



## Historians record OIF for future generations

Story by Spc. James P. Hunter

MNC-I PAO

Twenty years from now, children will be reading about the history of Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airmen who fought courageously in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Stories such as when Soldiers from Company B, 11th Engineer Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division, were tasked to build a detainee facility near the Baghdad International Airport to hold enemy prisoners on April 4, 2003.

As the Soldiers were moving through Baghdad, they received heavy fire from more than 100 enemy combatants of the Iraqi Army.

Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith, platoon sergeant, 11 Eng. Bn., 3rd ID, threw two grenades and fired rocket launchers at the advancing Iraqis. He then manned a .50-caliber machine gun, pushing the enemy back, firing off approximately 300 rounds and ultimately losing his life.

Smith protected his unit's position and ensured the safety of more than 100 of his Soldier's lives that day. He was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Just like the story of Smith's courageous act, there are many stories, battles, meetings and operations that will fill the minds of many high school and college

students, researchers or just curious minds for many years to come.

To ensure these stories are told and documented accurately, military historians with Multi-National Corps-Iraq, travel throughout Iraq, documenting Operation Iraqi Freedom for historical record.



Photo by Spc. Curt Squires, MNC-I PAO

Sgt. Stephanie Abdullah, noncommissioned officer-in-charge, military history, Multi-National Corps-Iraq, interviews a Soldier to document his experiences throughout Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Their mission is to collect historical data, documents and artifacts of OIF, said Staff Sgt. Stephanie Abdullah, noncommissioned officer-in-charge, military history, MNC-I.

"It's history; it's definitely important," she said. "People want to know history. Vietnam. Previous wars. There are magazines still talking about these wars. The

stories are still being told over and over again. They have to be told again."

Abdullah and fellow historians are embedded with units across Iraq to talk with troops regarding specific battles and operations they or their units were involved in. They sit in on high-profile meetings, almost documenting the line of communication from senior to subordinate leaders on the ground.

"It's very important to (provide) a complete and balanced picture of what happened here. (Troops are) the ones making the history, living the stories, creating the orders that make up the decisions that result in the actions taking place," said Cmdr. Lynn Downing, officer-in-charge, military historian, MNC-I.

The military history detachments who embed with the various units are able to observe and collect while things are fresh in the minds of the war fighter, Downing added.

Abdullah feels the history of today affects the world of tomorrow. The historical documentation can be used as lessons learned, improving the Soldier's abilities and methods for future operations.

"You have to know where you came from to know where you are at," she said. "What happens in the past is how you

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## Chaplain's Corner

### Keeping in Touch

By Chaplain Charles Herring  
MNC-I Chaplain Office

*He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God. Daniel 6:10*

What a mega-hooah (1,000 hooahs) surprise. I received a card from someone I had not heard from in many years. After the initial surprise, I was excited about all the wonderful things that had happened in his life because of his faithfulness to God and his professional calling as a Soldier. Renewing our friendship, sharing family

histories and catching up on old times was a huge morale builder.

That evening, in my devotion, I thought about how wonderful it was to renew an old friendship. One portion of my faith journey is to bring myself into a closer fellowship with God. This is done through taking time each day with God's word, lift my heart in prayer and reflective meditation upon my relationship with God. Each day I am to wait upon him, his presence and love.

It just isn't enough for me to accept the forgiveness of my sins and submit to God's will. That is only the start. I must understand that I have no power on my

own to maintain my spiritual life. I must receive new grace daily from heaven through my fellowship with him. Make no mistake, this is not achieved by a hasty prayer or a superficial reading of a few verses from the Bible. I must take time to come into his presence, to feel my weakness and my need, and to wait on him through his Holy Spirit to renew my fellowship with him. It is then I may expect to be kept by his power throughout the day.

My joy in living a life of faith is dependent upon the absolute necessity of spending time with God, just as Daniel had always done.

## This Week in Military History

### with Lt. Tom Lewis, Australian Forces

As the British fleet headed towards its French and Spanish opponent on the sunny morning of the Battle of Trafalgar, October 21, 1805, 201 years ago this week, would those on board the ships have known how significant the battle they were about to fight would be? Probably not.

The average British sailor of those times was not very literate and often his world was his ship, sometimes for years at a time. He fought because he was a pressed man, a volunteer, and a sturdy warrior, following the traditions of centuries of warfare by the British against its enemies.

These foes were often the French and the Dutch, but also included the Spanish who were defeated by the British in the Battle of the Spanish Armada in 1588. Once again, Britain was saved from invasion. The French army, like their Spanish predecessors, would be denied the opportunity to subjugate the British Empire.

For the British fleet leader, Admiral Lord Nelson and his 'band of brothers,' it would have been somewhat different. Nelson had proved himself to be a unique individual, a warrior who understood both tactics and strategy. He was a man of courage, honor and action who suffered most terribly and often from wounds. He was not a man who loved combat, but one who often went forward as a senior commanding officer crucial to the course of battle.

His wounds resulted from his willingness to lead from the front if that was needed to win an action. His right arm was amputated after the battle of Santa Cruz in Teneriffe due to being hit by grapeshot. But, Nelson knew when to fight and when to seek peace. Having defeated the Danish fleet at Copenhagen, he negotiated with Denmark's Prince Royal afterwards, seeking to stop the prince's country from aligning with Bonaparte.

Trafalgar was to be a 'decisive battle' for it changed the future of Britain by its outcome. After Trafalgar, the empire was hemmed in and its many enemies began circling their prey.

After the broken assault against Russia, the forces Bonaparte had attacked and defeated on many occasions rallied and together, began to combine to defeat Napoleon.

On October 21, 1805, the British fleet, after months of pursuit, met the French and Spanish forces under Admiral Villeneuve at sea off Cape Trafalgar.

The British, in accordance with Nelson's instructions, sailed in two lines to cut the enemy's line of battle. In the late morning, Nelson directed a signal be hoisted exhorting his people to do their best. At 11:45 a.m. the battle was even.

On Victory, the band played 'Rule Britannia' and 'Britons Strike Home' as followed by Temeraire and Neptune. The French and Spanish fought well but the British, ruling the seas after years of battle, were their master, and the fleet action, now joined on all sides, began to go against Villeneuve.

At 1:35 p.m., Nelson, pacing his quarterdeck amidst the crash of the broadsides, calm amidst the smoke that wreathed Victory, was giving his orders quietly and firmly, as always. A french sharpshooter stationed in the rigging of an enemy ship took aim at the distinctively uniformed figure and fired. Nelson died a little later in Victory's cockpit, but not before he was brought news of the complete success of the battle.





Scott Harwood, NAVVAIR Field Technical Unit Baghdad presents a coffee mug to Chief Warrant Officer Michael Nelson, 503rd Maintenance Company, while Soldiers from 503rd and civilians from NAVVAIR FTU Baghdad look on. The cup was to signify the FTU exceeding 7000 work orders since October 01, 2005. The FTU has been at Camp Victory since the beginning of the war when V Corps first arrived. This amount of work was done with only five technicians, two administrative personnel, and large support staffs in Germany and Florida.



## Letters from home

Col. Michael Galloucis, commander, 89th Military Police Brigade,

We are missing you, but are very proud of all the hard work you are doing in Iraq. Our family prays for you and all of the Soldiers of the 89th MP Brigade's safety. We know that your faith and lifelong commitment to our country, the U.S. Army and the brave Soldiers under your command will give you strength in the challenging months ahead. This prayer I saw gives us comfort and strength:

"For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all ways; they will lift you up in their hands...and be with you in trouble" (Ps. 91).

Love-Your brother Matt Galloucis

## Camp Victory Three-day Forecast

### Friday



Partly cloudy  
High: 97 F  
Low: 72 F

### Saturday



Partly cloudy  
High: 90 F  
Low: 69 F

### Sunday



Mostly sunny  
High: 90 F  
Low: 66 F



### S.T.O.P.P.

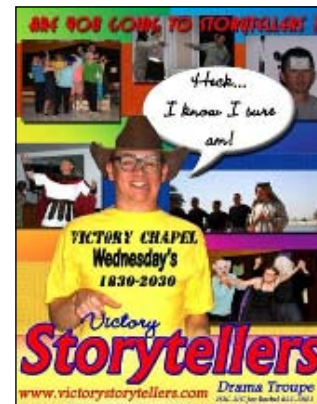
**S- Stop** before you act. Do not rush into a situation or mission without considering the risks against the benefits.

**T-Think** about what you are about to do, what is the right way to safely accomplish the task.

**O-Observe** the situation and surrounding environment. What are the risks? How can I reduce them?

**P-Plan.** Develop your plan to reduce the risks and decide how to best implement the plan.

**P-Proceed** with safety. Supervise continuously and constantly look for ways to improve.



# Ornithology at the Palace

## *Merops superciliosus*

Story by Capt. Alison Tulud

MNC-I SJA

The Blue-cheeked Bee-eater, *Merops superciliosus*, is a summer visitor who nests colonially along the banks of the canals and lakes along with the resident Kingfishers. Entirely green in plumage, the Bee-eaters sport long central tail-streamers when they reach adulthood. When seen from underneath in



flight, you can view the contrast of their dark rusty red underwings against their green belly. The red is further contrasted by the black tips on both the primary and secondary feathers of the wing. They talk in a high-pitched trilling voice “prllip-prllip” that seems to fade in the air. Although their plumage makes them similar to a hummingbird, the bee-eater stands 12 inches tall, just like its kingfisher neighbor. Oh, and no hints as to their favorite food.

## HISTORIANS

make changes for the future.”

Abdullah and her historian counterparts hear many great and heroic stories, but some end on a sad note.

She talked about a specific Soldier whose unit was receiving fire and he was providing the suppressive fire. A hand grenade was tossed into his turret but did not fall into the truck. The Soldier kept it against himself to save the lives of the others within.

Abdullah documents various stories of bravery. How Soldiers would give their life for the sake of another.

“I hope people learn the reality of what is going on over here,” she stated. “They get a lot of information from the media. Media either slants left or right. The history we are collecting is verbatim, from the mouth of the Soldier. We don’t write an article. It’s verbatim; from the Soldier’s mouth.

“The Soldier can tell you what life was like over here, what was he thinking, and what happened to him on the road that day,” Abdullah continued. “It’s giving it to them straight, no chaser.”

The Marines cordially invite you to the

231st Marine Corps

Birthday Celebration



November 10, 2006

at the Al Faw Palace Rotunda.

The ceremony will begin at 2 p.m.

Join us for birthday cake in the ballroom after

the ceremony.

*Semper Fidelis*



## Going Home Soon?



**You will need to complete a Post-Deployment Health Assessment (PDHA) prior.**

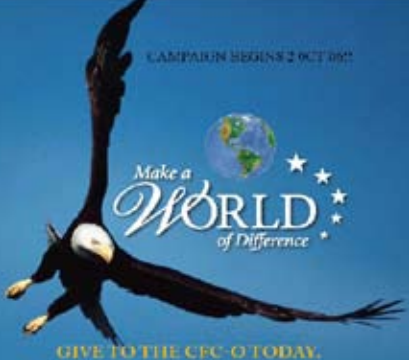
**WHO:** Personnel involved in OIF, those units and personnel de-mobilizing or REFRAD to home station within 30 days of your TOA  
**WHAT:** Complete the Post-Deployment Health Assessment (PDHA)  
**WHERE:** Golby Clinic TMC, 1171<sup>st</sup> ASMC, Trailer Four 120T5, Camp Victory  
**WHEN:** Walk-Ins – Monday – Friday – 1 p.m. Sharp  
 Units (more than five) – **MUST** Pre-Schedule for date and times  
**WHY:** DOD Mandated to receive briefing  
**Length:** One Hour

**CONTACT:** CPT Gray or SGT Rau  
**PHONE:** 318 – 822 – 5402 morning only





CAMPAIN BEGINS 2 OCT 06!



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE 2006 CFC-O, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR UNIT CFC REPRESENTATIVE OR CONTACT THE MNC-I CFC COORDINATOR.

NAME: CPT MCDANIEL

TELEPHONE: 822-2440

E-MAIL: roy.mcdaniel@iraq.centcom.mil

GIVE TO THE CFC-O TODAY. Support the charity of your choice.

The MNC-I CFC-O is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible. For more information, visit our website at www.mnc-i-cfc-o.org. Thank you for your support!

**TOYS FOR TOTS**

Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Baghdad Branch

Many of you observed Marines outside stores and at sporting events in the fall, collecting toys for needy children near Christmas time. Take a look at the pictures. If you or your family and friends wish to donate to needy Iraqi children, toys may be mailed to the address below. Donations may also be dropped off at Building 35, Victory Base South (just outside the Palace). Toys for children of all ages will be gladly accepted!




Please send donations to:  
Cpt. Robert Whittiers  
MNC-I / Coalition Operations  
Victory Base South  
APO AE 09342-1400

## Operating hours

### Coalition Cafe

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Dinner 5:30 - 8 p.m.

Midnight Dining 11 p.m. - 1 a.m.

### Sports Oasis

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Dinner 5 - 9 p.m.

### Shoppette

Open 24 Hours

### Camp Liberty Post Exchange

Everyday 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

### Fitness Center

Open 24 Hours

### MNC-I STB Mailroom

Monday - Sunday

9 a.m. - noon

5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

### Golby Troop Medical Clinic

#### Sick Call Hours:

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon

Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon

#### Dental Sick Call:

Monday - Friday 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Saturday 9 - 10:30 a.m.

#### Mental Health Clinic:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. - noon

#### Post Deployment Health Briefings:

Monday - Friday 1 p.m.

#### Pharmacy:

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon, 1 - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday 7:30 a.m. - noon

#### Legal Assistance/Claims

Saturday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

#### Personnel Service Support Centers

Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

#### ID Cards

Monday - Friday

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## MNF-I/MNC-I SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE COORDINATOR (SARC) CERTIFICATION TRAINING

4 Nov 06, 9 a.m.-5p.m., Camp Victory, Al Faw Palace Ballroom

### Certification Student Requirements:

Officers: MAJ/CW3 or higher

NCOs: SFC or higher

Students must have appointment orders in hand on the morning of the class.

Maximum class size: 10 students (priority to brigades without a SARC)

Submit names to SGM Lacy, MNF-I/MNC-I SARC, [evy.lacy@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:evy.lacy@iraq.centcom.mil), NLT 31 Oct 06.

### Submit letters from home

Is your loved one deployed in support of Multi-National Corps-Iraq? Would you like to write him or her a message in the Victory Times? Send messages, three to four lines of text to [curtis.squires@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:curtis.squires@iraq.centcom.mil). Ensure to include Soldiers name, rank, and unit.

Victory Times welcomes columns, commentaries, articles and letters from our readers. Send submissions or comments to [jason.baker@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:jason.baker@iraq.centcom.mil).

We reserve the right to edit for security, accuracy, propriety, policy, clarity and space.

**WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**Victory Chapel (Bldg. 31)**

**Friday:**  
Jumu'ah (Islamic Prayer) 1 pm

**Sunday:**  
0700 Traditional Protestant Worship  
0845 Traditional Protestant Worship  
1000 Roman Catholic Confession  
1030 Roman Catholic Mass  
1200 Gospel Protestant Service  
1400 Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Service  
1600 Episcopal / Lutheran Worship  
1800 Contemporary Protestant Service  
2000 Knights of Columbus - 1st/3rd

**Saturday:**  
1000 Seventh-day Adventist Bible Study  
1100 Seventh-day Adventist Service  
2000 Roman Catholic Mass

**Mini Chapel (Bldg. 2)**

**Monday - Friday**  
Roman Catholic Service 4 pm

**Friday**  
Jewish Service 6:30 pm

**Sunday**  
Church of Christ 3 pm  
Latter Day Saints Service 7:30 pm



### New Location For Army National Guard Retention Office

NOW LOCATED IN AREA 51  
GO INTO AREA 51 PAST FUEL POINT  
TURN LEFT AT BUS STOP  
GO THROUGH FENCE ON LEFT SIDE OF MWR  
LOCATED DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM PBO  
TRAILER 51TR8

STOP BY AND CHECK OUT YOUR OPTIONS  
Sgt. 1st Class JOHN GRAY, THEATER RETENTION NCO



MNC-I Commanding General: Lt. Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli  
MNC-I Public Affairs Officer: Lt. Col. Michelle L. Martin-Hing  
MNC-I PA Sergeant Major: Sgt. Maj. Paul J. Stevenson  
MNC-I Command Info Chief: Sgt. 1st Class Laurence R. Lang  
MNC-I Production Chief: Staff Sgt. Jason B. Baker

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