

RED TAIL FLYER

332d Air Expeditionary Wing, Balad Air Base, Iraq



Audible power

- 5 Know what this is?
- 10 Uniform dos and don'ts
- 11 Chapel schedule
- 12 Movie schedule

News and features

3 Question answered

I have to admit, I was apprehensive about deploying to Iraq. It wasn't that I was nervous about the mission or the inherent dangers of combat – after all, we are the best Air Force in the world. No, it was rather the lack of understanding on my part about the war.

7 Barrier

The tension must be right on – down to a thousandth of an inch. If the measurement is off, it means a multimillion dollar F-16 Fighting Falcon will careen off the runway at nearly 150 mph with its unsuspecting passenger.

9 Upgrade

When many people hear deployment, they probably think of tents in the middle of the desert that they will have to inhabit for work, sleep or both.



8 Toying with help, two sergeants' efforts improve AFTH patients' stay

THE WING COMMANDER WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU



Brig. Gen.
Robin Rand
332d Air
Expeditionary Wing
Commander

As a service for Balad Airmen, the 332d Air Expeditionary Wing operates the Commander's Action Line.

The line is a way for Balad Air Base members to get answers to questions or express concerns about life on the base. Brig. Gen. Robin Rand, 332d AEW commander, gives action line queries his

personal attention. The *Red Tail Flyer* will publish those items that are of general interest to the Balad Air Base population.

In addition to using the commander's action line, Balad Airmen are asked to remember their chain of command when dealing with problems and concerns.

The action line can be reached via e-mail at redtailflyer@blab.centaf.af.mil. People using the action line should include name, unit and phone number in case additional information is needed and for a timely response.

Weather outlook

Today	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
111/82	113/84	Dusty 113/84	111/82	109/80	Dusty 107/80	109/80

Cover Story

6

Audible power



Front page photo Illustration by
Senior Airman James Croxon

RED TAIL FLYER

Brig. Gen. Robin Rand
332d Air Expeditionary Wing
Commander

Editorial Staff

Lt. Col. Bob Thompon
Chief, Public Affairs
2nd Lt. Lisa Kostellic
Deputy chief

Master Sgt. Julie Briggs
Superintendent, Public Affairs
Senior Airman Kerry Solan-Johnson
Editor, Red Tail Flyer
Senior Airman James Croxon
Co-editor/web administrator

The *Red Tail Flyer* is published by the 332d Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs Office.

This funded Air Force newsletter is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services overseas. Contents of the *Red Tail Flyer* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the public affairs office of the 332d AEW at Balad Air Base, Iraq. All photos are Air Force photos, unless otherwise indicated. The deadline for all editorial submissions is noon Friday the week prior to the date of publication.

The public affairs office can be contacted at 443-6005, or by e-mail at: redtailflyer@blab.centaf.af.mil or 332aew.pa@blab.centaf.af.mil. The crimson used throughout the publication alludes to the original Tuskegee Airmen of the 332d Fighter Group.

The Tuskegee Airmen were the first African Americans to be trained as WWII military pilots in the U.S. Army Air Corps. They were known as the Red Tail Flyers because of the crimson paint scheme on their aircraft's tails.

<http://www.balad.afnews.af.mil/library/redtailflyer/index.asp>



COMMENTARY BY SENIOR AIRMAN JAMES CROXON 332D AEW PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A glimpse at Iraq's future answers 'why'

I have to admit, I was apprehensive about deploying to Iraq. It wasn't that I was nervous about the mission or the inherent dangers of combat – after all, we are the best Air Force in the world. No, it was rather the lack of understanding on my part about the war.

As I packed my bags to deploy, I had more questions than answers. The most pressing question was why are we in Iraq?

It wasn't answered immediately when I stepped off the C-130 or even after my first indirect fire attack. The question of why I needed to leave my family and fight in a foreign land was answered

two weeks later after seeing a 3-month-old Iraqi baby.

The Air Force Theater Hospital is a window into the true nature of the war, a window I was privileged enough to look through. It's easy to become detached here; even incoming rockets and mortars become routine. However, when I visited the hospital for the first time in May, I saw the terrible toll the insurgents are taking on the Iraqi people.

On that first visit I saw an Iraqi baby whose father was murdered by insurgents and whose mother was missing and assumed to be dead as well. As I held him I realized that his future was dependent on the outcome

of this conflict and, to some extent, my actions here.

That injured and orphaned baby made me realize what was most basic and what gets taken for granted so easily – the basic freedom of life. I wasn't fighting for politics or for religiosity gone amuck; I was fighting to give the Iraqi baby in my arms the right to live.

The brutal nature of what happened to this baby's parents showed me the true nature of Iraq's enemies. They don't just want political power. They are extremist of the worst kind. Civilians, women and children are all targets. Their innocence is not enough to

keep them safe from the anti-Iraq forces who are targeting them.

Not only was the question of why I am here answered in that 15-minute visit, but it also gave me a better understanding of my own patriotism.

Our founding fathers were the ones who said "All men are created equal." I believe in those words and so, as I laid that victim of conflict back in his crib and he sucked his thumb in an innocent and peaceful sleep, I was filled with a noble sense of purpose and direction. I'll leave the reasons for the war to my leaders, but I'll fight to give that baby the right to live.



T U S K E G E E A I R M A N O F T H E W E E K

SENIOR AIRMAN MYREEN BUENO

Unit: 332d Expeditionary Medical Support Squadron

Air Force Specialty: Medical laboratory craftsman

Home station: Lackland Air Force Base, Texas

Family: Married to Eddie Bueno

Years in the Air Force: 4, she extended her enlistment to volunteer for this deployment.

Deployments: One, this is her first

Education: Two classes away from completing her Community College of the Air Force degree.

Off-duty contribution at Balad: She organized night-shift basketball games for the medical group. She also helped install 180 bunk beds in H6, helping to improve the quality of life for Airmen here.

On-duty contribution at Balad: She has processed 2,000 blood units and tested 5,000 samples. She also collected 30 blood units during four emergency blood drives. Airman Bueno has been recalled to perform duties for two mass casualty recalls, aiding doctors with more than 45 patients.



Photo by Senior Airman James Croxon

Around the Air Force



Jungle warfare training

First Lt. Christopher Stob uses his compass July 25 on his team's first navigation mission during a weeklong training course at the Jungle Warfare Training Center at Camp Gonsalves, Okinawa. Thirty Airmen from the 18th Communications Squadron at Kadena Air Base, Japan, attended the course, which included land navigation and other skills, culminating in an endurance course on the final day. The 18th CS is the first non-combat support unit to go through this training.

Letter to Airmen focuses on diversity

SAN ANTONIO (AFPN) – In the latest Letter to Airmen, Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. T. Michael Moseley issued a policy memorandum regarding equal opportunity and diversity in the Air Force and how today's Air Force does not tolerate harassment of any type.

"Tolerating harassment of any type is no different than committing the offense. As we become a leaner, more lethal force, we simply have no place for such criminal or divisive behavior.

"We are all Airmen, and under enemy fire the race, religion, sex or geographic origin of the Airman fighting next to us is irrelevant. We expect you to exhibit a similar whole-hearted respect toward your fellow Airmen – your Wingmen – wherever you work today."

This Letter to Airmen and other senior leader viewpoints can be found in the Library section of Air Force Link, www.af.mil.

New utility uniform on track for distribution

by Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – The new Airman Battle Uniform is moving into production and on track for distribution to deploying Airmen next summer.

Patterns have been finalized and are being run through production to ensure sizing and garment construction as well as preparing for assembly-line operations, said Senior Master Sgt. Dana Athnos, the Air Force uniform board superintendent.

Senior leaders want the warfighters to get the first ABUs, and Airmen deploying in air and space expeditionary force 7 and 8 in May 2007 will receive two sets each of the new ABU and the current deployment uniform, the Desert Combat Uniform.

Airmen embedded with Army units will get four ABU sets which lets them blend in more with their service counterparts. While the Army and the Air Force combat/battle uniforms will look similar from a distance, the Air Force distinctive pattern includes a slate-blue shade in addition to foliage green, desert sand and urban gray shades. The pattern is pixilated or "digital" like the Marine Corps and Army uniforms but is based on a pixilated Vietnam-era tiger stripe pattern.

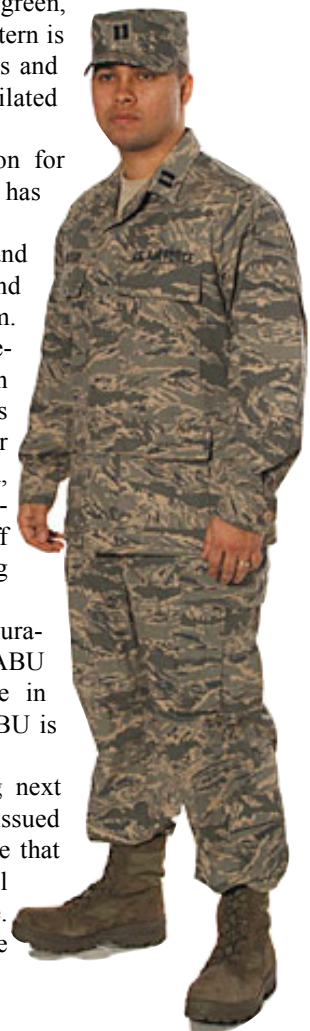
While the ABU has been in production for about four and a half years, the Air Force has had numerous hurdles to overcome.

The ABU is designed in both male and female sizes and will replace the DCU and "woodland" patterned Battle Dress Uniform. The ABU will be worn in the desert, state-side bases and in environments for which the BDU was originally designed. And it has been redesigned from the largely unpopular blue-tiger striped pattern initially fielded, most recently with additions of extra pockets, after feedback Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley got when visiting Airmen in Southwest Asia.

Considering the final changes and configurations were made this past January and the ABU will begin rolling off the assembly line in January 2007, Sergeant Athnos said the ABU is on track and moving forward as planned.

After distribution to Airmen deploying next summer, Airmen in basic training will be issued the ABU beginning in October 2007. Once that distribution system is in place, the ABU will be available in AAFES outlets for purchase.

The expected mandatory wear date for the ABU is 2011.



Iraqi cadre to begin training enlisted

by Sgt. Rachel Brune
101st Airborne Division

Q-WEST BASE COMPLEX — The latest cycle of Iraqi troops graduated July 25 from the Iraqi Army Noncommissioned Officer Academy here, about 45 miles south of Mosul.

The class was the last of a series taught by U.S. instructors from the 11th Field Artillery Regiment.

The latest Iraqi NCOs will now return to their units as trained leaders, while Iraqi cadre at the academy prepare to take full responsibility for future training here.

"The (Iraqi) cadre ... are charged with training Iraqi NCOs in the new millennium and beyond," said Staff Sgt. Edwin R. Sanchez, who has taught at the academy with his fellow Soldiers for the past year.

The instructors, including four Iraqi cadre members, taught a three-week leadership develop-

ment course which included traffic control point procedures, clearing buildings, drill and ceremony, physical fitness training, hand-to-hand combat, ethics and other skills similar to what American Soldiers learn in their courses.

Sgt. Maj. Walter Murrell, a member of the U.S. training team, gave his last graduation remarks as commandant of the NCO academy.

"Teamwork is fundamental to what this country is trying hard to achieve," he told the graduates.

Sgt. Maj. Murrell asked the Iraqi Soldiers to remember and apply what they learned, especially when leading a team of Iraqi Soldiers into a dangerous area.

"You are the lifeblood of your nation, and you must never forget that," Sgt. Maj. Murrell said.

"It was an honor to serve side by side with you. When the history books are written, you will be the heroes of the republic."

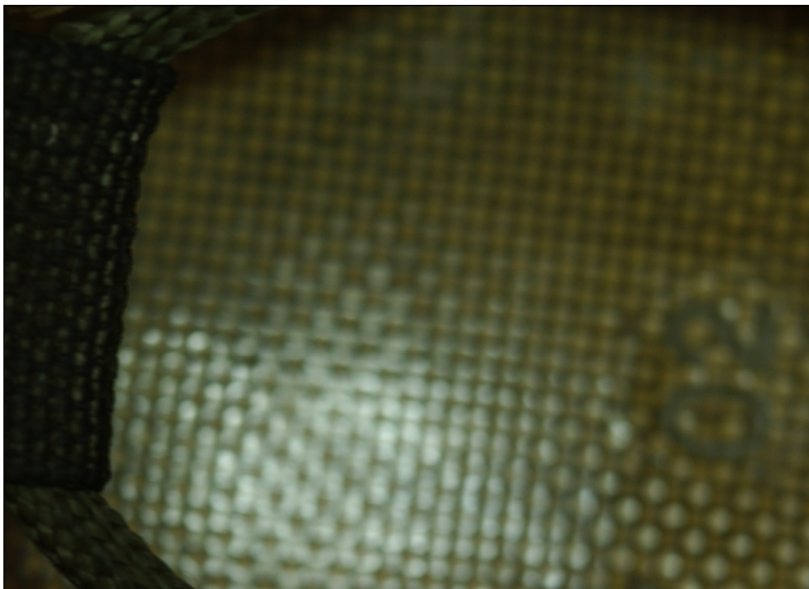


Photo by Staff Sgt. Russell Lee Klika

Sgt. Maj. Farhan, the new Iraqi commandant with the 2nd Iraqi Army Division, said the graduates will be the foundation from which to protect Iraq's democracy and freedom. He also thanked the academy's instructors for their work.

"The role of the instructors is clear as sunshine ... By doing a great job to train these Soldiers, the instructors deserve to be known as the heroes of the academy," Sgt. Maj. Farhan said.

Firefight
Soldiers from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division take cover Aug. 2 during a gun battle with anti Iraqi forces during Operation Starlite, a nine-day mission in the Salah Ah Din province of Iraq.



Know what this is?

If you can identify this object, send an e-mail to redtailflyer@blab.centaf.af.mil. Senior Airman Kandice Caputo, 332 Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, was the first person to correctly identify last week's picture, which was the outlet valve cover for the MCU-2A/P gas mask.



audible Power

Story and photos by Senior Airman
Kerry Solan-Johnson
332 Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

Eighteen Airmen ensure there is no peace here. Because silence at Balad would mean chaos. The power production team's work is audible and emitted by the drone of 200 Air Force generators fueled by 7,000 gallons of fuel a day, as well as immeasurable amounts of sweat and man hours.



Staff Sgt. Kristopher Oyen, 332d Air Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, checks one of the four generators that supply electricity to H6.

"I'm not going to lie," said Staff Sgt. Kristopher Oyen, 332d Air Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron power production nightshift noncommissioned officer in charge. "The work can be punishing."

The generators perpetually run continuously, supplying three critical areas – the Air Force Theater Hospital, airfield and communications squadron – as well as countless other Air Force assets with power. No other kind of power supply exists to these areas, so it's up to the 332d ECES power production team to ensure the generators, facing conditions they weren't manufactured for, can stand up to the heat, dust and high demand.

The most challenging of these lies in the consequence of the AFTH going without power. While some Air Force assets are powered by contractors' generators, the hospital is in the hands of these civil engineers.

"It's our asset to power because they don't trust it to anyone else; they know (the power) will stay up with us," said Master Sgt. James Bomboy, 332d ECES power production superintendent.

With more than 750 patients a month, many who need surgery, the hospital is priority No. 1 for the power pros.

"We have to make sure the



Senior Airman Lorraine Hunter checks the status of the electrical systems utilized by H6.

power doesn't go out during all those surgeries," Sergeant Bomboy said.

The power pros have a record they're proud of when it comes to the hospital: not once has the hospital ever gone without power, said Senior Airman Lorraine Hunter, power pro dayshift leader. The power pros' quick response time and backup generators made that possible.

The communications squadron also relies on the power the crew provides since a lack of power would mean a loss of communication with convoys on Iraqi roads.

Power pro's work also supports quality of life from powering the gym to the recreation center, transient tents to the distinguished visitor quarters.

"It doesn't matter that it's 115 degrees outside when they work on 180-degree generators to change 200-degree oil," Sergeant Oyen said. "They'll come in, dirty but smiling. They know they have to get the job done."

How to catch a falcon by the tail

by Senior Airman Kerry Solan-Johnson
332d Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

The tension must be right on – down to a thousandth of an inch.

If the measurement is off, it means a multi-million dollar F-16 Fighting Falcon will careen off the runway at nearly 150 mph with its unsuspecting passenger.

And if the system fails completely, that same gray metal beast, filled with jet fuel, and its pilot will meet an unpleasant end at the termination point of the runway.

That last line of defense – the mobile aircraft arresting system and its 1,200 feet of arresting tape – is the responsibility of three Airmen assigned as the mobile maintainers, an extension of the power production section, and Airmen from the 332d Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron.

“When a jet can’t stop because of some sort of system failure, we’re involved,” said Staff Sgt Joshua Maroney, noncommissioned officer in charge of barrier maintenance and a maintainer for the four 18,000-pound arresting systems here.

When a jet is unable to stop safely on its own, the Airmen scramble to the MAAS



before the jet lands to prepare the system, which includes a 153-foot long steel cable stretched across the runway, for a hard engagement. Because Balad is the second busiest single-runway operation in the world, next only to Heathrow International Airport in London, the three Airmen never have a break and are ready to scramble out to the arresting systems any time of day or night. This means they eat, sleep and work in the same area, right off the taxiway, less than a one-minute ride to any aircraft arresting system.

“We haven’t had an uninterrupted night’s sleep in a long time,” said Staff Sgt. Robert Neubert, a MAAS maintainer. “The phone rings to warn of in-flight emergencies almost every night.”

While their nights are less than peaceful, their days involve the repeated task of maintaining and inspecting the arresting systems: tensioning cables, support block replacement

and tape inspections.

“The environment is hard on the systems,” said Senior Airman Robert Andrezejewski. “We’re performing maintenance on arresting systems more often here than we would at home because of the heat and dust.”

Each inspection takes a few hours, and if something needs repairs, it could take as many as 12 to 14 hours. There are no breaks for the trio during those hours, and there is no outsourcing the work – the Airmen do all the maintenance and repairs themselves.

The crew also maintains the generators that supply power to the air traffic control tower, explosive ordnance disposal and the emergency airfield lighting system.

But the real test for the Airmen is when the system is engaged – when they have three-and-a-half minutes to pull in the 1,200 feet of tape and cable and clear the runway for the endless airpower waiting to land at Balad.

“There is no room for failure for these guys,” said Master Sgt. James Bomboy, 332d ECES power production superintendent.

“It’s a lot of work for just three of them, so we augment them with the 18 members of our generator teams when necessary but these guys accomplish the bulk of the barrier missions. They do a great job.”

Staff Sgt. Robert Neubert performs routine maintenance on the mobile aircraft arresting system.

toying with

help

Two sergeants' efforts improve AFTH patients' stay

by 2nd Lt. Lisa Kostellik
332d Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

Two Airmen deployed here are trying to further Iraqis' understanding of Americans through the simplest objects — children's toys.

Staff Sergeants Scott R. Klobucher and Samantha E. Ross are volunteers at the Air Force Theater Hospital. The sergeants are two of about 600 people who volunteer at the hospital, providing services such as changing bed linens, answering phones and helping patients write letters home.

They started volunteering shortly after their arrival, but soon discov-

ered that helping at the hospital on their days off wasn't enough for them.

Each experienced an epiphany when they saw an Iraqi child's face light up after receiving a stuffed animal.

The first forward-deployed hospital since Vietnam, the hospital is the busiest Level 1 trauma center in Iraq. In the past six months, the staff has treated 40 pediatric Iraqi patients from 3 months to 15 years old. Most were injured from the blast of an improvised explosive device or a mortar attack and about 15 percent were gunshot wounds.

Seeing children in the hospital reminds Sergeant Klobucher of his own child who will be 2 years old in November.

"I have a son of my own," Sergeant Klobucher said. "I feel bad if he hits his head on the coffee table."

Both NCOs decided they could make more of a difference by

starting toy drives. After receiving legal advice, they each decided the best way to increase their charitable efforts was to ask their family, friends and church members to send toys.

Sergeant Klobucher, a line delivery munitions expeditor with the 332nd Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron, sent requests via e-mail to his family and friends, and along with the help of his co-workers, the word spread. He received about 40 boxes of toys from family, friends and strangers including an insurance agency and a little girl in Colorado.

A guardsman with the 115th Fighter Wing in Madison, Wis., Sergeant Klobucher not only distributed toys to the hospital, but she also gave toys to units who frequently go off the installation for delivery to children all over Iraq.

Sergeant Ross, an air traffic controller with the 332nd Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron, also noticed during her volunteer time that the children at the hospital have very little to do to occupy their time. Since they can't speak English, they find other ways to communi-

cate and be creative.

"We try to talk to them and get them something to do like a pencil and paper. They love to color and draw," Sergeant Ross said.

Sergeant Ross, who is being reassigned to Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., from McGuire AFB, N.J., soon after she returns to the states, also enlisted the help of her co-workers. Like Sergeant Klobucher's office, they sent e-mail requests to their churches at home, asking people to send 10 sets of coloring books and crayons each. Sergeant Ross hopes to have the donations arrive by the end of the month so she can

deliver them to the hospital before she returns home.

Both sergeants plan to continue their efforts when they return home. To ensure continuity at Balad, they are now working together to establish a legacy before they depart.

"I just want to do some good (and) provide some positive aspects of what Americans are actually like. I don't do it for myself," Sergeant Klobucher said. "Most of the credit goes to the people back home who are stepping up the effort to gather toys from their friends and families to get them here."

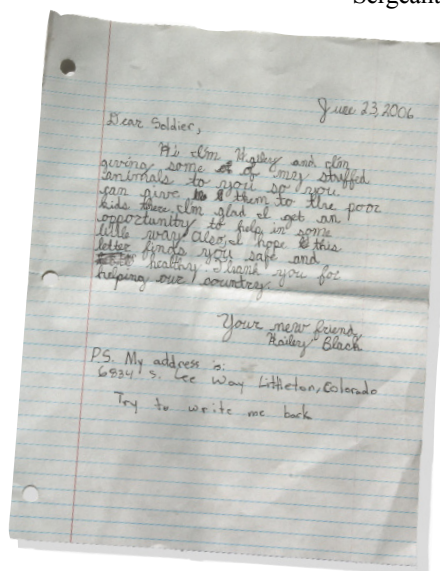


Photo by 2nd Lt. Lisa Kostellik

Staff Sergeants Scott R. Klobucher and Samantha E. Ross sort through boxes of donated toys at Balad Air Base, Iraq. Left, a letter that accompanied a donation.

Upgrade

by Staff Sgt. Stacy Fowler
506th Air Expeditionary Group

KIRKUK AIR BASE, Iraq – When many people hear deployment, they probably think of tents in the middle of the desert that they will have to inhabit for work, sleep or both.

For some it's not reality, they work and sleep in hardened facilities. But what if you were one of those who had to still work in tents while others had better surroundings?

For the members of the 727th Expeditionary Air Control Squadron, Operating Location Alpha, it was a reality that is now over, thanks to the 506th Expeditionary Civil Engineering and Communications squadrons.

"Without their help, this wouldn't have been possible," said Capt. Adam Rogge, 727th EACS OL-A officer in charge. "The [communications] and CE troops have worked so hard along side the EACS troops to get us out of those tents and into real buildings. The new facilities, contract value of \$245K, are wonderful. They are clean, have plenty of network and power drops, and are overall efficiently designed. They are saturated with environmental control units, so we stay nice and cool in the new buildings. It's absolutely outstanding."

The 727th EACS, OL-A, has been on station since 2003, and in tents the whole time until now. While the tents were able to keep out rain and cold – and the air conditioners kept the heat at bay – there was a common problem of dirt and dust getting into sensitive equipment, and lack of space in the sections.

When the new 727th crews took over two months ago, the buildings were already constructed, but there wasn't any power, communications or

air conditioning.

According to Tech. Sgt. Christopher Kirsch, OL-A material controller, Airmen from CS and CE were out at the new site for more than three weeks straight, working long hours to help get things set up as quickly as possible.

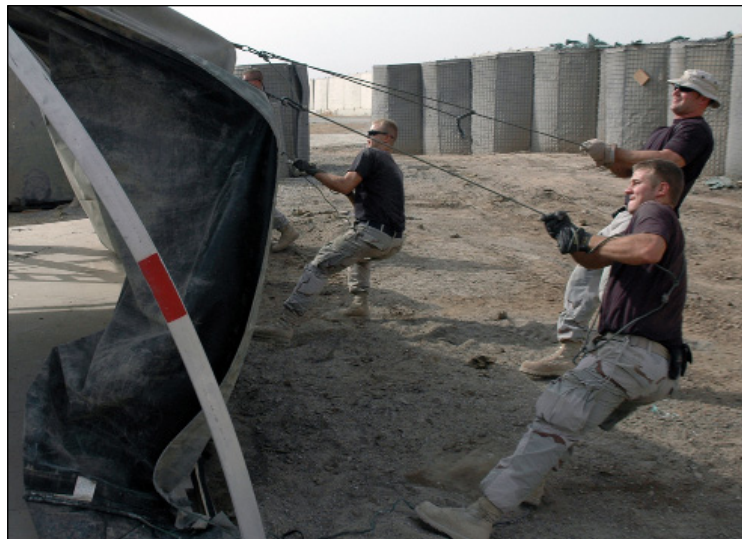
"Without them, we would have been stuck in those tents a lot longer than we were," Sergeant Kirsch said. "We owe them a lot, because they worked as hard as we did to get things set up so we could move in and get our equipment set up quickly."

When the buildings were ready, the next challenge was to move the radar and communication equipment to the new site and get it up.

"When the time was right for us to move, we had to move fast," said Senior Airman Amy Henry, an OL-A electronic detection technician. "When we shut down the system here, we lost the picture over northern Iraq and couldn't keep Balad or our own people informed if aircraft were in the air, or where to direct an attack if someone was jamming us. We still had military fighters and civilian aircraft up there, but we were sometimes able to warn them beforehand that we're 'midnight' – basically blacked out – and that they would either be without coverage and flying blind or have a minimal amount of coverage."

Luckily, it took only a short period of time for the transfer to be made, and the radar mission was restored.

It took less than 20 hours for all communications – including all networks, radio and phones – to be disconnected and reconnected, thanks to assistance from CS and CE. Communications Airmen assisted with both the connections as well as



the transfer of cables, while CE helped to dig trenches beforehand for the cables to be buried in.

"We were working side-by-side to get this done, it was one big group effort," said Staff Sgt. Greg Goodnight, OL-A ground radio maintainer. "We terminated the fiber at about 2 a.m. one night, and were able to get everything moved and started up about 20 hours later – even though we did take breaks for sleeping and eating."

The opinion of the Airmen in the 727th EACS, OL-A, is that without the support of communications and civil engineering the move would have been even more difficult, and in some ways almost impossible because some areas needed a higher level of expertise than was available.

"You name it, from as simple as painting walls to as complicated as designing custom antenna mounts and placing 13,000 pound barriers, the three 506th AEG squadrons, with the help of group staff agencies, accomplished the entire spectrum of tasks," Captain Rogge said. "The best way to describe it is we didn't just put bodies in new chairs with walls around them; we moved a command and control weapon system, and that took a group effort."

But Maj. Daniel Gerdes, 506th ECES commander, chalked it up simply to the Air Force mentality of teamwork.

(From front to back) Staff Sgt. Matthew Hendrickson, Tech. Sgt. Michael Hager and Airman 1st Class Corey Chism, all from the 727th Expeditionary Air Control Squadron, Operating Location Alpha, pull a tent off its frame July 29. The tent, and others like it, was the working environment for the 727th until hardened structures were built thanks to a combined effort between the 727th and units from the 506th Air Expeditionary Group.

Uniform Tips

Do



If the common access card is worn on the sleeve it must be worn on the left arm.

Additional guidelines can be found in 332d Air Expeditionary Wing Instruction 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance Standards*, section 2.

Don't



Civil engineers tackle Catfish, other projects around base

by 2nd Lt Dennis Hough Jr.
Deputy Officer In Charge Det. 6

More than 50 Airmen assigned to the 732nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, Detachment 6, are building a new air terminal and hangar during their six-month deployment, completing the work started during the previous rotation.

The Catfish Air Terminal handles passenger and cargo transport via helicopter and processes about 10,000 passengers and 400,000 lbs of cargo every month. The entire terminal is currently operating out of a trailer, wooden hut and outdoor pallet building area.

The new facility will combine all three areas into one 8,640-square foot building, a project valued at \$300,000.

The Airmen are building a K-span structure, an arched metal building resembling half of a steel drum laid on its side.

An interior wood structure will house a passenger waiting area, ticketing offices and a conference room. Seventeen heating, ventilation and air conditioning units are also being installed.

The remainder of the facility will be devoted to building cargo pallets, which is currently conducted outdoors in 110-plus degree weather.

Since the current detachment has taken the reins, they've poured 288 linear feet of concrete sidewalk and applied 10,000-square feet of spray-on insulation to the inside of the metal arch. Preparations are underway to install two 250-kilowatt generators and eight five-ton HVAC units and build the interior wood structure. Anticipated project completion is September.

In addition to the Catfish Air Terminal, the Det. 6 Airmen are managing three additional projects: Pad F Sea Huts, Ashraf plumbing and the Sustainer Movie Theater stairway.

The Pad F Sea Huts project

includes the construction of six 28-by-80 foot wooden buildings with concrete floors, and wiring them for electricity and air conditioning. The sea huts, which act as transient housing, will provide personnel with hardened, air conditioned billeting as opposed to tents.

The Ashraf plumbing project involves connecting water tanks to support the beddown of Iraqi refugees.

The Sustainer Movie Theater project includes the installation of an emergency exit door and exterior stairway. The Sustainer Movie Theater has three shows a day, seven days a week, providing movies to more than 22,000 people each month.

When asked what's your personal goal while here at Balad Air Base, Master Sgt. Seth Alexander said, "to make Balad a better place than how I found it."



Balad Religious Schedule

Catholic Services

Daily Mass

5 p.m. Monday through Friday

Tuskegee Chapel

Saturday

4:30 p.m. Reconciliation

Tuskegee Chapel

5 p.m. Mass

Tuskegee Chapel

Sunday

9 a.m. Sunday Mass

Tuskegee Chapel

11 a.m. Sunday Mass

AFT Hospital Chapel

Confessions available by appointment

Protestant Services

Saturday

7 p.m. Liturgical Service

Tuskegee Chapel

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Traditional Service

AFT Hospital Chapel

11 a.m. Contemporary Service

Town Hall

2 p.m. Church of Christ

Tuskegee Chapel

2 p.m. Gospel Service

AFT Hospital Chapel

5 p.m. Traditional Service

Tuskegee Chapel

7:30 p.m. Traditional Service

AFT Hospital Chapel

Wednesday

8 a.m. Liturgical Morning Prayer

Tuskegee Chapel

Other Services

Sunday

3:30 p.m. Orthodox Prayer Service

Tuskegee Chapel

7 p.m. Latter Day Saints Sacraments

Tuskegee Chapel

8 p.m. Latter Day Saints Sunday School

Tuskegee Chapel

Friday

7 p.m. Friday Shabbat Service

Tuskegee Chapel

Study groups

Sunday

8 p.m. Parenting Children

Tuskegee Chapel

Monday

8 a.m. Parenting Children

Tuskegee Chapel

9 a.m. Parenting Adolescents

Tuskegee Chapel

8 p.m. Parenting Adolescents

Tuskegee Chapel

8 p.m. Women's Bible Study

Tuskegee Chapel

Tuesday

7 p.m. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Tuskegee Chapel

8 p.m. Song of Solomon

Tuskegee Chapel

8:30 p.m. Catholic Discussion Forum

Tuskegee Chapel

Thursday

4 p.m. 40 Days of Purpose

Tuskegee Chapel

7 p.m. Marriage Enrichment

Tuskegee Chapel

Friday

10 a.m. Renovation of the Heart

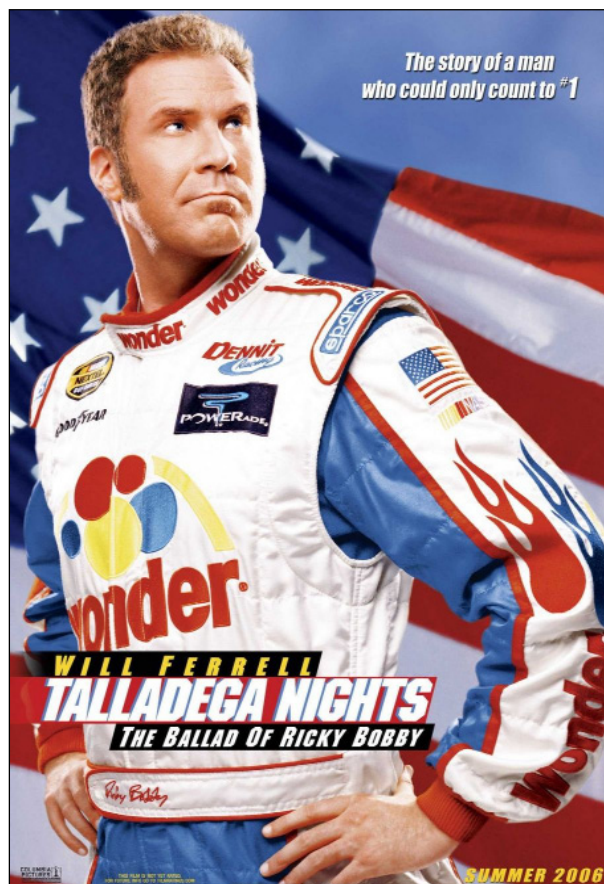
Tuskegee Chapel

8 p.m. Renovation of the Heart

Tuskegee Chapel

For more information on worship opportunities or needs, call 443-7703. For the after-hour duty chaplain, call 443-3320.

Sustainer Theater



Today

- 2 p.m. - The Ant Bully
- 5 p.m. - The Ant Bully
- 8 p.m. - Talladega Nights

Saturday

- 11 a.m. - Just My Luck
- 2 p.m. - The Ant Bully
- 5 p.m. - Poseidon
- 8 p.m. - The Ant Bully

Sunday

- 2 p.m. - Just My Luck
- 5 p.m. - The Ant Bully
- 8 p.m. - Mission Impossible III

Monday

- 5 p.m. - The Ant Bully
- 8 p.m. - Mission Impossible III

Tuesday

- 5 p.m. - Just My Luck
- 8 p.m. - The Ant Bully

Wednesday

- 5 p.m. - The Ant Bully
- 8 p.m. - Mission Impossible III

Thursday

- 5 p.m. - The Ant Bully
- 8 p.m. - Just My Luck

Aug. 11

- 2 p.m. - Omen
- 5 p.m. - The Break Up
- 8 p.m. - Talladega Nights

Just My Luck

Lindsay Lohan, Chris Pine

Ashley is a young professional just out of college. She also happens to be the luckiest woman in the world, who has lived a super-charmed life and has always taken her good luck for granted. When she kisses a handsome stranger at a costume party, Ashley accidentally swaps her good fortune for his horribly bad luck, and her charmed life turns into a living hell.

Rated PG-13 (sexual references) 103 min

Mission Impossible III

Tom Cruise, Ving Rhames

Super-spy Ethan Hunt has retired from active duty to train new IMF agents. But he is called back into action to confront the toughest villain he's ever faced – Owen Davian, an international weapons and information provider with no remorse and no conscience. Hunt assembles his team – his old friend Luther Strickell, transportation expert Declan, background operative Zhen, and fresh recruit Lindsey – to travel the globe pursuing Davian and rescue Hunt's love, Julia. Rated PG-13 (violence & menace images, sensuality) 126 min

Talladega Nights

Will Ferrell, John C. Reilly

Ricky Bobby is a NASCAR racing sensation whose "win at all costs" approach has made him a national hero. When a flamboyant French Formula One driver, Jean Girard, challenges him for the supremacy of NASCAR, Ricky Bobby must face his own demons and fight for his place as racing's top driver. Rated PG-13 (crude/sexual humor, language, drug references, comic violence) 111 min

The Ant Bully

Julia Roberts, Nicolas Cage

New in town, Lucas Nickle has been taking out his frustration on the innocent ant hill in his yard. But one day the ants retaliate. Using a magic potion, they shrink Lucas down to ant size and sentence him to live like an ant in their colony. In this strange, new world, Lucas will learn important lessons about friendship, get a whole new perspective on life and ultimately find the courage to stand up for himself. Rated PG (rude humor, action) 117 min