



Sgt. 1st Class Kerensa Hardy

Iraqi women listen to Capt. Martrell Gamble as she responds to their concerns and suggestions regarding the advancement of women in Iraq.

Mahmudiyah women seek advancement

SGT. 1ST CLASS KERENSA HARDY
3RD BCT, 101ST ABN. DIV. (AASLT)

CAMP STRIKER – Rakkasan Soldiers hosted a meeting with Iraqi women to evaluate their needs and talk about topics of interest to them Feb. 16 at the Mahmudiyah Civil Military Operations Center.

The project is part of a Task Force Marne initiative to reach Iraqi females. The event was the second in a series of meetings headed by 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), where female Soldiers talk to Iraqi women to gain knowledge about their current conditions and what they want or need.

Eleven women attended the meeting, comprising a sampling of females who live in Mahmudiyah.

Although the women receive government assistance in the form of coupons for food items such as milk and wheat, the subsidy is not sufficient to care for their families and the items are sometimes substandard. They said money is the answer.

“We’d like to work, but we don’t have the money to start businesses,” one woman said at the start of the meeting. That comment segued into a whirlwind discussion about their fears, hopes and dreams.

“We understand that to start your businesses, it requires money,” said Capt. Martrell Gamble, officer in

See **WOMEN**, Page 3

5-7 Cav., ePRT look to help Sayifiyah farmers

SGT. JASON STADEL
2ND BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB KALSU — After clearing their community of al-Qaeda in Iraq, Sayifiyah residents are focusing their efforts on building an agriculturally-based economy. The first step towards an economic boost occurred Feb. 14 when

members of the Baghdad 7 embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team met with Coalition Forces and area sheiks to discuss the community’s needs.

Sayifiyah has seen little Coalition presence in the past two years. Extremists had some presence in the area but terrain features helped ward them off. The community sits along the banks of

the Tigris River, about 20 kilometers south of Baghdad. It is also bordered by large canals, making the area difficult to traverse.

During Operation Marne Thunderbolt, a Multi-National Division – Center effort designed to eradicate extremist

See **EPRT**, Page 2

Fallen heroes honored at Stewart

MND-C PAO

Warriors Walk, on the outskirts of Fort Stewart's Cottrell Field, is a living monument to the Soldiers who've paid the ultimate price in the Global War on Terrorism.

Each month, fallen heroes of the 3rd Infantry Division are immortalized in a ceremony marking their sacrifice with the dedication of an Eastern Red Bud tree. At the base of the tree is a marker, which has the Soldier's name and date of

passing, and around the tree are whatever mementos family members, units and comrades leave behind.

Following January's ceremony, which marked the sacrifice of seven Dog Face Soldiers, 381 trees lined the paths of Warriors Walk. Today, the names of Sgt. Peter Neesley, Sgt. Reno Lacerna, Spc. Joshua Anderson, Cpl. James Gudridge and Spc. Timothy Hanson will be added to the list of those memorialized by the Eastern Red Bud tree, bringing the total to 386.

EPRT: U.S. teams rebuilding economy, agriculture in Sayifiyah

From Page 1

strongholds, the 5th Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division moved into Sayifiyah to assist the 2nd BCT conducting operations.

The squadron saw little resistance from AQI and other extremists groups. That allowed the 5-7 Cav. Regt. to secure the area and focus on reconstruction and the economy.

With improved security, the Baghdad 7 ePRT and 5-7th Cav. Regt. discussed the basic needs for Sayifiyah. Citizens' needs in Fallujah and Ramadi are much different than in Sayifiyah.

"We dealt with the PRT in Fallujah but we dealt mostly with industry," said Lt. Col. Clifford Wheeler, 5-7th Cav. Regt. commander. "There is no industry here; they're all farmers."

The area farming is not solely profit-based. Farmers in the area sell what they can and use the rest to support their families, said Mike Stevens, the ePRT agriculture adviser.

"I was amazed at how little they depend on industry; they are very self-sufficient," he said.

While farming in Sayifiyah hasn't flourished in recent years, it is by no means nonexistent.

Stevens said farmers purchase seeds and other farming supplies on the black market, which kept the fields growing crops. However, expensive black market prices have slowed production.

"They can definitely use our help," Stevens said. "We can get them some seed and plastic and help them get their union going."

After meeting with Wheeler, Stevens and the rest of the ePRT met farmers from Sayifiyah and informed them of the resources available.

The ePRT agriculture section provides assistance with crop production, poultry, irrigation, fish production, agriculture markets, veterinary services, cattle, honey production and sheep.

The sheiks said if their community had a poultry processing plant more products could be shipped to Baghdad.

Stevens said a plant could be built using ePRT funds allocated for reconstruction. "Giving them these types of funds to build are the kinds of ways we can help," he said.



STATE OF GEORGIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ATLANTA 30334-0900

Sonny Perdue
GOVERNOR

February 21, 2008

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to send greetings for the Tree Dedication Ceremony at Fort Stewart in honor of Our Fallen Comrades.

Time and again, our men and women in uniform have answered the call to defend our nation. They served because they loved their country, and many made the ultimate sacrifice so that we may continue to enjoy our cherished freedoms. We owe them and their families our greatest debt of gratitude.

Today's ceremony is a fine tribute to their courage, and Mary joins me in extending our thanks to the Commanding General and members of the 3rd Infantry Division for remembering Our Fallen Comrades in this special way.

Sincerely,

Sonny Perdue
Sonny Perdue

THE Dog Face Daily

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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

WOMEN: *Rakkasans reach out to female Iraqis in Mahmudiyah area*

From Page 1

charge of the women's outreach project. "We need you to tell us what you need ... to help you take care of your families."

Acknowledging that women in Iraq face certain cultural obstacles, Gamble posed the question, "If you could work what would you do?"

To this, the ladies answered that they would like to sew, bake, can fruit or make pickled vegetables, style hair or teach other women to do all of the above. They spoke enthusiastically about things they would like to do if they had the means.

One woman has a business of sorts with her husband where they make and package pickles to sell at the market. However, it's not something they are able to do on a steady basis due to a

lack of funds to purchase supplies.

A mother of nine said she would like to have a mini-market inside her home. "My husband doesn't work and I need money for food," she said.

The women agreed that many of their husbands are unemployed for fear of being targets for extremist groups.

In-home businesses seemed to be a common desire for these women who, in spite of increased security, sometimes fear going out on a regular basis. That would satisfy the need and desire to make money, as well as providing a feeling of relative security since they could work from home instead of commuting every day.

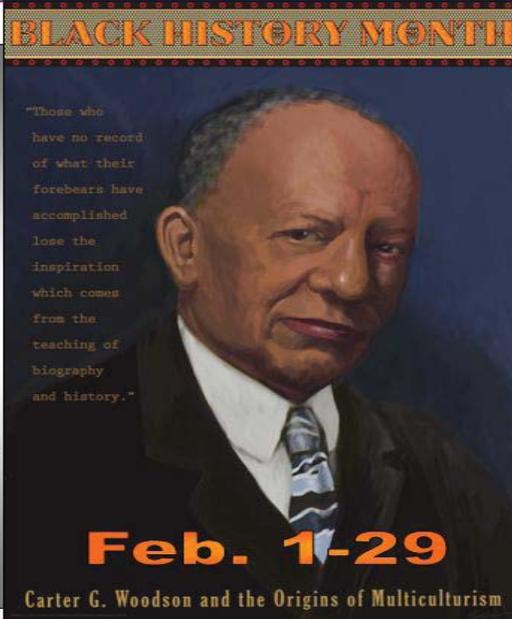
The women departed as animatedly as they arrived, expressing hope that things will look up for them in the near future and seemingly happy to be given a voice and forum where they could talk

about those hopes.

"I studied and worked in women's studies in college, particularly focused on women and development in third-world countries," said 1st Lt. Heather Wilson, from Lusby, Md., 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, who attended both meetings sponsored by 3rd BCT, 101st Abn. Div. (AASLT). "(Women are) a demographic that is unfortunately overlooked because of cultural differences; I am glad we are addressing it and can help."

An interpreter who also attended both meetings said she has never seen Arab women so excited about women's prospects.

"They are very brave women who are risking themselves to do this project, but they know it will mean a better future for them and their children and, thus, Iraq," Wilson said.

	ATTENTION! ATTENTION! <i>Next Rehearsal for ...</i>	
<p>WHO: MND-C Equal Opportunity Office</p> <p>WHAT: BLACK HISTORY MONTH</p> <p>WHERE/WHEN: MND-C DFAC; Feb. 28, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.</p> <p>WHY: To solicit support for the upcoming observance. The MND-C Equal Opportunity Office is looking for all participants to come and practice their part on the show.</p> <p>SEE YOU ALL THERE!</p>	<p>BLACK HISTORY MONTH</p>  <p>“Those who have no record of what their forebears have accomplished lose the inspiration which comes from the teaching of biography and history.”</p> <p>Feb. 1-29</p> <p>Carter G. Woodson and the Origins of Multiculturalism</p>	<p>Next Rehearsal: Feb. 23, 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Location: 3ID Band Hall</p> <p>Across from Green Beans Coffee</p> <hr/> <p>POC: MND-C EO Office DSN: 822-9028, 7654 or 7653 Email: edwin.reyes@iraq.centcom.mil, rufus.lewis@iraq.centcom.mil, delanor.nurse@iraq.centcom.mil tanya.toussaint@iraq.centcom.mil</p>

Safety Thought of the Day

Fire Extinguisher Access

- Fire extinguishers should be mounted to ensure they are readily accessible and do not subject Soldiers to injury hazards when trying to obtain or lift an extinguisher.
- Fire extinguishers to be placed no more than 75ft away (distance of travel) from a potential fire source.
- Soldiers should be instructed in the proper method of extinguishing a fire by applying the PASS method.
- P = Pull the pin
- A = Aim the fire extinguisher at the base of the fire.
- S = Squeeze the handle / trigger.
- S = Sweep from side to side
- Ensure all fire extinguishers are inspected on monthly basis by the Fire Marshall.
- References: AR 420-90, TB 5-4200-200-10, 29 CFR 1910.157, and NFPA 10

Headline Highlights

Cigarette extinguisher; fatter Aussie mailmen

German puts out cigarette with fire extinguisher

BERLIN (Reuters) — A virulent anti-smoker in Germany was so angry when his girlfriend lit up he emptied a fire extinguisher to put out the cigarette, caking her and their apartment in powder.

“My colleagues said it looked like a bomb had gone off in there,” said a spokesman for police in the western city of Bielefeld. “He managed to put the cigarette out though.”

After the woman ignored his request not to smoke, the 42-year-old sprayed the contents of the extinguisher all around the flat shouting abuse, police said.

“He said he wasn’t bothered by the damage it caused,” the spokesman said. “And that he’s through with his girlfriend.”

N.Z. record charts go to dogs

WELLINGTON (Reuters) — A song audible only to dogs has topped New Zealand record charts and is looking to go global.

A Very Silent Night, recorded at a frequency only dogs can hear, was so popular among owners it hit number one at Christmas, but has been receiving mixed responses from listeners.

“The most violent one was a dog that physically attacked the radio when it was played and went quite beserk and totally destroyed it,” said Bob Kerridge, chief executive of animal welfare group, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

“On the other side of the scale, they just lie down and did nothing.” The

charity CD, priced at NZ\$4.99 (\$3.93), contained an instrumental and a vocal version of the song, but Kerridge said he did not know what kind of music dogs would hear.

“Never having heard it myself, I don’t know what they’ll hear and of course I don’t know how dogs hear music,” he said.

Kerridge added dogs in Australia and the United States could soon have a listen. Around NZ\$22,000 has been raised by the disc’s sale.

Australia seeks fatter mailmen

SYDNEY (Reuters) — Australia’s postal service has increased the maximum weight for mailmen and women by 15 kg (33 pounds) in an attempt to attract more “posties”, local media reported on Tuesday.

Australia Post had a weight limit of 90 kg (198 pounds) for “posties” because its 110cc motorcycles had a safe working limit of 130kg (286 pounds) -- that’s 40kg (88 pounds) for letters and up to 90 kg for mailmen and women fully clothed.

But after talks with motorcycle manufacturer Honda it was agreed the bikes could safely carry a “postie” weighing 105 kg (231 pounds), said Sydney’s the Daily Telegraph newspaper.

But the “posties” will only carry 25 kg of mail.

The union representing mailmen and women said the 90 kg limit had caused recruitment headaches for Australia Post, but the company denied it had staffing problems.

“Testing found a rise in rider weight up to a maximum of 105 kg would not

have any significant effect on the stability, handling or safety of their 110 cc motorcycle,” an Australia Post spokesman told the newspaper.

“By raising it from 90 to 105 kilograms means there will be other people that can now apply,” he said.

It’s not over until the tall man in the suit sings

LONDON (Reuters) — A packed performance of a West End opera was saved at the weekend when a member of the audience stepped in to sing the lead role after the star lost his voice.

Paul Whelan, 38, saved the English National Opera’s production of Donizetti’s Lucia di Lammermoor by singing the part of Raimondo from the wings while bass Clive Bayley, who suffered a chest infection, mimed the part on stage.

Whelan was able to carry off the feat as he had been studying the role and is due to take over from Bayley in a few weeks’ time, although he hadn’t had any chance to rehearse.

“It was an extraordinary experience and we had an extraordinary reaction,” Whelan, who stands six feet four inches tall, said after receiving a standing ovation and taking his bow with the cast while wearing a smart suit and tie.

“I’m just so glad I was wearing my Armani tie,” he said.

A spokesman for the ENO said it was not the first time such a late-minute replacement had occurred. He added it had gone off much more successfully than might otherwise have been the case.

“He got a huge cheer,” he said.

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from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday’s puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

Goodbye

ma-ah iss-lam-ah