

Ironhorse medics adapt, never rest

By Pfc. Bailey Jester
1st BCT PAO

CAMP TAJI, Iraq—Adapting to new environments can be part of a Soldier’s every-

day life—especially when deployed to Iraq.

Medics from Company C, 115th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat

Team, 1st Cavalry Division, have finally settled into the Hale Koa Medical Facility, here, after relocating from Joint Security Station War Eagle in August.

“Our responsibility has doubled since we arrived to Taji,” said Columbia, S.C. native, Spc. José Guzman, a medic assigned to Co. C. “There are more people in our [area of operations] and we also take care of other JSS’s and camps that don’t have access to some of the equipment that we do.”

The Hale Koa Medical Facility is very different when compared to the small aid station at JSS War Eagle.

The medics at Camp Taji have access to trauma rooms, a helipad, and a laboratory; with a dental clinic located across the street.

The accommodations allow the staff to provide Soldiers with more service than any other clinic in the area.

“I like knowing that we have all the assets together in one place,” said Guzman. “We have trauma and evacuation together which we didn’t have at JSS War Eagle. We don’t have to send them somewhere else—saving time and possibly a life.”

The facility is the largest in the “Ironhorse” Brigade’s area.

Access to advanced equipment means the Co. C medics see more severe injuries—those that can’t be treated at smaller clinics. Besides ill-

nesses and injuries, the Co. C medics are also responsible for the health of the 8,000 people that call Camp Taji home during their deployments.

While at JSS War Eagle, medics typically treated two to five patients per day, most of which were sick call patients. However, at Taji the number has increased to 14 to 25 people per day.

Most of the visitors are still seen for sick call, but due to the number of cases that the medics see, a larger variety of ailments are treated, said Conroe, Texas, native Spc. Anna Hatfield.

“There is a pretty good flow of people that come through here every day,” said Guzman. “We expected it to be busier and we prepared for it before we left War Eagle.”

The increased flow of patients has created new responsibilities for most of the medics.

By using their skills more frequently and treating symptoms they may not have otherwise seen, the medics are capitalizing on the opportunity to hone their skills.

The move to Taji has heightened the responsibility of everyone in the aid station, and the move has been successful.

“I love working here,” Guzman said enthusiastically. “I like how I can work on different aspects of being a medic, and learn something new every day.”



Photo by Pfc. Bailey Jester

Fort Wayne, Ind. native, Spc. Joel Cearbaugh (right), noncommissioned officer in charge of laboratory work, assigned to the 14th Combat Support Hospital, assists Fayetteville, Ark. native, Spc. Casey Hilton (left), an assistant laboratory technician determine the results of a blood test, here, Sept. 24.

Engineers improve ammo dump

Photos by 1st Lt. Michael Lind 101st Eng. Bn. PAO



BAGHDAD — Pfc. Klinton Hill, from Chillicothe, Ohio, with 192nd Engineer Company, 101st Engineer Battalion, operates a crane to remove and level dirt at the Mahmudiyah ammunition supply point, Sept. 29. Hill and other 1192nd Soldiers are building a more secure ASP for the 30th Heavy Brigade Combat Team to improve safety standards.



From left to right, Staff Sgt. Trevor Harlow of Huron, Ohio, Spc. James Altomare of Norwalk, Ohio, and Spc. Kyle Kelley from Sugarcreek, Ohio, all with the 1192nd Engineer Company, 101st Engineer Battalion, guide a metal pallet into place on an ammunition storage container in Mahmudiyah, on the outskirts of southern Baghdad, Sept. 29.



Spc. Zachary Ward (back left), of Portsmouth, Ohio, Sgt. Amanda Adamson (back right), from Struthers, Ohio, both with the 1192nd Engineer Company, 101st Engineer Battalion, get some assistance moving a metal pallet at Mahmudiyah, Sept. 29. The pallets are placed on top of the metal containers that will store various types of ammunition.

Weekly air filter maintenance a must

By Spc. Howard Alperin
MND-B PAO

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq — Baghdad's reputation for dust getting into everything is a reality Soldiers face daily.

As dust accumulates quickly, problems persist, causing parts of a vehicle not to function to their full capacity. Keeping air filters free of too much dust is a must.

It is part of what should take place during preventative maintenance checks and services, and it should be done weekly, said Sgt. Michael Clark, the quality control and assurance shop foreman, from Arlington, Texas, assigned to Division Special Troops Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division.

Driving vehicles with dirty air filters can result in the worst of scenarios.

"It gets to the point where we have to send out a recovery team to recover them with a wrecker because they didn't clean the air filter," said Spc. Charles Marshall, a light-wheel mechanic, from Wheeling, W.V.

The premise is simple—keep filters as clean as possible, so there is good air quality flow to the combustion chamber of the engine.

"There are a number of things that can happen. With any improper flow to the engine, you can lose power and you can lose acceleration," said Marshall, assigned to quality control, DSTB, 1st

Cav. Div. "Sometimes your transmission doesn't shift properly or your vehicle doesn't start."

Depending on the vehicle, Soldiers may find that removing the air filter to clean is not always convenient.

"MRAPs have a metal plate, a lot of operators don't like to take the plate off and avoid it all together," said Clark.

When it comes to cleaning these air filters, Soldiers have two options. The first method involves using equipment to solve the problem.

"Use an air compressor if you have one. The air compressor blows air and blows the dust out. It's the best way to do it if you have one," he

said.

The other method requires Soldiers to physically shake out the dust.

A good way to clean it out is to take it horizontally, turn it and use the metal rims to hit it against firm ground, said Clark.

"If you bang it flat you won't do any damage to it. Keep rotating it and this will knock most of the dirt out of it," he said.

If an air filter gets clogged up, expect to lose horsepower and acceleration. To avoid having this experience and the uncomfortable feeling of not knowing what to expect next, it is best to follow through with all PMCS procedures.



Photo by Spc. Howard Alperin

Spc. Charles Marshall, a light-wheel mechanic, from Wheeling, W.V., assigned to quality control, Division Special Troops Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, takes out a protective plate of armor in order to remove the air filter of a Mine-Resistant Ambush-Protected vehicle, here, Sept. 29. Air filters are a crucial aspect of weekly preventative maintenance checks and services.

On This Day In History

First shots of the Texas Revolution fired in the Battle of Gonzales

On this day in 1835, the growing tensions between Mexico and Texas erupt into violence when Mexican soldiers attempt to disarm the people of Gonzales, sparking the Texan war for independence.

Texas--or Tejas as the Mexicans called it--had technically been a part of the Spanish empire since the 17th century. However, even as late as the 1820s, there were only about 3,000 Spanish-Mexican settlers in Texas, and Mexico City's hold on the territory was tenuous at best. After winning its own independence from Spain in 1821, Mexico welcomed large numbers of Anglo-American immigrants into Texas in the hopes they would become loyal Mexican citizens and keep the territory from falling into the hands of the United States. During the next decade men like Stephen Austin brought more than 25,000 people to Texas, most of them Americans. But while these emigrants legally became Mexican citizens, they continued to speak English, formed their own schools, and had closer trading ties to the United States than to Mexico.

In 1835, the president of Mexico, Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, overthrew the constitution and appointed himself dictator. Recognizing that the "American" Texans were likely to use his rise to power as an excuse to secede, Santa Anna ordered the Mexican military to begin disarming the Texans whenever possible. This proved more difficult than expected, and on October 2, 1835, Mexican soldiers attempting to take a small cannon from the village of Gonzales encountered stiff resistance from a hastily assembled militia of Texans. After a brief fight, the Mexicans retreated and the Texans kept their cannon.

The determined Texans would continue to battle Santa Ana and his army for another year and a half before winning their independence and establishing the Republic of Texas.

FAMOUS FEATS OF CHUCK NORRIS



DID YOU KNOW?

Chuck Norris doesn't step on toes. Chuck Norris steps on necks.

MND-B Pic of the day!



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Alex Licea, 3rd BCT PAO

Spc. Roberto Salguet Jr., of Virginia Beach, Va., scans the horizon from the top of his gunner's turret during a site assessment mission, Sept. 24.



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Quote For Today

“He is great who do what he wishes, he is wise who wishes to do what he can.”

— August Iffland —

Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



Today
93° F | 68° F



Tomorrow
95° F | 68° F



Sunday
95° F | 71° F

TRIVIA TIME!!

When druggist and chemist John Pemberton invented this beverage in Columbus, Georgia, in 1886, he referred to it as “Esteemed Brain Tonic and Intellectual Beverage.” What do we call it?

Last Issue’s Answer: Dominican Republic

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 # 167A was produced by SGT Lisa Heise, MND-B Public Affairs Office.

This newscast includes the following stories:

1. A new City Center opens in Radwanayah, south of Baghdad. SSG Mark Burrell, 211th MPAD, 1st Cavalry Division.

The new City Center in radwanayah includes three new buildings neighborhood counsel building, a coop building, and a health clinic. The 1.4 million dollar building was built by Iraqis, for Iraqis

2. U.S. air control tower Sol-

diers from Company F, 2n Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade keep the skies over Taji moving.

The control tower is the heart of air operations in Baghdad.

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

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

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



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