

Soldier re-enlists 340 feet off the ground

1ST LT. WILLIAM PERDUE
3-7TH INF. REGT., 4TH BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB ISKAN – U.S. Soldiers opt to stay Army on a daily basis. In an office among peers or outside a headquarters building are frequent spots for re-enlistment ceremonies.

One Soldier in the 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, wanted to make his commitment to the Army unique. Spc. Bobby Nieto, from Stonewall, Texas, chose the top of a 340-foot smokestack to raise his hand to re-enlist.

The infantryman with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3-7th Inf. Regt., 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, climbed one of the four smokestacks that Forward Operating Base Iskan, Iraq, is known for. The stacks are part of an Iraqi thermal power plant that sits in the middle of the FOB.

“It was something different,” Nieto

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1st Lt. Jordan Nearhoof

Following his re-enlistment, Spc. Bobby Nieto, flies the flag passed down to him by two of his brothers, who also re-enlisted with it during their deployments. Nieto, who re-enlisted on top of a 340-foot smokestack, is an infantryman with HHC, 3-7th Inf. Regt., 4th BCT, 3rd Inf. Div.

Rocket cache found by Coalition, Iraqi Security Forces

2ND BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB KALSU – With a tip from a local citizen, Coalition and Iraqi Army forces discovered a large cache of rockets in West Rashid, near Forward Operating Base Falcon, April 14.

The cache consisted of 18 107 mm rockets, some still in their original packaging, and 20 rocket-launching stands.

A Soldier standing guard at FOB Falcon was approached by the citizen with information on the whereabouts of the rockets. Upon receiving the tip, Soldiers from 4th Battalion, 64th Ar-

mor Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division and Iraqi Soldiers from 5th Battalion, 25th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division conducted a joint patrol and found the cache.

The rockets were in an area assessed to be a historic point of origin for attacks against Coalition forces and Iraqi Security Forces.

The rockets were taken by the IA to FOB Falcon for further investigation. The IA called their U.S. Army military transition team to get an assessment from an explosive ordnance disposal team.



Maj. Dave Olson

Coalition and Iraqi Army forces found a cache of 18 107 mm rockets and 20 rocket-launching stands.

CF, Babil Province leadership meet with governor of Babil

SPC. AMANDA McBRIDE
4TH BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB KALSU — Coalition forces and Babil Province leadership met with the governor of Babil April 10 in al-Hillah, Iraq, during a State of Babil Conference.

All Qada and Nahiya councils throughout the province were represented by their chairmen or deputy chairmen; the provincial council chairman and mayors attended as well.

Lt. Col. Roger Shuck, deputy commander of 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division; embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team leader Howard Van Vranken; and Hillah PRT leader Ken Hillas also attended the conference hosted by governor Salim Salah Mahdi al-Muslimawi.

"It is an opportunity for all Qada and Nahiya leadership, including a number of mayors throughout the Babil province, to come together and look at a strategic plan for projects now that security is improved throughout the province," Shuck said.

During the meeting, the officials discussed resource assignment, infrastructure, essential service needs



Spc. Amanda McBride

Leadership from throughout the Babil Province, along with members from the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, met with Salim Salah Mahdi al-Muslimawi, the governor of Babil province, during a State of Babil Conference in al-Hillah, Iraq.

for the province and their relationship with Coalition forces.

At the end of the meeting, al-Muslimawi encouraged the political lead-

ers to work more closely with security officials. He also pledged to schedule similar events regularly in the future.

Sexual Assault
Awareness Month

STAND UP AGAINST
SEXUAL ASSAULT

ASK!

ACT!

INTERVENE!

Please report all acts of sexual assault to your Sexual Assault Response Coordinator or call the MND-C Hotline 0790-194-1974.

THE Dog Face Daily

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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

RE-ENLIST

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said. "Everyone was always talking about it but no one ever did it - I did."

With flag in hand, Nieto and four others climbed to the top of the smoke stack to conduct the ceremony.

"I was honored to re-enlist such an outstanding Soldier and I was motivated to climb the smoke stack to do so," said 1st Lt. Jordan Nearhoof, executive officer for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3-7th Inf. Regt.

The flag that served as the backdrop for the re-enlistment has already been on several deployments to Iraq.

Nieto, who manages local contractors on the FOB, said the flag is a traditional keepsake for him and his brothers who are also serving in the Army. The tradition started with his oldest brother, Isaac, who served with the 1st Cavalry Division and deployed to Iraq in 2003. At the end of Isaac's deployment he passed the flag on to Nieto's third oldest brother, Matthew, who is currently serving with 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and also deployed to Iraq.

"I will put it back in rotation," said Nieto, when asked what he plans to do with the flag once he redeployes.

Options for Soldiers who re-enlist range from bonuses, college, Army schools, military occupational specialty reclassification and duty station of choice.

Nieto was available for re-enlistment back in December but waited until now in order to get the duty station he wanted - Fort Hood, Texas - which is only an hour and a half away from his family.

"I would give up all the money for the duty station of my choice," Nieto said.

National healthcare decisions day

MND-C PAO

April 16 is the first annual National Health Care Decisions Day. We are using this occasion to educate Soldiers about the legal issues surrounding healthcare and end-of-life decisions. Understanding these decisions will ensure that your final wishes are carried out while saving those closest to you from the emotional trauma that typically surrounds end-of-life treatment.

In America today, less than half of terminally ill patients have a "living will." Most doctors don't know that their patients have a living will.

Living wills come in two varieties. The first, a Healthcare Power of Attorney (POA), names a trusted person to make healthcare decisions when a person is unable to make decisions on their own. The second, an Advance Medical Directive (AMD), names an individual to make health care decisions when a person is unable to make them on their own and says what a person wants to do if they are dying and are not going to recover.

Living wills are formal written documents. Things you say to your friends and family will not have the same legal effect as a living will. The doctor will have to follow a person's current choice if the person can make their own decisions.

Recent cases in the news have highlighted the need for people to understand the importance of obtaining an AMD and other critical documents like healthcare POAs. On National Healthcare Decisions Day, and any other day of the year, legal assistance attorneys are available to assist you in preparing a living will or simply answer your questions about these critical legal issues.

Safety Thought of the Day

Battery Safety Awareness

- Check battery conditions more often in hot climates because of an increase in both battery water consumption and battery self-discharge.
- Lead-acid battery gases can explode. Do not perform battery system checks or inspections while smoking or near fire, flames, or sparks, especially if the caps are off.
- Remove all jewelry such as rings, ID tags, and watches. Wear safety goggles, face shield, and gloves.
- Assure a good electrical connection and safe cable positioning (lying flat). Do not wiggle or jerk battery cables.
- Terminals and connectors must be kept clean and tight.
- Do not use metal or galvanized equipment when draining electrolyte from lead-acid batteries, electrolytes will damage equipment.
- If for any reason electrolyte or battery corrosion contacts the eyes, skin, or clothing, flush immediately with large amounts of cold water. Seek medical assistance asap.
- Reference: TM 9-6140-200-14.



File photo

Headline Highlights

Noodles for Black Day; writer lies about travel; attitude makeover

Black Day celebrated by lonely hearts with noodles

SEOUL (Reuters) – It was a Black Day for love in South Korea on Monday with lonely hearts trying to ease their pain by diving head first into bowls of noodles.

South Korea celebrates Valentine's Day, where local custom dictates women give gifts to men. It has taken on a popular event born in Japan but sweeping Asia known as White Day on March 14 when men return the favor with gifts for women.

But Black Day, on April 14, is a South Korean original. It is marked by people who have not found love dressing in dark colors and commiserating over meals of black food, with the dish of choice being Chinese-style noodles topped with a thick sauce of black bean paste.

"I had a miserable time on Valentine's Day, felt even lonelier on White Day and now I'm crying over a bowl of black noodles," said a young woman who asked only to be identified by her family name Na out of embarrassment.

"Things better be different next year."

At universities across the country on Monday, students without lunch dates ordered black noodles, dined with other lonely hearts and searched for companionship.

South Korea marketers have hatched special days for the 14th of each month to create a calendar laden with love.

Some days have gained traction

such as Black Day, while others such as Green Day in August, when couples are supposed to drink cheap liquor that comes in green bottles and walk in the woods, have yet to attract much of a following.

Black Day events have snowballed, with a major matchmaking service this year providing an evening of speed dating where the dish of choice is sushi blackened by squid ink.

Writer says he made up parts of travel books without visit

MELBOURNE (Reuters) – An author for the Lonely Planet travel guidebook series has claimed that he plagiarized and made up large sections of his books, an Australian newspaper reported on Sunday.

Author Thomas Kohnstamm told the Sunday Telegraph newspaper he had worked on more than a dozen books for Lonely Planet, including their titles on Brazil, Colombia, the Caribbean, South America, Venezuela and Chile.

The Lonely Planet guidebooks sell more than six million copies a year.

The Sunday Telegraph said Kohnstamm also claims in his new book "Do Travel Writers Go To Hell?" that he accepted free travel, contravening company policy.

He said in one case he had not even visited the country he wrote about.

"They didn't pay me enough to go to Colombia. I wrote the book in San Francisco. I got the information from a chick

I was dating – an intern at the Colombian consulate," the newspaper quoted Kohnstamm as saying.

Lonely Planet said it had reviewed Kohnstamm's guidebooks but had not found any inaccuracies in them, the Sunday Telegraph said.

Smile and dress modestly, civil servants told

BELGRADE (Reuters) – Serbia's civil servants must get over their grumpiness, answer queries with a smile and stop wearing shorts to work, according to a new code of conduct that came into force this month.

The code says civil servants "must act professionally and kindly," "provide true and timely information" and "respect citizens' personality and dignity." They must keep citizens' business confidential and behave with dignity in public.

Although it does not set a dress code, it rules out "disproportionately short skirts, tops with revealing décolletage or narrow straps, short or see-through blouses and short pants."

Serbia has some 250,000 civil servants, a bloated number from when it was the centre of much larger socialist Yugoslavia.

Despite the modest salary, they are coveted posts because of the short hours, job security and lingering sense of power. But for ordinary Serbs, the civil service represents a culture of grumpy, unhelpful and long-winded bureaucracy.

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

from Sudoku Easy Presented by Will Shortz

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC QUESTION OF THE DAY

where?

wen?