

Apaches provide over watch, firepower

By Sgt. Jon Soles
MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — The pilots who fly the AH-64D Apache helicopter generally agree that if the attack helicopter was a car, it would be a sports car.

Its sleek profile, speed, agility and lethal firepower make it stand out on the flight line.

But despite its looks, pilots of the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade say the Apache’s best features are its ability to provide close air support for ground troops, while at the same time intimidating insurgents.

“The aircraft provides a direct fire capability and it can react quickly and get where the guys on the ground need it,” said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Eric Pope, an Apache pilot assigned to Compa-

ny A, 4th Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment. “It has a psychological effect as well because if bad guys hear an aircraft above, they are less likely to initiate an engagement.”

Pope, a former tanker turned helicopter pilot, said the Apache is a good tool to protect infantrymen on the ground because it can respond faster than a quick reaction force or a call for artillery fire.

“The aircraft provides a direct fire capability that is able to remain on station for a long period,” said Pope, a native of Houston. “Keeping those guys on the ground safe is job number one.”

With Hellfire missiles, rockets and a 30 mm area weapons system, the Apache is a lethal machine, capable of heaping co-

pious amounts of firepower upon the enemy with deadly accuracy. But the Apache can easily accomplish its mission of protecting ground troops without firing a shot, said Pope. He gave an example of such a mission in which infantrymen were looking for a high-value target while he flew above in an Apache.

“There was definitely an insurgent presence there, but they were able to walk through the town without a shot being fired,” said Pope.

Capt. Ben Ramos, an Apache pilot from Brownsville, Texas, said the attack helicopter has a fearsome and well-earned reputation among insurgents.

“This helicopter strikes fear because they remember what happened to the last guy who

tried to take one on,” said Ramos. “I believe it scares them.”

The Apache’s sophisticated equipment is also used for reconnaissance and the overhead view provides eyes from the sky for ground troops. When not engaged in combat operations, the Apache also helps with route clearance and convoy security.

“These guys are on the ground knocking on doors and what we’re doing is protecting them,” said Ramos. “We have that bird’s eye view and we can see more and we can get there faster with more firepower.”

Besides its combat and reconnaissance abilities, the Apache also seems to exude a mystique that pilots say they appreciate.

“I think what people are in awe about is the mystery about it [Apache],” said Ramos. “I think the enemy knows more about the Apache than the average American.”

Even though they may not meet in person, Apache pilots say they do their job for the Soldiers on the ground below them.

“As pilots, we have a deep respect for guys on the ground,” said Ramos.

“The infantrymen, military policemen, truck drivers; everybody conducting movement on the ground, we have a deep respect for them.”

Between the earth and sky, this team of pilots and ground troops are winning the peace in Iraq.

The Apache is an integral part of that team, and as long as its rotors buzz overhead, Soldiers are better protected and insurgents are discouraged.



Photo by Sgt. Jon Soles, MND-B PAO

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Rusty Burch, of Killeen, Texas, and Chief Warrant Officer 2 David Elder, of Pittsburg, Kan., bring an AH-64D Apache in for landing, here, Oct. 1.

Paratroopers receive Purple Heart

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



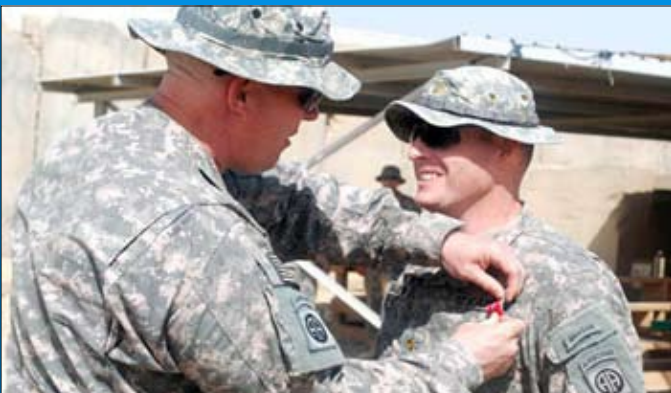
BAGHDAD – Col. Timothy McGuire (left), of Alamo, Calif., commander of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, pins the Purple Heart medal on Lt. Col. Michael Shinnars, of Alexandria, Va., during an award ceremony Sept. 29.



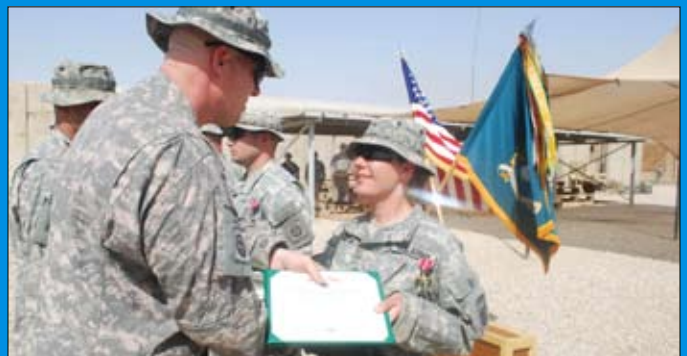
Col. Timothy McGuire (left), thanks Pfc. Alan Davidson, of Clover, S.C., for his sacrifice and service after awarding him the Purple Heart medal for injuries he sustained when his vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device during a combat operation June 2 in eastern Baghdad.



Col. Timothy McGuire (left), of Alamo, Calif., the commander of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, salutes Sgt. Ryan Higgins, of New York City, after awarding him the Purple Heart medal during an award ceremony Sept. 29 at Forward Operating Base Hammer, Iraq, located outside eastern Baghdad. Higgins suffered an injury when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle June 2.



Col. Timothy McGuire (left), pins the Bronze Star medal on Maj. Gregory Beaudoin.



Col. Timothy McGuire (left), awards Staff Sgt. Gennifer Limb, of Belpre, Ohio, her Bronze Star medal during an award ceremony Sept. 29.

Soldier chooses to walk a different path

By Sgt. Alun Thomas
1st ACB PAO.

CAMP TAJI, Iraq — Overcoming the odds and creating a better life sometimes means walking away from the safe and easy to pursue a different path.

For one Soldier in the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade there is no looking back, even if she gave up her college scholarship to join the Army.

As the Army celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month, Pfc. Yamilette Bautista, from Woodland, Calif., a strength management clerk with 1st ACB, 1st Cavalry Division, can safely say she did just that.

Bautista, 19, who was born in San Diego, said all her family is from Tequila, Mexico, where they continue to live today and where she herself spent some of her formative years.

“My mother left me with my grandmother when I was six months old and I lived in Mexico until I was five,” Bautista said. “The memories of living there are hard to forget.”

The way of life in Mexico was far different, Bautista said, with a strong emphasis on family interaction.

“You’re always with your family, especially on Sunday, which is always family day,” Bautista said. “Everybody gets together; it doesn’t matter if you’re five hours away.”

“There’s always family in the house and at night the neighborhood comes together for bonfires. There is so much culture there, but over [in the U.S.] there are more opportunities. In Mexico you live one day at a time.”

At the age of five, Bautista moved back to the U.S., where she lived with her mother and siblings.

“Every two or three years I go to Mexico, spend some time and come back,” Bautista said. “I love going back there because you can

relax, it’s your culture. They have so many things there they don’t anywhere else.”

Bautista adjusted to life in the U.S. and worked as hard as she could at school, trying to set herself up for a successful future.

“I had an academic scholarship because I always tried my best at school. But it was too hard with just me, my siblings and my mom. I was working and it took me hours to get to school.”

“But once I had my college paid for I had all these other expenses. I also had to work and give my mother the money,” she continued. “It was hard for me to have what I wanted but at the same time keep helping my family.”

This made it impossible for Bautista to accept her college scholarship and left her pondering what direction to take with her life.

One thing she said she did not want was to take the traditional route expected.

“Usually with my family it’s about getting married at a young age and I wanted to prove that you can do something else with your life. Even though you’re a female you don’t have to get married young. I was trying to get out of that routine and circle.”

Shunning this direction, Bautista decided to join the Army just a month after graduating from high school, a decision she initially regretted.

“I worked really hard to get that scholarship and I gave it up as soon as I joined the Army. But when I really think about it now, I don’t regret it because the Army has opened up so many opportunities and I get help to go to college.”

Bautista said her initiation into the Army was hard, having to go straight from her initial entry training to an immediate deployment in Iraq.

“I was at Fort Hood for three weeks and I deployed, so Iraq is my first real unit. I’ve been cop-

ing with it well, however, and I have great support.”

Helping Bautista adjust into her deployment is Sgt. 1st Class Trevor Davis, from Timmonsville, S.C., her platoon sergeant, who said he has been impressed by Bautista’s attitude.

“She is a hard worker and always where she is supposed to be and I don’t have to talk to her about being late or anything like that. She is a quick learner and came in here and picked everything up.”

As Bautista continues to gain Army experience, she said that she finds few Hispanics in the Army with a background similar to hers and is grateful when she does.

“It’s rare to meet someone that really speaks the language because many (Hispanic Americans) were born and raised in America. It makes me feel happy to meet them, because being Mexican is a part of you. You can relate to them.”



Photo by Sgt. Travis Zielinski, 1st ACB

Pfc. Yamilette Bautista, from Woodland, Calif., a strength management clerk with the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, computes the personnel strength of 1st ACB battalions Oct. 1. Bautista is a Hispanic American who spent the first five years of her life living in Tequila, Mexico.

On This Day In History

October 6, 1866

The Reno brothers carry out the first train robbery in U.S. history

On this day in 1866, the brothers John and Simeon Reno stage the first train robbery in American history, making off with \$13,000 from an Ohio and Mississippi railroad train in Jackson County, Indiana.

Of course, trains had been robbed before the Reno brothers' holdup. But these previous crimes had all been burglaries of stationary trains sitting in depots or freight yards. The Reno brothers' contribution to criminal history was to stop a moving train in a sparsely populated region where they could carry out their crime without risking interference from the law or curious bystanders.

Though created in Indiana, the Reno brother's new method of robbing trains quickly became very popular in the West. Many bandits, who might otherwise have been robbing banks or stagecoaches, discovered that the newly constructed transcontinental and regional railroads in the West made attractive targets. With the western economy booming, trains often carried large amounts of cash and precious minerals. The wide-open spaces of the West also provided train robbers with plenty of isolated areas ideal for stopping trains, as well as plenty of wild spaces where they could hide from the law. Some criminal gangs, like Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch, found that robbing trains was so easy and lucrative that for a time they made it their criminal specialty.

MND-B Pic of the day!



Photo by Sgt. Jon Soles, MND-B PAO

CAMP TAJI, Iraq — Forty-one Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, raise their right hands during a re-enlistment ceremony held at Fire Base Mayhem here, Oct. 4. Lt. Col. Eric Schwegler, commander of the 1st Bn., 82nd FA Regt., administered the oath of enlistment to the Soldiers.

FAMOUS FEATS OF CHUCK NORRIS



DID YOU KNOW?

In the Bible, Jesus turned water into wine. But then Chuck Norris turned that wine into beer.

Come Join Us for a celebration
of Hispanic Cultures...



Date: 9 Oct 09

Location: MWR Field House

Time: 1900 hrs

Quote For Today

“Failures don’t plan to fail; they fail to plan.

— Harvey Mackay —

Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



Today
96° F | 69° F



Tomorrow
93° F | 69° F



Thursday
95° F | 86° F

TRIVIA TIME!!

Q: A total of fifteen U.S. Presidents were born in just two states. Which ones?

Last Issue's Answer: Matt Leinart

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

This newscast includes the following stories:

1. SSG Michael Russell of HHC, 1/120th Combined Arms Bn, 30th Heavy Brigade Combat Team talks about the changes he’s seen around Mahmudiyah and just how far they’ve come.

The changes may not have quickly or easily but the difference is measureable.

2. Soldiers of Company B, 230th Brigade Support Bn., 30th Heavy

Brigade Combat Team teach Iraqi soldiers of the 17th Iraqi Army Division about vehicle maintenance.

The Iraqi’s receive hands-on instruction on repairing humvees. They supply solutions to problems

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

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

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



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:

Spc. Laura Johnson

Staff Writers:

Sgt. 1st Class Ron Burke

Sgt. 1st Class Jon Cupp

Staff Sgt. Mark Burrell

Staff Sgt. Peter Ford

Sgt. Joshua Risner

Sgt. Jon Soles

Spc. Laura Johnson

Spc. Phillip Adam Turner

Spc. Howard Alperin

The **Daily Charge** is an authorized publication for members 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 grace.johnson3@mnd-b.army.mil