

THE

Dog Face

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Serving Task Force Marne

Soldier improves quality of life with carpentry skill

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

FOB KALSU – Staff Sgt. Mathew Lynd has one identity by day and another by night.

By day, Lynd, a maintenance shop foreman for Troop A, 5th Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, works on Bradley fighting vehicles. By night, he trades the mechanic's tool box for a carpenter's tool box.

"It just helps pass time," said the Caldwell, Idaho, native.

Most of the items he constructs are for Soldiers to use between missions while relaxing. Shelves, bed frames, clothing racks, benches and tables are all common items the self-taught handyman has made for his fellow 3rd Inf. Div. Soldiers.

"Almost daily Soldiers ask me for stuff," he said.

Lynd, who initially became interested in carpentry so he could make repairs on real estate he owned, said he

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Sgt. Kevin Stabinsky

Staff Sgt. Mathew Lynd, maintenance shop foreman for Troop A, 5-7 Cav. Regt., works on a sign Feb. 27 for the Fiddler's Green dining facility outdoor deck at Patrol Base Meade, in southern Arab Jabour, that he and Sgt. Derek Roseman, a food service specialist with Troop D, 3rd Brigade Support Battalion, 5-7 Cav. Regt., constructed.

Marne Rugged to eliminate extremists, build capacity

SGT. MICHAEL CONNORS
MND-C PAO

CAMP VICTORY – On the heels of Operations Marne Thunderbolt and Grand Slam south of Baghdad, Multi-National Division – Center will push further south to squeeze extremists during Operation Marne Rugged, began today.

The operation covers a rural area southeast of Baghdad, south of the Tigris River in the area of operation of 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division and 3rd Brigade, 8th Iraqi Army.

One phase of the operation is to es-

"... the population comes to us and gives us that refined intelligence, so that we can do precise operations against any al-Qaeda..."

– Col. Tom James
commander, 4th BCT

establish Patrol Base Summers, a joint Iraqi Army and Coalition forces base. It is named for Staff Sgt. Vincent Sum-

mers, who paid the ultimate sacrifice with 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment during Operation Iraqi Freedom III.

"We have found that when we put Iraqi Army and Coalition forces in a patrol base in an area like Summers, the population comes to us and gives us that refined intelligence, so that we can do precise operations against any al-Qaeda that may be in this area," said Col. Tom James, commander of 4th BCT, during a pre-operation briefing at Forward Operating Base Zulu March 10.

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1-15 Inf. Regt. leaders hold first security council meeting

SGT. NATALIE ROSTEK
3RD HBCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

COP CAHILL – The 1-15th Infantry Regiment hosted its first security council meeting March 12 at Combat Outpost Cahill.

Leaders of the Iraqi Security Forces in Salman Pak sat down to discuss significant events from the past weeks with their U.S. partners.

“It’s important to have meetings like this,” said Marr, from Minneapolis, commander of the 1-15th Inf. Regt. “It gives leaders a chance to talk.”

Among topics discussed was the attempt to appoint more Iraqi Policemen. Maj. John Cushing, from Rochester, Mich., operations officer for the 1-15 Inf. Regt., said IP leaders are trying to get more potential policemen through the academy.

One issue addressed by the council was that some of the policemen do not live where they work, said Cushing.

“Everyone in the area should be protected by people who are from that area,” said Maj. Razzat, the Salman Pak Iraqi Police station chief.

The council also addressed recruiting Sons of Iraq members into the IP. Lt. Col. Jassem, the Mada’in Patrol Iraqi Police deputy commanding of-

ficer, said the idea has been brought to him in the past.

“When this topic was brought up,” Marr said. “There weren’t so many Sons of Iraq. We need to take the time to get the right people hired.”

Cain suggested SoI leaders, such as Sheik Ali, head sheik of Salman Pak and SoI leader, should identify recruits from their groups who would contribute to the safety and security of their area.

The SoI leaders could then bring their chosen individuals to the Joint Security Station for evaluation by the IP and Coalition forces.

Lt. Col. Ray Rinen, from Pasadena, Calif., a National Police Transition Team leader attached to the 1-15 Inf. Regt., spoke about those members who continue on as SoI.

Rinen said they will assist the National Police and IP they work with in detentions of suspected extremists.

“They will not have the authority to make the arrest,” he said, “but they will be able to help by identifying the individuals.”

The 1-15 Inf. Regt. is assigned to the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, from Fort Benning, Ga., and has been deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom since March 2007.

RUGGED

From previous page

In addition to establishing the patrol base and eliminating al-Qaeda and any other extremists, Marne Rugged focuses on capacity building. In preparation of the operation, the Coalition and IA identified approximately 2,500 Iraqi security volunteers who were eager to transition into Sons of Iraq in the short-term and into Iraqi Security Forces in the long-term.

“We see two major tasks that we have to accomplish: One, we have to integrate the Iraqi security volunteers,” James said. “The other is to provide quick-impact, small projects to the local civilians.”

Col. Ali Abdul Hussein, commander of 3/8 IA, also cited the importance of local projects, in particular repairing water pumps that he said were damaged by terrorists.

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, commander of MND-C, told Hussein that Coalition forces could help the IA fix the pumps in addition to facilitating other projects.

“I believe we have a window of opportunity,” Lynch said. “You see, I’ve got this idea to transition from security to stability, and stability is about jobs, services, schools, and we can help with all that.”

OPERATION SMART – *Recruiting referral program*

The Army’s recruiting referral program is receiving momentum with a directive from the Army vice chief of staff and a \$1,000 increase in the bonus.

Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Dick Cody has directed that all Soldiers register with Operation SMART, the Sergeant Major of the Army Recruiting Team, at Web site www.usarec.army.mil/smart. The U.S. Army Accessions Command is tracking how many Soldiers have registered.

Individuals who register with SMART are eligible for the \$2,000 referral bonus for recruiting civilians. Soldiers, Department of the Army civilians, to include Non-Appropriated Fund civilians are eligible to participate in the recruiting program. The bonus is paid in increments. The referrer will receive \$1,000 after the applicant completes basic training, and the last half will be paid after the applicant graduates from advanced individual training or one station unit training.

THE Dog Face Daily

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7th Sustainment Brigade
720th Military Police Battalion
302nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

TOOL: *Bradley mechanic sharpens carpentry skills*

From Page 1

doesn't mind the requests. The labor helps pass the time, he said, and the thanks he gets from Soldiers are worth the effort.

"I'm just trying to help improve Soldiers' quality of life by making their areas a little more comfortable," the 12-year Army veteran said.

His passion has linked him with others who share the same interest.

Sgt. Derek Roseman, a food service specialist with Troop D, 5-7th Cav. Regt., first learned of Lynd's skills while the squadron was based at Combat Outpost Viking. After their unit moved to Patrol Base Meade and began to lift a tent to house a dining facility for Soldiers there, the Hickory, N.C., native knew exactly who to seek out for help.

Together they began improving the area, constructing a deck for the cook's barbecue racks as well as an outdoor eating room for Soldiers.

"The deck was our biggest thing," said Roseman, who worked in construction for eight years before joining the Army. Although a daunting task, it was one that left the two with a deep sense of satisfaction.

For Lynd, the satisfaction comes from seeing the smiles on Soldiers' faces as they eat in the room, knowing he helped build Soldiers' morale. For Roseman, the satisfaction came from seeing the final project, knowing that his hands helped create something



Sgt. Kevin Stabinsky

The Fiddler's Green dining facility outdoor deck gives Soldiers at Patrol Base Meade, in southern Arab Jabour, a place to eat their meal and enjoy the sunshine. The deck was built by Staff Sgt. Mathew Lynd, maintenance shop foreman for Troop A, 5th Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, and Sgt. Derek Roseman, a food service specialist with Troop D, 3rd Brigade Support Battalion, 5-7 Cav. Regt.

great, something that will leave good memories in Soldiers' minds when they return from Iraq.

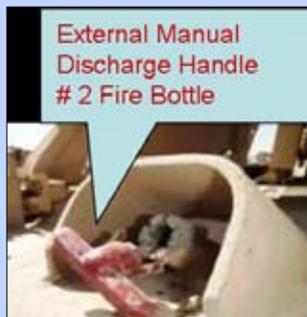
In the process of constructing the various projects Lynd also takes time to reflect on the sacrifices made by 5-7th Cav. Regt. troops.

He constructed a dedication sign for the dining facility dubbed "Fiddler's Green," after the legendary resting place for all fallen cavalry Soldiers. The dining facility is dedicated to all the unit's fallen Soldiers from Operation Iraqi Freedom III and V.

Safety Thought of the Day FAASV Fire Bottle Inspection

- A recent safety investigation of a FAASV (M992A2) fire discovered a potential hazard. Although the fire started out side of the vehicle and traveled into the engine compartment the first responders pulled the external engine fire handle with no results.
- The safety investigation discovered upon analysis that the no. 2 engine and crew fire bottles safety pins were still installed.
- The posted warning label clearly states that the pin be removed after linkage hook up of engine and crew no. 2 fire bottle extinguishers.
- Recommend that unit maintenance personal inspect engine and crew no. 2 fire bottles ASAP.

If pins are installed in crew and engine no. 2 fire bottle extinguishers remove them and report results to BCT maintenance officer.



File photos

Headline Highlights

Pregnant ballet; prison tunnel; train stopping trampoline

A dozen pregnant women wanted - for ballet

LONDON (Reuters) – Far from being heavy, lumbering and clumsy, pregnant women are often fascinating, beautiful and serene, according to the artistic director of one British ballet company.

And to prove it, Balletlorent is recruiting 12 pregnant women to star in a dance production alongside six professional ballet dancers.

“MaEternal” will be performed in the northern English city of Newcastle in May and is offering the 12 who get through the auditions “a chance to share with an audience the beauty of what it means to carry the life of another within you.”

Artistic Director Liv Lorent, who, coincidentally, is pregnant herself, says she has always been keen to combine trained dancers with people from all ages and stages in life to make her ballet productions richer.

“I’ve done projects in the past where I have invited all sorts of people -- children, old people, builders, footballers doctors, all sorts – to take part,” she told Reuters.

“This is another development of a long-held wish to mix up the different physical types in my choreography. The shape of people changes the way they move, and I like that very much.”

She notes the stark contrast between the typically lithe light and muscular physique of a dancer, and the softer,

rounder contours of a pregnant woman, and delights in it.

“You can’t get a 25-year-old size 8 ballet dancer type body to move with the weight, the gravitas or the sheer cheerful spirit a pregnant woman,” she said.

Lorent promises that no previous dance experience is necessary to audition for a part in MaEternal. The only requirement is that anyone wishing to take part should be up to 32 weeks by the time of the performance on May, 14. Beyond that, she says, the risk is too high of unplanned dramas on stage.

As well as recruiting 12 pregnant women, Lorent has also signed up Lynn Campbell, an active birth therapist who runs pregnancy classes in and around Newcastle, to advise on the movements and abilities of expectant mothers.

“Pregnant women do sometimes feel heavy and weighed down by all the changes, but sometimes they also feel fascinating and beautiful and amazing,” Campbell told Reuters.

Police discover prison tunnel short of completion

SANTIAGO (Reuters) – Police in Chile, a country known more for mining than for prison breaks, discovered on Wednesday an elaborate tunnel with built-in ventilation and noise barriers near a penitentiary in the Santiago area.

The 279-foot (85-meter) long tun-

nel resembled an underground mine structure, built with cement and wooden beams and boasting electrical power and carts for hauling away dirt and rock.

Police said the wives of two inmates at the Colina II prison had hired four miners to build the escape tunnel, which led from a nearby house toward the facility and was only 98 feet shy of an interior prison yard.

“If the tunnel had reached its destination, as many as 200 people could have escaped,” Felipe Harboe, the Interior Ministry’s No. 2 official, told reporters.

Police heard about the tunnel while monitoring prisoners’ telephone conversations as part of an investigation into drug trafficking.

Flying trampoline halts high-speed German train

BERLIN (Reuters) – A German high-speed train was forced to make an emergency stop when a trampoline was blown on to the tracks from a nearby garden, police said on Wednesday.

The Intercity Express (ICE) was traveling from Cologne to Vienna and was forced to stop outside Bonn, Cologne police spokesman Frank Freund said in a statement. “The ICE only came to a halt 300 yards after the blockage,” Freund said. The train sustained damage to its front lights but after checks was allowed to continue.

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from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday’s puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

kilometers

keh-llo-met-trot