

Crews keep Apaches ready for fight

By Sgt. Jon Soles
MND-B PAO

CAMP TAJI, Iraq — When it comes to today’s current fight, the AH-64D Apache helicopter’s technology allows it to have sharp eyes on the ground and capable of unleashing deadly accurate fire from its weapons systems.

But the Apache’s effectiveness is only possible through the preparations by hard-working armament crews.

Soldiers of Company D, 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, keep the Apaches armed and ready for the fight at all

times. It’s a job that requires care and competence, according to the leaders in charge of Apache armament.

The Soldiers based here spend their days in hangars on the flight line maintaining the Apaches’ weapons systems and electronics. The two-man crews who fly the attack helicopter depend on the armament electrical avionics repairers to keep their weapons systems properly loaded and always ready to engage.

“The big thing is, [armament crews] know every time they touch [an Apache], they have two lives in their hands,” said Sgt. 1st Class Michael

Hunter, an Apache armament senior non-commissioned officer from Waldorf, Md. “We take care of the pilots and they take care of the guys on the ground.”

To provide close air support, the Apache’s weapons array includes Hellfire missiles, rockets, flares and a 30 mm cannon.

While arming the Apache, Soldiers must be aware of safety issues ranging from static electricity to proper handling of live missiles, said Hunter.

“You have to reiterate [safety] because people get complacent. As a leader you’ve got to reiterate it and make sure they’re doing it the right way.”

Loading an Apache with rockets or missiles is not simply putting rounds in the chamber. The electrical weapon systems require diligent maintenance and upkeep.

“Anything with a wire on it is basically ours,” said Hunter. “The Apache is basically a big computer and everything is done electronically.”

When Apaches return from missions, the Soldiers of Co. D carefully examine the helicopters and check on the electronic boxes and weapon systems. Staff Sgt. Daniel Schremser, an armament maintenance supervisor from Warsaw, Mo., described the Apache as a “flying tank.” He said together, the armament crews and mechanics keep the Apache flying and ready

for combat.

“Without us and the mechanics, the aircraft is not going to fly. If one of us doesn’t do our job, then the aircraft doesn’t fly,” said Schremser.

Hunter, who joined the Army in 1992, said his current armament platoon has been together for multiple deployments and praised their commitment.

“A lot of them are on their third or fourth deployment. The shop has been together for three or four years,” said Hunter. “These guys have been doing this a long time together and a lot of them are like family.”

Though they have been doing this for a long time, the helicopter’s technology is continually evolving, he added.

The Apache’s systems are constantly being improved, and the armament crews attend classes to learn more about the helicopter.

“This job challenges you. I’ve been working in this field since 1997 and I still haven’t seen everything,” said Hunter. “You’ve got to keep learning the aircraft and you’ve got to be a sharp person to work in our [job].”

Being ready for the fight requires the efforts of Soldiers on the ground and Apaches in the air.

The meticulous work of the armament crews make sure that attack aviation teams can provide close air support to Soldiers on the ground.



Photo by Sgt. Jon Soles, MND-B PAO

Spc. Sean McConnell (left), of Columbus, Ohio, and Spc. Scott Shaver, of Austin, Texas, load a Hellfire missile onto the mounting bracket on an AH-64D Apache helicopter, here, Oct. 1. Both Soldiers are armament electrical avionics repairers assigned to Company D, 1st Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division.

Army 10-miler satellite run on FOB Hammer

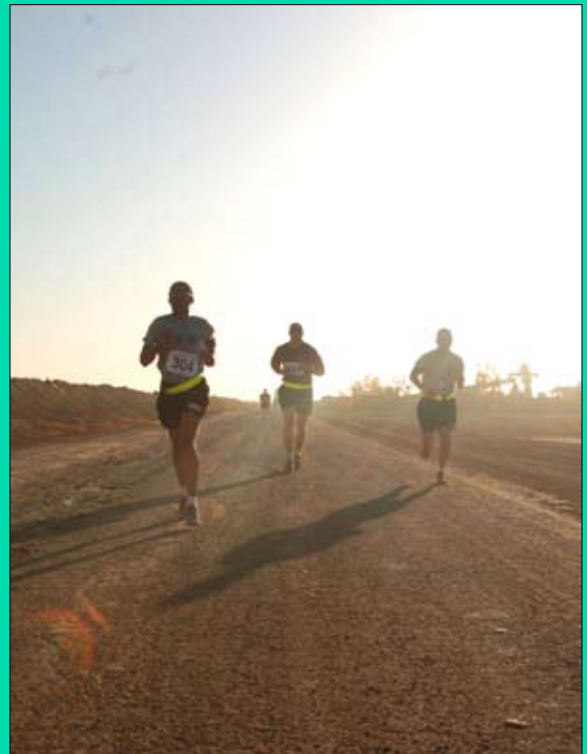
Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Alex Licea and Pfc. Jared Gehmann
3rd BCT PAO,



BAGHDAD – Runners turn the corner during the first mile during the Army Ten Miler “FOB Hammer Shadow Run”, Oct. 4, at Forward Operating Base Hammer, Iraq, located in the Ma'dain region outside eastern Bagdad



A Paratrooper assigned to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, sprints to the finish line during the Army Ten Miler The satellite run commemorates the 25th Anniversary of the Army's Ten Miler, in Washington D.C.



The sun begins to rise as runners pace themselves during the Army Ten Miler “FOB Hammer Shadow Run”, Oct. 4, . Paratroopers assigned to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, participated in the run to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Army's Ten Miler, held yearly in Washington D.C.



Paratroopers assigned to Company C, 82nd Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, unite and celebrate completion of the Army Ten Miler “FOB Hammer Shadow Run”, Oct. 4, at Forward Operating Base Hammer, Iraq, located outside eastern Bagdad.

Raiders continue mission left by Dagger

By Pfc. Kimberly Hackbarth
4th SBCT PAO

BAGHDAD — Col. John Norris took the reins from Col. Joseph Martin in a transfer of authority ceremony, Sept. 28, at the Camp Liberty Field House, here.

Soldiers of the 4th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, arrived in Iraq earlier this month and, following the transfer of authority ceremony, assumed responsibility for operations in the country to include providing security and strengthening the Iraqi government and its security forces.

In his outgoing speech, Col. Martin, commander of 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, thanked his Soldiers for their dedication and hard work and ended with his confidence in the abilities of the incoming troops based out of Fort Lewis, Wash.

“The ‘Raiders’ of the 4th Bri-

gade will serve with distinction and achieve great progress while deployed in Baghdad,” he said.

Norris, along with Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Huggins, uncased the brigade colors, symbolizing their units’ assumption of responsibility for the area of operations.

In his remarks following the uncasing of the brigades colors, Norris thanked Martin and said his brigade set the standard.

“This ceremony serves to herald the arrival of the Raider Stryker Brigade Soldiers, here to assist in setting the successful conditions and continuing the trend of irreversible momentum already created by the cooperative efforts between the Dagger Brigade and the Iraqi leaders in and around Baghdad,” Norris said.

He also spoke on the brigade’s mission during its deployment.

“We have returned with one



Photo by Pfc. Kimberly Hackbarth, 4th SBCT PAO

Col. John Norris, commander, 4th SBCT, 2nd Infantry Division, speaks at the Camp Liberty Field House, here, at a transfer of authority ceremony, Sept. 28.

purpose in mind; to support the Iraqi people, the Iraqi Government, and the Iraqi Army and police in every way we can,” Norris said.

Addressing Gen. Karim, of the 6th Iraqi Army Division, Norris assured him that they shared the

same visions for the area.

“I look forward to working together in order to ensure the success of this great country. Together at all levels, we will provide security and improve essential services to the great people of this land.”



Photo by Pfc. Kimberly Hackbarth, 4th SBCT PAO

Col. John Norris (left), and Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Huggins, both with 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, uncasing the ‘Raider’ Brigade colors, Sept. 28, at a transfer of authority ceremony.

On This Day In History

First presidential speech on TV

On this day in 1947, President Harry Truman (1884-1972) makes the first-ever televised presidential address from the White House, asking Americans to cut back on their use of grain in order to help starving Europeans.

At the time of Truman's food-conservation speech, Europe was still recovering from World War II and suffering from famine. Truman, the 33rd commander in chief, worried that if the U.S. didn't provide food aid, his administration's Marshall Plan for European economic recovery would fall apart. He asked farmers and distillers to reduce grain use and requested that the public voluntarily forgo meat on Tuesdays, eggs and poultry on Thursdays and save a slice of bread each day. The food program was short-lived, as ultimately the Marshall Plan succeeded in helping to spur economic revitalization and growth in Europe.

In 1947, television was still in its infancy and the number of TV sets in U.S. homes only numbered in the thousands (by the early 1950s, millions of Americans owned TVs); most people listened to the radio for news and entertainment. However, although the majority of Americans missed Truman's TV debut, his speech signaled the start of a powerful and complex relationship between the White House and a medium that would have an enormous impact on the American presidency, from how candidates campaigned for the office to how presidents communicated with their constituents.

Each of Truman's subsequent White House speeches, including his 1949 inauguration address, was televised. In 1948, Truman was the first presidential candidate to broadcast a paid political ad.

Truman pioneered the White House telecast, but it was President Franklin Roosevelt who was the first president to appear on TV--from the World's Fair in New York City on April 30, 1939. FDR's speech had an extremely limited TV audience, though, airing only on receivers at the fairgrounds and at Radio City in Manhattan.

FAMOUS FEATS OF CHUCK NORRIS



DID YOU KNOW?

There are no steroids in baseball. Just players Chuck Norris has breathed on.

MND-B Pic of the day!



Photo by Spc. Howard Alperin, MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — Staff Sgt. Renatta Draper (right), from Bemidji, Minn., winces as Sgt. Danielle Dubose, a health care non-commissioned officer, from Detroit, gives her the annual flu shot at the Battalion Aid Station, on Camp Liberty, Oct. 1. All personnel from Division Special Troops Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division receive the annual flu vaccination. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, on average, more than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu-related complications and 36,000 people die from flu-related causes each year.

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



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

Quote For Today

“Everything is funny as long as it happens to someone else.”

— Will Rogers —

Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



Today
96° F | 68° F



Tomorrow
95° F | 68° F



Wednesday
93° F | 69° F

TRIVIA TIME!!

In 2005, this quarterback played for the USC Trojans. He was a senior. Who is he?

Last Issue's Answer: Jack Kemp/Bill Bradley

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

This newscast includes the following stories:

1. Soldiers of the 1472 Civil Affairs Company bring food and goodwill to Iraqi families to help celebrate the end of Ramadan. SGT Stephanie Logue, Multi-National Division - Baghdad, PAO.

Food was given to some of the families in rural Baghdad to celebrate the end of fasting.

2. Soldiers of C Troop, 5th Squadron, 73rd Airborne Recon-

naissance Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division and the Iraqi Federal Police deliver much needed water filters to families in the village of al-Tameem.

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

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

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



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