

# AnacondaTimes

SEPTEMBER 5, 2007

PROUDLY SERVING LSA ANACONDA



Photo by Sgt. Dave Lankford

## New Huskies have arrived

Soldiers build Army's premier route clearing vehicles.

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Photo by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

## Women's Equality Day

Anaconda celebrates Women's Equality Day with fun run and ceremony.

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Photo by Spc. Jay Venturini

## On the road

316th ESC motor pool pushes humvees out quickly.

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Photo by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

13th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion 1st Sgt. Bruce M. Acker gets a closer look at the CROWS, a gunner-operated system capable of remotely aiming and firing crew-served weapons from inside armored vehicles. The weapon system keeps the gunner out of the turret. The CROWS facility is one of the stops on the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, tour here.

# Soldier survivability is job one

by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

*Anaconda Times staff*

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** — From the time a Soldier enters the Army to the moment he leaves it, the Army Materiel Command (AMC) supports his every need.

As the command's notable slogan states, "If a Soldier shoots it, drives it, flies it, wears it or eats it, AMC provides it."

"If a pair of boots falls apart, I want to know that they fell apart. I want to know the lot number. I want to know when they were made, where they were made, and how they fell apart, so I can go back to

"Any piece of equipment out there that the Army gives you, if it doesn't work right, I want to know about it. Soldier survivability is my number one priority."

Command Sgt. Maj. Greg Bunce  
AMC

our (representatives) and say, 'hey this thing isn't working for us. Fix it,' said Command Sgt. Maj. Greg Bunce. "Any piece of equipment out there

that the Army gives you, if it doesn't work right, I want to know about it. Soldier survivability is my number one priority," he said.

Bunce is the command sergeant major for the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade. As AMC's outpost in Iraq, the 402nd is charged with equipping, sustaining and protecting Soldiers in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. With representatives at more than 20 locations in theater, the 402nd, comprised of Soldiers and civilians, ensure Soldiers get what they need, where they need it, when they need it.

For Soldiers interested in seeing 402nd facilities here,

where weapons can be fixed, vehicles up-armored, gear enhanced with the latest technology and much more, the 402nd offers a monthly tour.

The tour covers the following centers: Route Clearance Vehicle, Retrograde Property Accountability Team, Small Arms Support, Armored Security Vehicle, Stryker Forward Repair, Tanker Ballistic Protection System and Common Remotely Operated Weapon System.

"We want Soldiers to see (they) can rely on us," said Command Sgt. Maj. Ruben Vela, outgoing command sergeant major of the 402nd.

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# From the desk of the 316th ESC deputy commanding officer

by Col. Karen L. Jennings

316th ESC

For a lot of people, Labor Day means three things: a day off from work, a time to shop – catching the last minute Labor Day sales before school starts, and the end of summer. Many people take advantage of this time to spend with friends and family, to get together for parades, picnics, barbecues, swimming, ice cream, and other succulent delights and leisure activities!!

Labor Day is the celebration of the value and dignity of work and its role in the American way of life. It is a day to pay tribute to working men and women—both past and present—whose collective efforts have helped build our nation and helped shape our world.

Since 1894 we have



Col. Karen L. Jennings

been celebrating the contributions workers have made to our country's strength and prosperity.

Samuel Gompers, founder and longtime president of the American Federation of Labor, summed up this holiday's importance with these words: "All other holidays are, in a more or less degree,

connected with conflicts and battles of man's prowess over man, of strife and discord for greed and power, of glories achieved by one nation over another. Labor Day... is devoted to no man, living or dead, to no sect, race, or nation."

Like each Soldier, Sailor, Airman, and Marine, the American worker also bears the torch of freedom. He or she also has answered our nation's call to duty. In doing so, they help our military forces by providing the resources and support we need to be successful in this War on Terrorism. We who proudly wear the uniform of our branch of service offer our sincerest thanks to the American worker. Without their selfless service and sacrifices, our mission not only here but around the world would be impossible to accomplish. On this Labor Day we pay tribute to our

nation's true unsung heroes and heroines: the American work force.

Although we celebrated Labor Day differently this year than in the past, I am hoping that over the labor day weekend, you were able to reflect on your own contributions to our nation, noting that your friends and loved ones were able to celebrate this holiday through your labors that bring our nation

the safety that they enjoy, so they can have a day off, shop, and celebrate the end of summer!

Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines, best wishes to you as you celebrate next years' Labor Day weekend with your friends and family! Take pride in your own accomplishments and continue to think safety so we can all go home safe! Hooah!



Courtesy of History.com

## Provost Marshal Office: Weekly police blotter



Courtesy photo

Members of the 332 ESFS, Provost Marshal Office (PMO).

### Week of Aug. 18-23

**PMO conducted:** (140) security checks, (99) traffic stops, issued (93) DD Form 1408 Armed Forces Traffic Ticket, registered (51) vehicles on the installation, (18) Common Access Cards were turned in to PMO and (2) lost weapons were reported.

**PMO is currently investigating:** (4) assaults cases, (3) cases of larceny government property and (1) General Order-1 violation.

**PMO recommendations:** Emergency responder vehicles are equipped with lights and sirens for a reason; practice good judgment and pull to the shoulder

of the road, you could possibly be helping to save a life. Treat all government equipment as your own and protect it. Know where your weapon is at all times and secure it.

**Crime Prevention:** Personal safety awareness; those who attended the Woman's Day 5K were given whistles as assault deterrents. We encourage all who did not attend to obtain one. While working on or stopped along Victory Loop always wear your issued Individual Protective Equipment (IPE). Park all vehicles in designated parking areas. Parking adjacent to housing areas is prohibited. Security is everyone's responsibility.

## ANACONDA TIMES

316th ESC Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Gregory E. Couch

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12th Combat Aviation Brigade  
402nd Army Field Support Brigade  
20th Engineer Brigade  
213th Area Support Group  
1/82nd Brigade Combat Team  
3rd Sustainment Brigade  
82nd Sustainment Brigade  
507th Corps Support Group  
15th Sustainment Brigade  
CJSOTF-AP



# Anaconda celebrates Women's Equality Day

by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra  
*Anaconda Times staff*

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** — Servicemembers here celebrated Women's Equality Day by participating in a five-kilometer fun run and attending a ceremony which commemorated the significance of this day.

Women have always struggled to gain equality among their male counterparts. On Aug. 26, 1920 the 19th amendment, which gave women the right to vote, brought that struggle one step closer to reality.

"The ratification of our Constitution's 19th Amendment on Aug. 26, 1920, marked a turning point for America as women were guaranteed the right to vote. On Women's Equality Day, we celebrate this milestone and pay tribute to the inspiring women who stepped forward and asked our Nation to live up to its founding principle of equality for all," said Col. Karen Lee Jennings, deputy commander, 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) (ESC) and guest speaker for the Women's Equality Day ceremony held at the east side Morale, Welfare and Recreation theater here Aug. 25.

With the creation of the Army and Navy Nurse Corps in 1901, women were officially



Col. Karen Lee Jennings, deputy commander, 316th ESC, addresses the audience as the guest speaker for this year's Women's Equality Day ceremony.

allowed to serve our nation's military. However, it wasn't until the creation of the Women's Army Corps (WAC) in the early 1940's that women other than nurses were allowed to serve within Army ranks. The WAC marked a new step for gender equality while wearing our nation's uniform.

Today, the Army functions as a fully integrated organization allowing men and women to work side-by-side in non-combat arms occupations.

"Nearly all of the prior restrictions on women's military roles in the Army have been lifted. The only restrictions on

See **Women**, Page 5

## Worship services

### PROTESTANT – TRADITIONAL

Sunday 7:30 a.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel  
9:30 a.m. Provider Chapel  
10:30 a.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)  
5:30 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)  
7:30 p.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel

### PROTESTANT-GOSPEL

Sunday 11 a.m. MWR East Building  
Noon Freedom Chapel (West Side)  
2 p.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel  
3:30 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)  
7 p.m. Provider Chapel

### PROTESTANT-CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Sunday 9 a.m. MWR East Building  
10 a.m. Town Hall(H-6)  
6:30 p.m. Eden Chapel  
7 p.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)  
Wednesday 8 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel(H-6)

### PROTESTANT –LITURGICAL

Sunday 9 a.m. Episcopal (Freedom Chapel)  
11 a.m. Lutheran (Provider Annex)  
11 a.m. Episcopal (Tuskegee H-6)

### PROTESTANT- MESSIANIC

Friday 7 p.m. Freedom Chapel

### PROTESTANT- SPANISH/ENGLISH

Sunday 2 p.m. Freedom Chapel

### PROTESTANT-PRAYER SERVICE

Saturday 7 a.m. Signal Chapel

### PROTESTANT-SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Saturday 9 a.m. Provider Annex

### ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

(Sacrament of Reconciliation 30 min prior to Mass)  
Saturday 5 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)  
8 p.m. Freedom Chapel (West side)  
9:30 p.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel  
Sunday 9 a.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)  
11 a.m. Provider Chapel  
Mon-Sat 5 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)  
**LATTER DAY SAINTS- (LDS)-(MORMON)**  
Sunday 1 p.m. Provider Chapel  
3:30 p.m. Freedom Chapel  
7 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

### JEWISH SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday 7 p.m. Signal Chapel

### ISLAMIC SERVICES

Friday 12 p.m. Provider Chapel

### PAGAN/WICCAN FELLOWSHIP

Thursday 7 p.m. Eden Chapel



## Combat Stress Control

785th Medical Company (CSC)

# 433-2402

Individual counseling by appointment or walk-in

Command referrals

Services for combat and operationally stressed soldiers

### RELAXATION TECHNIQUES

MONDAY TO SATURDAY

3:30 TO 4 P.M.

### STRESS MANAGEMENT

MONDAY AND THURSDAY

10 TO 11 A.M.

### HOME FRONT ISSUES

MONDAY AND THURSDAY

5 TO 6 P.M.

### CONFLICT RESOLUTION

WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY

11 A.M. TO NOON

### ANGER MANAGEMENT

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

11 A.M. TO NOON

### ANXIETY AWARENESS

WEDNESDAY

3 TO 3:30 P.M.

SATURDAY

10:30 TO 11 A.M.

### SLEEP HYGIENE

MONDAY AND THURSDAY

6 TO 6:30 P.M.

### GOAL SETTING

MONDAY AND THURSDAY

11 A.M. TO NOON

### DEPRESSION AWARENESS

WEDNESDAY

2 TO 3 P.M.

SATURDAY

10 TO 10:30 A.M.

### COMMUNICATION SKILLS

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

10 TO 11 A.M.

### RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

WEDNESDAY

9 TO 11 A.M.

for more information, email:

tammy.phipps@us.army.mil

# 433-2402

# The great milk debate...

*No cows were harmed in the writing of this editorial.*

by Sgt. Dave Lankford

Anaconda Times staff

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** — As a public affairs non-commissioned officer I've heard the phrase "I've got a great story for you" a thousand times. Let me translate; "I have a complaint and I want you to tell the world." Sorry, that's not what I do. So why on earth would I write about milk? You'll just have to read on to find out.

Spc. Brandi Palmer, budget technician, 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) (ESC), originally emailed me with the question of why there is no fresh milk in Iraq, and to be frank, I blew her off. Sorry Palmer. But then the strangest thing happened. As I was telling other staff members a lead I was working on was a bust, two more people chimed in with the same question, then three, then a whole slew of other people...over milk.

This got my attention. So I sent out a few emails to both the food service staff at the 316th ESC and a handful of the Soldiers who claimed to be fresh out of milk. Here's what I got.

The first person I received a response from is quite possibly one of the nations' next great politicians. He said he didn't have all the particulars of the milk products we are serving here in theater and that where it is being produced and packaged may not be for public consumption. He added



Web Image

that some of the product information specifics may be of a classified nature.

I'm not sure exactly what that means, but I don't think I like the part about "not [being] for public consumption." And classified? This is milk, not nukes.

For an English translation I turned to Sgt. 1st Class Terry Romig, 316th ESC senior food operations management NCO, who told me exactly what I expected to hear in the first place.

"It is the same reason that a lot of the supplies are raw supplies and then prepared here; because these items are on an as needed basis; we can't have them on standby. In addition, we have to transport them to the destination. The whole process is too involved and takes a considerable amount of time," he said.

So what do some service-members in Iraq feel they are missing out on? Other than the joy of an ice-cold glass of milk, some Soldiers are worried about their health.

"Fresh milk seems to be a luxury to me now. In Kuwait, I was so happy to have fresh milk. I came here and was greatly disappointed when I learned it was UHT (Ultra-high temperature) milk," said

Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra, 302nd MPAD public affairs journalist, "Milk contains several nutrients needed to keep you healthy. For a particular person like myself, who doesn't eat too many vegetables, milk becomes a very important source of nutrition."

On the surface that sounds like a compelling argument, except for the fact ultra high temperature processing is done by heating the milk for around 1-2 seconds at a temperature exceeding 135°C. This process not only preserves the milk, it also reduces the spoiling of nutrients. So you'll still get the health benefits. You just have to be willing to drink it.

Not surprisingly, the North American market hasn't taken well to UHT milk so several companies have been disguising it in old-fashioned containers. Though I can't say with absolute certainty the milk Sierra and others enjoyed so much in Kuwait was UHT, odds are that is exactly what you were drinking.

So why do Soldiers like Sgt. Patricia Laborda, 316th ESC G4 administrative specialist, turn their noses up at UHT?

"Because the camel milk they give us here makes our cereal stink," said Laborda. "We're definitely missing out because I used to love to eat a bowl of cereal every morning and not worry if the milk I'm drinking is going to have me sick by lunch time."

Since we know it's not really camel milk and we also know the nutritional benefits of the milk here are not greatly diminished, is this really a valid concern? Well, yes it is, but it's a matter of convenience

"They say they can't get milk because it's expensive and it's hard to ship, but they serve (brand name) ice cream in the DFAC. What's that about?"

Spc. Brandi Palmer  
316th ESC

and not necessity in my opinion. So food service wins the debate, right? Not so fast.

Let's revisit Palmer and the reason I chose to write this editorial in the first place. Is it because I love a good argument? Well, partially yes. But, it was something Palmer said that really kicked off the great milk debate.

"They say they can't get milk because it's expensive and it's hard to ship, but they serve (brand name) ice cream in the DFAC. What's that about? Ice cream is just as expensive, if not more and it must be harder to ship," Palmer said. "I just don't understand why the Army would go to the extent of getting ice cream but not milk."

In my book, that's an outstanding question and one I have not been able to find an answer to yet. But I know, because I heard it on the X-Files, the truth is out there. So for now, the great milk debate rages on.

If you have information or an opinion on this matter, please contact me at the LSA Anaconda public affairs office. I somehow get the feeling this is just the beginning.



Sgt. Dave Lankford





Photo by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

**Gary L. Warden, a civilian contractor and forward lead project manager, informs tour participants about the Joint Explosive Ordnance Disposal Rapid Response Vehicle (JERRV.)**

AMC, from Cover

“The best suggestions, the best recommendations, come from Soldiers on the ground. Any issues you have, we’ll do our best to make improvements.”

Both senior enlisted Soldiers urge leaders to take a tour of the facilities so they may see for themselves all that is available for service personnel to maintain war-fighting dominance over the enemy.

To find out when the next tour is scheduled and for more information on the 402nd, contact DSN (318) 483-2454.

## Gen. Griffin visits Anaconda



Photo by Spc. Jay Venturini

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq — Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin, U.S. Army Materiel Command commanding general and Brig. Gen. Gregory E. Couch, 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) commanding general, visit a shipping yard here Aug. 20. Griffin came here to assess the operational capabilities of the 316th ESC, which recently took command of logistics in the Iraq theater. It was a good visit, said Griffin. The 316th will set the standard for logistics here.**

Women, from Page 3

women today is a limitation to the combat arms branches, infantry and armor and going to Ranger and Special Forces schools and serving in direct ground combat,” said Jennings.

Staff Sgt. Vicki Barnosky, Iraqi Security Forces plans non-commissioned officer in charge, 316th ESC, reinforced Jennings’ beliefs but is optimistic that one day women will have the option of serving in any military occupation specialty (MOS) they please.

“Even though women cannot hold some of the combat MOSs, we are generally accepted by our male counterparts in all roles of the military. Over time, it seems inevitable that all positions in the military will be open to women. What will accelerate it is one woman’s passion to gain this equality,” she wrote in an email.

Despite the many accomplishments by women before us, many women still face

challenges. Jennings offered some advice for anyone who feels they might be dealing with that today.

“When you see this kind of discrimination, perseverance, hard work and steadfastness are virtues that you should hold on to,” she said in her speech.

“Forget what is wrong, the wrong that is being done to

you and really focus on what you are supposed to be doing in your job and just become as good as you can... Pretty soon the light is going to go on for the person who is treating you in an unfair way. And then, you don’t even have to go backward; you can continue to drive forward. So don’t even let it bring you down; let it empower you to be better.”



Photo by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

**Brig. Gen. Gregory E. Couch, commander, 316th ESC, along side Command Sgt. Maj. Stacey E. Davis, command sergeant major, 316th ESC, are part of the distinguished guests who listen attentively to Col. Karen Lee Jennings’ speech on Women’s Equality Day.**



Photo by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

**Servicemembers run the five-kilometer fun run held here as part of the Women’s Equality Day celebration.**

### 5k fun run winners

**Women’s Div:** 1st: 2nd Lt. Myra Markey, 3-158 AVN  
2nd: Lt.Col. Karen Neely, 316 ESC  
3rd: Capt. Shelley Raska, 1-332, Mayor cell (Air Force)

**Men’s Div:** 1st: Spc. Juan HernandezRamos - 92 EN BN  
2nd: Staff Sgt. Johnny Salinas - 502 ENG BN  
3rd: Airmen 1st Class Michael Kearns 407 EOSS (Air Force)

### Correction to “Gender equality in Army has come a long way”- Aug. 29

The caption corresponding to the photo of Master Sgt. Lynette Streitfield should have read, “As a flight engineer, Streitfield is responsible for tasks such as performing **pre-flight checks and weight and balance calculations** as well as ensuring the safety of passengers and cargo.” A sentence in the text should have read, “As a flight engineer, Streitfield said her job is tough on both body and mind, since she is responsible for loading and unloading hundreds of pounds of cargo in addition to **training and administrative duties.**” The pull quote should be attributed to Master Sgt. Lynette Streitfield. Photo credit for door gunners should read **Sgt. Brandon Little.**



# 316th ESC authorized to wear combat patch

by Capt. Justin Cawthon

316th ESC

## LSA ANACONDA, Iraq —

A little less than a year since being reactivated and stood up, which included almost nine months of grueling mobilization training at Fort Lee, Va., Fort Dix, N.J. and Fort Bragg, N.C., the 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) (ESC) conducted their official patch ceremony here Aug. 19.

Soldiers of the 316th ESC are now authorized to wear the right sleeve patch, signifying they have deployed and served in a wartime environment under hostile conditions.

It is a big step for the 316th, said Command Sgt. Maj. Stacey E. Davis, the 316th ESC command sergeant major. It shows that the unit is ready for anything thrown their way.

While the patch ceremony was brief, the symbolism behind it was important. It formally recognized the Soldiers of the 316th ESC as a deployed unit in the Iraq theater.

The ceremony was held in the 316th ESC Joint Operations Center (JOC) prior to the

shift change brief to ensure as many Soldiers as possible could make the ceremony.

"It was important to have a lot of Soldiers at the ceremony," said Davis. "It was a big part of the unit's history."

The JOC sprang to attention as the 316th ESC commanding general, Brig. Gen. Gregory E. Couch, entered the JOC followed closely by Davis.

Couch then gave a brief synopsis on the meaning of the combat patch, the reason for wearing it and then proceeded to read a passage straight from Army Regulation 670-1 authorizing the wear of the patch.

He explained he would apply Davis's patch because the command sergeant major was his battle buddy with whom he had gone to war before.

However, Couch stated wearing the 316th ESC patch was not mandatory. Soldiers will be permitted to wear the 18th Airborne Corps patch when they assume the Multi-National Corps-Iraq (MNC-I) mission or wear a unit patch from a previous deployment.

"With this being my first



Photo by Spc. Jay Venturini

Staff Sgt. Christopher Lowe, 316th ESC HHC cook and Spc. Scott Chaffin, 316th ESC HHC supply specialist put on their 316th ESC combat patch while Capt. Philip Haynie looks on.

time over here, I am proud to wear the 316th patch as my combat patch," said Spc. Scott Chaffin, 316th ESC Headquarters and Headquarter Company supply specialist.

Couch stated he would wear the 316th ESC unit patch

because he was proud of what the unit had accomplished in the course of their mobilization.

After Davis received his patch, every Soldier in the JOC proceeded to apply the 316th ESC patch to their right

shoulder, under the U.S. flag, to display their combat service with the 316th ESC.

What the unit has done in just a year is outstanding, said Couch. You would find it difficult to find a better group of Soldiers in the Army.

## America's warrior

### A snapshot of servicemembers in the Global War on Terrorism



Staff Sgt. Quintina Hankins

**Name:** Staff Sgt. Quintina "Tina" Hankins  
**Unit:** Regional Contracting Center LSA Anacoda, Iraq

**Job title:** contingency contracting officer

**Time in Service:** 11 years

**Age:** 32

**Hometown:** Brooklyn, New York

**Family:** Sgt. Maj. David Hankins

**Pastimes:** "I enjoy doing PT (physical training). Back home I rollerblade. I am not very good at it, but I really enjoy it."

**What is a recent accomplishment:** "I am learning how to swim at the age of 32."

**How would you describe yourself:** "I am courteous, caring. I show tough love."

**Most embarrassing moment:** "That would have to be saluting a one star with the wrong hand! I just got so nervous and, well, I saluted with the wrong hand. I kept thinking, 'how could I make such a stupid mistake! That was back in 1999.'"

**One life-changing event:** "June 9, 2005, I was working in a motorpool in Baghdad and it got hit by a rocket... Thank God, nobody got hurt. After the incident, I was so grateful and it became quite apparent for me that we were in a secure environment, not a safe environment."

**The person you admire the most:** "My mother, being divorced and raising three kids, having to hold two jobs and doing extra things like cooking and making sure we didn't need anything. She would always try to accommodate us."

**Why did you join the Army:** "I was in the second year of college and I didn't know what I wanted to be. For the longest time I thought I would be a social worker, but after volunteering time, I thought, 'this is too depressing, I don't want to deal with this.' So I joined the Army. I wanted to see what I was good at and it turned out you can do a little bit of everything."

**If you weren't in the Army what would you be doing:** "I honestly don't know. I enjoy the lifestyle and the culture."

**What do you think makes a good leader:** "Someone who is patient, always willing to listen but at the same time provide feedback on what needs to be done."

**What would you do for your fellow Soldiers:** "Something to ease the process for injured Soldiers and their families."

**What makes a good Soldier:** "Willing to do a task given, even if they don't want to do it, whatever it is."

**What is the best thing about being a Soldier:** "The different kinds of training we get, the lifestyle, the culture."

**What are your favorite values:** "Responsibility. Being responsible for one's actions, if you drop the ball on something say, 'yeah, I screwed up.'"

**What are your future goals:** "Finish (my) education and get my business degree."

by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra



# Military service: for some it's in the blood

by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

Anaconda Times staff

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** — For many Soldiers, the toughest part about deployment is separation from family. But for some here, serving in the Army runs in the family and devotion to both has resulted in loved ones serving together in Iraq.

For Staff Sgt. Angelo Tartaglia, a supply sergeant in the 213th Area Support Group, sitting back and just watching the news to see what his daughter was up to in Iraq was not an option, he said.

"I could not imagine watching her go without me," he said of Spc. Traci Tartaglia, a combat service support automation management specialist with the 213th. "But that's true of all the young Soldiers (in the 213th.) I've known many of the Soldiers since their first day in the Army," said Angelo.

He served as a recruiter for a few years and was even Traci's recruiter.

"Part of coming with the unit is that I wanted to help them (younger Soldiers) mature and teach them what I know to help them grow as leaders," said Angelo.

Traci said she feels happy to have her dad near.

"We still get to have family time. It's nice to have a person you have inside jokes with. You can share stuff about family back home... It's a year of my life that I don't have to be away from my dad," she said.

For the Moyer family, being deployed together is about making up for lost time. Sgt. Maj. Stephen Moyer, support operations sergeant major with the 213th, was already deployed to Iraq when he found out his son, Spc. Jeremy Moyer, an equipment receiver and parts attendant in the 213th, was coming to Iraq. Moyer extended his deployment and Jeremy is happy his dad was willing to stay.

"He was deployed all last year, so being together now gives me a chance to catch up with my dad. I didn't want to miss another year," said Jeremy.

Having a sergeant major for a dad might seem intimidating, but when it comes to military affairs, the elder Moyer treats his son the same way he treats other Soldiers, he said. "He's not in my chain of command... now I may tell him



Photo by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

**Spc. Jeremy Moyer (left), an equipment receiver and parts attendant in the 213th Area Support Group and Sgt. Maj. Stephen Moyer, support operations sergeant major with the 213th, fold a flag Aug. 17 after it had been retired for the day. Both father and son are currently serving together here.**

to cut his hair or to keep that moustache trimmed, but I look out for him the way I do other Soldiers. We are a close-knit unit. The 213th is good about taking care of Soldiers," said Stephen.

An added benefit of both son and father being deployed together is it alleviates some of Mrs. Moyer's concerns. She feels better knowing that her husband and son are together, said Stephen.

"I told him he wasn't going without me," said Sgt. David Lankford, print journalist with the 316th Public Affairs Office, upon finding out his son, Cpl. Cory Lankford, a team leader with 2nd Battalion, 12th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, was deploying to Iraq.

"I called my unit and started making the arrangements," David said. "Being a Soldier is my job and I can do my job from anywhere, so as soon as I found out he was going, I started looking for the next plane over."

"It's great to have someone to relate to just 30 miles away. I actually get to see my dad more in Iraq than I do in the (United) States," Cory said.

Cory's missions require he patrol villages near Baghdad almost daily. While concerned for his son's safety, David said he is confident in his son's

abilities.

"Cory has always been motivated and he's never lacked discipline. I guess military service is in our blood," said David.

Two other Soldiers for whom serving in the Army is in the blood are Brig. Gen. Gregory E. Couch, commanding general of the 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), and his son, Staff Sgt. Bradley Couch, an all-wheel mechanic also with the 316th.

"When I found out that I was going to deploy with this unit, I asked Brad if he wanted to go again, with me," said Brig. Gen. Couch.

Both father and son had already deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on separate tours before.

"We knew he would probably deploy again at some point, so I gave him a choice: 'Go with me, and I can keep an eye on you and you can keep an eye on me, or you can roll the dice and wait for the next deployment where you may not go with your unit because you could get cross-leveled,'" said Brig. Gen. Couch.

Bradley volunteered. Brig. Gen. Couch said that having his son here further serves to remind him there are families out there who love their Soldiers.

"I care about every one of

the 20,000 Soldiers (I am responsible for). At this point in the war, you have folks who have deployed two or three times. They are, in my mind,

heroes. It's a huge sacrifice that Soldiers and families are making," he said. "And they do it everyday, without a whole lot of complaints."



Photo by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

**Staff Sgt. Angelo Tartaglia, a supply sergeant and Spc. Traci Tartaglia, a combat service support automation management specialist, both with the 213th, retire the flag at the end of the day. Both father and daughter are currently serving together here.**



# From crate to concrete

## Future operat



Photos by Sgt. Dave Lankford

(Above) The new Huskies arrive at LSA Anaconda disassembled and packed in several shipping containers. A rail system is used to slide the components of the vehicle out of the containers. They are then hoisted into place by a crane or heavy-duty forklift.  
(Below) The first step in construction of the Husky is attaching the wheels. The tires are specially designed to roll over an anti-tank mine without detonating it. The vehicle has the ability to pull a mine detonation trailer which is designed to detonate mines at a safer distance.



by Sgt. Dave Lankford  
*Anaconda Times staff*

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** — Soldiers gathered here recently to begin two-part training on the Husky and the Interim Vehicle Mounted Mine Detector (IVMMD). The first phase in the training requires students to assemble the Husky, which arrives here disassembled and packed in shipping containers. The Husky is a vehicle developed in South Africa in response to insurgent land mine and IED attacks, which started as far back as the late 70's, in Mozambique and Angola. The Husky, used in tandem with IVMMD for the last 15 years in South Africa, has proven effective against a threat very similar, if not identical, to the

“The Soldiers who operate these trucks love them. Every Soldier who operates these trucks has gone home safe and sound to expound on the good features of the vehicle.”  
Christopher Horn  
Critical Solution International

threat American Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan face today. One complete Husky system consists of two vehicles and two ready packs. The ready

**Editor's note** – This is the first installment in a three part series by well as route clearance. Watch the Anaconda Times for subsequent



The V-shaped hull of the Husky is designed to deflect the blast of a mine. The vehicle is intended to be sacrificed in the event of an unplanned detonation and c



# in under two hours

## *ors learn to construct the Husky*

packs allow the vehicle to be repaired on the go, unlike most other vehicles which must be towed back to the motor pool for repair said Christopher Horn, field service representative and new equipment trainer for Critical Solutions International.

“The Soldiers who operate these trucks love them,” said Horn. “Every Soldier who operates these trucks has gone home safe and sound to expound on the good features of the vehicle.”

The Husky is unique in that the tires, if inflated to exactly the right pressure, can roll over an antitank mine without detonating it. With the vehicles ability to tow up to 25 tons, more than enough for

tow-behind mine detonation sleds, this vehicle is perfectly suited for route clearance missions. In addition, the vehicle can be fully assembled and operational in a matter of hours.

The design of the Husky is also distinctive in that the V-shaped hull will deflect a mine or IED blast away from the operator, but the front and rear suspension are built specifically to be sacrificed. These innovative safety features are the reason no Soldier operating the Husky has been killed since it was first used by the U.S. military in 2003.

“It’s basically a truck that was built to run out front to find the mines,” said Horn, “before the trucks behind them have to find them the hard way.”

Sgt. Dave Lankford which will include Husky driver training as articles.



Photo by Sgt. Dave Lankford

mine or IED away from the operator. The front and rear suspension are can be easily replaced on the spot by a well trained crew.



Photos by Sgt. Dave Lankford

(Above) The total time it takes to construct the Husky, from shipping container to concrete, is only a matter of hours. This, as well as its superior design and safety record, makes it one of the premier route clearing vehicles in the world.

(Below) Final construction can begin once all of the components of the Husky are removed from the shipping containers and put in place with the help of a crane or other heavy lifting device.





# 316th motor pool keeps vehicles on the move

by Spc. Jay Venturini

Anaconda Times staff

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** — With all the combat logistical patrols (CLPs) moving around the Iraq theater, vehicles take a lot of punishment. Improvised explosive devices (IEDs), unimproved roads, extreme temperatures and other factors all contribute to the daily break down of the moving parts on vehicles.

The 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) (ESC) motor pool always has vehicles to service because of this.

“We stay very busy here,” said Master Sgt. James Haus, 316th ESC motor pool non-commissioned officer in charge. “Unscheduled maintenance on vehicles is a constant thing around here and every vehicle has something different wrong with it.”

The main mission of the 316th ESC motor pool is to support 719th Transportation Battalion and 651st Area Support Group motor pools. All three shops work together to get the job done.

“We all work as a team,” said Haus. “Having more people working on a vehicle really cuts down on the time it takes to fix it up.”

On average, a Humvee should be serviced at least once a year. A service includes changing all the fluids in the vehicle, a thorough inspection of every area of the vehicle for any imperfections and then correcting any deficiencies.

The entire process of servicing a vehicle takes about four days to complete; the time varies depending on how severe the problems on the vehicle are. On average the motor pool services two vehicles per week.

It is critical that the motor pool gets parts for the vehicles quickly to get them back on the road.

The supply support activity (SSA) has many of the necessary parts here, and there is a supply point in Kuwait. However, the major components, such as motors and transmissions, have to be shipped in from the United States.

“The turn around time for the parts is amazing,” said Haus. “It only takes about a week to get a motor over here.”

Haus has created a way to keep the Soldiers learning the complexities of the vehicles while keeping them motivated about their work.



Photo by Spc. Jay Venturini

**Sgt. Gary Long, 316th ESC maintenance specialist, hammers a ratchet into the axle of a Humvee. The work is part of a routine servicing of a Humvee which usually take four days to complete.**

“I am learning a lot of shortcuts to save time that the training manuals don’t have. It’s making the job a lot faster.”

Spc. Timothy Jarosz  
316th ESC

to learn the proper procedures on working on every aspect of a vehicle,” said Haus. “Plus it’s a good motivation tool because once it is done we are going to customize it and use it to drive

around post.”

“I am learning a lot of shortcuts to save time that the training manuals don’t have. It’s making the job a lot faster,” said Spc. Timothy Jarosz,

316th ESC maintenance specialist.

“My guys do a hell of a job,” said Haus. “They get the vehicles out of the bay and back on the road.”

“We are rebuilding a Humvee completely from scratch. It is a good way for the Soldiers



Photos by Spc. Jay Venturini

**(Above) Spc. Timothy Jarosz, 316th ESC maintenance specialist, and Sgt. Gary Long, 316th ESC maintenance specialist, work on the shocks of a Humvee. (Left) Spc. Timothy Jarosz loosens the lug nuts on a Humvee during a vehicle servicing.**



# 12th CAB's 2-159th 'Gunslingers' assume tough combat role

by Sgt. 1st Class Chris Seaton

12th Combat Aviation Brigade

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** — Two months ago, life for the Soldiers of the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade's 2nd Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment sped up very quickly. Two days after arriving in Iraq, 2-159th's pilots and ground crews were already launching aircraft and have been ever since.

Since their arrival, 2-159th pilots have flown missions throughout Iraq. They fly support missions for installation security, VIP and convoy escorts, air reconnaissance, air cover for lift missions and various other duties.

The unit is currently flying missions from three locations in all six multi-national division areas.

"We're flying substantially more hours per month than the unit we replaced," said Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Bud Steen.

There are only a few attack helicopter battalions in theater. Most are assigned to support individual divisions, but because the 2-159th works in direct support of Multi-National Corps — Iraq, their airspace covers the entire country.

"We sometimes get called all the way from Baghdad to Ramadi... wherever troops need us," said Steen.

"The operational tempo is very high here," said Chief Warrant Officer Ryan Collier, a senior instructor pilot for B. Co., 2-159th. "Most guys are looking at doing about five



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Chris Seaton

**D. Co., 2-159th Aviation Regiment's Spc. Scott Workman (left) and Spc. Luis Ruiz inspect the rotors of an AH-64D Apache helicopter at LSA Anaconda.**

years worth of flying in the year and change we'll be in Iraq."

The pilots of the 2-159th fly the AH-64D Apache helicopter. Equipped with the lethal "Hellfire" missiles and a 30 mm main gun, it is the most lethal of the 12th CAB's three airframes. While other helicopters are built for carrying

cargo or people, the Apache's role in combat is, as its name suggests, that of an 'attack' helicopter.

"Basically, we're like the infantry Soldiers of the air," said Collier. "We've already had quite a few individuals engage the enemy."

In less than two months of flying, several pilots have

already earned their combat action badges. Some have already been nominated for honors such as the Distinguished Flying Cross.

"This is a very dangerous place and every one of our pilots knows that this might become a 'two way range'," Collier said. "Each pilot has to have the confidence that he can handle it."

"Out of all the missions that we do, we enjoy the missions with the ground troops the most," he said.

According to 2-159th commander, Lt. Col. Kevin Christensen, the reason for the sharp increase in flight hours is the call on all Army units to support the troop surge. Part of that support is to make sure Soldiers on the ground are safe as they move about in convoys outside of the installation.

"We want to send a message to the enemy that if you mess with one of our convoys, we have Apaches and we will hurt you," said Steen.

Pilots are not the only Soldiers in the battalion to work long hours. With every mission that goes out, there are personnel on the ground to launch, recover and maintain the aircraft.

Much like the rest of the

battalion, Spc. Scott Workman, an aircraft maintainer from D. Co., 2-159th, works 12-hour shifts. There is maintenance going on 24 hours a day to keep the pilots in the air, he said.

"I was in Basrah about a month ago," he said. "We had four aircraft down there and they were all grounded. We went and got them back in the air. I feel like I'm really part of the fight."

"The guys would love to have eight hour shifts," said Spc. Christopher Waldron, a crew chief from B. Co., 2-159th.

"With the mission the way it is we just can't afford it and every one of us understands that," he said. "It's not just the pilots, and it's not just the crew chiefs or the maintainers. Everybody in the unit contributes."

That sentiment is echoed throughout the battalion. Despite the hours and conditions, the Soldiers know that each of their missions is important.

"I'm trying to make sure these Soldiers know that they're all contributing whether they see it or not," said Steen. "We work long hours and it's hot outside, but everyone's doing their part and I'm proud of them."



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Chris Seaton

**Capt. Doug Lindsay, an Apache pilot for the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, peers through an optical lens as a pre-flight mission check before take off at LSA Anaconda.**



# Football on the FOB: Weekly NFL picks by Sgt. Rob Pinches

Ah. . . At last NFL football is back! The exhibition season is over and who wins and who loses now matters. Each week I'll write a column for the Anaconda Times predicting which teams will win and which will lose. Week 1 is always the hardest. All the off season moves which are always justified in some way on paper get put to the test on the field. Are Moss and Brady the next Rice and Montana? Will Mike Tomlin be as good as the legend he replaced? Did the Colts lose too many of their Super Bowl pieces or can Peyton audible his way to a repeat? This is the best time of the year, when even Dolphins fans have reason to be optimistic (I mean this season is definitely the year we make the playoffs). And now a look at the week ahead:

## Thursday, Sept. 6th

### New Orleans @ Indianapolis

The Saints are the 'it' pick as the team to represent the NFC this year in the Super Bowl, and starting the season against last year's champs is a great way to test that theory. They pass. Saints 35, Colts 31

## Sunday, Sept. 9th

### Miami @ Washington

Cam Cameron is the first offense-minded head coach the Dolphins have had since joining the NFL. He's being asked to up the offense to the level of their defense, perennially one of the best in the NFL. It should help them play the

'Skins this week. Dolphins 24, Redskins 13

### Carolina @ St. Louis

I think Jake Delhomme does enough to stave off former Texans' tackling dummy Dave Carr and keep his job (getting Steve Smith the ball), but St. Louis has too good of an offense for this game to go the Panther's way. Rams 34, Panthers 14

### New England @ NY Jets

Patriots win this one. Here's the question that really needs answering: considering he has the Gisele Bundchen audible available, how the heck does Brady focus on football? Patriots 27, Jets 13

### Atlanta @ Minnesota

Now that the Vick debacle is over, Atlanta fans are focusing on whether Joey Harrington can direct new coach Bobby Petrino's offense. Fortunately for Atlanta, Minnesota's offense doesn't scare anyone (other than Tarvaris Jackson who has to try and run it). Falcons 24, Minnesota 9

### Tennessee @ Jacksonville

The only way Titans' cornerback 'Pacman' Jones is going to see the field this season is if they start filming The Longest Yard 2; he and Vick can vie for the role of the talented but troubled star. The only talent left on the field for the Titans is Vince Young, which won't be enough against a solid Jacksonville roster. Jaguars 28, Titans 17

### Kansas City @ Houston

Larry Johnson's a beast in

the backfield for KC, but something tells me Houston wins this one (maybe it's just that I want Crimson Tide alum Brodie Croyle running the Chiefs offense). Texans 24, Chiefs 21

### Philadelphia @ Green Bay

Donovan McNabb has another great game and leads the Eagles to a victory over the Pack. Everyone's happy in Philly until he goes down again in midseason, justifying the 2nd round selection of Kevin Kolb. Eagles 34, Packers 20

### Pittsburgh @ Cleveland

The Brady Quinn era begins in Cleveland; the Ben Roethlisberger era continues in Pittsburgh. I'll go with the guy who has a ring. Steelers 24, Browns 6

### Denver @ Buffalo

The Jay Cutler band wagon hits a bump in the road when the Broncos take on the Bills. Buffalo's defense will cause headaches but Denver pulls out the victory. Broncos 21, Bills 20

### Tampa Bay @ Seattle

Everyone is healthy again up in Starbuckville, er, Seattle (at least they are at the time I write this). That should give them plenty of firepower against a Tampa defense that has become mediocre over the last few years. Seahawks 31, Buccaneers 13

### Chicago @ San Diego

Chicago's got bratwurst and pan pizza; San Diego has Ron Burgundy and, more importantly, LaDanian Tomlinson. I'll take Tomlinson and



Sgt. Rob Pinches

Burgundy over bratwurst and pizza any day. Chargers 28, Bears 17

### Detroit @ Oakland

Detroit is better than most give them credit for. Oakland, on the other hand, isn't. Daunte Culpepper has his work cutout for him this season. Lions 17, Raiders 10

### NY Giants @ Dallas

Giants and Dallas always have great match ups and, due to the rivalry, either team can win regardless of the rosters. The fact both teams have good talent means I have to flip a coin. Giants 21, Dallas 17

## Monday, Sept. 10th

### Baltimore @ Cincinnati

Baltimore replaced a worn out Jamal Lewis with Willis McGahee, who never reached his potential with Buffalo. That

big line anchored by Ogden should help him out. Ravens 28, Cincinnati 24

### Arizona @ San Francisco

The Cards are a promising team this year. So are the 49ers. Something tells me San Fran picks up the W. 49ers 20, Cardinals 16

Let us know what you think of Rob's picks of the week and you just might see them in an upcoming edition of the Anaconda Times.

Email us at:  
**anaconda.times@iraq.centcom.mil**

Subject: Rob's Picks

## Upcoming sports on AFN

### Thursday 9/6/2007

WNBA finals game 1 Live 4:00 a.m. AFN/sports

### Friday 9/7/2007

Middle Tennessee @ Louisville Live 3:00 a.m. AFN/xtra  
New Orleans Saints @ Indianapolis Colts Live 4:30 a.m. AFN sports, replay 3:30 p.m. AFN/sports, 9:30 p.m. AFN/sports  
Cleveland Indians @ Los Angeles Angels Live 6:00 a.m. AFN/xtra  
Oregon State @ Cincinnati Live 11:00 a.m. AFN/sports

### Saturday 9/8/2007

Navy @ Rutgers Live 3:00 a.m. AFN/sports  
NASCAR Busch Series: Emerson Radio 250 Live 4:00 a.m. AFN/xtra  
Friday Night Fights: Zab Judah vs. Edwin Vasquez Live 6:30 a.m. AFN/xtra  
2007 U.S. Open: Women's Semifinals replay 11:00 a.m. AFN/sports  
2007 U.S. Open: Men's Semifinals live 11:30 p.m. AFN/sports

### Sunday 9/9/2007

Notre Dame @ Penn State live 2:00 a.m. AFN/sports  
UFC 75: Jackson vs. Henderson replay 4:00 a.m. AFN/xtra

UFC 75: Champion vs. Champion live 5:00 a.m. AFN/xtra  
Virginia Tech @ LSU live 5:15 a.m. AFN/sports  
Seattle Mariners @ Detroit Tigers replay 11:00 a.m. AFN/xtra  
2007 U.S. Open: Women's Final replay 11:30 a.m. AFN/sports  
New England Patriots @ New York Jets live 8:00 p.m. AFN/sports  
Philadelphia Eagles @ Green Bay Packers live 9:00 p.m. AFN/xtra

### Monday 9/10/2007

Detroit Lions @ Oakland Raiders live 12:00 a.m. AFN/xtra  
New York Giants @ Dallas Cowboys live 4:15 a.m. AFN/sports replay 3:30 p.m. AFN/sports  
Tennessee Titans @ Jacksonville Jaguars replay 8:00 a.m. AFN/xtra  
UFC 75: Champion vs. Champion replay 11:00 p.m. AFN/xtra  
2007 US Open: Men's Final replay 11:30 a.m. AFN/sports  
UFC 75: Champion vs. Champion replay 6:00 p.m. AFN/xtra

### Tuesday 9/11/2007

Baltimore Ravens @ Cincinnati Bengals live 3:00 a.m. AFN/sports replay 12:00 p.m. AFN/sports, 9:00 p.m. AFN/sports  
Atlanta Braves @ New York Mets live 3:00 a.m. AFN/xtra  
Arizona Diamondbacks @ San Francisco Giants live 6:00 a.m. AFN/xtra  
Arizona Cardinals @ San Francisco 49ers live 6:15 a.m. AFN/sports replay 3:00 p.m. AFN/sports



**Daile Davis**  
Just thinking about you...  
Wishing you the best and we  
miss you like crazy! I Love  
You!! MWAH!!!!  
Crystal

**Timothy Bemiss**  
I miss you Daddy! Can't  
wait for you to hear me say  
Da-Da! OXOX,  
Your Big Boy Trevor

**Robert Morris**  
Hope you had a great  
birthday! We all miss and  
love you!  
Bobie, Justin, Haley and Ri-  
ley

**Timothy Bemiss**  
Hi Tim!  
I am so proud of you! Look-  
ing forward to seeing you  
soon :)  
Love, Mia

**April Moody**  
Yet another month and  
more and more I find my-  
self "wanting what I have." I  
cannot express the joy I have

since you have come into my  
life! So, I hope all who read  
this can share in the excite-  
ment you bring to me! All  
things in due time... I love  
you and will be waiting....  
Jerrime Bishop

**Timothy Bemiss**  
Hello Love!  
Can't wait to do this again!  
I am counting down the days  
:-) All my Love,  
Melanie

**Steven Davies**  
Happy birthday Daddy!  
We miss you and love you  
very much.  
Even though we can't be  
celebrating in person with  
you, we want you to know  
that we are thinking of you  
every day and are dreaming  
for the moment you return  
home to us.  
Hope you have a great day  
in spite of where you are. We

love you so much and miss  
you like crazy! Love always,  
Your wife & kids

**Derahn Thornton**  
Happy Birthday to you  
from your family with much  
love, enjoy YOUR Day :-).  
We miss you and wish you  
could've been at Honey's  
wedding but we understand  
you have duties.  
Take care and God Speed  
for you and the troops to re-  
turn home safely & soon.  
Love, Mom

**Hi Tim Bemiss**  
Just wanted to say hello  
and tell you that you and  
all of the troops are in our  
thoughts and prayers every-  
day.  
Thank you to you and  
all of your fellow troops  
who are working tirelessly  
to protect our country and

our freedom. There are not  
enough words to express our  
gratitude.  
Take care, Christy

**Happy Birthday Craig Da-  
vies!** I hope you get this one,  
since I tried once today and  
it came back to me! But you  
know Grandma and comput-  
ers aren't exactly made for  
each other!  
My prayers and thoughts  
are with you and all your  
comrades over there!  
Love you, Grandma

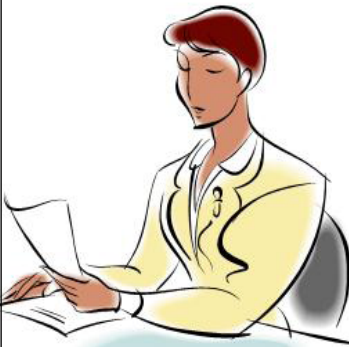
**Javier Torres**  
Amor, HAPPY BIRTH-  
DAY! Te queremos mucho,  
God bless you.  
Your wife, Jennifer

**Tim Bemiss**  
Just wanted to let you  
know that you are in our  
thoughts! Thank you for all  
you are doing for us!  
The McGinn Family

Letters to the  
Editor

Tell us what you think

The Anaconda Times wel-  
comes your comments on  
editorials and columns  
that are published in the  
newspaper and values  
letters on topics of im-  
portance to our readers.  
Please include your rank,  
full name, unit and return  
email address.



Email us at:

anaconda.times@iraq.  
centcom.mil

Subject: Letters to  
Editor

*\*\*We reserve the right  
to edit letters for length,  
content and clarity.*



SUSTAINER REEL TIME THEATER		(Schedule is subject to change)
		<b>Wednesday, September 5</b>
5 p.m.	Fantastic Four: 2 (PG)	
8 p.m.	The Invasion (PG-13)	
		<b>Thursday, September 6</b>
5 p.m.	The Invasion (PG-13)	
8 p.m.	Ratatouille (G)	
		<b>Friday, September 7</b>
2 p.m.	Live Free/Die Hard (PG-13)	
5 p.m.	Death Sentence (R)	
8:30 p.m.	The Brothers Solomon (R)	
		<b>Saturday, September 8</b>
2 p.m.	1408 (PG-13)	
5 p.m.	Death Sentence (R)	
8 p.m.	License to Wed (PG-13)	
		<b>Sunday, September 9</b>
2 p.m.	Death Sentence (R)	
5 p.m.	Ratatouille (G)	
8 p.m.	1408 (PG-13)	
		<b>Monday, September 10</b>
5 p.m.	Death Sentence (R)	
8 p.m.	1408 (PG-13)	
		<b>Tuesday, September 11</b>
5 p.m.	License to Wed (PG-13)	
8 p.m.	Death Sentence (R)	

Pvt. Murphy's Law

MURPHY, WHAT'S UP WITH THIS SGM STICKER ON YOUR RIDE?

WHAT? Oh, IT'S MY MOM'S CAR.

YOUR MOM'S A SGM?!

SURE! WHAT'S SO SURPRISING ABOUT THAT? THERE ARE A LOT OF FEMALE SOLDIERS.

IT'S JUST WEIRD, I MEAN, DO YOU CALL HER MOM OR SGM?

DON'T BE SILLY.



September 5

ANACONDA ACTIVITIES

Your one-stop connection to activities around LSA Anaconda  
to add your activity to the event calendar, email [anaconda.times@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:anaconda.times@iraq.centcom.mil)

Spades & Ping Pong  
2 a.m., 2p.m. and 8 p.m., H6  
MWR

9-Ball Tourney  
3 p.m. and 8 p.m.,  
East MWR

Step Aerobics  
5:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Aerobics  
7 p.m., West MWR

Green Bean Karaoke  
8 p.m., West MWR

8-Ball Tourney  
8 p.m., West MWR

Floor Hockey  
8 to 10 p.m., MWR Circuit  
Gym

R&B Music  
8:30 p.m., H-6 MWR

Salsa Dance Class  
8:30 p.m., West MWR

Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu  
9 p.m., East Fitness Center

September 6

Tae Kwon Do  
Midnight, East Fitness Center

9-Ball and Dominoes Tourney  
2 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., H6  
MWR

Intermediate Swim Lessons  
6 p.m., Indoor Pool

Soccer and Tennis  
7 p.m., West Fitness Center

Country/Western Dance Class  
7 p.m., East MWR

Pilates  
7:30 p.m., West Fitness  
Center

Water Aerobics  
7:45 p.m., Indoor Pool

Console Game Tourney  
8 p.m., West MWR

Dodgeball League  
8 p.m., Circuit Gym

Combatives Training

8:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Karaoke Night  
8:30 p.m., H6 MWR

Tejano Dance Class  
8:30 p.m., West MWR

September 7

Texas Hold'em  
2 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.,  
H-6 MWR

Aerobics  
5:30 p.m., East Fitness  
Center

Country Night  
8:30 p.m., H-6 MWR

Open Volleyball  
7 p.m., West Fitness Center

Friday Night Spikes  
7 p.m., East Fitness Center

Hip-Hop Dance Class  
7 p.m., East MWR

Gaston's Self Defense  
7:30 p.m., West Fitness  
Center

Hip-Hop Coffee Shop  
8 p.m., West MWR

Scrabble Tourney  
8 p.m., West MWR

Chess, Spades and  
Dominoes  
8 p.m., West MWR

Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu  
9 p.m., East Fitness Center

R&B Music Night  
9:30 p.m., H6 MWR

September 8

Pilates  
11 a.m., West Fitness  
Center

Boxing  
3 to 4:30 p.m., West Fitness  
Center

Basketball Tourney  
7 p.m., MWR Circuit Gym

Aerobics  
7 p.m., West MWR

Salsa Dance Class  
7 p.m., East MWR

Tae Kwon Do  
7 p.m., East Fitness Center

Screaming Eagle Poker  
7:30 p.m., East MWR

Country/Western Dance Class  
8 p.m., West MWR

Texas Hold'em  
8 p.m., West MWR

September 9

Darts and Foosball  
8:30 a.m. and 8:30 p.m., H-6  
MWR

Capoiera  
12 p.m., East Fitness Center

Ryu Ryu  
2 p.m., East Fitness Center

Aerobics  
7 p.m., West Fitness Center

Poker  
7 p.m., East MWR

Poetry Night  
7 p.m., East MWR

Gaston's Self Defense  
7:30 p.m., West Fitness Center

Swing Dance (Advanced)  
8 p.m., East Fitness Center  
(Aerobics Room)

Green Bean Karaoke  
8 p.m., West MWR

Spades, Dominoes & R&B  
8 p.m., West MWR

Abs Salute  
8 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Salsa Dance Class  
8:30 p.m., H6 Recreation

September 10

Texas Hold'em  
2 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

H6 MWR

Tae Kwon Do  
Midnight, East Fitness Center

Spin Class  
3:30 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Step Aerobics  
5:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Aerobics  
7 p.m., West MWR

Boxing  
7:30 to 9 p.m., East Fitness  
Center

9-Ball Tourney  
8 p.m., West MWR

Karaoke  
8 p.m., East MWR

Poetry Jam  
8 p.m., West MWR

Floor Hockey  
8 p.m., MWR Circuit Gym

Brazilian Jiu-Jutsi  
9 p.m., East Fitness Center

September 11

8-Ball Tourney  
2 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.  
H6 MWR

Kung Fu  
7 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Tae Kwon Do  
7p.m., East Fitness Center

Pilates  
7:30 p.m., West Fitness Center

Swing Dance (Basic)  
8 p.m., East Recreation Center

Foosball/Ping Pong  
8 p.m., West MWR

Combative Training  
8:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Balad Idol  
8:30 p.m., H-6 MWR

September 12

Spades & Ping Pong  
2 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., H6  
MWR

Dance Aerobics  
5:30 a.m., East Fitness Center

9-Ball Tourney  
3 p.m. and 8 p.m.,  
East MWR

Spin Class  
3:30 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Aikido  
5-7 p.m., East Fitness Center

Step Aerobics  
5:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Open Volleyball  
7 p.m., East Fitness Center

Aerobics  
7 p.m., West MWR

Green Bean Karaoke  
8 p.m., West MWR

Cardio Funk  
8 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

8-Ball Tourney  
8 p.m., West MWR

Floor Hockey  
8 p.m., MWR Circuit Gym

Salsa Dance Class  
8:30 p.m., West MWR

Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu  
9 p.m., East Fitness Center

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# 15th BTB support to Al-Anbar fuel lifeline

by Sgt. 1st Class Nicholas Conner  
15th Sustainment Brigade

**CAMP TAJI, Iraq** — In the darkness, they snake through concrete barriers; U.S. Marines, 7th Division Iraqi Army troops and over a hundred Iraqi civilian fuel trucks bound for western Iraq.

Twice a month, the 15th Brigade Troops Battalion, 15th Sustainment Brigade, provides safe shelter and life support to the Marines and men running a precious commodity to Iraqi civilians in the Multi-National Division-West area of operations.

“This is strictly a volunteer truck stop that we run here,” said Maj. David Dinkelman, operations officer for the 15th BTB, 15th SB. “We just have the willingness and the contacts to support.”

Taji falls as the halfway point between the large oil refinery in Bayji, to the north, and the Marines from the 7th IA division military training teams in Al-Anbar province. On both legs of the six day round trip, Soldiers from the 15th BTB provide the convoy a secure area for a full day stop; to rest, refit and relax.

“You gotta stop for your drivers and your gunners... they got to have their rest,” said Marine Staff Sgt. Robbie Locy, a security vehicle commander with 4th Air/Naval Gunfire Liaison Company. “Once they start losing their



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Nicholas Conner

**Spc. Jorge Roano, an intelligence analyst with the 15th BTB, 15th SB, hands out an MRE to an Iraqi driver. ‘Wrangler’ troops provide food, water and ice several times a day to drivers during their stay on Camp Taji.**

situational awareness, things go down and that’s when things start happening.”

In addition to providing life support and lodging for the Marines, Dinkelman and

his Soldiers coordinate with the Iraqi Army 6th Motorized Transportation Regiment to provide fuel, food, billeting and maintenance for 7th IA division troops.

“Wrangler’ mechanics have stepped in to repair convoy vehicles, both military and civilian, in order to keep the fuel lifeline running. Dinkelman estimated that maintenance support on Taji saves three to four fuel trucks per convoy. For the citizens of Al-Anbar, that equates to an additional 80 thousand liters of diesel and gasoline a month.

“(The fuel run) is designed to reduce the dependency of the civilian population on black market fuel,” said Marine Lt. Col. John Bolt, commander of the 7th IA Division MITT. “The sooner we can get the people to believe that

their government is actually supporting them, the sooner the insurgency doesn’t have a place to exist in Al-Anbar.”

The civilian Iraqi drivers are just as glad to be tucked inside Taji as well. Through an interpreter, one driver said that at another location on a previous convoy, he and other drivers waited two days without any additional food or water.

With the convoy stretching almost a mile, waiting for the sun to set before heading out again, 15th BTB Soldiers made numerous trips up and down, providing water, ice and food to the Iraqi drivers.

Dinkelman said he and his troops would continue to support the Marines’ mission to supply Al-Anbar province with fuel until his return home. Camp Taji and the 15th BTB’s sustainment mission, he said, mean his Soldiers are equipped and large enough to make it work.

“If we weren’t able to stop here, I believe it’s about 18 to 20 hours straight through,” said Gunnery Sgt. Monty Clark, 7th IA division MITT. “It’s definitely a nice break to have when you’ve been driving all that way.”



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Nicholas Conner

**(Above) Marine and 7th IA division security vehicles wait for the sun to set before heading out from Camp Taji. The fuel trucks they escort provide the citizens of Al-Anbar province with over one million liters of fuel a month. The goal of the mission is to restore faith in the Iraqi government and to deny insurgents control of the fuel black market.**

**(Right) Marine Cpl. Michael Zepeda, a gunner with 7th IA division MITT, cleans layers of ballistic glass prior to moving out from Camp Taji. 15th BTB, 15th SB, troops provide an eight to ten hour layover for the Marines during their bi-monthly fuel run from Al-Anbar to the Bayji oil refinery.**





# Iraqi, U.S. forces working together in Tall Afar



Photo by Sgt. Michael R. Noggle

(Above and below) TALL AFAR, Iraq- Iraqi Police conduct training operations advised by U.S. Special Forces in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Photo by Sgt. Michael R. Noggle

TALL AFAR, Iraq - Iraqi Security Forces and U.S. Special Forces conduct combat operations in northern Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Photo by Sgt. Michael R. Noggle

TALL AFAR, Iraq - Iraqi Security Forces and U.S. Special Forces conduct combat operations in northern Iraq.



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TALL AFAR, Iraq- Iraqi Police conduct training operations advised by U.S. Special Forces.