

DV The Desert Voice

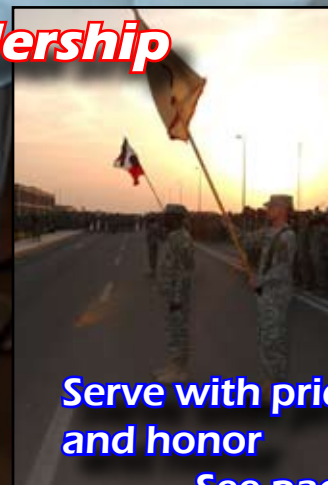
United States Army Central
"Transforming to Full-Spectrum Operations"



March 26, 2008



Leadership



Serve with pride
and honor

See page 2

Trial by Fire

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On the cover

An Expeditionary Medical Facility – Kuwait servicemember evaluates as simulated victim during a mass casualty exercise at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Friday. For the full story turn to page 6.

Photo by Spc. Wes Landrum

Contact us

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



Azimuth Check: On Leadership

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of eight articles on leadership by Lt. Gen. Jim Lovelace, USARCENT commander; and Command Sgt. Maj. John Fourhman, USARCENT command sergeant major.

CG: As we continue to move towards full-spectrum operations capability, it's encouraging to see so many of you rucked-up, moving with a purpose towards the objective. These things don't just happen, however. It takes, first and foremost, dedicated individuals... it takes leaders. As I told you back in December, I am passionate about the importance of leaders and leader development... and the impact they can make on an organization. This hasn't changed.

CSM: Among the many areas the CG and I see eye-to-eye on, this is perhaps the most important. Leaders motivate and mentor Soldiers so they can become better leaders. NCOs have a key role in making it happen. The NCO in any organization brings with them a wealth of knowledge and experience. In this headquarters, the NCO's role is diverse; they take guidance from the commander and assist staff officers in getting products put together. NCOs are teachers and mentors.

CG: NCOs are the backbone of this organization... and I expect them to be inherently involved both as leaders and in developing them.

As one tool towards that end, over the next seven weeks the CSM and I will lay out many of our thoughts on leadership and leader development, both in these pages and to be posted on the website.

CSM: I'll be writing about training NCOs and Soldiers on full-spectrum operations to better prepare them to work inside a joint headquarters environment. In another column, I'll address our NCO professional development program.

CG: And I'll be sharing my leadership philosophy and some thoughts on officer development. You'll also hear from us both about how we can better assist our Soldiers and their Families, whether they just arrived at the unit

or if they are longtime members. Finally, we'll both talk about leaders and safety.

CSM: We have a lot of work to do in taking care of Soldiers and taking care of Families. One thing I would like to improve as we go along is the sponsorship program. You really need the Family on board, especially in a unit like ours, where parts of the unit are deployed for six months or a year at a time, especially if you are assigned to the forward headquarters, but even the folks who are stationed in Atlanta will spend quite a bit of time away from home and away from our Families. The Army is the strength of the Nation and Families are the strength of the Army. The CG and I aim to strengthen our Family Readiness Groups.

CG: Families are so vitally important... our strength on this team and as this team relies in a significant way on them. It's not just incidental that the first of the four initiatives of the command deals directly with Families. The CSM and I will both be talking more about Families throughout this series.

CSM: I'm looking forward to working with Soldiers on making every Soldier a leader. This series of articles will provide some ideas, but it is up to the junior officers and NCOs who work with the Soldiers on a daily basis to make it stick. I need you to be the example and enforce the standards. It's an exciting time to be part of this unit. We're a one-of-a-kind unit, blazing trails and transforming this headquarters to provide the Army a standing headquarters able to take on any mission in the AOR. That's something the Army has never had, until now.

CG: Remember – every member of this team is a leader, whether you've got two days in the unit or 25 years in the Army. Leaders make things happen... the right things, in the right way, at the right time. I continue to be excited about the road ahead in USARCENT... and I couldn't be happier to have you along, rucksack full, as we break trail on our way to the objective.

Patton's Own!

Volume 29, Issue 43

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Desert Voice

Complacency kills – leaders need to get involved in safety measures

Story by

Joel Baylor

401st AFSB-SWA Safety Manager

Every day a servicemember, Department of Defense contractor or even a DOD civilian loses their life as a result of injuries or illnesses related to their work.

These military men and women leave behind Families, friends and comrades in arms. The single most common cause of work related injuries is complacency – an attitude that “it won’t happen to me.”

Too often individuals and units become complacent when it comes to safety. Leaders and supervisors of U.S. Army Central should never be satisfied with the status quo safety performance and should always improve the environment by raising safety awareness and eliminating the potential for injury.

The workforce should always be attentive to their work environments. When they aren’t they begin to think they are not responsible for their own safety. If this was allowed to continue the entire unit gives little meaningful attention to safety. The result is that civilians and Soldiers alike begin to get in a hurry and take shortcuts on the job.

Here at the 401st Army Field Support Brigade – South West Asia, the workforce is focused on mission and getting the job done safely. If leaders were to allow a complacent attitude to become “the norm,” near misses would go unreported. It is so important that time is taken to fill out forms and the workforce understands the connection between sharing information and eliminating injuries. Leaders and supervisors of the 401st AFSB – SWA pay attention to reports, they are important. The number of injuries decreases and they become less severe.


It takes more than just saying you are committed to safety – you have to put actions behind your words. Commanders within the 401st AFSB-SWA have demonstrated their commitment to safety. They follow the commands Safety Directive, enforce policies and attend safety meetings. They take time to

walk around and talk to the workforce. They visit with them in their workplaces whether on the shop floor, in the field or in the office, talk about their own concerns for safety and then listen to their concerns. They take action to correct unsafe situations and follow up to let the workforce know the outcome. Commanders review all reports of near misses and injuries. They follow up on the reports to ensure that appropriate actions are being taken to eliminate the causes of incidents in their unit that could result in larger, bigger direct hits. They ensure that the follow up is a positive action rather than a punishment.

To improve safety, leaders should identify areas where the workforce can become actively involved in the safety process and encourage their participation by allowing work time for appropriate activities. Leaders and supervisors at

all levels of the command can have a profound effect on unit morale towards safety when the command is taking safety seriously.

The workforce in turn will be more committed and nothing energizes a unit’s safety program more than having the entire workforce involved. Having created a safety culture in your unit where injuries are minimal, remind everyone that complacency is very dangerous. Find ways to make safety improvements. Motivate the unit by using positive influence towards change by believing that it’s possible to have zero injuries. This will create a safe environment where the workforce at every level will increase their commitment and their involvement in making the workplace injury-free.

The result will be that everyone can go home to their Families at the end of their tour without injury. 

ROLLOVER!



NEW! ROLLOVER PROCEDURES

BC	GUNNER	DRIVER	SQUAD
Drops seat. Braces for impact.	Braces for impact.	Braces for impact.	Braces for impact. Holds hand straps for stability.
BFV HAS ROLLED OVER			
Begins crew checks to ensure no fires; checks accountability of personnel.	Ensures weapon system is on safe and engages travel lock, if possible.	Pulls fuel shut off and turns accessories off. If a fire is present, sets off engine compartment fire suppression system.	Leader checks squad for injuries and reports to Bradley commander.
SENIOR CREWMEMBER DETERMINES IF IT IS SAFE TO EXIT THE VEHICLE AND BEGINS EVACUATION			
Checks for injured personnel; reports incident.	Assists the Bradley commander in evacuating vehicle.	Exits vehicle through driver’s hatch or through crew compartment if driver’s hatch is blocked.	Exits vehicle through unobstructed hatch. If fire is present, extinguishes fire.
IF SENIOR CREWMEMBER DETERMINES THAT IT IS UNSAFE TO EXIT THE VEHICLE, PERSONNEL WILL WAIT FOR RECOVERY AND ATTEMPT TO CONTACT WINGMAN OR HIGHER.			
WARNING! DURING A ROLLOVER, GAS FROM BATTERIES CAN EXPLODE AND CAUSE SERIOUS INJURIES. IF THE DRIVER MUST EXIT THROUGH THE CREW COMPARTMENT, PRECAUTION MUST BE TAKEN TO PREVENT CONTACT WITH BATTERY ACID THAT COULD SPILL AND CAUSE SERIOUS BURNS OR BLINDNESS.			

Medical logistics conference focuses on saving lives

Story and photo by
Dustin Senger
ASG – Qatar Public Affairs

CAMP AS SAYLIYAH, Qatar
– Over 130 participants gathered to begin a three-day medical logistics conference at Camp As Sayliyah, Qatar, on March 11.

The discussion forum combined medical logistics consultants, unit commanders and individuals trained as medical logisticians throughout Southwest Asia and the United States.

“We are here to save lives with medical supplies,” said Air Force Capt. Scott Miller, a medical supply officer serving in Iraq.

The large assembly focused on advancing medical logistics support throughout the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility, to include Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

“This is the largest medical logistics conference in theater,” said Lt. Col. Scott Carpenter, from Morehead City, N.C., regarding the large assembly of personnel in the Middle East. “We are all here to help identify and resolve issues – to better support the combat corpsmen, field medics and doctors down range.”

Carpenter is the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Center Southwest Asia

commander. His staff planned and organized the conference at Camp As Sayliyah.

“We want to get everyone on the same sheet of music,” Carpenter said. “We are doing this by bringing all the team agencies into one location, to identify and discuss common medical logistics sustainment issues. We are also planning for new medical logistics information systems. This assembly also includes two to three days of sidebar discussions to further resolve issues brought up during the conference by using

person-to-person logistics.”

Discussion may lead to changes in training and operations, said Col. Christopher Roan, the Theater Enterprise-Wide Logistics System program manager.


“Our whole paradigm can be shifted regarding how we train folks but we must discuss these changes first,”

Roan said. “Some of these issues are simple, something to write down and think about. Others are big

enough that they require major resources and involvement from all agencies.

We are here to come to a common understanding.”

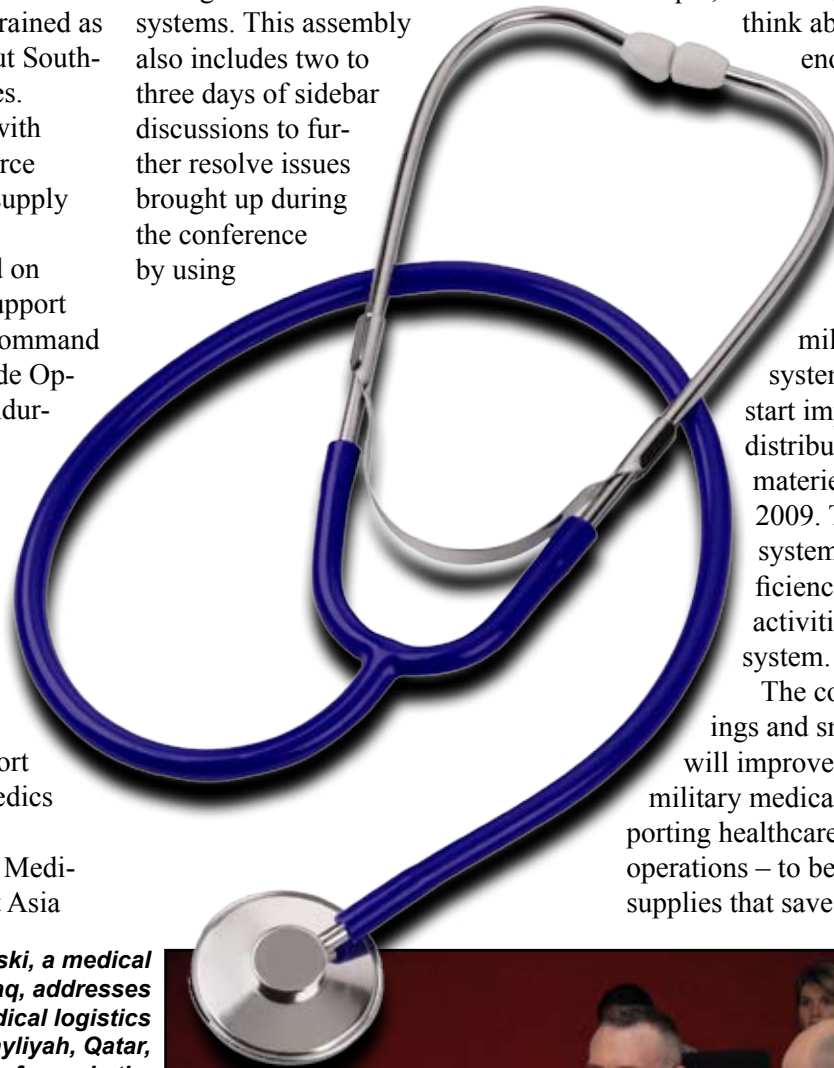
TEWLS is a new military medical logistic system. It is expected to start improving intermediate distribution functions and materiel maintenance in 2009. The new enterprise system will remove inefficiencies and ineffective activities from the current system.

The comprehensive meetings and small working groups will improve the contributions of military medical logisticians, supporting healthcare providers in combat operations – to better provide medical supplies that save lives. 

Lt. Col. Bruce C. Syvinski, a medical supply officer serving in Iraq, addresses comments made during a medical logistics conference at Camp As Sayliyah, Qatar, March 12. The three-day forum is the largest medical logistics conference held within Southwest Asia.

“We want to get everyone on the same sheet of music.”

Lt. Col. Scott Carpenter
U.S. Army Medical Materiel Center
Southwest Asia



USARCENT 

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

Q: You've heard of U.S. Army Central's transformation to full spectrum operations, what advice do you have for NCOs on this subject?

A: Well I guess from an NCO's perspective as you look at what the Army is doing right now, we are being asked by our mission to the American people to be able to do full spectrum operations. As you look over the last 17 or 18 years since the fall of the Iron Curtain in Nov. 1989, we've had more than 40 deployments out there that required a brigade size unit or more and it's been really full spectrum. You've had the full-out combat operations, general war at one end of the spectrum – tank-on-tank, and infantry Soldier in the trenches kind of fight; Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and the invasion going into Iraq.

As you back off that, you have the insurgency fight like you see in Iraq and Afghanistan – a very tough fight. As you go further down the spectrum you see peace keeping missions such as Bosnia and Kosovo. All the way at the other end of the spectrum you have humanitarian relief and support such as Hurricane Katrina. For Hurricane Katrina for example, not only did we have 50,000 National Guard Soldiers, we had a [brigade combat team] out of the 82nd Airborne and the 1st Cavalry Division deployed down there to help out too.

Soldiers are being asked to do many different missions out there, so from a NCO perspective it's important that we maintain our competency. We've gone through a bunch of things such as the NCO education system. We've renamed the Primary Leadership Development Course to the Warrior Leader Course, its more hands on and more warrior focused to prepare first line supervisors corporal and sergeant

to lead Soldiers not only in a combat environment but in a very austere environment were its very ambiguous and very complex.

This year, the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course and Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course will

become the Junior Leader Course and the Senior Leader Course. Trying to prepare NCOs not only for present level of responsibility but for the next level of responsibility.

Q: In your travels you've seen other numbered armies such as Eighth Army and First Army. What are your thoughts on USARCENT's mission in Kuwait?

A: The mission here for ARCENT is that it is the backbone for the missions were doing here in theater. Actually, we wouldn't be able to do what we do today if it wasn't for ARCENT and all the Soldiers who are here supporting that mission.

Q: What are some improvements that you and the Headquarters Department of the Army are working on for Soldiers and their families' quality of life?

A: This year alone, the Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. George Casey and Secretary of the Army Pete Geren have committed \$1.4 billion towards quality of life improvements. Last year I had the honor and privilege to join the chief and the secretary at Fort Knox, (Ky.), for the sounding of the Army's Family Covenant.

The Family Covenant, when you look at it, is a commitment not only from the senior leadership but from also the installation leadership and all the post camps and stations where Soldiers and Families live. It's a commitment from leaders at both ends of the spectrum to provide a quality of life for



**Sergeant Major of the Army
Kenneth O. Preston**

Soldiers and Families that is commensurate with the quality of service that they provide the nation. The Army Family Covenant includes everything from housing, barracks, youth services, childcare and also taking care of Family Readiness Groups

by appointing a (representative) for every battalion-

sized element FRG to help keep them informed of what's going on and organize activities.

Q: With many Soldiers facing multiple deployments and 15 month deployments, what is the importance of Army Family members?

A: Predominately Soldiers re-enlist and stay in the Army for three primary reasons. First reason is the command climate; the command climate starts from the first line supervisor and extends all the way up through the NCO support chain and the chain of command. They want to continue to be a part of that organization. They want to continue to be a part of the "band of brothers."

The second reason is job satisfaction. Job satisfaction goes beyond occupational specialty; it's being satisfied with the mission that you as an individual or your unit has been given. Once you've completed that mission, it's being appreciated for that mission when you come back home.

The third thing is the quality of life and this is where the Family piece of it comes in. All of us who have Families out there we do what we do for our Families.

Our Families are the most important thing in our lives. It's being able to provide a quality of life for our Families and for those single Soldiers providing a quality of life that is as good or better than what they can provide back home. **A**

EMF-K personnel rush to treat the injured at the brand new medical facilities constructed on Camp Arifjan.



A simulated patient is wheeled in to the new hospital at Camp Arifjan to receive emergency treatment for an amputated leg during the mass casualty exercise Friday.

New hospital receives trial by fire

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

Bloodied bodies littered the floor waiting for ambulances whose sirens sound a promise to help and heal after a plane crashed into a dining facility at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

This was the scenario for Expeditionary Medical Facility – Kuwait’s mass casualty exercise Mar. 21. The exercise, meant to “break-in” the brand new hospital, which opened officially Sunday, tested both the skills of the medical personnel and the readiness of its new facilities.

“This exercise is for us to give our crew a chance to rehearse in a new environment,” said Navy Capt. Kevin Moore, commanding officer for EMF-K. “As we’re moving into a new hospital we want to make sure our facilities can accommodate what we need to do and that we’re certain where all the equipment and procedures are going to be performed.”

The layout of the new medical facility at Camp Arifjan is to be used as a prototype for future medical facilities throughout theater, Moore said. The new facilities are in tremendous contrast to the tent environment used prior to the construction of the new hospital.

“This gives us an opportunity to apply more state side oriented procedures and practices which is what everyone is used to before they deploy,” Moore said.

Upon arrival at the site of the incident, medical personnel evaluated more than 30 casualties and categorized each according to the severity of



Expeditionary Medical Facility – Kuwait staff members evaluate a burn victim during a mass casualty exercise at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Friday.

their condition.

Those who needed immediate care were loaded onto ambulances and

rushed to the hospital for emergency treatment.

The casualties were taken to different parts of the hospital depending on the care

they needed.

“I think our staff is more than competent,” said Cdr. Marvin L. Jones,

director of administration at EMF-K.

“This is what we do and this is what we’re here for.”

The staff for the hospital is predominantly highly experienced personnel and is more than adequately trained in their specific jobs, said Navy Lt. Philip Boyer, a trauma nurse at EMF-K and a native of Pensacola, Fla. Most have previous experience in their respective field and provide quality care for injured troops.

“We do it with passion and we do it because we care,” Jones said. **A**

“We do it with passion and we do it because we care.”

Navy Cdr. Marvin L. Jones

Director of administration

Expeditionary Medical Facility – Kuwait

Soldiers become American citizens

Story and photos by
Air Force Staff Sgt. Jennifer Redente
CJTF – Horn of Africa Public Affairs

DJIBOUTI – Seven Soldiers supporting the Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa mission became U.S. citizens during a Military Naturalization Ceremony at the U.S. Embassy in Djibouti, March 13.

After enlisting in the Army and serving the United States, four Soldiers assigned to D Company, 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment, and three Soldiers from D Co., 1st Bn., 3rd Inf. Regt., raised their right hands and recited the Oath of Allegiance.

During the ceremony, Ambassador W. Stuart Symington, U.S. Ambassador to Djibouti and keynote speaker, addressed the candidates reminding them about the oath they took to protect and defend the United States and the Constitution when enlisting in the Army, and explained that the Oath of Allegiance was reaffirming what the Soldiers had already sworn to do.

“You all have already fought for our freedom,” Symington said. “No other American has earned the right to our citizenship like you have done. You have already risked your lives, your liberty and pledged your honor to that same cause, and few men and women have done that since as the terms of

their citizenship. You are special for that reason.”

Prior to the oath, Linda Dougherty, immigration officer for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, gave a little background on naturalization.

“Each candidate for naturalization has a unique story of his life and efforts to become an American – a privilege many of us view nothing more than a birth right,” Dougherty said. “Although all non-military candidates for naturalization must be interviewed and take the oath of citizenship in the United States, since Oct. 1, 2004, active duty military have been eligible to be oathed worldwide. I attended the first ceremony at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan and the first here in Djibouti in September of 2006.”

Dougherty said the candidates’ decision to serve without being an American citizen is very honorable.

“At each ceremony, the military has been thankful for our willingness to go where they are based, but we consider it an honor to serve those who have chosen to serve a country they could not yet call their own,” she said. “Before, you were candidates from five countries who upon taking the oath, will become citizens of one.”

Dougherty then presented the seven candidates from Micronesia, Canada, Kenya, Philippines and Palau for naturalization.

Once the Soldiers recited the Oath of Allegiance, Spc. Markus N. Manabat, a machine gunner with D Co., 1st Bn., 294th Inf. Regt., led the Pledge



Linda Dougherty leads seven Soldiers deployed to the Horn of Africa in the Oath of Allegiance during a Military Naturalization Ceremony held at the U.S. Embassy, March 13. Dougherty is an immigration officer for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.



ns in Africa

of Allegiance for the first time as an American citizen.

"It's a special day for us," said Manabat, a Mangialo, Guam, native who is a part of the Guam National Guard. "There's no feeling like it. It's overwhelming – a dream come true. Everyone wants to become a U.S. citizen."

The vast feelings of becoming a citizen was also similar for Spc. Peter P. Irungu, a supply specialist with 1st Bn., 3rd Inf. Regt., D Co., also known as the Old Guard.

"It's hard to describe what I'm feeling," he said. "Now being a citizen, on a professional level, I can advance being a ranger."

Irungu joined the military in 2004, after emigrating from Nairobi, Kenya.



Ambassador W. Stuart Symington congratulates Army Spc. Markus N. Manabat after taking the Oath of Allegiance during a Military Naturalization Ceremony at the U.S. Embassy March 13. Symington is the U.S. Ambassador to Djibouti and Manabat, a Mangialo, Guam, native, is a machine gunner for 1st Battalion, 294th Infantry Regiment.


"I felt like I owed something to the country and I should pay back," Irungu said. "I feel very privileged to be at

this point. It's a pretty big milestone."

Becoming an American citizen is a unique experience, but for the Nariobi native, being deployed to Africa and going through the naturalization process was quite an experience.

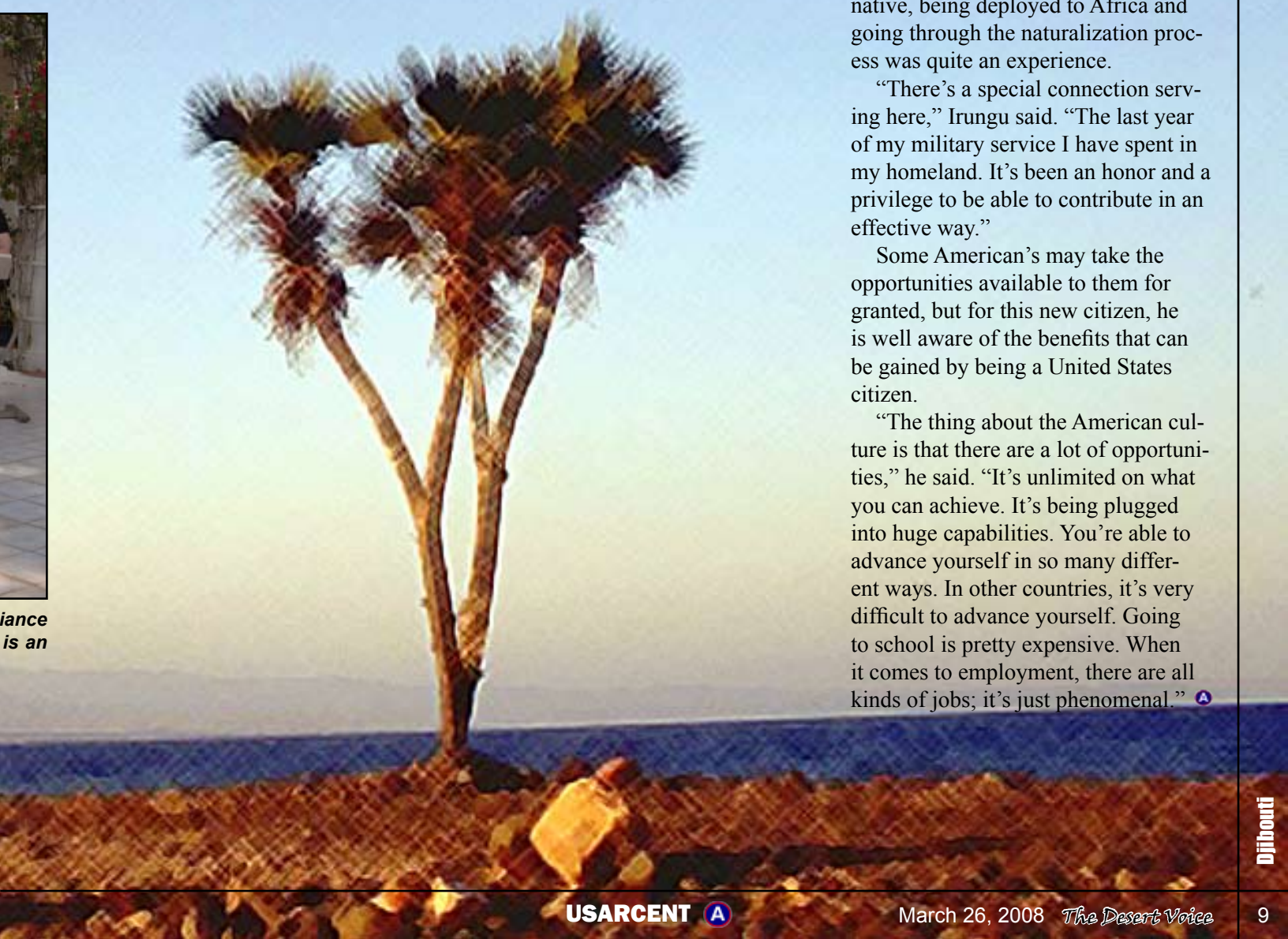
"There's a special connection serving here," Irungu said. "The last year of my military service I have spent in my homeland. It's been an honor and a privilege to be able to contribute in an effective way."

Some American's may take the opportunities available to them for granted, but for this new citizen, he is well aware of the benefits that can be gained by being a United States citizen.

"The thing about the American culture is that there are a lot of opportunities," he said. "It's unlimited on what you can achieve. It's being plugged into huge capabilities. You're able to advance yourself in so many different ways. In other countries, it's very difficult to advance yourself. Going to school is pretty expensive. When it comes to employment, there are all kinds of jobs; it's just phenomenal." 



iance
is an



Medal of Honor recipients visit troops at Camp Arifjan

Story and photo by
Spc. Wes Landrum
Desert Voice staff writer

Sergeant 1st Class Gary Littrell's citation read like a chapter in a novel. Littrell served with U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, Advisory Team 21, and distinguished himself while serving during the Vietnam War.

As a light weapons infantry advisor with the 23rd Battalion, 2nd Ranger Group, Republic of Vietnam Army, near Dak Seang, South Vietnam.

After the Rangers established a defensive perimeter on a hill on April 4, 1970, the battalion was subjected to an intense enemy mortar attack. The attack killed the Vietnamese commander and one advisor, and seriously wounded all the other advisors. Littrell, however, escaped unscathed.

During the next four days, Littrell battled fatigue as he single-handedly bolstered the besieged battalion. Repeatedly abandoning positions of relative safety, he directed artillery and air support by day and marked the unit's location by night, despite the heavy, concentrated enemy fire.

Assault after assault was repulsed as the battalion responded to the extraordinary leadership and personal example exhibited by Littrell as he continuously moved to those points most seriously threatened by the enemy, redistributed ammunition, strengthened faltering defenses, cared for the wounded and shouted encouragement to the South Vietnamese in their own language.

Through his courage and selfless service, he averted heavy loss of life and injury to the members of the battalion. Littrell's actions earned him the United States' highest award – the Medal of Honor.

Littrell, along with fellow Medal of Honor recipients Col. (Ret.) Robert Howard and Capt (Ret.) John C.

McGinty III, spoke with more than 100 servicemembers and civilians at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Thursday, during a tour of the U.S. Army Central area of operations.

Littrell told the group that the three were proud of the servicemembers at the desert installation.

"Each one of you is doing your part to fight this war," the retired command sergeant major said. "We are proud of you and want you to know there are people supporting you every step of the way."

The experience was one that Cpl. Joshua Kennedy, 1st Bn., 167th Inf. Regt., said will not soon forget and was a definite morale boost.

"To meet these guys, whether it was in the states or over here, was an uplifting experience," Kennedy said.

The Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor which can be bestowed upon a servicemember, Littrell said. The first medal was presented on March 25, 1863. Since then, more than 3,400 Medals of Honor have been awarded. Presently, Littrell told the crowd, there are only 111 living recipients of the award with the last Medal of Honor presented to a living recipient in 1973. Littrell said he would love to see more living recipients get the award. However, he said he does not wish the circumstances to get the award upon anyone.

"I know I'm being selfish on that," Littrell said. "I don't want to see you guys go through the hell that we went through just to earn this award."

Howard is on his fourth trip to the Middle East as a MOH winner. He said while the tour raises the morale of the troops visited, the recipient's



Medal of Honor recipient Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Gary Littrell, talks with servicemembers at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Thursday.

morale is also raised.

"I get to see first hand what's going on and what our servicemembers are doing here," Howard said to the crowd. "You lift our hearts and spirits up by doing what you do."


The MOH winners' visit was refreshing said 1st Lt. Jason Kilgore, 1st Bn., 167th Inf. Regt. It was refreshing for them to come and let the servicemembers know they are doing a great job, he said. He also said it's nice for the younger servicemembers to see a part of history.

"These men are history," Kilgore said. "It's great for the younger Soldiers to come in and be around these men who've done these great things. I'm in awe of all of them."

Howard was 29 years-old when he received his MOH. As he recalled that day in 1968, he said instinct and other things took over at that moment.

"It's a correlation between instinct, emotions and what you have learned," Howard said to the crowd. "Leaders have to balance these things and remain positive at all cost."

As he addressed the crowd, Howard looked at the servicemembers and gave them words of encouragement as he got ready to leave.

"Thank you for what you're doing over here and for this country," Howard said. "May God bless you and keep all of you safe." 

Prevent Sexual Assault:

Ask! Act! Intervene!

Sexual Assault Awareness Month is April

This year's theme for SAAM is Prevent Sexual Assault: Ask! Act! Intervene! The theme was chosen as a reminder that your actions can make a difference in someone's life.

Lack of action puts our friends, families and co-workers in jeopardy. When you see someone who looks like they could use assistance, ask them if they need help. When they ask for help, be sure to step in and assist.

If someone doesn't recognize trouble, do something to intervene and prevent the situation from

becoming worse. Within the last three years, the DoD and military services have created new policies to address sexual assault prevention. The goal of this new approach is to establish a climate of confidence throughout the military in which:

- Sexual assault and the attitudes that promote it are tolerated;
- Victims of sexual assault receive the care and support that they need; and,
- Offenders are held accountable for their actions.

Just One Question ...

"What is one force protection measure you practice?"



"We practice keeping our intervals while on a convoy."

Sgt. Harold Pigg
1175th Transportation Co.
Heavy equipment transport driver
Pulaski, Tenn.



"I never go the same route while traveling. I also go out in two-man teams."

Chief Warrant Officer Andrew Jackson
1st Sustainment Command (Theater)
Class IX officer-in-charge
Chester, S.C.



"OPSEC."

Sgt. Maj. Joseph W. Kirby
1st Sustainment Command (Theater)
Aviation readiness sergeant major
Rocky Mount, Va.



"I always am observant of my surroundings. I change up my routine so I don't get complacent."

Senior Airman James Wilson Jr.
424 Military Transportation Detection
Vehicle operator
Orlando, Fla.

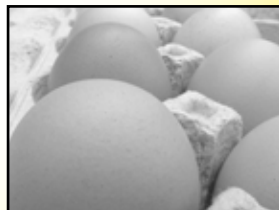


"The Buddy System. Never go anywhere without one."

Chief Warrant Officer Sao David
1st Sustainment Command (Theater)
Equipment readiness technician
Levittown, Pa.

Start your Spring off right ...

**Real eggs are back!
Now being served at DFACs in Kuwait.**



Why I serve:

Sgt. Jamie Ferguson
1175 Transportation Co.
Truck Driver



The Aztec, N.M., native explains why joined the military.

"I always wanted to be in the military. I wanted to be a truck driver as well. It seemed logical plus all the benefits I get just from being in the Army."

What's happening around USARCENT ...

We could be heroes



Photo by Dustin Senger

Mark Friskel, from Pheonix, Ariz., explains air evacuation capabilities to U.S. Army Maj. Todd Griffin, from Ruston, La., at Camp As Sayliyah, Qatar, on March 6. The exercise symbolized the ability for Hamad Medical Corporation to support air casualty evacuations from the U.S. military installation in Qatar. Fiskel, a former U.S. Army aviator, is a Life Flight pilot at Hamad General Hospital in Doha, Qatar. "They have made landings outside the gates for local traffic accidents since the service first started in October 2007," said Griffin, Area Support Group Qatar Anti-Terrorism and Force Protection operations officer. "This is their first landing on Camp As Sayliyah."



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Eric Brown

Joan McManigal and Rhonda Sprayberry, wives of U.S. Army Central Soldiers, and leaders within the command's Family Support Group, were both recipients of the USARCENT commanding general's Patton Award March 13, 2008. This quarter's award was presented to both ladies for their contributions to USARCENT Soldiers, their Families, and the FRG.

Happy Easter



Photo by Spc. Giancarlo Casem

Servicemembers attend the Easter Sunrise service at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Sunday.



Photo by Spc. Giancarlo Casem

The Sons of Arifjan mens choir group perform during Easter Sunrise service at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Sunday.