

Sgt. Kevin Stabinsky

Shawn Bradley, former NBA star, at 7'6", towers over Spc. Johnathan Krebs, from 15th Finance Battalion. Bradley was one of three former NBA stars to visit FOB Kalsu June 15.

10th Mtn. Soldiers lend Iraqis a helping hand

SGT. JOE CARON
4-31ST INF. REGT., 2/10TH MTN. DIV. (LI)

MULLAH FAYAD, Iraq —The citizens of Mulla Fayad received an intangible gift from U.S. Soldiers — a helping hand.

Soldiers of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment "Polar Bears," 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) out of Fort Drum, N.Y., provided on-the-spot medical care for the citizens at the local school

in Mullah Fayad, June 15. After walking through the streets announcing the operation, the medics saw 80 Iraqis for different ailments and pains over a four-hour period. The majority of the patients were children.

"Every time we conduct a medical operation, we get a pretty good turnout of people," said Sgt. Jason Lane, a native of Austin, Texas, and a medic with 4-31. "We

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NBA stars visit Kalsu, heighten Soldiers' spirits

SGT. KEVIN STABINSKY 2/3RD INF. DIV. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FOB KALSU – They stand 6'3", 7'0" and 7'6", but in the presence of Soldiers, they are the ones looking up.

Former National Basketball Association stars Greg Minor, Thurl Bailey and Shawn Bradley visited Forward Operating Base Kalsu to meet the troops stationed there June 15.

The trip was part of the Classics of Hardwood 2007 Goodwill Tour to visit 20 FOBs: two in Kuwait and 18 in Iraq, to raise troop morale.

This visit included autograph sessions, meet and greets, hospital visits, basketball clinics and 3-on-3 competitions.

"You can just tell we're doing something by the big smiles on (the troops') faces," said Minor, a former Boston Celtic.

Such smiles have kept Bailey, a former all-star with the Utah Jazz and Minnesota Timberwolves, coming back. Bailey, as a participant in the Classics of Hardwood tours, has been to Kosovo, Bosnia, Italy, Germany and Sarajevo.

"If you talk to most people in the States, if they had an opportunity to do something, even something small to boost morale, they would do it," he said. "We get to do it firsthand."

Thurl brought friends with him this year: a 7'6" former center for the Philadelphia 76ers, New Jersey Nets and

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NBA -

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Dallas Mavericks.

"Bailey asked me to do it, and I thought it was a great opportunity," Bradley said.

By coming over, Bradley said he is able to bring the message that people back home care about the troops and support

them.

"All the positive reinforcement can't hurt," Bailey said.

Neither did having the stars sign autographs and take photos with the troops.

"I was so exited to know they were com-



Sqt. Kevin Stabinsky

Shawn Bradley, Thurl Bailey, and Greg Minor (seated left to right) all former NBA stars, sign autographs for troops at the FOB Kalsu dining facility June 15.

ing," said Pfc. Monique Grogan, Company C, 26 Brigade Support Battalion. "It was nice of them to come down here to see us."

Grogan, a 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division Soldier, said she was thrilled by their generosity, having received autographs for her kids, mother and father.

Spc. William Eskeridge shared his comrade's enthusiasm. A basketball fan who remembered watching Bradley play, said finally seeing him in person was a great experience.

The three basketball stars said they were also touched.

"It is a real blessing for us," Bailey said, adding that seeing the sacrifices made by the young men and women in the armed forces, who protect the freedoms enjoyed back home, makes him appreciate those freedoms even more.

"It definitely did a lot for the Soldiers," said 1st Lt. Glandis Hillman, Headquarters and Headquarters company, 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division. "We really appreciate them leaving their own families behind to come and visit us."

"I hope they come again," Grogan said.

3-1 Cav. seizes multiple caches near Jisr Diyala

MAJ. JOE SOWERS 3/3RD INF. DIV. PAO

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq — Multiple caches were seized Sunday near Tuwaitha as a part of Coalition Forces efforts to eliminate insurgent sanctuaries southeast of Baghdad.

Soldiers from Company D, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry

Regiment, who are currently attached to 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, detained four individuals. Two detainees provided the Coalition Forces the location of multiple cache sites. Soldiers seized 29 cell phones, three AK-47 assault rifles, body armor and ammunition at the cache sites.

The 3-1 Cav. and the 1-15 Inf. are assigned to the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, from Fort Benning, Ga.

THE

Dog Face Daily

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try to treat as many people as we can. It makes me feel good when I see a child leave happier then when they arrived."

Although the engagement was primarily for treating minor ailments, an Iraqi male was medically evacuated from the site to Baghdad for further treatment.

The medics treated a range of ailments from nausea to headaches. They also checked broken bones that had previously been examined by local doctors.

Before the Soldiers departed they handed out toys and soccer balls to the Iraqi children. The Polar Bears are planning to conduct more cooperative medical engagements in Mulla Fayad in the future.



Courtesy photo

Cpl. Michael Mullet (center), a medic with 4-31st Inf. Regt., 2/10th Mtn. Div. (LI), from Fort Drum, N.Y., tells an Iraqi mother how to administer medication to her son during a cooperative medical engagement at a school in Mullah Fayad, Iraq, June 15.



Courtesy photo

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, Task Force Marne commander, meets with troops from Company A, 97th Civil Affairs Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, to reenlist four Soldiers today at FOB Hammer, Iraq.

Safety Thought of the Day

Maintaining Safe Tire Pressure

- Check tread—if worn to height of wear bar, replace tire.
- Check all tires for bulges, gouges, or cuts to the cord. If any conditions are present, replace.
- If excessive inner or outer wear on tires is found, refer to maintenance for alignment.
- Worn or improperly inflated tires increase the risk of rollovers.
- Radial tires used on HMMWVs are bi-directional (can be used any direction).
- Bias ply tires are not to be used on any uparmored HMMWV.

HEADLINE HIGHLIGHTS

German student stages robbery to wipe bad grades

REUTERS

BERLIN — A 16-year-old Berlin student was so worried he would have to repeat a year at school because of poor marks he convinced two friends to storm his class and steal the report cards with his bad grades.

"The student probably honestly believed that he could avoid repeating the school year if he made the report cards disappear," said a spokesman for local police Monday.

The youth sat quietly at the back of the classroom as the two masked robbers, aged 14 and 15, burst in and threatened his teacher with a steel bar if she did not hand over the reports.

After grabbing them, the two tried to flee but dropped the reports as other students leapt to defend the teacher.

The two were arrested close to the school, and told police their friend had devised the raid because he was afraid of flunking a year.

Police would not reveal what incentives the youth had offered the pair to carry out the robbery, adding the youths faced legal consequences once investigations were over.

Lebanon minister sues TV anchor over on-air gaffe

REUTERS

BEIRUT — Anti-Syrian Lebanese minister Ahmad Fatfat said Friday he sued a television news anchor after she made unwitting remarks on air that he could be the next politician to be killed.

While covering the bomb blast that killed anti-Syrian lawmaker Walid Eido Wednesday, an anchor on the NBN channel of pro-Syrian Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri ridiculed the incident and said Fatfat, the sports minister, would be next.

"I sued because there was an incitement and a call to an assassination on a media outlet," Fatfat told Reuters. "I am using the justice system because I consider it an excellent means of protection." Sources at the television station said Darweesh was fired. In a statement released Thursday, the station apologized for the "unintentional mistake" and said the incident "does not reflect at all the policies and views of the station."

"The station's administration affirms that it has taken swift measures against the wrongdoers and those responsible for this mistake."

There have been a string of political assassinations targeting anti-Syrian figures starting with the slaying of former Prime Minister Rafik al-Hariri in February 2005.

Television audiences could hear the anchor speaking to an off-screen man, saying: "Why were they late until they killed him?" and then both people laugh.

"We are not gloaters," the man says, to which the anchor replies, "It's not gloating, but we're tired of this. There's still Ahmed Fatfat, I'm counting them."

The off-screen man replies, "We still need ... four, five."

Anti-Syrian figures have blamed Damascus for the political killings, although Syria denies involvement. With Eido's assassination, the anti-Syrian coalition movement which holds parliamentary majority, slims to just four.

Marne Weather Watch Tuesday, June 19 Wednesday, June 20 Sunny Sunny Low: 86F/High: 111F Low: 85F/High: 111F

ARABIC PHRASE OF THE DAY

How far is it?

ish-ged il-meh-sah-feh?

S	3			6				1	
	3 9 8					<u>5</u>	4		
u	8					7	2		
d		1			4			6	
G		7			9			5	
0					1			3	
k			5	3					9
			6	2					1
u		3				8			7

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

1	6	8	5	2	3	4	9	7
3	7	2	9	8	4	1	5	6
9	5	4	6	7	1	3	8	2
2	1	6	8	3	5	7	4	9
8	3	7	4	6	9	2	1	5
4	9	5	7	1	2	6	3	8
7	2	9	1	4	8	5	6	3
6	8	1	3	5	7	9	2	4
5	4	3	2	9	6	8	7	1