

CF provide assistance to ISF in Kut

Staff Sgt. Carlos J. Lazo 214th FB

AL KUT – Coalition forces provided more than 2,000 meals and 1,000 bottles of water to al Kut Iraqi policemen March 28-29.

Because of the security situation and an imposed curfew, grocery stores and other food outlets were closed, said Sgt. 1st Class Herbert Tulip, senior operations noncommissioned officer for 511th Military Police Company, from Fort Drum, N.Y. The IPs, who were quelling violence in the city, contacted Tulip for aid in the form of water and meals.

"This is the first time they requested this from us," he said, adding they are self-sufficient and typically request all supplies directly through the Ministry of Interior.



Staff Sgt. Carlos J. Lazo

Cpl. Eric S. Lewis, a team leader with the 511th Military Police Company, loads a box of Halal meals on an Iraqi Police vehicle at Forward Operating Base Delta March 28. The IPs received a total of 2,400 meals and 1,440 bottles of water from the 214th Fires Brigade.

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Fallen Soldier serves as inspiration for family's donations

STAFF SGT. TONY M. LINDBACK 3RD BCT, 101ST ABN. DIV. (AASLT)

PATROL BASE YUSIFIYAH – Whoever said violence begets more violence never met the family of Sgt. Nathan Barnes.

Sgt. Nathan Barnes, was a native of American Fork, Utah, and assigned to the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division. He was killed in Rushdi Mullah, Iraq, when his unit came under attack by small-arms fire July 17.

Rather than hold bitterness toward the people of a foreign land where their son died, Barnes' family is embracing them. Barnes often sent home photos of children in the areas he served. His father, Kevin, said Nathan truly loved the Iraqi children.

Nathan's love for those children inspired his father and other residents of American Fork to collect enough donated items to fill a 40-foot shipping container. Sewing machines, book bags, newborn kits, personal hygiene items, food, toys, children and women's clothing, school supplies and even wheelchairs were donated to residents in and around Rushdi Mullah and Yusifiyah, places Barnes did most of his service in Iraq.

Rushdi Mullaĥ, where Barnes was killed, is one of the communities now supported by Rakkasan Soldiers of 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). The Rakkasans took on the task of distributing the items once the shipping container arrived in Iraq.

Company C, 3-187th Inf. Regt., distributed some of the gifts at a school in Mullah Fayad, an impoverished Yusifiyah community.

Santa Barbara, Calif., native 1st Lt. Casey Zimmerman, who helped hand out the donations at the school, wanted everyone to know the source of the aid.

DONATE: Family shows Iraqis love

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"I made a point at the beginning to convey who Nathan Barnes was, how he died, and what kind of loving family and country he belonged to," Zimmerman said. "I bet we saw over 1,500 men, women, and children – mostly children."

The generosity of the Barnes family and the American Fork community led to a similar address in Rushdi Mullah by Brig. Gen. Ali Jassim Muhammad Hassen Al Frejee, commander of the 25th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division.

"A Soldier who came from thousands of miles away and was killed here - his family spends money to rebuild this area," Ali said. "We have to respect that."

Capt. Clifford Kazmarek, commander of Company B, 3-187th Inf. Regt., said the experience was remarkable and humbling.

"I have just the greatest amount of respect for that family for doing this, and I know that the people here truly appreciate it," Kazmarek said.

The citizens received most items with a smile and without hesitation. But there was one gift that had many children puzzled.

"The Frisbee befuddled them," said Pittsburgh native Capt. Michael Starz, commander of Co. C, 3-187th Inf. Regt. "They didn't quite grasp the concept. They thought it was a serving plate so we had to engage with the kids for a few throws until they got the idea. In the end, though, they still said, 'Where's the football?"

There were many footballs - soccer balls to Americans – handed out as well.

Thousands of Iraqis from Rushdi Mullah and Mullah Fayad benefited



Staff Sgt. Tony M. Lindback

First Lt. Casey Zimmerman of Company C, 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, pushes a child who received a new wheelchair in Mullah Fayad March 27. The wheelchair was donated by the community and family of Sgt. Nathan Barnes, who served in the area and was killed in Rushdi Mullah July 17.

from the generosity.

"I never imagined a family – American or otherwise - could provide unmitigated charity to the people of a foreign town in which their son was killed," Zimmerman said. "The Barnes family and those who have contributed to their noble foundation are true testaments to America's values."

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The request for 2,000 meals and 1,000 bottles of water was passed on to Maj. Dewayne K. Bailey, brigade sustainment officer in charge for the 214th Fires Brigade.

Upon receiving the word, the Hollandale, Miss., native set to work meeting the need.

Within a few hours, the food and water was ready to be delivered.

To assist with transporting the supplies, the 511th MP Co. used one of their vehicles to drive the supplies to a predetermined IP site outside Forward Operating Base Delta.

The IPs received a total of 2,400 meals and 1,440 bottles of water.

The meals are known as Halal; ready-to-eat meals that contain food permissible under Islamic law.

"We felt it was the right thing to do," Bailey said. "We're here to support the Iraqis."

If additional support is requested, Bailey said, "we have the ability to continue if need be."

In addition to the food and water, the MPs provided the IPs with medical supplies, said Tulip.

The IPs received 10 combat lifesaver bags and five combat lifesaver packs.

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Editorial Staff

TF Marne PAO - Lt. Col. Randy Martin Managing Editor — Master Sgt. Marcia Triggs Editor/Design — Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

Contributing Units 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division 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

Iraqi Army leads push to restore security in Mahmudiyah

Pvt. Christopher McKenna 3rd BCT, 101st Abn. Div. (AASLT)

FOB MAHMUDIYAH – Iraqi Security Forces are taking the lead in securing the city of Mahmudiyah against criminal groups.

Iraqi Army Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 25th Brigade, 6th IA Division are taking control of the city's neighborhoods with support from Red Knight Rakkasans of 3rd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

This effort, which began March 27, has already proven successful. A cordon and search resulted in the discovery of a significant weapons cache in the Qadasiya Apartments March 28.

The cache included 17 complete explosively-formed projectiles (EFP), 192 DSHKA rounds, Iraqi National Police uniforms and 18 AK-style weapons, more than 100 EFP components, a demolition charge, detonation cord, fuses and a bag of homemade explosives.

"At this point, it has been a very impressive operation on both the Iraqi and Coalition fronts," said Lt. Col. William Zemp, commander of 3-320th FA. "Reports say that the EFP IED (improvised explosive device) materials were to be moved into the city of



Pvt. Christopher McKenna

Two Iraqi Army Soldiers maneuver during a firefight with a criminal group in Mahmudiyah March 30.

Mahmudiyah."

The IA has detained nearly 200 individuals for questioning in an effort to curb the violence and criminal activity.

"You have to be proud of the progress being made so far," said Col. Dominic Caraccilo, 3rd BCT, 101 Abn. Div. (AASLT) commander.

Brig Gen. Ali Jassim Muhammad Hassen Al Frejee, commander of the 25/6 IA Division said removal of criminal groups is key to the continued security of the Mahmudiyah Qada.

Safety Thought of the Day Jack Stand Safety Reminders

• All jack stands shall be used on a foundation of sufficient size and strength (preferably a hard level surface) to spread the load from the base over an adequate area to prevent settlement. Ensure the stands are standing up straight and perpendicular to the ground.

Vehicle stands MUST be inspected for damage, defects or excessive corrosion prior to every use.
If a vehicle support stand has a U.S. Army data plate affixed with a contract number stamped on the data plate, the stand has already been tested and does not require subsequent testing. If there is no indication of completed testing by the manufacturer, the stand must be tested prior to first-time use and annually thereafter.

• Jack stands should be used as a matched pair to support one end of a vehicle only. Stands are not meant to be used to simultaneously support both ends of a vehicle at once. Center load on saddle and never place under the suspension system. Once the load is applied and settled, absolutely no rocking is allowed.

• Refer to TB 43-0156 (Vehicle Support: Safety Inspection & Operation of Stand, May 2006) for proper inspection procedures.



File photo

Headline Highlights

Keg party raided; missing reptile; man scared of mouse

Cops bust high school root beer keg party

WAUSAU, Wis. (Reuters) - Cars lining the street. A house full of young people. A keg and drinking games inside. Police thought they had an underage boozing party on their hands.

But though they made dozens of teens take breath tests, none tested positive for alcohol. That's because the keg contained root beer.

The party was held by a high school student who wanted to show that teens don't always drink alcohol at their parties. It has gained fame on YouTube. com.

Dustin Zebro, 18, said he staged the party after friends at D.C. Everest High School got suspended from sports because of pictures showing them drinking from red cups.

The root-beer kegger was "to kind of make fun of the school," he said. "They assumed there was beer in the cups. We just wanted to have some root beer in red cups and just make it look like a party, but there actually wasn't any alcohol."

Zebro purchased a quarter-barrel of 1919 Classic American Draft Root Beer, and by 10 p.m. Saturday, the scene outside his rural Wausau home had all the makings of a teen drinking party – cars, noise and kids.

Kronenwetter Police Chief Daniel Joling said an officer was dispatched to the home March 1 on a complaint of cars blocking the road.

Juveniles began coming out of the house after the officer used his squad car's loudspeaker to warn that cars would soon be towed, Officer Jason Rasmussen wrote in his report.

Nearly 90 breath tests were done, and officers even searched locked rooms for hiding teens.

"It was a tremendous waste of time and manpower, but we still had a job to do, and our officers did it," Joling said. "If one kid had come there, even hadn't drank there, but had come there and had been drinking and had left and crashed and burned, then what would the sentiment be? Why didn't the police check everybody out?"

Croc stolen from aquarium

OSLO (Reuters) - A thief walked unnoticed out of a Norwegian aquarium carrying a crocodile at the weekend and now risks losing a finger or two, the head of the aquarium said on Monday.

"I think whoever did this knew what they were doing," Bergen aquarium director Kees Oscar Ekeli told Reuters, suggesting the young crocodile was smuggled out in a bag during the busiest hours on Saturday.

The stolen reptile, named "Taggen" (Spike), is a 70 centimeters (2.3 feet) long smooth-fronted caiman also known as Schneider's dwarf caiman (Paleosuchus Trigonatus).

Taggen eats "a good mix of fish and meat" and can grow to be about 2.5 meters (8.2 feet) long. "It has a solid bite. Considering it is not bigger than it is, you could lose a few fingers, but no vital organs," Ekeli said. It is normally found in much warmer habitats in South America and is one of the world's smallest species of crocodile.

Ekeli feared that the four-year-old would have poor chances of surviving outside its habitat in the aquarium, and said it would probably die from stress.

The theft was immediately reported to the police. "We have offered a reward of 25,000 Norwegian crowns (2,500 pounds) to anyone who can give us a tip that leads to finding the crocodile," Ekeli said.

Man flees home half naked to evade mouse

BERLIN (Reuters) - A man in Germany fled his home half naked for cold, snow-swept streets to escape a mouse in his living room, authorities said on Thursday.

"He said there was nothing he was more afraid of," police in Goettingen said in a statement.

After an emergency call in the early hours, officers in the central town found the 23-year-old wearing only his boxer shorts and slippers at a phone booth near his home.

The man told police he had seen the mouse scurry across the floor while he was watching a film, and had fled immediately.

Police failed to track down the animal, but told the man it was safe to go home. He went to relatives instead.

S U d O k U

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

rom Sudoku Easy Presented by Will Shortz

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

foreigners

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