

DV

Desert Voice Magazine
Serving U.S. and Coalition Forces in Kuwait

October 10, 2007



Knock, knock

DV Contents

Page 3

Do you know what to do after you get into a car accident? Who do you call?

Page 4

Servicemembers spice it up during Hispanic American heritage observance.

Page 8

Construction at Camp Buehring brings improvements for the future.

Page 10

Third Army/USARCENT Soldiers save lives on the Kuwaiti roads.

On the cover

Marines from Lima Company, Battalion Landing Team, 3rd Bn., 8th Marine Regt., 22nd MEU (SOC), assault into a 360-degree 'shoot house' during a live fire and maneuver exercise near Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Sept. 23. For the full story turn to page 6.

Photo by Marine Sgt. Matt Epright

Contact us

Comments, questions, suggestions story ideas? Call the Desert Voice editor at 430-6334 or e-mail at desertvoice@arifjan.arcent.army.mil.

Average Soldiers should be everyday heroes

What is a hero? For most Americans, when we think of a hero, we think of an individual who lays his or her life on the line for the sake of another. We may focus on those who have won medals; those who receive the accolades and adoration they so richly deserve. Third Army/U.S. Army Central has its share of these heroes, those who have fought in hot wars and cold wars. However, there is another more subtle kind of hero in our midst. These heroes do not perform daring deeds that win medals of valor, nor do they usually get the accolades or recognition. Instead these everyday, "average Joes" perform the day-to-day tasks and operations that contribute immeasurably to the overall success of Third Army/U.S. Army Central. These individuals don't stop at just doing their jobs; they go beyond what's expected of them.

One such Soldier was the outgoing Media Relations NCOIC of the Third Army/U.S. Army Central Public Affairs office, Staff Sgt. Kevin Buckley. Staff Sgt. Buckley ran the Media Relations section by himself for the first four months he was on board. He conducted over 100 media transits (moving reporters) by himself at all hours of the day or night for close to four months, overseeing over 250 transits total in his year with Third Army/U.S. Army Central, ensuring each one had a seamless transition from Kuwait to their embed units in Iraq or Afghanistan. He drove over 8,000 miles without any accidents while accomplishing this important task.

Staff Sgt. Buckley worked tirelessly to assist the PAO in getting the new media transit team currently in place at an airbase in Kuwait, personally training them to make sure they could provide the same level of support he has provided. By working to emplace the media transit team, Staff Sgt. Buckley cut down the time public affairs personnel spent on Kuwaiti roads significantly. This action has improved the



Lt. Gen. R. Steven Whitcomb
Third Army Commanding General

efficiency and safety for all those Soldiers. This average "Joe" continues to assist wherever he sees the need, committed to making the Third Army/U.S. Army Central's Public Affairs Office stand out above the rest.

Staff Sgt. Pamela Johnson also exemplifies an outstanding Soldier who does

more than what her job requires. Staff Sgt. Johnson, normally assigned to 3rd Brigade, 100th Infantry Division out of Fort Snelling, Minnesota, volunteered for this deployment. As the Administration NCO for Third Army/U.S. Army Central's G4, Staff Sgt. Johnson routinely goes out of her way to assist other staff sections within Third Army/U.S. Army Central with their own administrative actions, advising them on what they need to do all the while ensuring that G4's correspondence is free of errors and is processed without delay.

In assisting other staff sections with their administrative requirements, this "average Jane" gives the same level of attention to detail and service she gives the G4, a directorate that has over 150 personnel assigned. Staff Sgt. Johnson embodies the concept of the "team player", making a significant contribution to the overall success of Third Army/U.S. Army Central.

President Theodore Roosevelt delivered an extraordinary speech called "Citizenship in a Republic." Roosevelt said: "In the long run, [our society's] success or failure will be conditioned upon the way in which the average man, the average woman, does his or her duty. . . . The average citizen must be a good citizen if our republics are to succeed."

It's you Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and our Soldiers in Slacks, the "average citizens" Teddy Roosevelt spoke of that keep Third Army/U.S. Army Central functioning smoothly and enabling successful mission accomplishment. You have earned our respect and thanks.

Patton's Own!

Volume 29, Issue 19

The Desert Voice is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of the Desert Voice are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or Department of the Army. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Third Army Public Affairs Office. This newspaper is published by Al-Qabandi United, a private firm, which is not affiliated with Third U.S. Army. All copy will be edited. The Desert Voice is produced weekly by the 50th Public Affairs Detachment.

Find us online at www.arcent.army.mil.

Third Army Commanding General
Lt. Gen. R. Steven Whitcomb
Third Army Command Sgt. Maj.
Command Sgt. Maj. Franklin G. Ashe
Third Army Public Affairs Officer
Col. Thomas Nickerson
Third Army Dep. PAO (FWD)
Lt. Col. James A. Sams

50th Public Affairs Detachment Commander
Capt. Jeffrey Pray
50th Public Affairs Detachment NCOIC
Sgt. Jacob McDonald
Desert Voice Editor
Spc. Giancarlo Casem
Desert Voice Staff Writers
Spc. Jennifer McFadden
Spc. Wes D. Landrum
Pfc. Christopher T. Grammer



DV
Desert Voice
Magazine

So you've just had an accident in your command

Now what? Now what? Now what?

Story by
Warrant Officer James Melby
Third Army/USARCENT Safety

Knowing what to do and how to report after you've had an accident in the Third Army/U.S. Army Central is a critical part of a Commander's Safety Program.

The single most important thing you can do after having an accident is mobilize emergency services. If there are injured personnel, get them medical assistance before you do anything else. Make sure your Soldiers know how to contact Emergency Services in your part of the world.

Once emergency services and first responders are mission complete, your work as a commander is just beginning. You will likely submit a Serious Incident Report, but you must also prepare an accident report and pass it up the chain of command. The first step in this process is to secure and preserve the accident scene while you make a preliminary classification of the accident. AR 385-10 defines classifications. They range from serious (Class A & B), to moderate (Class C) to minor (Class D, E & F). Each level of severity has a unique criteria and reporting requirement which is too complex to relate within the scope of this article. Please refer to AR 385-10 or contact your Safety Officer for details.

After you determine the severity of the accident, and the chain of command has been notified, you then have a finite amount of time (as per AR 385-10) to complete an investigation. If you determine that you have had a class A or B accident, your higher headquarters will coordinate with USARCENT Safety



Photo by Spc. Giancarlo Casem

to appoint an Accident Investigation Board. The AIB is appointed by the same individual who has court martial convening authority. For most cases in USARCENT this will be the Commanding General of USARCENT. For less severe accidents, such as class Cs, you are required to conduct a local investigation and complete a DA Form 285-AB-R (AGAR) and forward it through your chain of command to USARCENT Safety.

If you've read this article through to this point, you are beginning to appreciate the amount of administrative work an accident can generate. It's best to avoid them in the first place. But when you do have an accident, it's important that the Soldiers in your command know what to do. This is best achieved by the employment of a "Pre-Accident Plan." A list of instructions and responsibilities that are established prior to a mishap will be worth their weight in gold once a mishap has occurred. This Pre-Accident Plan must

be tailored to your unique location, and include procedures applicable to that location.

Remember: Accident reporting is a regulatory requirement. Accident reporting and investigation by safety personnel will never be used to determine punishment or liability. The purpose of accident reporting is to facilitate analysis of trends, and to prevent the next accident. If you as the commander suspect that you will need to administer punitive action, or find liability, you need to initiate a completely separate collateral investigation.

To learn more about accident reporting, see AR 385-10(23 AUG 07), DA PAM 385-10(24 AUG 07) and DA PAM 385-40(1 NOV 94). For question and comments pertaining to accident reporting, contact your local Safety Officer, or USARCENT Safety at 430-5035 in Kuwait, 404-464-3952 commercial in Atlanta, or 312-3952 DSN in Atlanta. You can also send e-mail to safety@arcent.army.mil. 

Servicemembers spice it up during Hispanic American celebration

*Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Aniska Fulton
1st TSC Public Affairs*

A celebration honoring Hispanic Americans was held at the Training and Activity Center at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Thursday.

The theme for the celebration, "Hispanic Americans: Making a positive impact on American society," highlighted the contributions that Hispanic Americans made throughout the history of the United States of America. Hispanic American Heritage Month runs from Sept. 15- Independence Day for five Latin American countries- to Oct. 15.

The ceremony commenced with Sgt. Tiffanie Howard from Task Force Aviation singing the national anthem, followed by an invocation by Chaplain (Maj.) Harry R. Reed Jr., the Area Support Group-Kuwait Chaplain. Col. John S. Alexander, the ASG-Kuwait commander, gave the opening remarks, followed by food sampling from the Hispanic culture.

"The critical part of it (the celebration), is understanding that it's all about celebrating human beings ... the energy, the enthusiasm, the intellect that we all possess, but most importantly, the humanness," said Brig. Gen. Luis R. Visot, the deputy commanding general of operations for 1st Sustainment Command (Theater), and the guest speaker at the event. "It's recognizing American servicemembers, who we all are, here serving our nation. It's about selfless service, selfless and faithful service to our nation."

Staff Sgt. Carlos Gomez, a human resources and movement control non-commissioned officer in charge from 1st TSC, gave his take on the importance of the celebration.

"The intent is to show everyone the contributions that Hispanics have made, celebrate those contributions, and also show the appreciation to that particular culture for all their contribution to all the arenas in the American society," said Gomez, a native of Fort Myers, Fla.

The event was packed with loads of entertainment in the form of spoken word,

slide presentations, a dance routine and a solo by Staff Sgt. Bernice Stratton, a geo-spatial engineer from 1st TSC.

"This celebration gives people from other cultures an opportunity to get an inside look at the Hispanic culture," said Sgt. 1st Class Milda Ortiz-Lawas, an air mobility NCO from 1st TSC, and a Bronx, N.Y., native. "They get to taste our food, listen to our language, dance our dance and really enjoy what we enjoy on a daily basis."

For servicemembers in attendance at the event, it was more than just pure entertainment; it was a celebration of their heritage and a little reminder of back home.

"The celebration brought back many good memories. It brought back memories of the neighborhood parties, watching everybody dance and have fun," said Gomez. "I'm very proud of being Hispanic, and being a Hispanic in the military makes me even prouder because it gives me an opportunity to meet people from other cultures and to share the Hispanic culture with them."

The celebration meant more to Staff Sgt. Marisol Williams, an automated logistics supervisor from 1st TSC, than just a celebration of her culture, food and dance. It was a reminder of what her mother had been through and what it means to be an American.

"I'm proud to be a Hispanic, but I'm even more proud to be an American, because America allowed my mother to come from Mexico to give me a better life and a better future," said Williams, a Merced, Calif., native. "This is one of the reasons why I serve, to repay my debt to



Servicemembers at the Hispanic Heritage month celebration were treated to a dance piece by other servicemembers at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Thursday. The celebration included the dance piece, food sampling, spoken word poetry and power point presentations. Hispanic Heritage month runs from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, and it highlights the contributions that the Hispanic community has made to the American society.

my country for all the opportunities that were afforded to me."

The highlight of the event occurred when Visot asked Hispanics to identify themselves and pair up with non-Hispanics. They were asked to discuss what it means to be a Hispanic-American, and then what it means to be an American.

At the end of the ceremony, Lt. Col. Clinton R. Pendergast, the deputy commander for ASG-Ku, presented Visot with a plaque and thanked him for being the main speaker at the event.

"I hope that when they (the people in attendance) walk away from here, they'll recognize that when we're having these celebrations, it's not necessarily about just their own culture, but [that it's about recognizing] that there are many cultures," said Visot, "and that's what makes our nation such a great nation." 

Third Army Soldiers carry on proud NCO tradition

Story and photo by
Master Sgt. Michele R. Hammonds
1st TSC Public Affairs

Sergeant Audie Leon Murphy became a legend in his own time by making a name for himself as a war hero on the battlefields during World War II – earning every medal for valor including the military’s highest award, the Medal of Honor.

It only seemed fitting that the elite club for noncommissioned officers which carries his name would be up and running in a combat zone such as Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

Sgt. Audie Murphy Club board members wanted to take full advantage of the Soldiers’ deployment time here. Board members, along with the Area Support Group-Kuwait SAMC, held the fourth quarter, Third Army/U.S. Army Central Command Sgt. Audie Murphy Board at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Sept. 28. Twelve NCOs from Afghanistan and Kuwait passed the board and will be inducted in the Third Army/USARCENT SAMC this month.

Three of the 12 Soldiers scheduled to be inducted are Staff Sgt. Patrick L. Gonzales, of the 14th Theater Movement Control Battalion, 640th Sustainment Brigade; Staff Sgt. Oscar Llamas, 10th Transportation Company, 640th Sustainment Brigade; and Staff Sgt. James Lowry, 25th Signal Battalion. So impressed were board members that they presented the Soldiers with three military coins each for their presentations.

“I was pretty excited about that,” said Gonzales, a 31-year-old Mexico native, whose goal is to one day become a command sergeant major. “I was confident and I knew what I was doing. When they dismissed me, three out of the four board members gave me coins.”

“Those were the three individuals that definitely exceeded out of the rest of the candidates ... the kinds of leaders we are looking for,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Jorge Ortiz, 1st Battalion, 160th Infantry Regiment command sergeant major.

Gonzales attributed his success at the board to fellow Soldiers and NCOs from



Staff Sgt. Karee N. Roberts, of 1st Sustainment Command (Theater) recites the NCO Creed while at the Sergeant Audie Murphy Board Sept. 28, 2007 at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. Roberts received the recommendation to become a SAMC member.

his unit and the support from his wife, Letty.

“I feel motivated because ... I take pride in everything I do,” Gonzales said. “I received a lot of support from my unit and my family.”

Although Gonzales, Llama, and Lowry stood out from their peers, Ortiz quickly added that all of the candidates went through a six-week period in which they studied Murphy’s life. They had to know when and where he attended basic training and advanced individual training, the movies in which he acted and songs he wrote.

“The candidates demonstrated performance and inherent leadership ability similar to Audie Murphy,” said Ortiz, a 38-year-old California native.

The candidates spent three months studying and preparing for the board. They attended study groups for several hours on Saturdays. In addition to learning about Murphy, they studied the NCO Creed and its history and a host of military subjects all aimed at enhancing their leadership skills.

Staff Sgt. Karee N. Roberts, 1st

Sustainment Command (Theater)’s human resources NCO, said the study group helped boost her confidence for the board. Roberts admits feeling nervous prior to going before the board members.

“I was nervous before I knocked on the door, but once I was in front of the board members, I was confident because I was trained and prepared and it was show time,” said the 30 year old Jamaican native.

Ortiz encourages NCOs interested in joining the elite Sgt. Audie Murphy Club to pursue it with all they have.

“You have to breathe, eat ... and practice on how to become a Sergeant Audie Murphy member,” he said. “I am happy that we are continuing with the Sergeant Audie Murphy tradition and hopefully we can see more candidates at the next board.”

While Murphy lived and died before all of the candidates were born, his legacy lives on in the hearts and minds of NCOs that have gone on to become official Sergeant Audie Murphy Club members, and become better NCOs in the process. 

Lima Company assaults fake city with

Story and photos by
Marine Sgt. Matt Epright
22nd MEU (SOC) Public Affairs

Marines from Lima Company, Battalion Landing Team, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), conducted a live-fire supported assault on a Military Operations in Urban Terrain facility near Camp Buehring, Kuwait Sept. 23.

The Third Army/U.S. Army Central training area, set in the middle of the open Kuwaiti desert, gave the weapon-wielding warriors of BLT 3-8 the opportunity to use the supporting fires that they normally have in combat, but

are not often able to use in training.

"We got to combine the use of machine guns, (Shoulder-fired Multipurpose Assault Weapon) rockets, M203s and M16s," said fire team leader Lance Cpl. Kyle Herl. "We got to put it all together and see how it worked on the battlefield."

The Marines even had coverage from a section of 60mm mortars, to protect against any possible inbound reinforcements.

The training scenario was simple. The Marines patrolled into the town one squad at a time to look for an insurgent who had been harassing U.S. troops. It wasn't long before the teams began receiving simulated enemy fire.

"We'd receive contact and we'd react to that contact," said squad leader Sgt. Andrew Liming of Cincinnati. "At that point, we were tasked with clearing the rest of the village."

The rest of the village included two 360-degree shoot houses for teams of Marines to enter and clear. The shoot houses allowed the teams to use live ammunition in close quarters.

"It was pretty intense," said Herl, a native of Jackson, Mich. "We kept up the intensity, hit the house and then our team started going around, clearing the whole house."

The live rounds the Marines were packing added the extra edge to the training. But, according to 2nd Platoon point-man Lance Cpl. William Travis, it was a necessary edge.

"If you don't train inside houses with live fire, Marines are never going to know what it's like," said the Camden, Tenn. native.

Liming said the best way to keep Marines on track during high-intensity, live-fire training is to stick to the basics of combat.

"Shoot, move and communicate. That's what it's all about," he said.

Overall, the individual squad missions took about 45 minutes to execute in heat of more than 100 degrees. But, according to Squad Automatic Weapon gunner Lance Cpl. Robert Rhodeback, once the adrenaline started flowing, sense of time went out the window.

"The rounds and the excitement and everything just keeps you from feeling it," said the Kurton, Ohio, native.

The 22nd MEU (SOC) consists of its Ground Combat Element, Battalion Landing Team, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment; Aviation Combat Element, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 261 (Reinforced); Logistics Combat Element, Combat Logistics Battalion 22; and its Command Element. The 22nd MEU(SOC) is in Kuwait conducting sustainment training as part of a scheduled deployment. 



A Marine with Lima Company, Battalion Landing Team, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), bolts across the open lane between buildings in a makeshift village during a live fire and maneuver exercise near Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Sept. 23.

real rounds



(Above) Marines from Lima Co., Bn. Landing Team, 3rd Bn., 8th Marine Regt., 22nd MEU (SOC), lay down suppressive fire as their squad-mates assault a makeshift village during a live-fire and maneuver exercise near Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Sept. 23. (Left) Marines set up targets prior to the start of the exercise.



Mortarmen with Lima Company, Battalion Landing Team, 3rd Bn., 8th Marine Regt., 22nd MEU (SOC), provide on-call supporting fire to Marines assaulting a makeshift village during a live fire and maneuver exercise near Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Sept. 23. The 22nd MEU(SOC) is in Kuwait conducting sustainment training as part of a scheduled deployment.



Photos by Sgt. Jacob A. McDonald

Marine Cpl. Demetrius Moorer, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (SOC), a native of Pensacola Florida, routes a piece of wood to make a sign for "FOB Semper Fi", the simulated forward operating base on the dismounted IED lane in the training village at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, September 29.

Servicemembers improve CIED training facilities

Story by
Spc. Wes Landrum
Desert Voice staff writer

Lance Corporal Steven Dunn raised the hammer with a look of determination on his face. Beads of sweat trickled like rain drops onto his collar. The tall Marine swung and drove the nail into its final resting place, a 4 x 4 board holding a wall in place.

Members of the Battalion Landing Team, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), the Navy Seabees, and the Army Engineers began work to repair and redesign the Dismounted Improvised Explosive Device Course at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Sept. 26.

The objective of the project is to make the Third Army/U.S. Army Central training range as realistic as they can, educating servicemembers to recognize IEDs and ways to defeat the deadly weapons. Making the range more realistic involved construction of towns and roads for servicemembers to navigate.

Gunnery Sgt. Eric Fears, engineer staff noncommissioned officer in charge, said his platoon of 39 gung-ho Marines origi-

nally wanted to build a bunker and fighting position on the camp.

"We have a lot of younger Marines in our unit. (The lieutenant and I) wanted these guys to get some experience building things," Fears said. "When we heard about the training village, we went and talked to the Army and asked if they needed anything built."

The idea, the gunnery sergeant said, was to build something that would last and could also be used by Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine personnel who came through the camp for training. Fears said when the IED course rebuilding project was brought about, his group of builders jumped at the chance to leave their mark on the camp.

"So we teamed up and this is the result," Fears said pointing to the buildings that were being moved by forklift into place along the course.

Master Sgt. Patrick Main, 1st Army (Forward), said the construction is going on despite one minor snag – no money. Everything that has been built has either been borrowed or scavenged from other sections.

"We've borrowed everything from the bobcat hauler to the nails that have been

used," Main said.

Working on a joint endeavor such as this is helpful for a number of reasons, Fears said. First it gives the younger servicemembers, who may be in their first year in the military and a little green, some seasoning. Secondly, it gives them job experience.

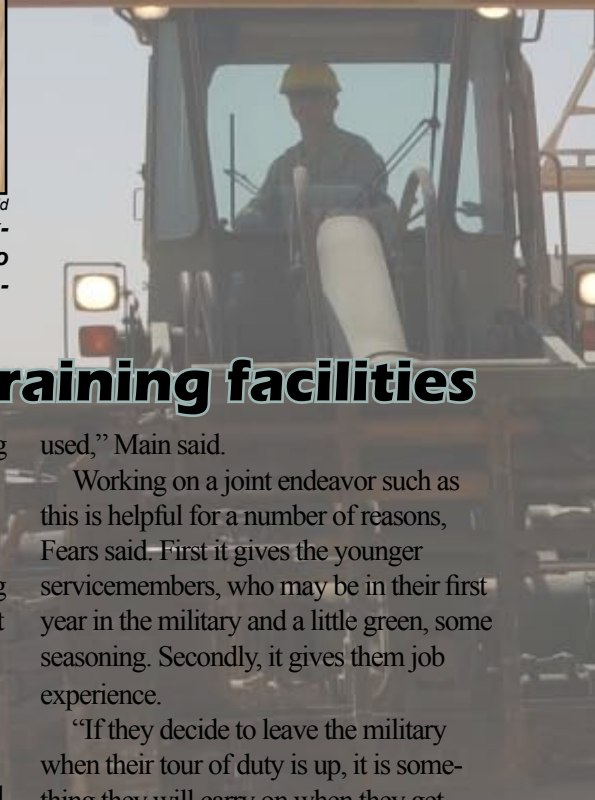
"If they decide to leave the military when their tour of duty is up, it is something they will carry on when they get out of the Marine Corps and learn from," Fears said.

A third reason is the opportunity to work with the other branches of service.

"It's not like we get to work with the Army all the time or the Seabees," Fears said. "As engineers, it's great that we get to work with the Seabees and Army because they do some of the things we do and they do things that we don't get to do. We get to trade ideas and pick each other's brains. We can gather information from them and they from us. This way, when the younger members of the team are leaders, they can say 'I learned this from the Marines. This is what they taught me.'"

Petty Officer Third Class Melissa Coakley, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 40, said everyone has put aside

Buildi



Lance
Marin
tive o
front
Villag

ng up to train up

service pride in order to accomplish the mission. She said people are quick to help out their construction brethren accomplish their tasks.

“We all work hand in hand. If we have materials in a troop hauler, the Marines will jump in there and unload it,” Coakley said. “If they need materials up on the hill, we’ll haul it up here for them.”

Whether it’s hammering nails into a wall or erecting buildings, each Marine, Soldier and Sailor keeps the main goal within sight – giving future servicemembers training that is very real and lifesaving.

“It’s very important because if we don’t give them this training they’re going to be stepping out there not knowing what to even look for,” Fields said. “Well, by using this IED lane, these personnel are going to get a good idea of what to look for when it comes to IEDs and in turn, it will save a lot of lives.” 



Marine Cpl. Christopher Perry, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (SOC), a native of Hughes Spring, Texas, measures the baluster at the top of the stairs to place a railing on the watch tower dubbed FOB Semper Fi in the Training Village on Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Sep. 29.



Cpl. Joan Jimenez, a backhoe operator with 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (SOC), and a native of Dominican Republic, loads trash and broken boards into the loader of a backhoe at the dismantled IED Lane in the Training Village at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Sept. 29.

(Background) Lance Cpl. Joe Rorick, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (SOC), a native of Fort Wayne, Ind., moves a simulated shop built by Marines with a forklift on the dismantled IED lane at the Training Village on Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Sept. 29.

Soldiers save lives on Kuwaiti highway

Story by
Pfc. Christopher T. Grammer
Desert Voice staff writer

With more than one million vehicles on the road in a country roughly the size of Rhode Island, getting from place to place in Kuwait can get very dangerous.

Other than the usual call to emergency services most people just pass by an accident they see on the road. On Oct. 2 however, two Third Army/U.S. Army Central Soldiers stationed at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, played the role of good Samaritans.

When 2nd Lt. Phillip Compean, platoon leader for 708th Medical Company (Ground Ambulance), saw a vehicle in his rear view mirror get cut off while moving at a high speed the first thing that popped into his mind was "This is going to be bad."

"(The vehicle) came by us like it was shot from a cannon," said Capt. Jimm Dodd, commander of the 708th Medical Company (GA).

Reacting quickly to the situation Compean slowed the vehicle and moved to the right to avoid the approaching vehicle. After being cut off the vehicle lost control and flipped onto its side before slamming into a pole in front of Compean's vehicle, said Compean.

Along with Compean and Dodd two KBR civilians were also in the vehicle. They were on their way to lease ambulances for use while in Kuwait, when the accident occurred, Dodd said.

"As the vehicle passed by us it was close enough for us to see their faces," said Dodd. "You could see the look of panic on the drivers face as he tried to regain control of the vehicle."

Reacting quickly to the situation, Compean pulled the vehicle over to the side of the road. He and Dodd then approached the vehicle to render aid to the victims, said Compean.

Before they could aid the victims they had to be moved to a safe distance from the wreck. One of the KBR

civilians with Dodd and Compean acted as a translator and assisted in communicating with the driver.

The driver had suffered fractures to his lower extremities and hands. The passenger, who was unconscious due to an obvious head injury, suffered fractures to his legs and hands, and injuries to his chest from the collision with the dashboard, Dodd said.

They provided aid to the victims with only an Individual Lifesaving Kit and PVC pipe, and scraps of clothing for splints.

"We made due with what we had," Compean said.

Both Soldiers stayed with the victims until the ambulance arrived 20 minutes after the initial call was placed to emergency services.

Though Compean and Dodd felt good about what they had done they saw it as their duty to employ their medical training when it was needed.

"It couldn't have been more perfect that we were there to help those people," Dodd said. 



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Tuttle

Capt. Jimm Dodd (left) and 2nd Lt. Phillip Compean load a stretcher into an ambulance at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Oct. 4. Dodd, from Chicago, and Compean, from Schaumburg, Ill., are assigned to the 708th Medical Company (Ground Ambulance) from the Illinois National Guard. The 708th MC (GA) deployed to Kuwait last month to Third Army/U.S. Army Central in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The two Soldiers are credited with saving the lives of two Kuwait citizens after a motor vehicle accident Oct. 2.

I Want You



To Be Considerate

Remember, Ramadan is from Sep. 12 to Oct. 13.
From sunrise to sunset, obey the law!

- Don't Chew Gum -Don't Eat
- Don't Smoke -Don't Drink

When you are off-post, including inside vehicles, remember these laws. These laws apply to all U.S. servicemembers, contractors and civilians.

Why I serve:

Sgt. Greg Matanane
Mailroom NCO
U.S. Army/ U.S. ArmyCentral STB



The Guam native explains why he chose to join the military.

“Good Benefits. I did it for my kids and to get experience. I also get to travel and meet new people.”

Just One Question...

“Which presidential candidate has surprised you the most?”



“Hillary and Obama. They agree on much of the same issues.”

Sgt. 1st Class Cathy Wilson
Montgomery, Ala.
Pod Supply
8th HRSC



“I’m not impressed with any of them. They all play politics – one minute they may say one thing, the next minute, they change their stance.”

Maj. Larry Hamill
Manistique, Mich.
CFLCC LNO
2nd Bde 10th Mountain



“McCain. He shows support for us. He’s a former POW and understands the mindset here.”

Senior Chief Perry Officer Phillip Hermanns
Albuquerque, N.M.
Battalion Ops Chief
Navy Customs Battalion - Sierra



“None. They all don’t appeal to me.”

1st Lt. Michael Lukawski
McConnell AFB, Kan.
CFLCC G-7
Survey and Design Team



“Hillary. The way she talks, she cares about the people. Being a senator has helped prepare her for this.”

Pfc. Rosa Matos
New York City
Postal worker
Plans and Projects – Postal Division

What's happening around Kuwait ...

Rockin' in Kuwait



Photo by Spc. Giancarlo Casem

Members of the Solution band perform for servicemembers at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Oct. 2.



Hard work for a good cause

Photo by Spc. Giancarlo Casem

Capt. Gerald Westry, Third Army/U.S. Army Central G9 operations officer, moves boxes of wheelchair parts at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Oct. 3. The parts were donated by Free Wheelchair Mission, a non-profit organization providing wheelchairs to those who cannot afford it. The wheelchairs are bound for Iraq.

SAY "HI" FOR THE HOLIDAYS, SEND A SHOUT OUT!



**SHOUT OUTS ARE A GREAT WAY
TO WISH A HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO FRIENDS
AND FAMILY IN THE UNITED STATES.
LOOK FOR FILM CREWS AT YOUR CAMP
ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:**

CAMP ARIFJAN SEP. 24-28 AND OCT. 8-12

**ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BE IN DUTY UNIFORM (NO PT UNIFORMS)
CREWS WILL SHOOT OUTSIDE THE COMMUNITY CENTER WHEN NOT AT
UNIT LOCATIONS AND OUTSIDE THE DINING FACILITIES DURING MEALS.
UNITS CAN SCHEDULE TIMES FOR CREWS TO COME TO THEIR
LOCATION DURING THE DAY BY CALLING 318-430-6364 OR
EMAIL SGT. JACOB McDONALD
JACOB.A.MCDONALD@KUWAIT.SWA.ARMY.MIL**