

The Desert



Mesh

Edition 80

January 2013



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COMMAND CORNER



 **Wayne C. Grieme, Jr.**
Commander
Area Support Group - Qatar

Happy New Year everyone and best wishes for the upcoming 2013! It was another great holiday season here in Qatar. Although this may be my last major holiday season at the camp; I look back over the past year, my heart is warmed by the places I've seen and the people I've met along the way. I am proud to serve with all of you and thank you for your service in 2012 and your continued service to your nation in 2013!

Once again the Camp As Sayliyah Christmas holiday celebration was spectacular. The build up with the Chapel BBQ, 5K Holiday Run and then the Christmas Musical led to a wonderful Christmas Day celebration in our own DFAC. Napoleon Bonaparte once said that, "an Army marches on its stomach." I was very happy to know I didn't have to march after that lunch!

Now it's time for the New Year's resolutions. It is well known that resolutions don't have a high success rate, so why do we continue to make them year after year? I believe it is the allure of starting

over; having a 'Do Over.' The new year offers a clean slate and a fresh start, and the idea of bettering ourselves; not to mention it is tradition!

According to Wikipedia (then it must be true!), New Year resolutions are believed to go as far back as Babylonian times. It is said that Julius Caesar started making resolutions on 1 January as a way to honor the Roman mythical god Janus, whose faces allowed him to look back into the past year and forward into the new year. The Romans made morality-based resolutions such as seeking forgiveness from their enemies.

I believe people continue to make resolutions, because they have hope or a certain level of belief in their ability to change into more of who they really want to be. Martin Luther King Jr. shared these beliefs. He never lost hope or the belief of our nation's ability to change.

Because of King's courage and devotion, the fabric of American life was changed forever. He once said, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: 'What are you doing for others?'" As we roll into January we begin to celebrate Dr. King's legacy – as you think about your New Year's resolutions take a note from King's page and think about what you are doing for others.

Take this opportunity to start the year off right by making an impact on someone else's life. Put your resolution to good use and reflect on the changes you want (or need) to make and resolve to follow through on those changes. You never know – you may save a life while you are at it!

On behalf of the ASG-QA command group and with best wishes for 2013, Happy New Year!



Charles A. Holliday, Sr.
Command Sergeant Major
Area Support Group - Qatar

Wow! Another year gone and a new one underway. Time truly does fly when you're having fun. This new year brings exciting changes and opportunities for most of us, but for me the arrival of 2013 is bittersweet as I am leaving Camp As Sayliyah in a few months.

Today, I am filled with a sense of deep humility and great pride as I start this new year-- humility as I join the ranks of those command sergeant major's who came before me here at CAS; pride in the reflection that this Army represents human liberty in the purest form yet devised.

I have seen a lot of changes in the 31 years since I first signed up and have many memories. I believe in my heart of hearts that today's Army is much more in tuned with its Soldiers, and their Families and work harder to promote equality and freedom for all who serve; as they strive to set the example to all those for which they serve.

This month we celebrate Martin Luther King Day. We close

our offices and schools across the country in observance of this great person and the changes he created in our country. I personally challenge you to take this time away from your daily work, to reflect on the ideas that Dr. King presented. Think of how you can change a person's life by advocating for their rights and promoting equality through non-violent means.

As I move on from Qatar, I will be ever mindful of this ideology and the standards Dr. King set before us. To paraphrase Dr. King's wife, Mrs. Coretta Scott King, the holiday is an occasion for thanksgiving, unselfishness and rededicating ourselves to the causes for which he stood and for which he died.

Like many of the Soldiers in our Forces, Dr. King willingly gave his life for his beliefs and his country. He had a dream. When I joined the Army in 1981 it was the fulfillment of all of my boyish hopes and dreams. The world has turned over many times since then, and those hopes and dreams have long since evolved into new ones. I can never imagine myself to be as great as Dr. King, but when I finish this life, I want to be remembered as the old Soldier who tried to do his duty as God gave him the light to see that duty.

As I write this message to you, I am humming the tune to old Auld Lang Syne, the traditional song sung at the stroke of midnight on New Years. It is a song that celebrates the new start and a call to remember friendships from long ago. Thank you for the memories and the time spent at Camp As Sayliyah. I will cherish them always.

Auld Lang Syne and Happy New Year!

This month in U.S. Third Army History

The Third Army has a long tradition of supporting training and in January of 1919 that was their primary mission.

During January 1919, the Third Army engaged in training and preparing the troops under its command for any contingency.

A letter of instruction circulated to lower commanders prescribing a plan of action in case hostilities resumed. Army Central Command set up installations throughout the Army area to facilitate command.

Furthermore in February, military schools opened through the Third Army area; ARCENT organized a quartermaster depot; 2,000 officers and enlisted men left to take courses in British and French universities; they created better leave facilities; and they even made plans for sending American divisions to the United States.

Lastly On February 4, 1919, the military control of the Stadtkreis of Trier transferred to the Third Army.

Army's strategic vision plan unveiled

By David Vergun
U.S. Army Service

WASHINGTON - This month the latest Army Capstone Concept was rolled out. The previous ACC was published in 2009.

The ACC is a broad roadmap for how the Army will conduct future planning, organization and operations globally in support of the president's national security objectives.

"ACC is an important part of how the Army ensures we remain relevant and ready for expectations and missions our nation expects us to fulfill," said Maj. Gen. Bill Hix, direc-

tor, Training and Doctrine Command's Concept Development and Learning Directorate, during a media round-table, Dec. 21.

One of the main differences in this ACC, according to Hix, is "we are focused on a transitioning Army that can better meet the needs of an emerging operational environment."

The "transitioning Army" Hix refers to is one that has exited Iraq, is drawing down from Afghanistan but still engaged, and is positioning itself to better respond to events globally.

That "new environment" he said, refers to an ever-changing

and more complex world, with events unfolding with great rapidity, such as those brought about by the Arab Spring. The new environment means the Army would have to rapidly adapt if needed, meaning being more agile and flexible as opposed to an institutional mindset.

Although he said the Army is now "more CONUS-based," Soldiers will deploy worldwide in support of theater commanders and their regional alignment strategies.

The ACC's regional alignment component aims to "prevent, shape and win," Hix said, meaning "working with the other services, our partners and our allies to prevent wars and shape the environment to the benefits of our national interest as well as that of our partners and allies and to contribute to stability around the world."

To do all of this, he said, requires that the Army be nimble -- available to respond to a crisis within hours, not days -- and to be able to provide the right size and mix of forces that would be needed at the right time and the right place, be it a humanitarian operation or one where force is required.

The Army is well postured

see **PLAN** on page 10



DOHA, Qatar – The American School of Doha hosted an International Week Ceremony where they discussed the positive affects of an active global citizen, Dec. 10, 2012.



DOHA, Qatar - Sgt. 1st Class Cesar Ceja, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the personnel section for Area Support Group - Qatar, helps cook chicken during the Community Activity Center Christmas cookout, Dec. 9, 2012.

Ties that bind

By Polli Ogilvie
ASG-QA PAO

DOHA, Qatar - I remember thinking how often we look, but never see... we listen, but never hear... we exist, but never feel... A house is only a place. It has no life of its own. It needs human voices, activity and laughter to come alive. *Erma Bombeck*

Camp As Sayliyah is only a place, but the people here give it a voice, with activity and laughter that bring it to life. Being away from home during the holidays is not always easy and this is why it is so important to develop a healthy perspective and focus on your role within your camp family.



DOHA, Qatar - Ch. (Maj.) William Wehlage, holds prayer prior to the CAC cookout, Dec. 9, 2012.

According to Army Chaplain (Maj.) William Wehlage of the Areas Support Group-Qatar, all the events during the season play an important part in the morale of this tight-knit community. "Winter is the darkest season of the year. I think that's why we

celebrate the most light-filled holiday at this time. Sure, separation during the holidays brings stress, but CAS is a family."

To come together as a family requires a shared sense of purpose that can serve as a catalyst for a healthy life at home and in the community. These shared sense of purpose help families near and far stay emotionally connected.

"The Community Activity Center is our place of worship while away from home," said Lt. Col. Joseph Harvey, Deputy Commander, ASG-QA. "It is important to have these activities that bring everyone together. It builds a sense of community and a shared common ground. While we are deployed, the people here are our family and our home away from home."

"Christmas is very personal to me," said Staff Sergeant Ortland Meadows, intelligence non-commissioned officer, ASG-QA. "It's not about the gifts. It's about coming together outside of work and looking out for each other. You never know how much influence you have on other people's lives."

Life does not stop during the holidays. If anything it speeds up. Families need to recognize the impact of separation on both deployed and non deployed members.

"Deployments don't break families, they reveal what they already are," said Wehlage. "Prayer will strengthen your family...when talking to your loved ones on the phone, pray together. Yes, on the phone! God, who is everywhere, will hear you and bring enormous comfort to you both."

"Families that pray together stay together...even when they are apart."

Reach out as a family to those people who helped you during your deployment. Give them a call; write a note or take time to visit. Enjoy life and do the things that family members enjoy; keep the voices, activity and laughter alive.

Out in the Open:

Harnessing the Power of Open Source Information

**By U.S. Army Maj.
D. Marshall Bornn Jr.,
ASG-QA S2**

On December 3-6 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Department of the Army Civilians from all across the Army Central Command area of operations converged on Camp As Sayliyah to attend two coveted Open Source Fundamentals Courses offered locally by the Open Source Center-Doha Bureau. Many students arrived believing that the field of Open Source was a new phenomenon brought on by the technical revolutions of the 1990's; however, Open Source actually dates back to The Foreign Broadcast Information Service created in 1941 to access and exploit open source intelligence in relation to World War II operations. A classic example of their value and success is reflected in the price of oranges in Paris as an indicator of whether railroad bridges had been bombed successfully.

Students attended the courses offered here at the OSC-Doha's education center. The Deputy Director of the OSC-Doha, Jenn B; stated that the Open Source Center's mission is to collect and disseminate publicly available information from around the world into usable products for decision makers. OSC-Doha also provides regular training classes to the military and diplomatic community in the ARCENT area of operations. The courses offered consists of

open source analysis techniques, open source familiarization for OSC-D's AOR (Gulf, Yemen, Iran, CT, Af/Pak), geospatial tools training and hands on training using opensource.gov. The courses offered on Camp As Sayliyah were designed to prepare individuals in harnessing the open sources that have come to dominate our informational landscape; and to train attendees in the basic tools needed to navigate the immense sea of sources in the most precise and efficient way possible.

The courses offered, open to anyone interested in refining their skills, are designed for professional and personal uses. Open Sour-

ces include, but are not limited to, a wide variety of information in many forms of media (newspapers, magazines, radio, television, and computer-based information,) Web-based communities, user generated content (social-networking sites and blogs,) Public data (government reports, official data such as budgets, demographics, hearings, legislative debates, press conferences, speeches, marine and aeronautical safety warnings, environmental impact statements and contract awards,) observation and reporting (amateur airplane spotters, radio monitors and satel-

see OPEN on page 13



DOHA, Qatar - U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Mark Brown, former commander of Joint Theater Support Contracting Command, points to the area of operations on a map during a discussion with the members of the Area Support Group - Qatar intelligence.

Decorating the Community Activity Center for Christmas

Photo essay by Mr. Jeremiah J. Clark,
ASG-QA Photojournalist



(Photo by Mr Jeremiah J. Clark)

DOHA, Qatar – U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Naomi Reyes, 972nd Military Police Company, sets decorations on the Community Activity Center Christmas tree on Camp As Sayliyah during the CAC decorating, Dec. 9, 2012.



(Photo by Mr Jeremiah J. Clark)

U.S. Army Maj. James Boyette, director of the department of public works for Area Support Group - Qatar, assists with decorating the CAC Christmas tree, Dec. 9, 2012.



(Photo by Mr Jeremiah J. Clark)

U.S. Army Capt. Torey Brenco, operations officer for Area Support Group - Qatar, helps wrap boxes during the decoration of the CAC, Dec. 9, 2012.

AROUND CAMP AS SAYLIYAH



Members of Camp As Sayliyah dance during the New Year's Eve party held at the Top Off, just after a night of thrilling games such as a scavenger hunt and costume party (Above left and right). The American School of Doha hosted a flag ceremony as the capstone of their International Week Celebrations (Bottom left). U.S. Army Maj. Shawn Gralinski read Christmas stories to ASD students (Bottom right).





(Photo by Mr. Jeremiah J. Clark)



(Photo by Mr. Jeremiah J. Clark)

The CAS Christmas Luncheon was a great hit thanks to an appearance by the Lord's Choir who were accompanied by Santa Claus (Above left and right). While earlier in December, the Connor McPherson classic, Rum&Vodka, came back to CAS to inspire discussion amongst the audience (Below left and right).



(Photo by Mr. Jeremiah J. Clark)



(Photo by Mr. Jeremiah J. Clark)

PLAN

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to do all of this on a global scale, Hix said, citing Special Forces operations capabilities, the Army's solid logistics, communications and intelligence structures and its ability to run ports, railroads, and large-scale helicopter lifts.

The other services will always have their own place at the table, he emphasized. "We bring capabilities that complement, not compete with theirs."

A new ACC is generated from the president's strategic imperatives, along with input from within the Army on lessons learned, TRADOCs future studies and experimentation and consultations with the other services.

The ACC is not new.

"We've done this work throughout our history," Hix said, citing war games and experiments on maneuver warfare in the interwar years of the 1920s and '30s, as well as post-war assessments. It just went by other names.



Camp As Sayliyah Tax Center opens January 28th!

It's located next to the Education Center in building III. Walk in's are welcome!

Leader Skills Enhancement Training (LSEI), MTES 1171 Professional Values (1 s.h.)

CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE

This course is a study of the Seven Army values and their application to military and personal life. Stop by the Ed Center to reserve your seat now!

Education for the Individual

Qatari and U.S. Forces train together in combat life saver course

By Sgt. Tammy Frates
972nd Military Police Company

Last month, the Camp As Sayliyah Troop Medical Clinic held two Combat Life Saver classes to educate Soldiers on what to do in life threatening situations when no medics are available.

The two classes, held December 3-7 and December 10-14, included basic instruction on how to protect the airway, control bleeding, and promoted rapid evacuation. The classes were instructed by Staff Sergeant Biltoff of the Area Support Group-Qatar along with medics from local tenant units located on camp.

Special guest from the Qatari military were in attendance. "We're the only organization who has an actual memorandum of agreement to train with the Qatari military," said Biltoff. This was his first time training with the Qataris, but has previous experience in training with other nations.

One first time student in the class, Specialist Jay Murphy from the 972nd Military Police Company said, "Working with the Qatari military personnel was a great experience, because I have never worked with foreign military before." For some students this was their first CLS class; for others it was a refresher course.

For the Qatari military, this was a basic skill level refresher. Most are currently providers in their military setting. Biltoff went on to say, "The Qatari military have excellent tools and are updating them daily. They're actually investing

a lot of money into their medical skill set...and are establishing a solid program..."

During the class, the students learned tactical combat casualty care which is known as TC3 and how to put in a nasopharyngeal airway. Murphy volunteered to have one inserted into his airway. He said, "It hurt, but it is good to know what it feels like, so when I do it to someone else I know what they are going through."

Hands-on-training is crucial when it comes to real life situations.

"Soldiers see medical stuff around all the time, CLS bags and equipment, but they have no knowledge. This course teaches

them how to use the equipment, and the evacuation skills that every Soldier should know," said Biltoff.

Combat Life Saver class is one of the most important classes to take when deploying to a combat area of operation. "In a combat setting CLS training should be a high priority for everyone, because anything can happen," explained Biltoff. "I've seen several situations where the medic was the first one injured, so it was CLS dependent."

If you have soldiers who are not trained, then bad things can happen." Murphy added, "Everyone in the military should take this course."

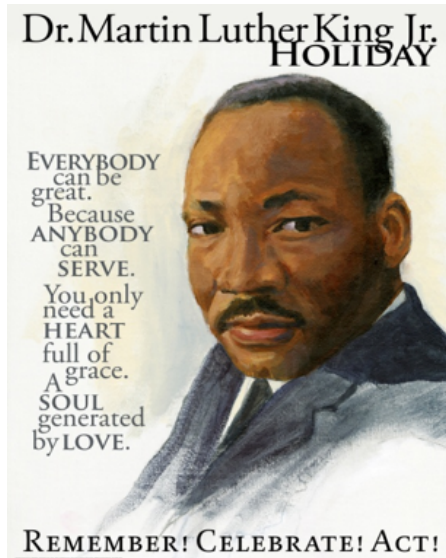


(Photo by Mr Jeremiah J. Clark)

DOHA, Qatar - U.S. Army Spc. Ashley Nortlich, of the 323rd Military Police Company, applies a nasopharyngeal into the airway of Pfc. John Murphy, a member of the 972nd Military Police Company, during the practical exercise portion of the combat life saver's course put on at the Troop Medical Center on Camp As Sayliyah, Dec 12, 2012.

A Day On, Not A Day Off!

By U.S. Sgt. 1st Class
Jesse Hennage
ASG-QA EO



Every year, on the third Monday of the month of January we celebrate the birth of a man known worldwide whom left a legacy which paved the way for civil rights, dignity, and equal treatment throughout the races which make up the United States of America.

Each year a specific theme is provided for the many different national observances recognized by the Department of Defense. Although many organizations, schools, and federal offices are closed for this holiday the theme, “Remember, Celebrate, Act! A Day On, Not A Day Off!” remains a theme that does not change and

reminds us that although it is a holiday, we should always remember the contributions to our society of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Martin Luther King Jr. was born January 15, 1929 to reverend Martin Luther King Sr. and Alberta Williams King. He was born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia where he attended Morehouse College like his father and grandfather had before him. He continued to follow in their footsteps by later becoming a pastor of a Baptist church located in Montgomery, Alabama in 1954.

Only a year later Dr. King began earning the top positions in organizations which began fighting for civil rights of African-Americans.

His non-violent approach began with the boycott of a segregated bus company. The boycott, which lasted for over a year, resulted in segregated seating on the buses being ruled unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court.

During this period he was subjected to abuse, threats, and constant criticism; more importantly he became the leader of the civil rights movement of the 1950’s and 1960’s. For over a decade, Dr. Martin Luther King continued to

inspire and motivate members of society to abolish the injustices taking place in our country against African-Americans. King publicly spoke over twenty five hundred times; some of his more popular works included the commonly known, “I Have a Dream” speech and his “Letter from a Birmingham Jail”.

In 1964, he became the youngest person ever to win The Nobel Peace Prize in which he donated the winnings to the civil rights movement.

Fifteen years after his assassination on April 4, 1968, President Ronald Reagan signed a bill into law making the third Monday of January a national holiday to recognize and celebrate the birth of a man which helped break boundaries of unequal treatment towards our fellow men and women.

Much like the struggles of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., many people opposed making it a national holiday as only two other Americans had received the same recognition. The bill was eventually signed November 2, 1983 and the first national holiday took place January 20, 1986.

OPEN

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lite observers among many others have provided significant information not otherwise available), and has now expanded into areas formerly available only to major government services (professional and academic or grey literature): conferences, symposia, professional associations, academic papers, and subject matter experts.)

Using the above tools taught to students in the course is professionally rewarding, making anyone able to develop products that are not only relevant but classified for the greatest general use possible. For those in the private sector, it can make their personal positions and individual companies more competitive, focused and directed to specific emerging opportunities so that even small and medium businesses can compete in markets usually reserved for larger companies.

Personally, the course offers the investigative tools to conduct thorough research; utilizing effective searches, database queries, primary interviews, online sources, and deep web search engines to help in academic pursuits, finding the best bargain or figuring out how to build your own castle; whatever the need may be. Area Support Group - Qatar's Staff Sgt. Orland Meadows, a participant in the course, stated that "the courses were professionally developing for me as an analyst and will also, help me complete my bachelor's degree much easier using the research tools."

Dog Gone Training

By U.S. Staff Sgt. Roland Sobrepena
ARCENT Public Affairs



DOHA, Qatar - U.S. Army Sgt. Jeffrey Holyst, of the 928th Military Police, Military Working Dog Detachment, gets ready for a day of training with his working dog on Camp As Sayliyah.

"I play with a dog," said Holyst. "No matter what my job is, no matter where I'm going. Whether I'm clearing a road, a compound or doing force protection measures for an installation, I play with a dog all day and nothing beats it."

AER scholarships available for families of Soldiers

By David Vergun,
Army News Service

WASHINGTON - Army Emergency Relief scholarships for the academic year 2013-2014 will be available starting, Jan. 2, for spouses and children of Soldiers, retired Soldiers and reserve-component Soldiers on Title 10 orders. The application deadline is May 1.

The Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarships are for unmarried children under the age of 23.

"Scholarship awards for children are based on financial need, grade point average and leadership and activity roles -- like sports, scouting and student council -- held over the last four years," said Tammy LaCroix, AER Scholarship Program manager. "A student could qualify under one, two or all three of the criteria."

The Spouse Education Assistance Program Scholarships are based solely on financial need, LaCroix said.

Applicants of both scholarships must be pursuing their first undergraduate degree at an accredited college or university. All applicants must maintain a GPA of 2.0 on a GPA scale of 4.0.

Transcripts need to be included in applications, along with a "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" form and report. Children who have not attended college should submit their high school transcripts instead.

Scholarship funds can be used for tuition, fees, books, supplies and room and board.

This year there has been a change in the application procedure.

"Instead of mailing, emailing or

faxing the forms, transcripts and other paperwork, all submissions must be submitted online," LaCroix said.

The new procedure should make the process more efficient and will eliminate problems like forms getting lost in the mail, she added.

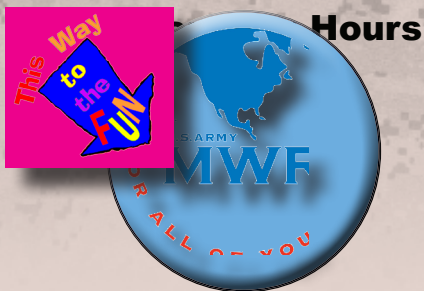
According to LaCroix, 5,218 applications were received for the Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship for the 2012-2013 academic year. Of those, 2,614 scholarships were awarded, with an average award of \$2,550. For the same academic year, more than 2,200 applications were received for the Spouse Education Assistance Program, with 757 scholarships being awarded. The average award was \$3,205.

AER is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to providing financial assistance to Soldiers, active and retired, and their families. Since its incorporation in 1942, AER has provided around \$1.4 billion to more than 3.4 million Soldiers, families and retirees.

Editor's Note: Forms and instructions for both scholarships can be found at <http://www.aerhq.org/dnn563/EducationalAssistance.aspx>. To request more information, applicants can call 866-878-6378 or email scholarships@erhq.org.

Anyone interested in making donations to AER can visit their website at [aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org) for instructions.





MWR Hours

- **Main and Small Gyms**
Open all day, every day
- **Cyber Cafe, Phone Ctr.**
Open all day, every day
- **Video Hut**
9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- **Swimming Pool**
5:30 a.m. to midnight, closed for cleaning 9 to 10:30 a.m.
- **Mini Golf Course**
6 a.m. to midnight
- **Driving Range**
8 a.m. to midnight

MWR events and more!

Every Month is Fitness Mania Month

Participate in a different event every day, every month and earn points. Some of the events include Single Darts, 6 on 6 Volleyball, and Billiards.

To register for these events or for any MWR-sponsored trip, stop by the MWR office, in building 109, Monday-Sunday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., or call DSN: 432-3049.

You can register for trips up to three days prior to the trip departure date. Payment is required at the time you register for any trip.

MWR Key Staff

MWR Director

Mr. Antoine T. Randall
DSN: 432-3033

MWR NCOIC

U.S. Army Master Sgt.
Montgomery Miller
DSN: 432-3755

MWR



(Photo by Mr. Jeremiah J. Clark)

DOHA, Qatar - Every other Friday during the months of November and December, the MWR transported Soldiers to the Qatar Racing Club allowing them to witness one of the countries favorite past times, the 4x4 Burnout Challenge.

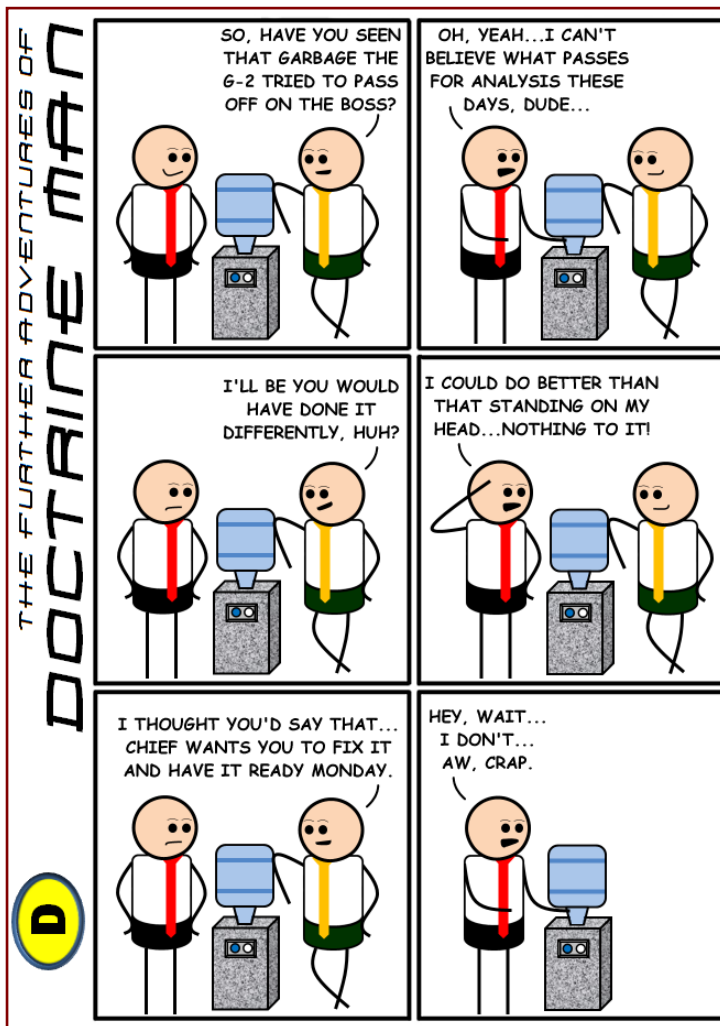
During the months of January and February, there are more trips to the QRC as the larger cars will make their appearance, according to U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Kyle Coffel, of the 323rd Military Police Company.

"They are very friendly towards the military," Coffel said. "We asked if we could go down by the track and they said, 'yeah, sure.' So we went down by the wall."

Coffel said they were even invited into the 'pit' to watch the final round.



(Photo by Mr. Jeremiah J. Clark)



Public Affairs wants your help!

If you're a photographer looking to share the cool pictures you took at that last unit function or an aspiring writer with the drive to create a compelling story about your unit send it to us!

It may even end up in the next issue of the Desert Mesh!

ITT EXELIS

What did you think of Desert Mesh edition 80?

Please comment on this form, or make a copy, then drop it into any comment card box on Camp As Sayliyah.

How would you rate this edition? _____

What is your opinion of the content? _____

Was the layout and design appropriate? _____

Do you find it easy to obtain a copy? _____

Additional Comments:

We would like your feedback!

Edition 80. The editorial content is the responsibility of the Area Support Group-Qatar Public Affairs Office, located in building 112. General comments should be addressed by calling DSN (318) 432-2572 or (318) 432 - 2800.