. Norat said that he and many fellow mechanics are constantly busy keeping the vehicles on their base operating in good condition. Norat is a mechanic assigned to Company E, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

Embrace the Fierce Urgency of Now



NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH
Embracing the Fierce Urgency of Now!
September 17 - October 15

MND-B Hispanic Heritage Month
Date: 9 Oct 09
Location: MWR Field House
Time: 1900 hrs

Quote For Today

“You cling to your own ways and leave mine to me.”

— Petrarch —

Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



Today
98° F | 77° F



Tomorrow
98° F | 75° F



Monday
98° F | 75° F

TRIVIA TIME!!

Which tragic king from classical mythology unknowingly killed his father and married his mother?

Last Issue's Answer: Because he had no idea what the mysterious rays were.

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 # 158 was produced by SGT Lisa Heise, MND-B Public Affairs Office.

This newscast includes the following stories:

1. Milk goes a long way to help the people, as well as the economy in Iraq, and at the Baghdad University of Agriculture soldiers with the 414th Civil Affairs Bn and members of the EPRT are working with the Iraqi veterinarians to improve the dairy industry. SSG Mark Burrell, 211th MPAD, Multi-National Division-Baghdad PAO.

2. Vice President Joe Biden

makes a surprise visit to the Pagasis Dining Facility on Camp Liberty Thursday. The Vice President arrived Tuesday for two days of talks with the prime minister and other Iraqi leaders.

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

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



Multi-National Division - Baghdad

Public Affairs Office

Commanding General:

Maj. Gen. Daniel Bolger

Public Affairs Officer:

Lt. Col. Philip Smith

Public Affairs Chief:

Master Sgt. Nicholas Conner

Editor:

Staff Sgt. Peter Ford

Staff Writers:

Sgt. 1st Class Ron Burke

Sgt. 1st Class Jon Cupp

Staff Sgt. Mark Burrell

Sgt. Joshua Risner

Sgt. Jon Soles

Spc. Laura Johnson

Spc. Phillip Adam Turner

Spc. Howard Alperin

of the U.S. Army. Contents of The **Daily Charge** are not official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of the Army, or the 1st Cavalry Division. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army, the 1st Cavalry, or The **Daily Charge** of the products and services advertised.

All editorial content of The **Daily Charge** is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs Office.

Do you have a story to share?

The **Daily Charge** welcomes columns, commentaries, articles, letters and photos from readers.

Submissions should be sent to the Public Affairs NCOIC nicholas.conner@mnd-b.army.mil and include author's name, rank, unit and contact information. The **Daily Charge** reserves the right to edit submissions selected for the paper.

For further information on deadlines, questions, comments or a request to be on our distribution list, email the Editor at peter.ford9@mnd-b.army.mil