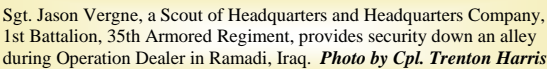




The Striker Torch

E d i t i o n T h i r t y - S i x

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Quote of the Week
“Neither a wise nor a brave man lies down on the tracks of history to wait for the train of the future to run over him.”
- Dwight D. Eisenhower

Front Page

Left: An M1A2 tank from Company D, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment assists the Iraqi Army in a cordon and search operation in Abu Manseer district in Abu Ghraib, Iraq. *Photo by 1st Lt. James Spofford*

Middle: 1st Lt. Marc Miller participates in a patrol with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment in the Baghdad neighborhood of Ghazaliyah. *Photo by Capt. Robert Callaghan*

Right: Spc. Joshua Toth of Troop C, 8th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, provides security for members of his patrol from a rooftop with his M14 rifle in Baghdad, Iraq. *Photo by 1st Lt. Grant Speakes*



Top Left: Spc. Kanin Daniel Palmer of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, patrols the Baghdad neighborhood of Ghazaliyah. *Photo by 1st Lt. Marc Miller*

Top Right: Soldiers of 412th Civil Affairs Team and Company A, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, pass out school supplies to local children in the Baghdad neighborhood of Ghazaliyah. *Photo by 1st Lt. Marc Miller*

Bottom Left: 2nd Lt. Theresa Biolsi, Platoon Leader for Support Platoon of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 40th Engineer Battalion writes down deficiencies during Intermediate Staging Area operations for redeployment from Camp Liberty, Iraq. *Photo by Capt. Kris Haley*

Bottom Right: Lt. Col. Gian Gentile (right), Commander of 8th Squadron, 10th Cavalry, awards the Army Commendation Medal with Valor to Maj. Eric Endries (left), Staff Sgt. Jesse Sample (left center) and Spc. Jason Ahrens (right center) at Camp Liberty, Iraq. Spc. Ahrens was also awarded the Purple Heart. *Photo by 1st Lt. Shawn Robertson*





Staff Sgt. Demian Vonzalusowski (right center) of Troop B, 8th Battalion, 10th Cavalry Regiment, talks with a local Iraqi man with several of his Soldiers and members of Iraqi Security Forces in Baghdad, Iraq. *Photo by 1st Lt. Gary Barney*



The Thunder Rolls

Story by 1st Lt. Gary Barney

While strictly a Cavalry Troop, there is one section in Troop B, 8th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, that doesn't fill its ranks with Scouts. In a conventional war, the Mortar Section would be responsible for indirect fires for the Troop, destroying targets on call from the Commander. However, since the beginning of this deployment the Mortar Section has been an integral part of Troop Op-

erations in far different ways than their original Military Operational Specialty would allow one to think.

For the majority of the train-up prior to deployment, the mortar men relinquished their firing tubes to take up arms as regular infantrymen. This allowed the Troop to augment its strength in sector. When the Troop arrived in Baghdad, the mortar section was tasked with Explo-

sive Ordinance Deposal (EOD) escort for the entire Squadron. This detail means that the Infantrymen that comprise the section were on call twenty-four hours a day to deal directly with the threat of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs).

As time passed, the section repeatedly saw multiple mission days. Although the mortars were called out several times a day, they still

The Chaplain's Corner

When it comes to your spiritual life, the important thing isn't what you know it's who you know.

A famous actor was once asked to recite passages from various literary works at a social gathering. One of the guests, an old preacher, asked the actor to recite the twenty-third Psalm. The actor agreed on the condition that the preacher would also recite it.

The actor's reading was beautifully voiced and drew a lengthy applause. The old preacher's voice was rough and broken, but when he finished there wasn't a dry eye in the room. When someone later asked the actor what made the difference, he replied, "I know the Psalm, but that preacher knows the Shepherd."

Our relationship with God is like two sides of a coin. For every truth we know about Him, there's a flip side, a subjective response of faith that activates that truth in our lives.

Often we believe the coin is one-



sided. We believe God is all-powerful, but doubt whether He'll powerfully act on our behalf. We know God's all-merciful, but doubt whether He'll forgive us. We believe God is all-loving - right up to the point of loving us.

All of that doubt changes when you get past the Psalm and really get to know the Shepherd. That was the Apostle Paul's experience-- even while chained up in a dungeon in Rome. Though his only 'crime' was preaching the gospel--the very thing God had called him to do--he wasn't bitter. "For I know the one in whom I trust...", he wrote. (2 Timothy 1:12, NLT)

How well do you know the one in whom you trust? I hope that your knowledge of God matches your experience with Him. Just like two sides a coin.

*Wishing you the very best,
I'm Chaplain Anthony Horton.*

The Thunder Rolls - Continued from Page 3

managed to distribute Humanitarian Aid on the return trip from missions. The Soldiers in Bandit Mortars performed superbly during the three month tasking running 120 missions and destroying over 500 pounds of munitions in sector.

The Mortars also have worked with both platoons augmenting their combat power, while tasked with performing the same types of missions that the scout platoons are doing in sector. Re-

cently, the Section has combined again with the Fire Support Team (FIST) element to form a platoon, adding another independent maneuver element to the Troop. The element is involved in major operations in the Baghdad area to clear the insurgency and quell the recent surge of violence in sector.



Spc. Anthony Dang of Troop B, 8th Battalion, 10th Cavalry Regiment, mans the M240B machine gun in his Humvee turret, while on a patrol in Baghdad, Iraq. *Photo by 1st Lt. Gary Barney*



SCORPION MWR

All events start at 2000 hours, and are located in the Scorpion MWR recreation tent.

Monday, 23 October:	Ping Pong Tournament
Tuesday, 24 October:	NBA Live 2006 Tournament
Wednesday, 25 October:	Texas Hold'em Tournament
Thursday, 26 October:	Karaoke, Spades and Dominoes Tournaments
Friday, 27 October:	9 Ball Billiards Tournament
Saturday, 28 October:	Old School Jam Night
Sunday, 29 October:	Salsa Night and Air Hockey Tournament



Maddogs Prepare for Re-deployment

Story by Capt. David Maddox

The sun starts to peak over the horizon and groggy eyed soldiers stand ready with smiles from ear to ear. The grins are an expected sight despite the early morning wake up and the predicted long day of work ahead. Not simply because the Maddogs of Company B, 141st Signal Battalion love the thought of work, but because they love the thought of redeployment. They know that at the end of the day all their equipment will be packed and approved by customs for the return home to Wiesbaden, Germany.

The Soldiers from Co. B that were assigned to Camp Liberty, Iraq, have spent eight months in Camp Buehring, Kuwait, and the last three months performing guard detail for Camp Liberty. The company was split in August. Some Soldiers went to Forward Operating Base Justice, a small outpost in north central Baghdad, to support Military Transition Teams (MITT) and National Police Transition Teams (NPTT). The remaining Maddog Soldiers supported the 2nd Brigade Combat Team in Camp Liberty. The Maddogs prevailed over the struggle with issues that arise from running split company operations, providing guard requirements in two FOBs and also

preparing for redeployment.

Customs inspected their equipment prior to shipment to Kuwait, where it will be loaded onto boats and sent back to Germany. The Soldiers will follow their equipment back to Kuwait and then fly back to Germany where their families and loved ones are anxiously awaiting.

The Maddogs have done a superb job. The Co. B, 141st Signal Soldiers of OIF 05-07 are of the same breed and caliber as those that supported 1st Armored division in Northern Africa during Operation Torch in 1942; of the same character as the signal Soldiers that earned the Valorous Unit Award as it supported the Division in 1990, storming across the desert of Kuwait. They are the same Soldiers that supported the Division in 2003, as it ousted Saddam on the front lines of the war on terrorism. The Maddogs support the 2nd Brigade Combat Team with pride and lead it to victory.

These Soldiers are and have always been ready for any mission. Now, they are prepared and looking forward to the mission of redeployment and reintegration with their families.



Sgt. Antonio Cabrera, of Company B, 141st Signal Battalion, packs the signal maintenance shelter after undergoing customs inspections.

Photo by 1st Lt. Doug Healy



Adapt and Overcome

Story by 1st Lt. Marc Miller

Field Artillerymen have for ages been a pivotal element in the armed forces throughout history; it is no different for those artillerymen assigned to the 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, “Tomahawks,” out of Ft. Lewis, Washington, attached to the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division. Their role today is a little different than their predecessors; today’s Red Legs have left their big guns behind, taking up the tasks of Information Operations, Public Affairs, Civil Affairs, and many other non-traditional roles as the battalion’s “Effects Coordination Cell.” In this role, fire supporters of 1st Bn., 23rd Inf. Regt. have been able to affect their areas of operations in other than lethal means.

Most recently FISTers (Fire Supporters) have been able to bring public works to the people of the Ghazaliyah, Shulla, and Nur, neighborhoods of northwestern Baghdad in dire need of help with basic services such as trash and sewage disposal. Artillerymen of the battalion have enacted many locally contracted projects designed to fix these problems. Through their spearheading efforts, the Tomahawks have been able to conduct three medical operations, helping the local populace receive much needed medical care as well as showcasing the abilities of the Iraqi Security Forces to serve the public. Additionally, the hard work of fire supporters, along with the neighborhood Essential Services Committees, has been able to repair sewage pump stations, dredge sewage canals, put hundreds of locals to work through trash cleanup contracts, fix destroyed roads and sidewalks, and most recently, provide generators to help power schools, ensuring working lights and heaters for the upcoming winter.

“We aren’t shooting a lot of big bullets these days, but we provide a critical service to the battalion; that is, coordinating all our information and civil military operations as well as facilitate positive interaction between the local communities and our unit,” stated Capt. Rob Callaghan,



Staff Sgt. Jason Dalton from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, helps coordinate for security for a medical operation conducted in Ghazaliyah. *Photo by Spc. Joshua Ramey*



Capt. Robert Callaghan, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment’s Fire Support Officer, directs traffic and doctors during a medical operation conducted in Ghazaliyah. *Photo by 1st Lt. Marc Miller*

Task Force Fire Support Officer for 1st Bn., 23rd Inf. Regt. “The non-lethal fight is very important. The battalion needs to have this capability, and since we have always been trained in how to support the maneuver elements and bring about effects, it was only natural that we should take over these duties,” said Sgt. 1st Class Valdez of 1st Bn., 23rd Inf. Regt.’s Fire Support Non-Commissioned Officer in charge. Fire Supporters are taking on these duties all over Iraq and it is no different with the men of 1st Bn., 23rd Inf. Regt. They prove that even in today’s changing battlefield, they are still the King of Battle.





The Scoop on Those Who “Scoop”

Story by 1st Lt. Nate Rawlings

Conducting a successful raid requires Soldiers to rely upon a variety of tactics and equipment. These tactics dictate that breach teams use anything and everything available, including explosives, to breach through barriers while search teams conduct lightning quick insertions. During a raid on a suspected weapons cache in central Baghdad this September, Soldiers from American and Iraqi Special Forces, Soldiers from the 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, and Soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division used techniques rarely discussed in training manuals. After firing one 120mm main gun round to breach the outer wall of the suspected compound, American and Iraqi Forces stormed the site and began the search for weapons and ammunition. It soon became apparent, however, that they would need additional assets to uncover the cache.

moving and horizontal construction. In large scale battles, Engineer blade teams breach obstacles using Armored Combat Earthmovers, essentially an armored bulldozer, to clear lanes for advancing armor and infantry. In the counter insurgency fight, the blade teams have used the Small Earth Excavator (SEE) truck to dig fighting positions, fill barriers and uncover caches. A seemingly small pickup truck, the SEE truck is every bit the Transformer as Optimus Prime, unfolding a working scoop loader and crane from the back portion of its hull.

“The SEE is one of the most versatile pieces of equipment we have,” said Sgt.



Spc. Charles Hunziker of Company E, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment during an operation in the northeastern part of Ameriyah.
Photo by Sgt. Omar Perez

Jacob Shmuts, a 32-year-old former preschool teacher from Queens, NY, began operating SEE trucks in the late spring of 2005, and has shown a taste for accom-

“We’ve done tons of missions to improve areas and build patrol bases. Having two SEE Trucks has really been a great asset.”

The task of uncovering buried munitions fell to a small group of combat Engineers from Company E, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment. These Soldiers have a different specialty than the sappers who search the roads daily for IEDs. The blade teams of Co. E specialize in earth-

Omar Perez, squad leader. “Under the 101st Airborne Division, we conducted missions all over Southern Baghdad, improving patrol bases, building IA fighting positions. We used those pieces of equipment to the max.”

The two primary SEE operators bring a great deal of experience and talent to the job. Spc. Charles Hunziker, the senior SEE operator, has gained a reputation as an expert at operating digging equipment. A 34-year old from Lee’s Summit, Missouri, Spc. Hunziker was a Navy Seebee before working as a civilian heavy equipment operator. When he entered the Army, Hunziker requested assignment as an engineer, and subsequently learned how to operate nearly every piece of earth-moving equipment in the Army inventory.

He has undertaken the task of training another operator to double the company’s effectiveness. Spc.

-Spc. Charles Hunziker

Co. E, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment

plishing missions quickly. “Shmuts has really gotten better at operating the SEE,” Hunziker said of his junior digging partner. “We’ve done tons of missions to improve areas and build patrol bases. Having two SEE Trucks has really been a great asset.”

Recent missions have ranged from digging a disposal pit at Forward Operating Base Hawk for any unexploded mortar rounds that fall on the base to uncovering buried caches. Following the recent raid on the Central Baghdad house, Spc. Hunziker and Spc. Shmuts got to work. After transforming their equipment from mere trucks to complex digging assets, they plunged their buckets into the backyard, and in a short time, uncovered one of the largest ordnance caches found in September.

“It’s a good mission,” Shmuts noted. “We’re just glad to do our part and try and take some IEDs off the streets.”



Spc. Charles Hunziker from Company E, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment digs a hole for operations conducted in the northeastern part of Ameriyah. *Photo by Sgt. Omar Perez*



Top Left: 1st Sgt. David McGuire (center) stands with his Humvee crew, Sgt. Marcus Grant (left), Spc. Joshua Toth (right) and Cpl. Nathan Nelson (front), all of Troop C, 8th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment at Camp Liberty, Iraq. *Photo by 1st Lt. Brian Murphy*

Top Right: Spc. Jonathan Russ a Scout of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 35th Armored Regiment, provides security during Operation Dealer in Ramadi, Iraq. *Photo by Cpl. Trenton Harris*

Middle Left: Sgt. Jason Vergne a Scout from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 35th Armored Regiment, talks to local citizens in a house during Operation Dealer in Ramadi, Iraq. *Photo by Cpl. Trenton Harris*

Middle Right: Lt. Col. Avaulas Smiley (left), commander of the 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, discusses operations with Capt. Matt Pike (middle) of Company C, and Maj. Jesse Pearson (right) of Headquarters and Headquarters Company. *Photo by 1st Lt. Marc Miller*

Bottom Left: Lt. Col. Anthony Deane, Commander of the 1st Battalion, 35th Armored Regiment speaking at the 1st Battalion, 1st Brigade, 7th Iraqi Army Transfer of Authority Ceremony at Camp Defender in Ramadi, Iraq. *Photo by Capt. Matthew Husted*

Bottom Right: Capt. Andrew Armstrong of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, administers the oath of reenlistment to Spc. Timothy Moore, during a ceremony at Camp Victory, Iraq. *Photo by 1st Lt. Matt Parsons*





Re-enlist to Stay Army Strong

Story by Spc. Joshua Ramey

During the first half of October, 78 Soldiers from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, stationed in Baumholder, Germany, re-enlisted while in the final month of serving in Iraq.

"Soldiers are taking advantage of available assignments, and education programs," said Master Sgt. John Verschage, the 2nd BCT's career counselor. "Since the brigade is scheduled to redeploy, it's also the last chance to get a tax-free bonus."

The 78 Soldiers who have decided to continue their Army careers thus far in October have received approximately \$620,000 in bonuses according to Verschage.

Spc. Sean West works in the brigade's intelligence section and re-enlisted to move from Germany to Ft. Lewis, Washington, and received a \$10,000 bonus.

"I re-enlisted to further my career in the Army," said West. "I enjoy intelligence work that involves a lot of research and coordination between different components of the military."

"I re-enlisted to stay in Germany," said Spc. Ryan Niziolek, of

Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment, who also received \$10,000. "My wife and I are excited about this assignment. Germany has a lot of history and culture to offer that most people in the states never get to experience. I'm happy I have this opportunity to live there for an extended period of time."

Spc. Halston Guzman, of the brigade's communications shop, will move to Southern California's Ft. Irwin to be near his family and friends soon after the re-deployment. "I plan on getting some education finished so I can work for a networking company in my home town." He added, "I am proud to be a professional doing my part to ensure the Army can communicate so we can be effective on the battlefield."



Spc. Joseph Tuttle (right), Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, receives the Oath of Enlistment from Lt. Col. Richard Anderson (left), executive officer, 2nd BCT, in Camp Liberty, Iraq. *Photo by Spc. Joshua Ramey*

Attention Soldiers:

Soldiers earn \$3.50 per day for per diem while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. A travel voucher will be filed upon redeployment and the money will be sent electronically to the Soldiers account. All Travel Vouchers, DD Form 1351-2s will be collected by S1 personnel and turned in to the local finance office. A Soldier will not earn the per diem while out of the country on leave, emergency leave or TDY.



Supplying a Better Future

Story by Spc. Joshua Ramey

Soldiers delivered school supplies and soccer balls, all donated from organizations in the United States, to the children of a rural district in western Baghdad Oct. 12.

The Organizations responsible for donations were the Boy Scouts of America, talk show personality Steffan Tubbs of KOA 850 AM in Denver, Colo., and Operation Iraqi Children, headed by actor Gary Sinise and author Laura Hillenbrand.

"We're working with the Iraqi police and the local Sheik to help better the government and central

services in the area for these people," said Capt. Craig Childs, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division. "A project like this is a visible representation of our investment in the future of this country because we're showing that we care about the education of younger generations. Parents are going to appreciate anything we can do for their children."

Command Sgt. Maj. Douglas Adair, 115th Engineer Battalion, based out of Utah, helped a friend,



A child from western Baghdad carries supplies he received from Soldiers during an operation to assist a local school with supplying basic educational tools.

Photo by Spc. Joshua Ramey

Supplies - Continued on Page 11

POV RETRIEVAL

USAREUR SOLDIERS MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS TO RETRIEVE THEIR POV:

- Activate Insurance
- Double White Insurance Card
- Valid Driver's License
- Valid ID Card
- Valid Registration
- Winter Driver Training Completed

If you placed your POV in storage before you deployed, remember to get your POV registered if you are past due. Vehicle registrations have been "frozen" during the deployment. This means that if your POV was due to be registered two months after you deployed, your vehicle must be registered two months after you return home. If your POV is not in storage and the registration has expired, you must get your POV re-inspected and registered. If your POV is being used by friends or family members, encourage them to register your POV. Further information on vehicle registration at can be found at this website: <http://www.baumholder.army.mil/media/pmo/vehreg.html>





Command Sgt. Maj. Douglas Adair of the 115th Engineer Battalion, hands out supplies donated by the Boy Scouts of America during an operation to provide students in a rural district of western Baghdad with school supplies. *Photo by Spc. Joshua Ramey*

Supplies - Continued from Page 10

Shannon Mickel, complete his Eagle Scout project, which culminates in the donated school supplies in support of the operation.

"This has been one of the highlights of this deployment," Adair said. "I was able to serve as a con-

nection between people back home and locals in Iraq. I am fortunate to have been able to participate in this event with the help of civil affairs."

Adair said he worked with the 412th Civil Affairs Battalion to deliver the supplies to the children. The 15 boxes of school supply kits, packed with pens, pencils, notebooks, rulers and glue, were donated from businesses in Utah as part of the Eagle Scout project.

Staff Sgt. Andrew Bernier, Co. A, 412th CA Bn., helped secure approximately 150 soccer balls donated from radio station KOA 850 AM of Denver. Bernier's father was listening to radio personality Steffan Tubbs when he requested help

from anyone who had contacts in Iraq to assist in delivery.

"Missions like this represent a direct link to the Iraqi people," noted Bernier. "We're working on ways to keep schools open and identifying the concerns of the local people. Things that put smiles on kids' faces really helps to build relationships with the people."

Operation Iraqi Children has worked to donate school supplies since 2004 when Gary Sinise observed the Iraq school system lacked the most basic educational tools.

"It is very difficult for Iraqis to get the supplies they need for schools," said Capt. Stacy Bare, Co. A, 412th CA Bn. "Every bit that we can do helps to serve the future of Iraq."



A local school official hands a package of supplies, donated by Operation Iraqi Children, a non-profit organization in the United States, to a local child during an operation to supply school children of a rural district of western Baghdad. *Photo by Spc. Joshua Ramey*



Staff Sgt. Joel Ovanic (left) and Spc. Jonathan Russ (right) both Scouts of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 35th Armored Regiment, exit a courtyard during Operation Dealer in Ramadi, Iraq. *Photo by Cpl. Trenton Harris*



Operation Dealer

Story by Sgt. Kevin McSwain

Soldiers detained twenty anti-Iraqi forces, discovered two vehicles fitted as suicide vehicle borne improvised explosive devices, and found a significant weapons cache during Operation Dealer on October 12 in the Ta'meen area in western Ramadi.

Based on a tip from a local resident, Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 35th Armored Regiment, Task Force Conquerors, detained the individuals who were identified as terrorists. According to Capt. Matt Graham, Commander Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, "This is a great example of the cooperation and sup-

port of the local residents in the task to rid their neighborhood of anti-Iraqi fighters."

Operation Dealer uncovered a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device cell. The Task Force captured two vehicles in the process of being converted to VBIEDs. Additionally, other individuals were detained in connection with the operation.

The cache was comprised of four rocket propelled grenade launchers, thirty four 155-mm artillery shells, thirteen 60-mm mortar rounds, eight AK-47s, a PKC machine gun, a Dragonov sniper rifle with scope, three pounds of high

explosives, 400 pounds of detonation cord, 48 blasting caps, eight radio controlled IED initiators, four pressure activated IED initiators and more than 600 rounds of small arms ammunition. Several smaller caches and additional munitions were found during the course of Operation Dealer.

Operation Dealer was a combined operation with Iraqi Army and Iraqi Police. The Iraqi Police assisted by establishing vehicle check points at critical intersections and conducted vehicle searches in order to deny anti-Iraqi forces the

Operation Dealer - Continued on Page 13



Operation Dealer - Continued from Page 12

ability to evade the combined Iraqi and coalition force operation.

The 1st Battalion, 1st Brigade, 7th Iraqi Army Division with elements of 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 7th IA Division conducted house-to-house searches to help establish a new combat outpost.

"This was truly a joint operation. I had U.S. Army Soldiers, Marines and Airmen alongside Iraqi Army and Iraqi Police units. It shows what great effects can occur when each of these units bring their special capabilities to the fight," said Lt. Col Tony Deane, Task Force Conquerors Commander. "Each unit did what it

does best, and the results speak for themselves."

"Ta'meen has been identified as an area where Iraqi Security Forces and Coalition Forces still faced a great deal of resistance. Operation Dealer was undertaken to establish a combat outpost in this area," said Col. Sean MacFarland, Commander of the Ready First Combat Team.



(From left to right) Spc. Paul Michael, Staff Sgt. Joel Ovanic, and Spc. Russ all Scouts of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 35th Armored Regiment, move wires to enter a courtyard during Operation Dealer in Ramadi, Iraq. Photo by Cpl. Trenton Harris



See your Career Counselor today! Reenlist for a tax free bonus before you redeploy. There are specific MOSs that will not receive a bonus when you get back to Germany, so reenlist now! On November 3rd, the number of MOSs eligible for bonuses will decrease. See your Career Counselor today.

They're Counting on YOU!

Don't Discuss Troop Movements



Operation Security...

It's Everyone's Job



Naturalization Information

Information provided by Sgt. Richard Wexler

If you are in the Army, and are interested in becoming a United States Citizen, you may be eligible to apply for citizenship. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services have opened the door for veterans and active-duty personnel that have been recently discharged.

In order to qualify you must show you have a good character, knowledge of the English language, know government and history, and take an oath of allegiance to the U.S. Constitution. Sections 328 and 329 of the INA (Immigration and Nationality Act) provide an exception to the requirement of a service member from having to physically be in the United States and have residency.

Soldiers can apply for citizenship under two sections of the INA. To meet the requirements of Section 328 of the INA, a Soldier must answer the following questions: have you served honorably for at least one year; are you a lawful permanent resident; and will you be filing your application for naturalization while still in service or within six months of being discharged? In addition, a Soldier must answer the following questions in the affirmative to meet the requirements of Section 329 of the INA: have you served honorably during an authorized period of conflict and after enlistment, and were you lawfully admitted as a permanent resident of the U.S?

Being eligible is one thing; completing the paperwork can get confusing. Get with your chain of com-



Members of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team commemorate receiving their U.S. Citizenship at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, in April of 2006. From left to right, top row: Staff Sgt. Foday Turay, Pfc. Floyd Donaldson, Lt. General Whitcomb (Commander of Multi-National Corps Kuwait), Pfc. Gregory Bew, Spc. Boguslaw Plewa; and left to right on the bottom row: Spc. Costel Baciu and Spc. Manjeev Bajwa. *Photo by Spc. Joshua Ramey*

mand, Personnel Support Battalion (PSB), or the passport office for further details. The forms required are the Application for Naturalization (N-400), Biographic information (G325B), and a certified Request for Certification of Military service (N-426). To obtain these forms you may call the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) form line at 1-800-870-3676 or online at <http://uscis.gov>. Send your completed forms to the Nebraska Service Center at PO Box, 87426 Lincoln, NE 68501-7426.

If you are married to a United States Citizen who is a member of the United States Armed Forces, you

may be eligible to have your naturalization paperwork expedited under section 319(b) of the INA. The service member must be deployed overseas for at least one year to be eligible. More information can be found at <http://uscis.gov/graphics/services/natz/English.pdf>.

Thousands of Soldiers have become United States Citizens. The chance to get your citizenship is one of the most rewarding benefits the United States Army can give to its service members. Now it is your turn. Contact your local PSB or passport office to find out how you can become a United States Citizen today.



From the S6 Shop



Your S6 shop places the utmost importance in having all communication and automation systems operating as soon as possible upon arriving in Germany. It is our goal to establish mission readiness quickly and effectively. To aid us in this task, we need all sections to bring their NIPR systems to their S6 shop for hard drive "wiping" and "baselining". We will be baselining all hard drive systems for the EUR do-

main. Your computer is currently baselined for either the KUWAIT domain (used at Camp Buehring) or the MND-B domain (used at Camp Liberty). The quicker you take your NIPR system to your S6 shop, the quicker they can get you on the EUR domain. Remember, do not rush to plug in computers that are not properly baselined or authorized to be on the EUR domain. Once in Germany, all

S6 shops will concentrate on imaging hard drives, not wiping; if you do not bring your system for wiping before leaving country, your system will be the first one to be wiped...after we finish all imaging, in other words, don't wait till the last minute. Your S6 shop is here to help make your transition easier. Please help us help you by following all communication and automation rules and regulations. Thank You



Left: Command Sgt. Maj. Rafael Rodriguez of the 8th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, performs basic weapons maintenance on his M4 carbine at Camp Liberty, Iraq. *Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Curnan*
Middle: Sgt. David Link of Service Battery, 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment, conducts weekly preventive maintenance checks and services on a generator. *Photo by 1st Lt. Phidel Hun*
Right: Capt. Robert Callaghan of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, assesses trash clean up in the Baghdad neighborhood of Ghazaliyah. *Photo by 1st Lt. Marc Miller*

What Do *YOU* Think?

"What Is The Most Important Thing *YOU* Have Learned Since *YOU* Were Deployed To Iraq?"



SPC Grant Petersen,
Co. A, 1-12 IN

"The culture here is a lot different than I expected, compared the United States."



SFC Candido Trillo,
HHC, 1-23 IN

"Team building."



SGT Edward Churchill,
Co. EFS, 1-22 IN

"I have learned that life is short, to be more aware of my surroundings, appreciate my family more and how to become a better leader."



SPC Thomas Cies,
HHB, 4-27 FA

"I learned that in comparison to war, most of life's problems seem mundane."



SSG Marvin McKay,
HHB, 4-27 FA

"I learned how to interact and build relationships with people of other cultures."

Next Week: "How Has This Deployment Changed *YOUR* Life?"



Spc. Joseph Weibring of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, patrols the Baghdad neighborhood of Ghazaliyah. *Photo by Sgt. Michael Loston*

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