

# THUNDERBOLT STRIKES

## Night air raid destroys dozens of targets in Arab Jabour

MND-C PAO

BAGHDAD – Dozens of targets were hit Jan. 20 during a nighttime air raid on suspected al-Qaeda in Iraq safehavens in Arab Jabour.

Col. Ferrell, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division commander, said that improvised explosive devices and weapons caches were targeted in order to reduce AQI resources in the area.

“The strikes that we conducted tonight were focused on IEDs and caches that we have targeted, that will allow us to get our ground troops further into the zone,” Ferrell said.

“These targets, the IEDs specifically, are designed as part of the defensive belt to prevent our forces from entering into areas that we have not been before.”

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Photo illustration by Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft

Soldiers in Multi-National Division – Center’s division operations center watch on screens as bombs are dropped on Arab Jabour Jan. 20, destroying weapons caches and improvised explosive devices.



Sgt. Kevin Stabinsky

Col. James Adams presents Sgt. Maj. William Jones Jr. with a certificate and a gift for his participation in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. birthday celebration at FOB Kalsu Jan. 15.

## Spartan BCT celebrates MLK Jr.

**SGT. KEVIN STABINSKY**  
2ND BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB KALSU — “Today is a day we celebrate a man who has done many great things.”

With these words Sergeant Maj. William Jones Jr., 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division operations sergeant major, stressed to Soldiers the importance of celebrating the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The official holiday celebrating

King’s birthday falls on Jan. 21 but the 2nd BCT equal opportunity office held their own observation Jan. 15 in the FOB Kalsu dining facility.

King’s life was honored through fellowship, food and talent displays. During the ceremony, many Soldiers showcased their singing and dancing abilities.

Jones, a native of Greenville, S.C., stressed that King stood for the rights of all people, and his contributions to

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Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft

## Keeping lines open

Lt. Gen. Jeffrey A. Sorenson, Army Chief Information Officer G6, talks about signal operations with Maj. John Nelson, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) brigade signal officer, during a visit to Patrol Base Corrigidor Jan. 19. Sorenson paid a visit to three of Multi-National Division – Center's brigade- and company-level communication operations sections Jan. 19 to get a feel for the way communications are being run throughout the Task Force Marne area of operations. Sorenson spent 30 minutes to an hour speaking with representatives of each unit he visited. "This was a chance for him, as the new CIO G6, to come and see how the network is being used by the platoons and companies in the division and task force," said Lt. Col. Stephen Birch, TF Marne G6. "He got a chance to listen to the troop commanders, the battalion commanders and the (communications officers), and the units got a chance to express to him what they want from the Army, in regards to communications."



### ATTENTION!! , ATTENTION!! First IPR for...



**WHO:** MND-C Equal Opportunity Office  
**WHAT:** BLACK HISTORY MONTH  
**WHERE:** MND-C DFAC  
**WHEN:** Feb. 24, 3-4 p.m.  
**WHY:** To solicit support for the upcoming Observance. The MND-C Equal Opportunity Office is looking for VOLUNTEERS who would like to help in building this program. We need people who like to share their talents, Ushers, set up personnel, and much more.

#### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Feb. 1-29

"Those who have no record of what their forebears have accomplished lose the inspiration which comes from the teaching of biography and history."



Carter G. Woodson and the Origins of Multiculturalism

**FIRST IPR: Jan. 26**  
**Time: 10:30 a.m.**  
**MND-C CHAPEL**  
**"Honor Chapel"**  
**Please come by!**

POC: MND-C EO Office  
 VOIP: 822-7654 or 7653  
 Email:

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[rufus.lewis@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:rufus.lewis@iraq.centcom.mil),

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## THE Dog Face Daily

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[www.taskforcemarne.com](http://www.taskforcemarne.com)

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 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division  
 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Abn. Division (Assault)  
 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division  
 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division  
 214th Fires Brigade  
 7th Sustainment Brigade  
 720th Military Police Battalion  
 302nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment



## STRIKE: AQI targeted in Arab Jabour air raid

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The joint operation involved precision air strikes by F-16 and F-18 fighter jets and B-1 bombers, including Air Force, Navy and Marine aircraft.

The Air Force and Soldiers of the 2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div. worked in careful coordination to prevent collateral damage and to prevent use of any area for attacks on Coalition Forces.

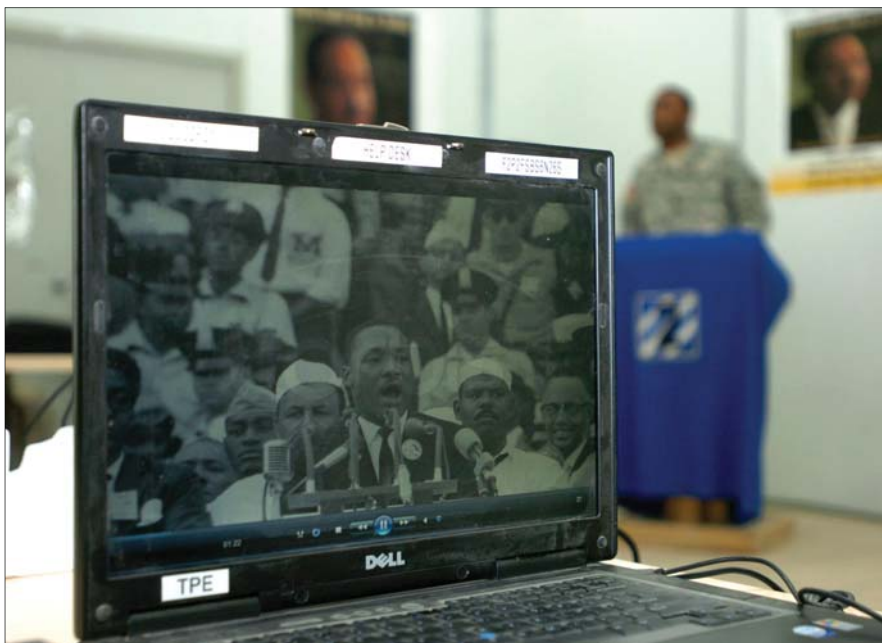
The raid follows Jan. 10 and Jan. 16 air strikes in the same region which hit a combined total of 64 targets with a total weight of more than 80,000 pounds of bombs.

Ferrell said the intent of the strikes is to reduce the threat to Soldiers and rid the area of AQI, establishing security in the community.

"We're working to establish the opportunity for the Iraqis in southern Arab Jabour ... not to be under the veil and the fear of (AQI) ... They need to know they can come out," Ferrell said. "As we go now to areas that we have not gone before, we need to do these strikes to reduce the risks to our Soldiers. So, as we enter in to establish their programs, to work with them to get their governance up and running, to work with them on the concerned citizens programs, we've got to allow a path to allow that to happen and that's what these strikes are allowing us to do."

The raid was in support of Operation Phantom Phoenix, the overarching operation that Marne Thunderbolt falls under.

Marne Thunderbolt is focused on pursuing the enemy and flushing out remaining extremists operating in southern Arab Jabour.



Sgt. Kevin Stabinsky

A slide show of Martin Luther King's life, projected onto the wall, is viewed by Soldiers while they listen to King's "I Have a Dream Speech" Jan. 15 at the FOB Kalsu DFAC.

## MLK: Civil rights leader's life celebrated

From Page 1

equality are enjoyed by all Americans today.

"He was a humanitarian most of all," he said. "Martin did what he did so that we could all enjoy freedom."

Besides enjoying the fruits of his labors, people can benefit today from the example he set forth in his personal life.

Jones said one of the most important things Americans should be thankful for is the hard road King endured; now, many Americans

don't have to face those trials. "You don't have to take the hard road. That is why we celebrate this man."

Chap. (Maj.) Albert Downing, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Inf. Div., chaplain, asked God to help Soldiers in their struggles, just as King sought help from God years before.

"Father, you allowed him to make a difference and change lives. We ask that you enable us to come together regardless of our nationality or color, that we could come together to make a difference in the world," Downing prayed.

## Safety Thought of the Day

### Wet-Weather Driving

- Rain, dust, and mud make roads in Iraq as slick and slippery as ice.
- PMCS becomes more critical during inclement weather, ensure:
  - Inspection for worn tire tread and replace if necessary.
  - Inspection of windshield wipers for worn or missing wiper blades.
  - Windshield/windows and lights are kept clean at all times.
- Adjust your driving for the conditions:
  - Drivers should be cautioned to slow

down and adjust their speed based on road conditions.

- Stopping distances will increase with wet roads, so increase following distances.

- Drivers and ground guides must take extra precautions during ground guiding operations.
- Rehearse rollover drills before all vehicle operations.
- If required to drive through deep puddles, gently pump brakes to dry them.

## Headline Highlights

# Returned boomerang; oldest cantina closed

## Thief finds corpse, calls cops

BERLIN (Reuters) — A Berlin burglar's break-in took an unexpected turn when he stumbled upon a corpse and felt compelled to call the police.

"He called to say he'd just broken into a flat and found a dead body," said a spokeswoman for Berlin police Thursday. "He gave the address of the place and then hung up."

Officers discovered the 64-year-old resident of the flat dead in his bedroom. The man had passed away about two weeks ago, and authorities are not treating the death as suspicious.

The burglar has not been heard of since. Local media said he fled the apartment empty-handed, but police could not confirm this.

## Stolen boomerang returns

CANBERRA (Reuters) — Proving boomerangs really do come back, an Australian town was Thursday celebrating the return of a boomerang stolen from an outback museum by an American tourist 25 years ago.

The boomerang, a flying blade used mainly by Aborigines to hunt animals, was posted home to the city of Mount Isa in the northern state of Queensland by a Vermont man who named himself in a letter only as Peter.

"I removed this back in 1983 when I was younger and dumber. It was the wrong thing to do. I'm sorry, and I'm going to send it back," according to a note read out to Australian media by Mt. Isa mayor Ron McCullough, who added Peter had also sent a check.

The boomerang was stolen from the now-closed Frank Aston Underground Museum, which once displayed old mining equipment and Aboriginal artifacts in the town. Boomerangs travel in an elliptical path, returning to a skilled thrower.

Foreign tourists frequently return objects and rocks taken from sites sacred to Aborigines, including from Uluru, or Ayers Rock, believing the so-called "sorry rocks" have brought bad luck. McCullough said Peter had put his full name and address on the return parcel, but declined to reveal his full identity.

"I think putting his name on it was part of his purifying effort," he said.

## Oldest Mexico cantina closes

MEXICO CITY (Reuters) — Mexico's oldest cantina, a classic drinking dive patronized by dozens of past presidents and Cuban leader Fidel Castro when he was in exile here, has closed its doors after more than 150 years.

Nestled in a side street between the National Palace and Mexico City's cathedral, the door of El Nivel (The Level) is now padlocked. El Nivel's owner, Ruben Aguirre, is looking for new premises after losing a long legal battle against the owners of the building, the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

"We are seeing where we can move to," Aguirre, who inherited the cantina from his father, told Mexican radio after losing the 17-year lawsuit.

A paper sign above the cantina's metal shutters says: "Closed for renovation until further notice."

El Nivel, a dim watering hole, opened in 1855 after being handed the first cantina license a few years after the U.S.-Mexican war. It was named The Level because authorities used to measure the height of the city's flood waters in the building.

Aguirre told Reuters several years ago the original No. 1 license was kept in a safe at the central bank because it is a valuable historical document.

A framed copy of the license hung on one wall of the cantina when it was open, alongside eclectic art, old maps, drawings and faded photos of the cathedral, Mexico City's main Zocalo square and the bar itself.

El Nivel was the haunt of writers, artists, activists, journalists and other bohemian Mexicans. It also became a favorite for tourists, too. One special house drink was a mixture of vodka, anis and orange flavored liquor.

Aguirre said around 30 presidents from Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada in the 19th century to Ernesto Zedillo (1994-2000) had all called in for a drink while in office. Mexican presidents used to work out of the nearby National Palace.

When Cuba's Castro lived in Mexico in the 1950s he too frequented the bar with guerrilla icon Ernesto 'Che' Guevara, according to Aguirre.

Aguirre said the legal case to stop the university taking over the premises became impossible to sustain because all the documents were in the name of his dead father, Jesus Aguirre, who bought the cantina more than 40 years ago.

"It just got too complicated because everything was in his name," he said.

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from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to  
Saturday's  
puzzle:

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

## ARABIC PHRASE OF THE DAY

What did they look like? *shlone shih-kil -hoom?*