

## Together again almost two decades later

By Lt. Col. Pat Simon

225th Eng. Bde. PAO

BAGHDAD — “Based on the first deployment we had, life is great,” reflected Sgt. Maj. James Reppond, of Monroe, La., while huddled with four other Desert Storm veterans from the Louisiana National Guard’s 225th Engineer Brigade on Sept. 18.

Like the first Gulf War, all five engineer Soldiers deployed together from the same unit; something unique to the National Guard.

“It’s almost like a second family,” said Master Sgt. Glen Stafford, from Farmerville, La., a quality assurance engineer for the 225th Eng. Bde. “It’s our way of surviving a deployment together.”

Their mission environment this time around is quite different. For starters, living conditions and laundry service were unheard of back then.

“You’ve got to remember, we went from tents with no flooring, no air conditioning; miserable lifestyles to [today] basically just living in mobile homes,” reminisced Chief Warrant Officer Four Wilson Quebedeaux, of Marksville, La., the senior maintenance technician for the engineer brigade.

“Some folks had cement mixers they would do their laundry in. We had big trash cans with heaters in them to heat the water,” volunteered Reppond. “Throw in detergent and clothes; stir it around with a stick. That’s all you could do.”

“We had to take bathes out of a gallon and a half tub of water until we constructed our own showers,” added Stafford.



Photo by Sgt. Rebekah Malone, 225th Eng. Bde. PAO

Chief Warrant Officer Four Wilson Quebedeaux, of Marksville, La., (left) and Sgt. 1st Class Darrell Rabalais of Plaquemine, La., enjoy time together while fishing near al-Faw Palace on Camp Victory, Sept. 19. The two 225th Engineer Brigade Soldiers deployed together to Desert Storm and are back for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

During Desert Storm, all five remember an enemy threat, but not anywhere close to the urban warfare that today’s Soldiers still face on the outskirts of Iraqi cities, like the threats of improvised explosive devices. It’s a whole different battlefield.

“During Desert Storm ... movement was freer,” chimed in Master Sgt. Glen Cole, Deville, La., the brigade’s tactical operations non-commissioned officer. “You really didn’t have to worry (back then) about IEDs or anything like that when you go and move and do your jobs.”

“It’s 100 percent heads up all of the time [now],” echoed Stafford.

There is nearly 150 years of experience accumulated between the five Soldiers who were convinced they would see the battlefield again all these years later.

“Saddam was still in power and as long as he was in power, things weren’t going to be right and eventually we would be back here,” said Sgt. 1st Class Darrell Rabalais of Plaquemine, La., who conducts oversight of contracted engineer projects with Iraqi civilians.

And no matter how times have changed and communication with families has improved, the distance away from families and the wait to return home is still the hardest part.

“When we were in Desert Storm, we would travel 10, 12, 15 miles to get to a phone and maybe get a chance to talk to them once or twice a month,” remembered Cole.

“I couldn’t begin to describe how hard it is on the spouses,” said Reppond. “Most of us back home

were the decision makers ... and now the wives have to make all of the decisions. It’s pretty tough. I wouldn’t want to go through it.”

“In some ways it’s easier here now because of the technology,” added Rabalais. “We get to call home and get to make those day to day decisions with our spouse, where as Desert Storm, you would only talk to them every couple of weeks.”

For all five, this may be their last deployment, a last chance to defend their homeland away from home, and like the first war here together, their ultimate mission is very clear.

“We keep fighting for what we think it right,” said Quebedeaux. “The reason we’re here is to keep the battle here and not on our home grounds. We will keep our families safe.”

# Air Cavalry conducts presence patrol

Photos by Sgt Travis Zielinski, 1st ACB PAO



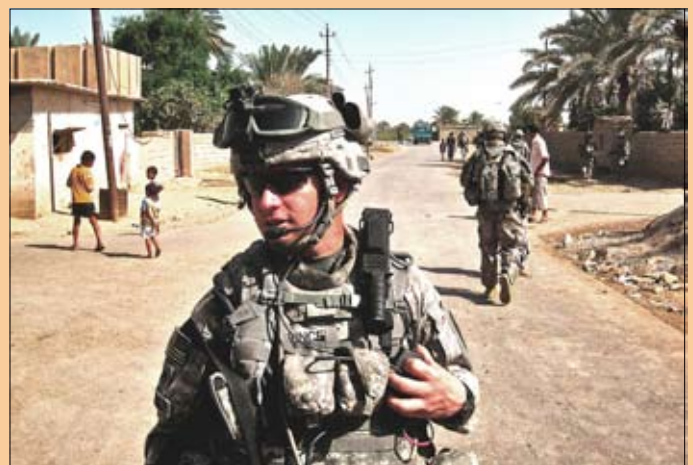
TAJI, Iraq — Loading on Black Hawk helicopters, Soldiers of Company F, 3rd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, prepare to fly to a nearby town and conduct a presence patrol, Sept. 18.



Capt. Dave Puzzo, from East Hampton, Conn., a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter pilot and commander of Company F, makes a radio call to higher up.



Spc. Elmountassir Mohamed (right), from Boston, a linguist/translator in Company F, 3rd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, and Spc. Brian Rogers (left), from Claermont, Fla., a grenadier, also of Co. F, conduct a presence patrol of a small town near Camp Taji, Iraq, Sept. 18.



Staff Sgt. Ty Vincent, from Hackberry, La., a squad leader in Company F, 3rd Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, watches over his Soldiers as they conduct a presence patrol of a small town near Camp Taji, Iraq, Sept. 18.

# Cavalry medic trains first responders

By Sgt. Jon Soles

MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — Iraqi Security Forces are on the front lines when it comes to defending the Iraqi people, but the first responders — firefighters and emergency medical technicians — are on the front lines of public safety.

Medics from the 1st Cavalry Division are training Iraq's first responders to become better lifesavers through medical training courses held at Joint Security Station Ur in Sadr City.

"This course is designed to improve their quality of care for their future patients and improve their lifesaving skills," said Staff Sgt. Chris Howell, a medic assigned to Company A, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, who taught a round of first aid classes in



Photo by Sgt. Jon Soles, MND-B PAO

Staff Sgt. Chris Howell, a medic assigned to Company A, 2nd Bn., 5th Cav. Regt., 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div., uses a baby doll to show Iraqi emergency medical technicians the proper way to check airways in a small child.

April. "They were receptive and wanted to continue the training. I've been teaching the last three weeks on American EMT skills."

About a dozen Iraqi firefighters and EMTs, all dressed in navy blue jumpsuits, formed a semicircle around Howell, here, Sept. 17, as the Copperas Cove, Texas, native gave a course in lifesaving techniques for infants and small children. No CPR (cardio pulmonary resuscitation) dummy was available so the Iraqis brought a baby doll about the size of a real infant.

Howell cradled the doll and showed the Iraqis how to check and clear the airways of a choking infant. His movements were made with gentleness and finesse, in proportion to a tiny patient. After going over techniques for checking respiratory distress and clearing airway obstructions, it was the Iraqis' turn.

The Iraqis took turns demonstrating the same techniques with the doll. Howell, as well as the other Iraqi EMTs, gave critiques to each other.

"You guys have to know it by heart. Remember, children die quicker than adults," Howell said to the Iraqis, highlighting the sense of urgency in saving a life.

According to Howell, the Iraqi first responders are good pupils who have accepted the training as a means to make themselves better lifesavers.

"They're highly motivated, very intelligent and very eager to learn," Howell said. "When I teach these guys they stop me and ask 'why' or 'explain this.'"

Howell said the training went beyond simple lifesaving techniques. As an instructor, he said he is also trying to teach the Iraqis a different way to treat emergencies.



Photo by Sgt. Jon Soles, MND-B PAO

Staff Sgt. Chris Howell observes an Iraqi emergency medical technician demonstrate checking and clearing the airway of a small child in respiratory distress, using a baby doll, at a first aid class at Joint Security Station Ur, here, Sept. 17.

"The medical system of their society is to put the patient in a truck and take them to the hospital with no form of triage or management," said Howell. "They do not distinguish between an emergency and a non-emergency."

Howell said he hopes to instill in the Iraqis the American mindset that first responders provide immediate care and help determine the level of the patient emergency. Howell emphasized practice and rehearsal will improve lifesaving skills.

"It's just going to take repetition, repetition, repetition until they master the skills," said Howell. "It's not for us, it's for the benefit of the people."

Howell's training was interrupted, however, when the Iraqi rescue commander received a call to a real emergency in Sadr City — a fire at a gas station. With the training ISF first responders they are receiving from the American medics, the Iraqis are working to be better equipped to handle emergencies, ensuring a more stable future for Iraq.

## On This Day In History

September 23, 1875

### Billy the Kid arrested for first time

On this day in 1875, Billy the Kid is arrested for the first time after stealing a basket of laundry. He later broke out of jail and roamed the American West, eventually earning a reputation as an outlaw and murderer and a rap sheet that allegedly included 21 murders.

The exact details of Billy the Kid's birth are unknown, other than his name, William Henry McCarty. He was probably born sometime between 1859 and 1861, in Indiana or New York. As a child, he had no relationship with his father and moved around with his family, living in Indiana, Kansas, Colorado and Silver City, New Mexico. His mother died in 1874 and Billy the Kid--who went by a variety of names throughout his life, including Kid Antrim and William Bonney--turned to crime soon afterward.

McCarty did a stint as a horse thief in Arizona before returning to New Mexico, where he hooked up with a gang of gunslingers and cattle rustlers involved in the notorious Lincoln County War between rival rancher and merchant factions in Lincoln County in 1878. Afterward, Billy the Kid, who had a slender build, prominent crooked front teeth and a love of singing, went on the lam and continued his outlaw's life, stealing cattle and horses, gambling and killing people. His crimes earned him a bounty on his head and he was eventually captured and indicted for killing a sheriff during the Lincoln County War. Billy the Kid was sentenced to hang for his crime; however, a short time later, he managed another jail break, murdering two deputies in the process. Billy the Kid's freedom was brief, as Sheriff Pat Garrett caught up with the desperado at Fort Sumner, New Mexico, on July 14, 1881, and fatally shot him.

## FAMOUS FEATS OF CHUCK NORRIS



### DID YOU KNOW?

Chuck Norris doesn't shower, he only takes blood baths.

## MND-B Pic of the day!



Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Jordan 30th HBCT PAO

BAGHDAD — Spc. Geisha Sanchez, from Reading, Pa., an administration specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 30th Heavy Brigade Combat Team, is all smiles after opening an 'Any Soldier' gift box at Forward Operating Base Falcon, Sept. 16. The boxes, shipped by anysoldier.com, are filled with gifts from individuals and companies for Soldiers who sign up. The idea is for recipients to then distribute the care packages to their fellow Soldiers.

Come Join MND-B for a  
celebration of Hispanic  
Cultures...



Date: 9 Oct 09  
Location: MWR Field House  
Time: 1900 hrs

## Quote For Today

“The greatest truths are the simplest; and so are the greatest men.”

— Julius C. Hare —

### Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



**Today**  
96° F | 73° F



**Tomorrow**  
93° F | 68° F



**Friday**  
96° F | 75° F

### TRIVIA TIME!!

What is the distance--in yards--between the corral and the bull ring at the famous bull runs held annually in Pamplona, Spain?

Last Issue's Answer: Spermaceti oil--from the sperm whale.

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

This newscast includes the following stories:

1. Paratroopers bring school supplies to the children of Salmon Pak. SFC Alex Licea, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division MND-B PAO.

The paratroopers are giving children school supplies in an effort to get the Iraqi more involved in the public relations aspects of the Army

2. Major Abigail Lee from

Washington DC talks about the importance of protecting skin from the damaging rays of the sun.

Sunscreen only works when worn. Taking care of oneself is like taking care of your vehicle.

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

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

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



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