

Never too deep



Courtesy photo

Sgt. Jason McDermitt, from Springfield, Mo., works with Sgt. Paul Boyll, from Phoenix, using his PSS-14 metal detector, during Operation Dalian near Diyarah, Iraq. Both Soldiers are with 2nd Platoon, Company B, 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, attached to 1st Battalion, 76th Field Artillery, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division.

Chicken industry a spark to economic progress in Iraq

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

FOB KALSU – Before the war, numerous areas in Iraq thrived off the chicken industry. Hawr Rajab, Arab Jabour and Adwaniyah all had prosperous chicken markets.

"Historically, this was the largest

chicken-producing area in Iraq," said Capt. Michael Lenart, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2-3 Brigade Troops Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division.

Insurgent violence ravaged the industry. Chicken coops and pens were used by insurgents as safe houses and weapons cache dumps. Electrical equipment such as cables, generators and water pumps were stolen or neglected after al-Qaeda threatened employees to quit coming to work.

With security gains removing al-Qaeda from the area, the effort is to

CHICKEN: *effort to boost farming back to pre-war levels*

From previous page

boost chicken farming back to prewar levels.

"Right now it is in its first phase," said Baghdad-7 embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team economics team chief, Capt. Shawn Carbone, of the restoration plans. He added the ePRT has established relationships, helped develop business plans and submitted applications for funding.

Funding will come from Commander's Emergency Relief Program and U.S. Department of State funds, Carbone said, as well as contributions from former owners.

The Adwaniyah Farmers Union Chairman, Falih Sha'lan Jassim, used funds from the union to purchase 10,000 chicks to jumpstart the Adwaniyah chicken factories. In Arab Jabour, the owner of the Al Mazra'a Kupa and Chicken processing facility, Ghassan Mohammed Ali, has pledged more than \$300,000 towards restoring his factory.

Ali's factory, first constructed in 1982, can employ up to 95 people at full capacity. Larger factories such as the Al Raad Poultry slaughterhouse in Hawr Rajab, which includes six chicken coops, a feed-producing factory, and a processing plant that slaughters, cleans, packages and stores chickens, can employ up to 500 people, Carbone added.

"Self-sustainment keeps out the influence of insurgents..."

– Capt. Shawn Carbone Baghdad-7 embedded PRT Production will create new markets and opportunities. Transportation companies will be needed to move products to market and mechanics will be needed to maintain the machinery used for processing, said Carbone, a native of Niagara Falls, N.Y. The main market for chickens is currently Baghdad.

Baghdad chicken breeders will also benefit, said Lenart. Currently chickens and supplies needed to renovate buildings are purchased in Baghdad.

Structurally the BCT, 3rd In buildings are stable; all try with help that's needed to start production is repairing machinery and cleaning out the buildings, said Lenart, a native of Richmond Hills, Ga.

Getting production started will help bring the Government of Iraq into the equation as well. Because the industries are privately owned, the GoI has not been largely involved. Government support has been largely limited to the Ministry of Agriculture providing vaccines to local veterinarians, Lenart said.

Once the businesses are up and running though, their involvement in newly-created business associations will give them government-related business incentives, loans and grants, Carbone said. Like the area farmers unions, which are recognized by the MoA, the chicken factories are currently forming their own subcom-



Mike Stevens

Chicken farming used to be a major industry in the Hawr Rajab, Adwaniyah and Arab Jabour areas before insurgent violence halted the business. With improvements in security, the 2nd BCT, 3rd Inf.Div. is trying to revitalize the industry with help from Baghdad-7 embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team.

mittees and will receive government aid.

Business owners are also taking classes from an Iraqi-run business development center in Hilla to help their companies prosper once they begin production.

The success of the industry is vital to not only the local communities, but to all of Iraq. A stable economy ties in with and supports security gains.

"Self-sustainment keeps out the influence of insurgents," Carbone said. "Only when there is no alternative do people turn to violence."

The projects will continue, with 5,000 more chickens set to be delivered in Adwaniyah April 22. In the future, chickens will come from within the area from a hatchery under construction.

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Commanding General - MAJ. GEN. RICK LYNCH Command Sergeant Major - COMMAND SGT. MAJ. JESSE L. ANDREWS JR.

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

Artesian well pumps clean water for Zambraniya, Bayjia

2ND BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB KALSU – Before an artesian well opened for use April 10, residents of Zambraniya and Bayjia were forced to drink directly from the Tigris River or travel up to 10 kilometers for drinking water.

The new well, located at the al-Hamza School in Bayjia, is capable of producing 6000 gallons of fresh water per day and will service both communities.

The well has a water-purification process with the capability to purify 1000 liters of water each hour. The fresh water will improve the standard of living and public health.

"It will help decrease disease and improve the overall health of the people in Zambraniya and Bayjia," said Capt. John Whitehead, from Holland, Ohio, assistant operations officer for 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division.

Commander's Emergency Relief Program funds paid for construction of the well, which draws water from the Tigris River. The project also enabled a local contractor to employ 10 area citi-



Courtesy photo

Fresh water flows from the newlyinstalled well at the al-Hamza school in Bayjia, Iraq. Residents of Bayjia and Zambraniya will now have access to 6000 gallons of fresh water a day.

zens for the 30 days it was being built.

First Lt. Ismail Khan, fire support officer for Company A, 1-30th Inf. Regt., said the well is a step towards normalcy in the area.

"Having this well at the al-Hamza School is great for the health and morale of the local people," the Houston native said. "They are seeing improvements being made and they are really gaining a sense of pride and togetherness within their community."

Secual Assault Awareness Month

WEEKLY QUIZ:

1. If a Soldier chooses the restricted reporting option, can he/she later elect to go with the unrestricted reporting option?

2. Deployable Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (DSARC) can serve at what level, company, battalion, or brigade and higher?

3. Does the restricted reporting option trigger the investigative process?

4. What article ((UCMJ/ MCM) covers assault with intent to commit sodomy?

5. If a Soldier chooses the unrestricted reporting option, can he/she later elect to go with the restricted reporting option?

The first person to contact the Equal Opportunity Office on Victory Base Complex with the correct answers will receive a prize.

Safety Thought of the Day Driving with Limited Visibility Safety Reminders

• During periods of limited visibility or brown outs lower speed and increase intervals between vehicles to allow adequate reaction time.

• Keep the windshield, lights, & turn signals clean at all times. Lights should be on depending on the tactical situation. Keep vents closed.

• Driver and crew must communicate with each other and keep a continuous scan. Ensure the gunners wear protective goggles.

 Reduce speed or stop moving whenever the view of the road, vehicles, and pedestrians are lost due to blowing dust and sand.
Slower speeds also reduce the amount of dust in the air.

At entrances to FOBs and patrol bases,

gravel is a good way to prevent excess dust from kicking up.



File photo

The Dog Face Daily

Headline Highlights

Living in tree, steam cleaning for thieves; lost in translation

Seattle man in treehouse gets a new home

SEATTLE (AP) – A homeless man who has spent the past two years living in a treehouse has a new, terrestrial home just in the nick of time, thanks to neighbors.

David "Squirrelman" Csaky, a selftaught carpenter, learned Tuesday that neighbors had found an aging recreational vehicle for him to occupy.

"I'm overwhelmed," Csaky said. "I started crying when they told me."

For two years, Csaky, 52, has lived about 30 feet above the ground in a 300-square-foot self-made platform, accessible by a ladder counterweighted with sandbags on pulleys on city land.

Csaky outfitted the treehouse with a tent, wood stove, three chairs, shelves and a counter with an unplumbed sink. His pets include Lucky, a rat; Rainbow, a ferret; and Tilt, a squirrel.

He was lately threatened with eviction because the treehouse is a health and safety concern.

Brandon Ferrante, 28, and Maria Bolander, 27, who befriended him after watching the treehouse take shape, found an aging 22-foot RV online after they learned of Csaky's situation.

"It broke our hearts," Ferrante said. "He's taken care of the neighborhood. We couldn't sleep at night. We decided to make it happen."

They and their landlords, Janet Yoder and husband Robby Rudine, agreed to buy the rig for \$500 after the owner offered a special "Squirrelman" discount. "David's a unique character but a

good neighbor," Yoder said.

After delivering the RV Tuesday evening, owner Timothy Custer decided instead to sell it to Csaky for a penny.

"It's Dave's new house," Custer said.

To make the house a home, Ferrante said, the task is now to find a permanent parking place.

"We don't want to see it get towed," he said.

Csaky, who got his nickname for his ability to tame squirrel, said he was amazed at the public attention, including radio television and radio interviews and talk show appearances.

"This is the beginning of a new life," he said.

Dry cleaner gives same-day service to thieves

CANBERRA (Reuters) - A dry-cleaning shop owner in Papua New Guinea has found a unique way of encouraging thieves to clean up their behavior: giving them a steam cleaning.

Police in the northeast coastal town of Lae said a 20-year-old man suffered burns and scalding to his abdomen, chest and back after the owner turned a steam cleaner on him after he was caught stealing pants worth 14 kina (\$5.50).

'The owner has done this to many people already," police spokesman Nema Mondiai told Australian Associated Press on Wednesday.

Police seemed unconcerned about the radical punishment and released the thief after being assured he had learned his lesson.

Munich's Italian name diverts tourists from Monaco

BERLIN (Reuters) - Two women led themselves on a wild goose chase from Italy to Munich after arranging to meet their niece in Monaco - which in Italian can mean either the tiny principality on the French Riviera, or Bavaria's capital.

"The problem was they thought Munich was Monaco," said a spokesman for Munich police on Wednesday.

Called Monaco di Baviera in Italian, the city is known as Muenchen in High German, Mnichov in Czech, Monachium in Polish and Minga in the local Bavarian dialect.

The two women, originally from the Dominican Republic, had driven across the Alps from Trento in northern Italy to collect the 14-year-old from the Paris-Munich train, but started to panic and went to the police when the girl failed to appear.

As the two spoke only Italian and Spanish, and because the niece had no mobile phone, it took police $1 \frac{1}{2}$ hours to establish that she had actually gone to the Mediterranean.

Afterwards, the women got back in their car and set off on the 840 km (523 mile) journey to Monaco, the spokesman said.

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