

82nd Airborne goes “all the Way” during Operation Achilles

By Army Sgt. Tony J. Spain
22nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

HELMAND PROVINCE, Afghanistan — Sounds from roaring engines and spinning rotors from the British CH-47 Chinook pierce through the night as the aircraft carries paratroopers of the 1st Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, on an air assault mission into the lower Sangin Valley near the Gereshk District.



Spc. Ying Kit Tsui of 3rd Platoon, Company A, 1st Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division speaks to a local Afghan with the help of a translator in the Sagin Valley near Gereshk.

Landing under the cover of darkness in southern Afghanistan’s Helmand province, the “heart of Taliban country,” the back ramp of the Chinook drops and paratroopers make their way off the helicopter to pull security duty. The Chinook begins to kick up dirt and debris as it roars off into the darkness, leaving the paratroopers in the poppy fields of the Sangin Valley.

This is the latest air assault mission for the 1/508th in a series of sub-operations under “Operation Achilles,” an operation ongoing since early March. Many of these paratroopers spent

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Team work in Djibouti gets ships underway

by U.S. Navy MC1 Mary Popejoy
CJTF-HOA Public Affairs

DJIBOUTI, Africa – In a unified effort, members of Combined Joint Task Force’s 6th Provisional Security Company, Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit, K-9 team, the U.S. Embassy and the Djiboutian military successfully launched USNS Kanawah (T-AO 196) May 28.

The teamwork between the U.S. military and their Djiboutian counterparts is essential when preparing a ship for a secure underway.

“If we don’t work together, it could cause the ship to be delayed, which in turn would delay replenishments at sea of other ships, which is why having things run smoothly is extremely important,” said U.S. Marine Master Sgt. Harry McBrien, 6th PSC operations chief.

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U.S. Marine Sgt. Chris Ream and a fellow Marine stand watch in front of USNS Kanawah (T-AO 196) May 28 as part of the security measures in place while a ship is in port in Djibouti. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Mary Popejoy.

CENTCOM PODCAST

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EXPOSING THE ENEMY

AL-QAEDA IN THE ISLAMIC MAGHREB PROVIDES EIGHTEEN REPORTS OF BOMBING AND ASSASSINATION OPERATIONS



Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb issued to jihadist forums today, Wednesday, June 6, 2007, a communiqué listing eighteen reports of bombing and assassinations operations executed in the Boumerdas and Tizi Ouzou areas in Algeria between Monday, June 4, and Wednesday, April 25, 2007. This issuance of this information, the group states

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WARFIGHTER STORIES

TACTICAL AIR CONTROLLER RECEIVES SILVER STAR, FOR ACTIONS DURING FIREFIGHT



For a special-forces team in the heat of battle, air cover can be the difference between life and death. Staff Sgt. Covell was assigned in Iraq to work with an elite team of 8 Army special-forces soldiers and 10 “peshmerga” – indigenous Kurdish guerilla fighters. In June 2004, part of the team headed from its safe house in the city center back to base to re-supply. While they were gone, they received a call that an attack on the safe house had begun. Based on previous engagements, however, the team assumed it would be a quick skirmish – even though some intelligence had warned of a massive offensive that was in the works. By the time the team returned to the house, they realized

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