

## Aviators have unique way of saying ‘thanks’

**By Sgt. Travis Zielinski**  
1st ACB, 1st Cav.

CAMP TAJI, Iraq — A nation’s flag can be a powerful symbol of pride for people; a flag that comes with a story behind it can mean so much more.

From families and friends to companies and organizations, there are numerous people who support the efforts by deployed Soldiers. Support can come in the form of letters, movies, books, snacks and various supplies. It is all done to express the gratitude for what deployed Soldiers are doing in the service of their country.

In an effort to give back, the aviators of the 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, are taking American flags on combat missions and then sending them back home to show appreciation for the support.

There are various reasons the aviators take a flag up with them on a mission, whether it is for family and friends, groups they used to be a part of, or for organizations that have given support to the Soldiers deployed, said Capt. Lucas Kennedy, from Kearney, Neb., commander of Company A, 4th Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st ACB.

“The flag I am flying today is for a company that has sent us [Morale Welfare and Recreation] type items,” said Kennedy. “It is just a way for us to thank them for the movies, candy and personal hygiene products they have sent us.”

All of the flags come with a personalized certificate stating the date the flag was flown, what type of aircraft it was flown in, who

the pilot was and that it was flown on a combat mission in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, said Kennedy.

“I hope that these flags we fly are passed down to kids and grandkids, or fly proudly outside a home every day, or up on a wall of an establishment and remain there for as long as that VFW, fire hall or school exists,” said Kennedy.

The flags have great symbolism which people can rally around, Kennedy said, and added it is a way for people to remember what was done, making the flag a more powerful item.

In 2003, during the initial push into Iraq, Maj. R.J. Garcia, from South Lake, Texas, the operations officer in charge for 4-227th, came

into country with four flags and a plan to distribute them amongst his family.

“I gave one flag to my father, one to another family member, one to a good friend and saved one for my son who was born three days after I got back from that first deployment,” said Garcia. “I decided to hold onto the one for my son until I retire, so I could say I flew with it on every combat mission I have ever flown.”

“I think the flag is really a universal symbol for freedom; it’s really gone beyond being just for Americans, but for the world, and I try to bring that symbol back home for people that do something special for the troops,” Garcia continued.

Some aviators use the flag as a way to help people connect with what Soldiers are doing in Iraq.

“Where I come from in Idaho, nobody knows anybody that has been out here (Iraq), so it is kind of nice to be able to share that with them,” said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Greg Marotz, from Ashton, Idaho. “We spend 12 or 15 months here and that is a way we can share what we are doing with those that really don’t know.”

Having sent a flag and certificate back to his junior high and elementary school, the kids were able to see a different side of the war from what is seen on T.V., and it actually put a face and a story of how the flag came to the school, said Marotz.



Photo by Sgt. Travis Zielinski

Capt. Lucas Kennedy gets ready to fly on a mission over Baghdad, Iraq, Nov. 6. To show appreciation for the numerous items sent from a company out of Austin, Texas, he’ll fly an American flag during the mission and later mail it to them.

# New Texas traffic and criminal laws

The following are notable traffic and criminal laws that went into effect on Sept. 1 in the state of Texas which was released by the Texas Department of Public Safety

## Seatbelts:

HB 537 requires all occupants of a vehicle, no matter their age, to be secured by a safety belt, no matter where they are seated in the vehicle; changes the definition of a passenger vehicle to include a passenger van designed to transport 15 or fewer passengers including the driver; removes the current exemption for third-party Medicaid transportation provisions regarding the use of child passenger safety seats; and prohibits a motorcycle operator from carrying a passenger under the age of 5 unless the child is seated in a sidecar attached to the motorcycle.

SB 61 amends the existing statute regarding child passenger safety seats. The bill requires that any child younger than 8 years of age be restrained in an approved child passenger safety seat unless the child is taller than 4 feet, 9 inches in height. The fine is no more than \$25 for a first offense and \$250 for a second offense.

## Driving:

HB 55 makes it illegal to use a wireless communication device in a school zone unless the vehicle is stopped or a hands-free device is used.

HB 2730 increases the penalties for driving while intoxicated with a child passenger by adding an automatic driver license suspension period for first-time offenders and an increased suspension period for repeat offenders. The driver license re-instatement fee for completing an education program will rise from \$50 to \$100.

## Driver license:

HB 2730 requires that all applicants under the age of 18 take the driving skills exam to receive a driver license. The law also requires that a provisional driver license (under 18) or instruction permit expire on an individual's 18th birthday, removes the requirement that a provisional driver license or instruction permit be renewed annually and increases the fee for those licenses from \$5 to \$15.

HB 2730 and HB 339 restrict all drivers under the age of 18 from using a wireless communication device while operating a motor vehicle.

HB 2730 prohibits DPS from issuing a driver license or identification card to a person who has not established a domicile in Texas. The law specifies that an applicant may receive a driver license at a post office box only if the applicant's residence address has also been provided, with some exceptions

## Crime:

HB 558 allows minors to be charged with public intoxication.

HB 1282 makes it a Class B misdemeanor to steal a driver license, commercial driver license or personal identification.

## Motorcycles etc.:

Senate Bill 1967 requires that applicants for an original class M license or class A, B or C driver license (including commercial driver licenses and permits) with authorization to operate a motorcycle, provide evidence of completion of an approved motorcycle operator training course.

# New living quarters at JSS Rasheed

**Sgt. Joshua Risner**  
MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD –Whether it’s repaving roads or constructing buildings, engineers are right in the thick of things; swinging hammers and operating equipment.

Engineers of 1434th Engineer Company, 101st Engineer Battalion, 16th Engineer Brigade, began construction, Nov. 4, on living quarters for the Soldiers stationed at Joint Security Station Rasheed.

“We have two rooms that we are constructing barracks in,” said Staff Sgt. Lance Miller, from Diorite, Mich.

“Each room will have 16 seven foot by seven foot barracks in it along with a bunk and a desk to make the Soldiers a little more comfortable.”

What started as a large empty room quickly became a corridor of small rooms. Eventually stairs were built and a second floor began to take shape.

According to Miller, the construction is projected to take two weeks but the efficient Soldiers have already moved ahead of schedule.

“They had the first floor framed by the first day and the second floor was already

in place by day two,” he said with a bit of pride. “My guys are doing really well.”

Operating ahead of schedule has given the Soldiers of the 1434th a sense of pride in what they’re doing, according to Spc. Aaron Pepin, from Escanaba, Mich.

“Every day we finish what we planned to do and that makes us feel good,” he said. “It’s actually going way better than we planned – we’re going pretty quickly.”

Though things have been moving faster than originally planned, the Soldiers are still very aware that what they do

is still potentially dangerous work, Pepin added.

“A lot goes into what we do,” he said. “You can’t slack off; you’ve got to watch what other people are doing while you’re working. You can’t goof around because there’s stuff that can happen that you don’t think will and somebody could get hurt.”

The project is one of many the Soldiers of the 1434th can be proud of. For the Soldiers that will be moving into these rooms, they can sleep at night knowing that their quarters were soundly constructed by professionals.

# Last day for “Pegasus Pursuit”

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ number of prints. I understand that print(s) are \$10 each and final payment is due M/T 12 DEC 2009 in the form of a check or money order made out to “1CD Events Fund”, or in cash paid to my unit representative. The following information is provided to ensure I receive my print(s):

Rank: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Battalion: \_\_\_\_\_ Bn: \_\_\_\_\_  
Co: \_\_\_\_\_

If you will not be able to pick your print up when they are completed at Fort Hood, TX, please provide a U.S. mailing address that your print can be mailed to. Please ensure that the address you provide is valid thru March 12, 2010, in the event the print takes longer than anticipated to complete. Use a friend, relative or unit address if necessary.

Statewide Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/PO: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

This address is (check one):  
 My address  A Friend's Address  Relative's Address

If other than your personal address, list the name of the person who resides at the address indicated: \_\_\_\_\_

Commercial phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

AKO email address: \_\_\_\_\_@us.army.mil

Payment Type (check one):  Check  Money Order  Cash

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

MND-B’s OIF 09-10 print, “Pegasus Pursuit” is being completed by Mr. Ronald Constantine, a retired art teacher and friend of the First Cavalry Division. He has volunteered to draw Pegasus Pursuit as a token of his appreciation for your service to our country.

Inside this trifold is an artist concept sketch. This sketch, drawn by PFC Juan Franco, was provided to Mr. Constantine and reflects a fairly accurate rendition of the content of the final print. The print attempts to capture a single scene that might feel real to you. A combined U.S. and ISF patrol on the outskirts of Baghdad reacting to a single shot directed at them. You’ll note a few familiar Baghdad skyline points of reference, familiar vehicles, Soldiers you may recognize as yourself. The unit patches of the those BCTs and other assigned, attached, or OPCON units that comprised the MND-B team are found across the bottom of the print. The final print will be approximately 16” X 22”.

All proceeds will be donated to the First Team Memorial fund to help pay for the cost of adding the names of our MND-B and 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division Fallen to the Memorial that sits on the west end of Cooper Field in front of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division HQs at Fort Hood. Payments may be made by cash or check or money order made out to “1CD Events Fund”.

If you are interested in purchasing one or more of these prints, please reserve it/them by filling out the form and turn it and your payment in to your unit representative by 12 DEC 09. They will see to it that the payments are delivered to the Division Representative.

Please find your BCT Representative below:

1/1CD: CPT Matherly @ 678-5081 or [darcill.matherly@1bct1cd.army.mil](mailto:darcill.matherly@1bct1cd.army.mil)

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30HBCT: LTC Jackson @ 790-5036 or [kelly.jackson@30bct.army.mil](mailto:kelly.jackson@30bct.army.mil)

4/25BCT: MAJ Martin @ 242-4246 or [james.martin@4bct2id.army.mil](mailto:james.martin@4bct2id.army.mil)

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## Multi-National Division- Baghdad OIF 09-10 Print



## “Pegasus Pursuit”

## On This Day In History

November 9, 1989

### East Germany opens the Berlin Wall

East German officials today opened the Berlin Wall, allowing travel from East to West Berlin. The following day, celebrating Germans began to tear the wall down. One of the ugliest and most infamous symbols of the Cold War was soon reduced to rubble that was quickly snatched up by souvenir hunters.

The East German action followed a decision by Hungarian officials a few weeks earlier to open the border between Hungary and Austria. This effectively ended the purpose of the Berlin Wall, since East German citizens could now circumvent it by going through Hungary, into Austria, and thence into West Germany. The decision to open the wall was also a reflection of the immense political changes taking place in East Germany, where the old communist leadership was rapidly losing power and the populace was demanding free elections and movement toward a free market system.

The action also had an impact on President George Bush and his advisors. After watching television coverage of the delirious German crowds demolishing the wall, many in the Bush administration became more convinced than ever that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's statements about desiring a new relationship with the West must be taken more seriously. Unlike 1956 and 1968, when Soviet forces ruthlessly crushed protests in Hungary and Czechoslovakia, respectively, Gorbachev actually encouraged the East German action. As such, the destruction of the Berlin Wall was one of the most significant actions leading to the end of the Cold War.

## FAMOUS FEATS OF CHUCK NORRIS



### DID YOU KNOW?

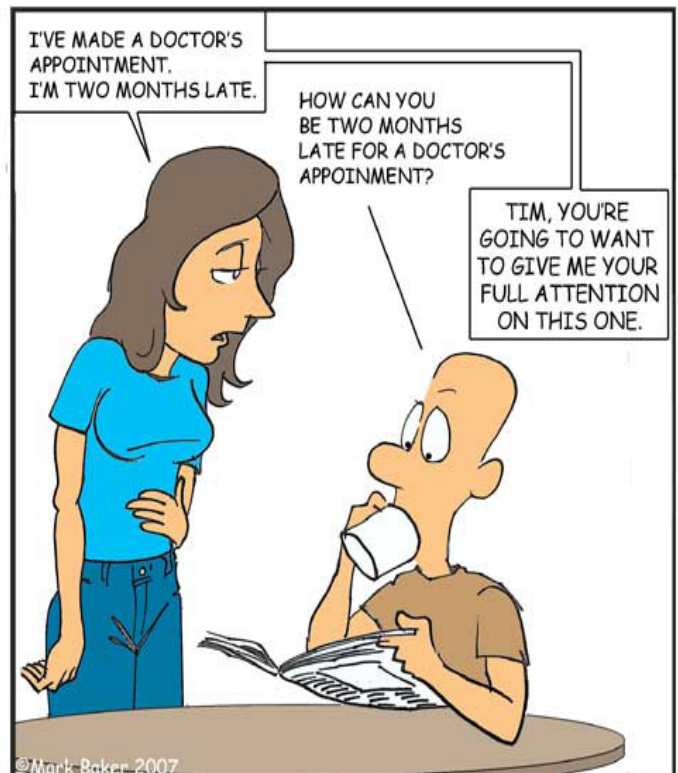
Chuck Norris can't finish a "color by numbers" because his markers are filled with the blood of his victims. Unfortunately, all blood is dark red.

## MND-B Pic of the day!



Photo by Staff Sgt. Mark Burell

BAGHDAD – Pvt. John Brawley, an infantryman from Fort Worth, Texas, secures an abandoned building during a joint patrol just northwest of Baghdad, Nov. 4.



## Quote For Today

“Determination is the wake-up call to the human will.”

— Anthony Robbins —

### Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



**Today**  
81° F | 59° F



**Tomorrow**  
86° F | 60° F



**Friday**  
78° F | 61° F

### TRIVIA TIME!!

Every able-bodied Muslim who can afford it is required to participate in the holy pilgrimage to Mecca, called in Arabic ... what?

Last Issue's Answer: AGENT ORANGE

# 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 # 192 was produced by SGT Ashley Anderson, MND-B Public Affairs Office.

This newscast includes the fol-

lowing stories:

1. Soldiers on Victory Base Complex participate in 10K run to honor cancer survivors. Interview with SPC Sandrae Band, 101st Engineer Battalion.

Over 700 participants competed in the 10K run.

2. The 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Inf. Divi-

sion Soldiers celebrate their arrival into country.

They celebrated Oct. 29 with a uncasing of the colors ceremony. They will continue to work with the Iraqi government.

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

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

		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		



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### 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](mailto: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.

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