

# Warrior Academy helps Iraqis improve skills

**By Sgt. Jon Soles**  
MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — Soldiers of Company A, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, are the instructors of the Warrior Academy at Joint Security Station Ur – a 3-day academy designed to train Iraqis in everything from rifle marksmanship to first aid.

The academy’s first day focus is BRM – the acronym well-known to all American Soldiers as basic rifle marksmanship. According to Staff Sgt. Benito Santos, an infantry platoon sergeant, the academy’s lead instructor, BRM is often neglected among Iraqi Soldiers because of scarce ammunition. But at Warrior Academy, the Iraqis fired over 800 rounds at JSS Ur’s firing range.

“The course is three days so we compress everything into those three days,” said Santos, a native of Kagman-3, Saipan.

Santos also points out that the Iraqi Soldiers do not properly clean their weapons and sometimes use techniques that are harmful to the weapon.

“They use diesel fuel to clean their weapons, it makes the bolt sticky and makes dust stick to it and it becomes like sludge,” said Santos, who is assigned to A Co. “We looked through the barrels of these weapons and you couldn’t see through them.”

To test the theory that a clean weapon is a functional weapon, Santos said the Iraqis were allowed to fire their weapons before cleaning them. The result was a malfunction rate of about 80 percent, proving the academy’s



Photo by Sgt. Jon Soles, MND-B PAO

Spc. Carl Treen, of Northville, Mich., shows Iraqi Soldiers ways to apply dressing to a head wound during the first aid block of instruction of the Warrior Academy, here, Sept. 16.

technologies on weapons’ maintenance works.

Another day of class focuses on squad movement tactics and recognizing improvised explosive devices.

“This class helps them understand why it’s important to be in certain formations when in the city,” said Santos. “They kind of understand that now.”

The anti-IED portion of the class involves slideshows and parts of actual IEDs found by American Soldiers. Sharing the knowledge helps the Iraqis become more able to pick out a deadly IED, added Santos.

On the final day of instruction, the Iraqis lead a patrol in the surrounding Sadr City area to show their Warrior Academy instructors what they’ve learned. Then a graduation ceremony is held in which the Iraqi soldiers are given certificates by an Iraqi Army officer.

Capt. John Ulsamer, commander of A Co., 2nd Bn., 5th Cav. Regt., 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div., said the academy is already showing it worth in the IA.

“We’re seeing a lot of success from it,” said Ulsamer, an infantry officer from Staten Island, N.Y. “The Iraqi Army has detained eight times more people this month than last month.”

Ulsamer said his goal is for the Iraqis to eventually take the reins of the Warrior Academy.

“We’re trying to get the Iraqis to train and we just provide the facility,” Ulsamer said. “We’ve got a range and classrooms and we can have it so Iraqis could conduct their own training.”

As American Soldiers continue to let the Iraqis take the lead in securing their country, the knowledge gained at the Warrior Academy is sure to help the Iraqis become more confident and competent.



Photo by Sgt. Jon Soles, MND-B PAO

Sgt. Heriberto Fuentes (right), of Bradenton, Fla., shows an Iraqi Soldier how much dirt and debris is in his weapon during a weapons cleaning session at Warrior Academy, here, Sept. 16. Fuentes is an infantryman assigned to the Company A, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division.

# Old Hickory Soldiers deliver school supplies

Photos by Spc. Ruth McClary, 30th HBCT PAO



ZWAYNAT, Iraq — Capt. Mike Allen (left) of 150th Armored Reconnaissance Squadron, 30th Heavy Brigade Combat Team, shows Mohammad Ahmed pre-packaged bookbags full of school supplies to distribute to the children of his village, Sept. 16. Allen, of Parkersberg, W. Va., is the squadron's chaplain and the official overseer of care packages sent from the states.



Capt. Mike Allen (right) of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 150th Armored Reconnaissance Squadron, 30th Heavy brigade Combat Team, distribute school supplies during a visit to the Zwaynou tribe.



Spc. Justin Friend, of Troop C, 150th Armored Reconnaissance Squadron, 30th Heavy Brigade Combat Team, befriends a local girl of the Zwaynou tribe during a visit to the village southwest of Baghdad, Sept. 16.



Staff Sgt. Travers Brake, of Troop C, 150th Armored Reconnaissance Squadron, 30th Heavy Brigade Combat Team, thanked Mohammad Ahmed, one of the elders of the Zwaynat village southwest of Baghdad, for meeting with him, Sept. 16. Brake, of Elkins, W. Va., met with Ahmed to check on the well-being of the villagers since explosives were found in that area a week earlier. The squadron's chaplain accompanied Brake to distribute school supplies to the children of the village. Troop C is based in Glen Jean, W. Va.

# Closed vents keep vehicles cooler

By Spc. Howard Alperin  
MND-B PAO

VICTORY BASE COMPLEX, Iraq — Leaving the outside air vents open of a humvee can cause a lot of problems for a vehicle's air conditioner. The inside of the air conditioning unit gets clogged up and no air flow is generated.

"Have you ever turned your humvee on? You turn the AC on high and nothing is coming out, that's why," said Sgt. Michael Clark, the quality control and assurance shop foreman, from Arlington, Texas, assigned to Division Special Troops Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division.

For the M1114 Humvee, closing the outside air vents is an easy situation to manage.

The humvee has a knob to the right of the steering wheel labeled, 'Air' and the words, 'Pull To Shut Off Out-

side Air.' The knob must be pulled out from the panel to activate the damper that closes the vents.

If you leave the air vent open to allow outside air in, condensation from the radiator unit inside of the air conditioner mixes with dust and dirty air, said Clark. The mixture becomes a harder substance and sticks to the fins of the radiator, blocking air from coming through, he said.

Mechanics of the DSTB encourage all humvee and Mine-Resistant Ambush-Protected vehicle users to consult maintenance on how to keep the outside vents closed and to make sure the vents are functioning properly.

The cable that runs from the knob to the flap that closes the vent must be attached correctly, said Sgt. 1st Class Alonzo Taylor, battalion motor sergeant, from San Anto-

nio, Texas, DSTB, 1st Cav. Div.

Fixing the problem is not an easy chore.

"It's really hard to do maintenance, you have to take the unit [radiator] apart and take a pressure washer to it," said Clark. Additional problems may include work with the motor of the air conditioner, which requires tearing armor off to get the part out, he added.

Closing the vents eliminates a lot of work, making more time available for the mechanics to take care of other issues.

"A vehicle without air conditioning is an automatic deadline, meaning it's inoperable," said Sgt. Joseph Martin, division main shop foreman from Watervliet, Mich., assigned to DSTB, 1st Cav. Div. "Closing the outside vents would save a lot of time and money and make

things more efficient."

Recycling the air by using the air from inside the vehicle keeps things cooler.

"You're not taking hot air from outside trying to make it colder. You're taking room temperature air and making it colder," said Clark.

Keeping the outside vents closed also effects temperature inside the vehicle. With the vents shut, the temperature can drop down to 60 degrees, said Martin. It gets more comfortable inside more quickly, he added.

Though the nights are getting cooler in Iraq, the days remain warm. "At noon time, you're going to get hot, AC is still a big deal," said Clark.

Soldiers can avoid doing damage to the air conditioning unit of their humvee or MRAP by closing the outside vents and keeping them closed. It's as easy as pulling a knob.



Photo by Spc. Howard Alperin, MND-B PAO

Sgt. Michael Clark, the quality control quality assurance shop foreman, from Arlington, Texas, assigned to DSTB, 1st Cavalry Division, demonstrates where the knob is located on an M1114 Humvee in order to close the outside air vents. If you leave the air vent open to outside air, condensation from the radiator unit inside of the air conditioner mixes with dust and dirty air, said Clark. The mixture becomes a harder substance and sticks to the fins of the radiator, blocking air from coming through.

## On This Day In History

September 21, 1780

### Benedict Arnold commits treason

On this day in 1780, during the American Revolution, American General Benedict Arnold meets with British Major John Andre to discuss handing over West Point to the British, in return for the promise of a large sum of money and a high position in the British army. The plot was foiled and Arnold, a former American hero, became synonymous with the word "traitor."

Arnold was born into a well-respected family in Norwich, Connecticut, on January 14, 1741. He apprenticed with an apothecary and was a member of the militia during the French and Indian War (1754-1763). He later became a successful trader and joined the Continental Army when the Revolutionary War broke out between Great Britain and its 13 American colonies in 1775. When the war ended in 1783, the colonies had won their independence from Britain and formed a new nation, the United States.

During the war, Benedict Arnold proved himself a brave and skillful leader, helping Ethan Allen's troops capture Fort Ticonderoga in 1775 and then participating in the unsuccessful attack on British Quebec later that year, which earned him a promotion to brigadier general. Arnold distinguished himself in campaigns at Lake Champlain, Ridgefield and Saratoga, and gained the support of George Washington. However, Arnold had enemies within the military and in 1777, five men of lesser rank were promoted over him. Over the course of the next few years, Arnold married for a second time and he and his new wife lived a lavish lifestyle in Philadelphia, accumulating substantial debt. The debt and the resentment Arnold felt over not being promoted faster were motivating factors in his choice to become a turncoat.

## FAMOUS FEATS OF CHUCK NORRIS



### DID YOU KNOW?

Chuck Norris doesn't churn butter. He roundhouse kicks the cows and the butter comes straight out.

## MND-B Pic of the day!



Photo by Pvt. Jared Gehmann, 3rd BCT PAO

COMBAT OUTPOST CARVER, Iraq — Pvt. Anthony Ollie, of Dallas, tightens the bolts on a humvee door during a maintenance day, Sept. 15, at Combat Outpost Carver, Iraq. Ollie said the door is just one of the few improvements the mechanics are making on the humvee.



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## Quote For Today

“You see a louse on someone else, but not a tick on yourself.”

— Petronius —

### Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



Today  
96° F | 71° F



Tomorrow  
96° F | 73° F



Wednesday  
93° F | 71° F

### TRIVIA TIME!!

Name the inventors of each of the following common items: a. In 1895, who invented the safety razor? b. In 1928, who invented the electric razor?

Last Issue's Answer: OEDIPUS.

## 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/](http://www.hood.army.mil/1stcavdiv/)

## Trigger's Teasers

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

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

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



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