

AnacondaTimes

APRIL 16, 2008

PROUDLY SERVING LSA ANACONDA



Photo by Spc. Anthony Hooker

507th opens new Academy

Academy begins to ensure Soldier readiness

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Photo by Spc. Charlotte Martinez

A day in a firefighter's boots

Firefighters give demonstration of day to day activities

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Photo by Spc. Jay Venturini

Reacting to disaster

Emergency services evaluated during MasCAL Exercise

Pages 8-9



Photo by Spc. Thomas Keeler

Capt. Jared Hill (right), operations officer-in-charge for the 571st Movement Control Team at Habur Gate customs facility, explains to a foreign national truck driver why he won't be allowed to deliver his cargo to forward operating bases in Iraq due to an extra fuel tank welded to the front of his trailer. A hand made siphon used to steal gasoline was confiscated from another driver and rests on the ground nearby.

Operations at Habur Gate

At the Turkish border, where it can feel like another country, a movement control unit carries out an important mission validating the goods shipped into Iraq

Story by Spc. Thomas Keeler

Anaconda Times Staff

FOB Q-WEST, Iraq –The valley at the northern border of Iraq, where the Habur River drains into the Tigris, has been a cultural trading post for generations, long before the war started.

Today, truck drivers pass through here and back again, coming out of the mountains of Turkey, to deliver cargo to Coalition Forces. After delivering their loads at forward operating bases across Iraq, the truck drivers — a majority of whom are from other Middle East countries — return to Habur Gate, where they wait to reenter Turkey and begin the process again.

"Where our mission starts," said Capt. Jared Hill, operations officer-in-charge for the 571st Movement Control Team, "is when these trucks start coming back across the border."

The primary mission of the 571st MCT is to validate, receive,

stage, manifest and monitor the movement of the cargo.

The 571st MCT consists of about 25 personnel, as does the Logistics Task Force Bravo, which works shoulder-to-shoulder with the 571st MCT, to provide convoy support for the convoy logistics patrols that spend the night and to escort the cargo trailers south the next day.

Both the 571st MCT and LTF B make their headquarters in the four-story, block-shaped Ibrahim Khalil Customs Facility, also called the "Marble Palace" by its inhabitants. In addition to each unit's headquarters, the facility contains sleeping bays, a weight room, a game room, phones and Internet access, a small library with satellite television, and a comfortable cafeteria on the fourth floor, which opens to a patio overlooking the Habur River and the mountains of Southeastern Turkey.

See Habur, Page 6

Voting rights may be more restricted than you think

The right to vote is one of the most cherished and sacred powers you posses as an American citizen. Many brave men and women have given their lives protecting Americans’ freedom to choose their leaders, among other rights.

As election time nears, however, it is important to remember that you are a representative for the United States government and are bound by certain restrictions when it comes to political activity.

In a nut shell, when you are on official duty or wearing your military uniform, or insignia that implies your military service, you may not engage or support certain political activities.

According to the statutory restrictions in section 973 (b), title 10, United States Code (10 USC 973(b)), and the policies established in section (d) of DoD directive 1344.10 and implemented in chapter 5 of Army Regulations 600-20, any Soldier will not –

- a. Use official authority or influence to: interfere with an election, affect the course or outcome of an election, solicit votes for a particular candidate

- or issue, or require or solicit political contributions from others.
- b. Be a candidate for civil office in Federal, state, or local government, except as authorized in AR 600-20 and other applicable regulations, or engage in public or organized soliciting of others to become partisan candidates for nomination or election to civil office.
- c. Participate in partisan political management, or campaigns, or conventions (except as a spectator when not in uniform) or make public speeches at any of these events or activities.
- d. Attend partisan political events as an official representative of the Armed Forces.
- e. Allow or cause to be published partisan political articles signed or written by the Soldier that solicits votes for or against a partisan political party, candidate, or cause.
- f. Make a campaign contribution to another member of the Armed Forces, or to a civilian officer or employee of the United States, for the purpose of promoting a political objective or cause, including a political campaign.
- g. Solicit or receive a campaign

- contribution from another member of the Armed Forces or from a civilian officer or employee of the United States for the purpose of promoting a political objective or cause, including a political campaign.
- h. Serve in any official capacity or be listed as a sponsor of a partisan political club.
- i. Speak before a partisan political gathering of any kind for promoting a partisan political party, candidate, or cause.
- j. Participate in any radio, television, or other program, or group discussion, as an advocate for or against a partisan political party, candidate, or cause.
- k. Conduct political opinion surveys under the auspices of a partisan political group, or distribute partisan political literature.
- l. Use contemptuous words against the officeholders described in Section 888, Title 10, United States Code (10 USC 888): “Any commissioned officer who uses contemptuous words against the President, the Vice President, Congress, the Secretary of Defense,

- the Secretary of a military department, the Secretary of Transportation, or Governor or Legislature of any State, Territory, Commonwealth, or possession in which he or she is on duty shall be punished as a court martial may direct.”
- m. Perform clerical or other duties for a partisan political committee during a campaign or on an election day.
- n. Solicit or otherwise engage in fund raising activities in Federal offices or facilities, including military reservations, for a partisan political cause or candidate.
- o. March or ride in a partisan political parade.
- p. Display a large political sign, banner, or poster (as distinguished from a bumper sticker) on the top or side of private vehicle.
- q. Participate in any organized effort to provide voters with transportation to the polls if the effort is organized by, or associated with, a partisan political party or candidate.
- r. Sell tickets for, or otherwise actively promote, political dinners and similar fund-raising events.

Provost Marshal Office: Weekly police blotter

Week of 31 March-6 April

The Provost Marshal Office conducted: (208) security checks, (11) traffic stops, issued (20) DD Form 1408 Armed Forces Traffic Tickets, and registered (230) vehicles on the installation. We are investigating (eight) minor traffic accidents and (36) Common Access Cards reported lost. Two individuals were barred from LSA Anaconda.

The Provost Marshal Office is currently investigating: (two) Larceny cases.

If you have any information about any of these crimes, please contact the crime stoppers line at 433-8602 or notify the Military Police Investigations at 443-6190

PMO Recommendations: Personnel are advised to mark and secure all high value items. A good method of deterring theft of items is by identifying the property with your personal marking. Where you mark your property mat-

ters- particularly if you are using the engraving method. If you prefer the mark to remain out of sight, you’ll obviously choose somewhere behind or underneath the article. The important thing to remember is to select a surface that can’t be removed without spoiling the basic appearance or performance of the article. If items are not suitable for marking by engraver, use a camera or video your items.

Where possible, place your identification code in the top right hand rear corner of the item.

Use your personal I.D. number, or you may if you wish use your driver’s license number as your personal code.

Also note the serial number of electrical appliances on the inventory list, as stickers and plates can be removed after theft.

By Staff Sgt. Mirta Jones



Courtesy Photo
Air Force Tech Sgt. Carl Bonkoski and Air Force Tech Sgt. Mirta Jones, members of the PMO combat life saver team respond and provide aid during the MASCAL exercises.

ANACONDA TIMES

316th ESC Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Gregory E. Couch

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New CSC yard accommodates MND-N convoy traffic

by Spc. Thomas Keeler

Anaconda Times staff

FOB Q-WEST, Iraq –In its first six months of operation, the Convoy Support Center here has already proved its worth.

The new facility, which opened in November, provides life support, convoy support, and other services necessary for convoys stopping here for a night or two.

“The purpose of the convoy support center is to be a one-stop shop for all incoming and outgoing convoys,” said 1st Lt. Brendan Gooch, class services officer who operates the CSC yard for the 17th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion.

The 17th CSSB recently took control of the CSC yard from the 87th CSSB.

In addition to a motor pool and convoy staging area, the CSC yard is furnished with billeting, a dining facility and a day room for Soldiers kept overnight.

“We just try to think like a Soldier,” said Gooch.

Locating the new CSC yard at the edge of the base also lets commanders track data on how the convoy teams

use resources. Future plans for the CSC yard include providing ice during the summer months and relocating the Combat Logistics Patrol Readiness Center here.

Convoy commanders had previously used other spots on the base for stopping over, requiring them to navigate their vehicles through narrow streets with frequent foot traffic. Now, convoy vehicles can go to one place.

A typical convoy is that of the 104th Transportation Company out of Contingency Operating Base Speicher.

“When anything needs to get moved, we move it, basically anywhere in Iraq,” said Spc. Edgar Rivera, a driver with the 104th Trans. Co.

Rivera’s company has transported heavy equipment all across Iraq, and Rivera knows the value of having a lot of space to maneuver his convoy.

“We drive those big HETs (Heavy Equipment Transporters), and sometimes you had multiple convoys in the same area,” said Rivera. “There’s more room over here.”

Vehicles in need of repair have motor pool access at the CSC yard, where both a contractor and the 360th Maintenance Company wait on-call for quick repairs.



Photo by Spc. Thomas Keeler

Spc. Jason Ford, a mechanic with the 360th Maintenance Company, replaces the air filter and finishes 20-level maintenance on an M915 line haul truck at the CSC yard motor pool March 26. The new CSC yard here opened in November 2007 and has already served hundreds of convoys passing through the sector.

“It’s a place to sleep, to get some chow, enough for [Soldiers] to get focused to get back on the road and accomplish the mission successfully,” said Gooch.

“What we’re trying to do here is take this to the next level,” he said.

Worship services

PROTESTANT – TRADITIONAL

Sunday	7:30 a.m.	Air Force Hospital Chapel
	9:30 a.m.	Provider Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Freedom Chapel (West Side)
	11 a.m.	Castle Heights (4155)
	5:30 p.m.	Gilbert Memorial (H-6)
	7:30 p.m.	Air Force Hospital Chapel

PROTESTANT – GOSPEL

Sunday	11 a.m.	MWR East Building
	Noon	Freedom Chapel (West Side)
	2 p.m.	Air Force Hospital Chapel
	3:30 p.m.	Gilbert Memorial (H-6)
	7 p.m.	Provider Chapel

PROTESTANT – CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Sunday	9 a.m.	MWR East Building
	10:30 a.m.	TOWN HALL(H-6)
	8 p.m.	Eden Chapel
	2 p.m.	Castle Heights (4155)
	7 p.m.	Freedom Chapel (West Side)
	9:30 p.m.	Freedom Chapel (West Side)
Wednesday	8 p.m.	Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

PROTESTANT – LITURGICAL

Sunday	9 a.m.	EPISCOPAL Freedom Chapel
	11 a.m.	LUTHERAN (Chapel Annex)
	3:30 p.m.	EPISCOPAL (Tuskegee H-6)

PROTESTANT --MESSIANIC

Friday	8:30 p.m.	Freedom Chapel (West Side)
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PROTESTANT—SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Saturday	9 a.m.	Provider
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PROTESTANT—CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday	3:30 p.m.	Castle Heights (4155)
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ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

(Sacrament of Reconciliation 30 min prior to Mass)

Saturday	5 p.m.	Gilbert Memorial (H-6)
	8 p.m.	Freedom Chapel (West Side)
	11 p.m.	Air Force Hospital Chapel
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Gilbert Memorial (H-6)
	11 a.m.	Provider Chapel
Mon-Fri	11:45 a.m.	Provider Chapel
Mon,Wed,Fri	5p.m.	Gilbert Memorial

LATTER DAY SAINTS-(LDS)-(MORMON)

Sunday	1 p.m.	Provider Chapel
	3:30p.m.	Freedom Chapel (West Side)
	7 p.m.	Gilbert Memorial (H-6)

JEWISH SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday	6 p.m.	Gilbert Memorial (H-6)
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ISLAMIC SERVICE

Friday	Noon	Provider Chapel (West Side)
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PAGAN/ WICCAN FELLOWSHIP

Thursday, Saturday	7 p.m.	Eden Chapel
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BUDDHIST FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday	7 p.m.	Eden Chapel
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Please note, schedule is subject to change.

Do you have a story idea?

Contact the Anaconda Times

anaconda.times@iraq.centcom.mil

Mission Statement: Produce a weekly newspaper that provides the command leadership team a means of disseminating command information to servicemembers on Logistical Support Area Anaconda and subordinate 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) units throughout Iraq. Contents of the paper will target enlisted servicemembers, officers, and civilian staff as well as primarily highlight the mission and experiences of 316th ESC units and personnel, with a secondary objective of detailing the activities of the LSA Anaconda community.

Al Asad, 507th CSG starts Academy

by Spc. Anthony Hooker
Anaconda Times staff

Al Asad, Iraq – The Combat Logistics Patrol Academy began its first session March 24 at Al-Asad Air Base.

The academy is sponsored by the 507th Combat Support Group and provides an innovative, five-day training period for units just arriving at Multi-national Force-West.

Eighty Soldiers from C Troop, 1st Battalion, 152nd Calvary Regiment were awarded graduation certificates after completing a comprehensive series of classroom lectures, hands-on training and aptitude tests. The Soldiers were broken into two 40-man classes that allowed individuals to get more hands-on time with equipment they'll be responsible for during their tour of duty.

The 507th's commander, Col. James Currie, Jr., pushed for the theater-specific training ground, saying the importance of basic soldiering cannot be emphasized enough, adding the academy will ensure whatever training is necessary to run successful convoys through Al-Anbar Province.

The academy's opening coincides with the fifth anniversary of the 507th Maintenance Company convoy attack, commonly known as Jessica Lynch's convoy.

"We cannot allow the lost lives of brave Soldiers to be in vain," said Currie, whose command provides logistical support to about 32,000 Marines in the Sunni Triangle and in remote areas near the border of Syria. "That means taking nothing for granted. . .the incoming Soldiers, sergeants and officers under the 507th will be prepared and this academy is our final inspection before sending them into harm's way."

The CLP Academy draws from assets throughout the base, pulling the latest information from regional intelligence to incorporating the use



Photo by Spc. Anthony Hooker
Soldiers with C troop, 1st Battalion, 152nd Calvary Regiment navigate a simulated IED course created by the Combat Logistic Patrol Academy March 28 at Al Asad Air Base.

of communications equipment and vehicles.

An eight-person staff implements tactics and procedures specifically tailored to western Iraq. Each of these instructors have real-time experience in their field, bringing skills such as electronic warfare, heavy and light-wheeled mechanics, and cargo transfer. The most underrated skill they bring is respect for the mission.

"We teach attention to detail," said Sgt. 1st Class Dante Hoskins, the academy's senior non-commissioned officer. "This class gives the latest and greatest going on at MNF-West."

"Soldiers have to guard against complacency," said Hoskins, "The ability to apply skills here may help save somebody's life."

During a day of class instruction, Sgt. 1st Class Evert Herrick interrupted a lecture and challenged everyone to make a fill on a single-channel radio system with an Automated Net



Photo by Spc. Anthony Hooker
Sgt. James Shieves, an instructor at the Combat Logistics Patrol Academy, operates a roll-over simulation vehicle during HEAT training at al-Asad Air Base.

Control Device, a communication tool which secures and transfers encrypted information. Many were unable to complete the task.

"It went from everybody's good to everybody's got a question," said Sgt. James Shieves. "That sort of instruction can keep all folks in the class engaged."

Shieves, a heavy-wheel mechanic with the 25th Transportation Company, is on his second tour in Iraq. An Oklahoman with an "aw-shucks" demeanor, Shieves said military classes are by nature, heavy on dialogue.

"The Army tends to saturate us with classes and information," Shieves said. "We teach planning for the worst-case scenario. If that means more training, then one more time doesn't hurt."

One of the new twists the academy offers is instructors who help students sharpen their ability to work with interpreters and translators. The instructors also drive home the importance of having cultural awareness.

"(The military) now sees (Iraqi) Soldiers among them," said Sgt. 'J', an interpreter who, because of his position, could not have his real name identified. "It has become important to know the norms and practices of the countrymen."

He explained if the military shows the people they come in contact with a healthy respect for their way of life, barriers will begin to be removed. Genuine attempts to learn the language and understand the meaning of gestures eliminate clashes because of unfamiliarity.

Understanding many Soldiers come to Iraq without knowing much about it, 'J' said he gets students to open up and ask questions they would normally avoid. "I try to make the students feel relaxed," he said, "I tell (the students) to ask many questions to clarify any doubts."

The final three days were spent doing real-time activities, including familiarization with armored security vehicles, undergoing Humvee Egress Assistance Training, and driving through an improvised explosive device obstacle course. The Soldiers were able to practice putting a hoist on the ASV and driving under local conditions.

2nd Lt. Patrick Roderick watched as his group jumped in and out of vehicles. "We were told that the academy would be a refresher," said Roderick, platoon leader for C Troop. "We didn't use the ASVs and the Blue Force Tracker when we were mobilizing. This gives us more time for trial and error."

Sgt. Corey Butler, a munitions expert attached to MNF-West, said the ability to understand your equipment and be situationally aware will be a life-saver for troops. He explained opposing forces are intelligent, if not literate, and know how to improvise and conduct sophisticated attacks on vehicles.

"This is a foreign country that required their males to perform two years of military duty," Butler said. "Insurgents who may have been trained Soldiers can transfer skills to commoners. They can drop ammo, give them money, then show the prospect how to set up the bomb."

Butler said it's also common for insurgents to "flip the script" and use some form of coercion, usually threatening a person's family and livelihood.

Butler also emphasized not to be satisfied with a mindset.

"(Route-driving) is like a game," Butler said. "You must switch efforts to avoid becoming too predictable. A group might set up a fake IED to survey (our tactics, techniques, and procedures), then take that information and retrain fighters accordingly."

Finally, Butler emphasized the importance of watching the trends and practices of Iraqi people, using another Soldier's experience to drive home the point.

"I had a Soldier up on his TTPs tell me how being situationally aware not only saved a bunch of lives but showed how sophisticated insurgents can be," recalled Butler.

"His unit was on their last stretch of route-clearing and planned on stopping at a nearby restaurant to get something to drink or some ice to cool down with," said Butler. "The place was usually busy but on this day, (the Soldier) said it was strange to see the restaurant open without people in it."

Butler said the unit stopped, exited their vehicles and walked to the front of the restaurant. They saw a table with a cloth draped fully over in front of the store's opening. After a

See **CLP Academy** Page 12

U.S. Army transfers humvees to ISF

by Spc. Andrea Merritt
1st SB PAO

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Ninety Iraqi soldiers from the 5th Iraqi Army Division stood proudly on the parade field during their graduation from the Iraqi Army Service Support Institute's Drivers Training Course March 13.

Not only did they have the honor of being the first Iraqi soldiers to go through the three-day course, but after graduation, they drove off the field in the first 45 M1114 humvees transferred from the U.S. Army to the Iraqi Army.

"These humvees have served as work horses for the United States military and will now serve the Iraqi Security Forces just as well," said Lt. Gen. James Dubik, the commanding general of Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq.

"The Iraqi Security Forces will have the improved capability fighting against those who seek to do harm against this nation and its people," Dubik said.

The drivers training program at IASSI is part of the U.S. Army's humvee fielding initiative, where the U.S. plans to transfer 8,500 humvees to Iraqi Security Forces within the next two years.

When U.S. Army units began trading their humvees for the new Mine-Resistant, Ambush-Protected vehicles, the humvees were given to Foreign Military Sales and sold to the Iraqi Army.

"As the MRAPs were field-

ed to the U.S. Army, it created a situation where we had an excess capacity of up-armored humvees. So what happened was discussions were made at high levels within the Army to rather sell them through the Foreign Military Sales to the Iraqi government to go to the Iraqi Army," said Col. Kevin O'Connell, the commander of the 1st Sustainment Brigade.

"The 1st Sustainment Brigade's involvement is the transportation of the MRAPs between VBC and Taji for fielding to units within (Multi-National Division-Baghdad)," said O'Connell.

As the 1st SB helps field MRAPs to U.S. units, the humvees that are transferred to the IA undergo a refurbishment process to ensure the Iraqis receive quality vehicles.

When U.S. military units first turn the humvees in, the Redistribution Property Assistance Team collects vehicles and makes sure they meet the requirements to be refurbished.

The humvee has to have a gunner's protection kit, all basic items of issue need to be present, and the vehicle can only be in need of minor repairs.

After the vehicles are deemed fit to refurbish, all sensitive items are taken out of them. The chairs and floor mats are also taken out of the vehicles so they can be washed inside and out.

Sometimes during the process of stripping the humvees, damage to the frame is found. If this happens, the vehicle is



Photo by Spc. Andrea Merritt
Yasir, a native of Iraq and mechanic, teaches Iraqi students how to check transmission fluid on an up-armored Humvee. Yasir has been teaching at the Iraqi Army Service Support Institute for four months.

not refurbished, but used for parts for other humvees.

"Nothing goes to waste in this program," said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Paul Hasley, the officer in charge of logistical support operations for Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq.

Once the humvees are washed, they undergo a technical inspection to find any mechanical problems the vehicles may have. Depending on the issues the vehicles have, they are either sent to the speed line or heavy line for maintenance.

At the maintenance bay,

Iraqi local nationals have been trained to work on the humvees. More than 1,500 people applied for the job, but only 300 were hired and another 200 workers are scheduled to be employed.

"The whole mindset is by the time the civilians get done with the 8,500 humvees they will be specialized on how to fix or repair the M1114s," said Hasley. "We're quite impressed with their work standards...It's quite enjoyable because instead of asking them to fix something, they fix things without being told."

On the speed line, all humvees have 20 parts that are mandatory for the mechanics to replace, such as the swing arms, ball joints, springs oil and air filters, and serpentine belts. The fluids and electrical system are also checked on the speed line.

The heavy line is reserved for vehicles in need of major repairs, such as engine or transmission problems.

After the repairs are complete and the mandatory replacement parts are put on, the humvees are put through a five-mile road test to check the brakes and gears.

"We make sure we have a sound vehicle after we've replaced all the parts," said Hasley.

When the road test is complete and no extra repairs are

needed, the humvees are taken to the paint shop, where they are transformed from a plain tan color to a desert camouflage.

The Iraqi flag is painted on the front doors of the vehicles, officially making it an ISF humvee.

By the time Iraqi Soldiers attend the drivers training course, the refurbished vehicles are ready to be signed for.

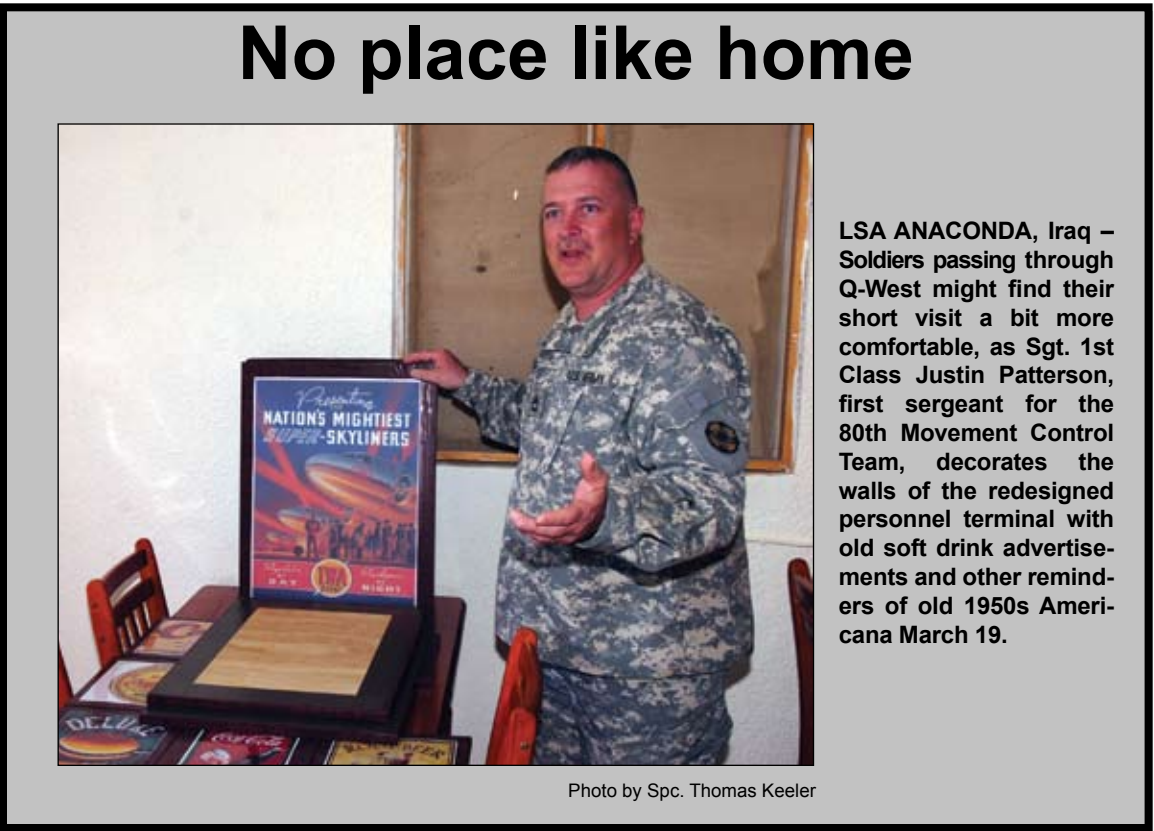
During the three-day course, the Iraqis learn to operate and maintain their new vehicles, which is a huge step for many of them considering many of the IA soldiers who go through the course have never had a driver's license.

"IASSI actually has a hard chore because they have to teach them to drive responsibly and to take care of their vehicle," said Hasley.

"We also trained the Iraqi Security Forces to drive and perform preventative maintenance checks in an effort to keep the vehicles at a high quality state of readiness. The quality of these vehicles is very good," said O'Connell.

In the weeks since the first class graduated from the course at IASSI, two more classes have graduated and about 50 more humvees have been fielded to the ISF.

In approximately two years, the IA will own more than 8,500 humvees.



LSA ANACONDA, Iraq – Soldiers passing through Q-West might find their short visit a bit more comfortable, as Sgt. 1st Class Justin Patterson, first sergeant for the 80th Movement Control Team, decorates the walls of the redesigned personnel terminal with old soft drink advertisements and other reminders of old 1950s Americana March 19.

Photo by Spc. Thomas Keeler

Harbur, from Page 1

For every trailer of goods that comes over the border, the 571st MCT looks for a cargo movement request for that trailer. The 571st MCT validates that CMR with its “Habur Gate” stamp, which is recognized by the border patrol agents who handle passports and other international documents.

Validating the CMR is the first step in allowing the drivers to bring their cargo south.

“The two most important things on the CMR that they absolutely must have is a coalition contract number and a military point of contact,” said Hill.

The drivers report to the “Cowboy” yard, named for the slow-moving, go-it-alone nature of the trucks that, for whatever reason, cannot keep up with the convoy to its destination. Once a rogue or broken-down truck is labeled a Cowboy, it will be granted only one or two more chances to make the drive south.

At the Cowboy yard, the trucks from Turkey transfer their loads to trucks driven by Iraqis. A team of inspectors with the 571st MCT waits to look over the truck and the driver one last time before the driver joins the

queue of trucks that will convoy out later that evening to coalition bases.

The inspectors are not concerned with keeping tabs on the foreign national truck drivers moving around the Iraqi theater, only that the driver is physically and mentally prepared to make the trip to their destination without unscheduled stops.

With paperwork already indicating what each load will carry, the inspections can be quick.

“If it says ‘I’m carrying this’ but then they’re carrying something else, we have to turn them away,” said Staff Sgt. Vicente Rascon, movement supervisor and operations noncommissioned officer-in-charge for the 571st MCT.

The MCT will also reject a load if it’s not secured properly, said Rascon. Many trucks on this trip will carry Class IV supplies—construction materials, which need to be staged carefully and securely on the flatbed trailer.

Sometimes drivers will bring passengers with them to keep them company. This is acceptable—as long as the passengers are on the list.

“If you don’t let us know, I’m assuming you have someone who’s not authorized, so of course I’m going



Staff Sgt. Vicente Rascon and Spc. Cerria White, inspectors with the 571st Movement Control Team, prepare to inspect the trailer of a foreign national truck driver near Habur Gate, Iraq, March 19.

ing to turn you away,” said Rascon.

Rascon’s team inspects up to 40 trucks per day, and he estimates he only rejects about three to seven of the trucks he inspects. Though drivers might sometimes make mistakes, it’s ultimately the trucking company that is responsible if the cargo doesn’t reach its destination.

On the next truck that pulls up, Rascon’s team en-

counters a problem.

Spc. Cerria White, an inspections specialist with the 571st MCT, uncovers an improvised funneling device made from a plastic tube and a half-cut soda bottle from a side compartment below the trailer.

“This is what they use to steal fuel,” she says, tossing the home-made contraption past the driver and into the dirt.

Through an interpreter,

White warns the driver, and the three circle around to the other side of the truck to continue the inspection. Nothing else is found. A few minutes later, the driver is explaining why such a device was found with his gear. The incident is noted, and the driver is allowed to continue.

“They’ll use hoses like that to fill up their tanks so that they can resell their fuel for a higher price later on and make a profit off of it,” said Rascon.

The next driver coming through faces a bigger problem – an extra fuel tank has been welded to the front of his trailer.

“He’s got two tanks,” said White, explaining the trucks are only permitted one fuel tank and one water tank. “This extra tank on here is not even filled, so you can tell they haven’t just been using it for backup.”

For this, the driver will not be allowed to join the convoy.

For good measure, the inspection team removes some paperwork issued from a previous convoy, identifying placards that have expired and are no longer valid.

The team has one more truck to inspect for the day. The cargo checks out, the driver checks out, and the inspection is clean. The truck driver will meet the other drivers at the coalition facility and wait to be escorted later that evening by the military convoy that will take them south to help sustain the victory.



Spc. Cerria White, an inspector with the 571st Movement Control Team, prepares to inspect the trailer of a foreign national truck driver near Habur Gate.

Firefighter training heats up

by Spc. Charlotte Martinez
Anaconda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq – The LSA Anaconda Fire Department hosted a vehicle extraction exercise for members of the 13th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion’s command group, here April 5.

“We’re out here to do this for fun, but it gives us a perspective and appreciation for what (firefighters) do almost daily,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Stan Richards, the Command Sgt. Maj. for the 13th CSSB.

Staff Sgt. Joshua Nordstrom, the fire department’s station captain, organized the different demonstrations to allow members of the 13th CSSB to try different exercises firefighters perform on a regular basis.

In the first scenario members of the 13th CSSB were faced with how to extract a casualty trapped in a crushed vehicle. Firefighters first showed the Soldiers how to wear the personal protective equipment they use on a daily basis and then taught the Soldiers how to remove a windshield and windows from the vehicle with different tools.

Next, Soldiers were shown how to use the “Jaws of Life” to remove doors from the vehicle. After that, the firefighters safely set one of the vehicles on fire.

They then instructed members of the 13th CSSB how to use a fire hose to effectively attack a vehicle fire, then provide assistance, said Nord-



Firefighters show members of the 13th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion how to properly and safely put out a vehicle fire during a demonstration and training exercise here April 5.

strom.

After a few Soldiers tried the different extraction techniques and the firefighters ensured the vehicle fire was completely out, Soldiers completed a small firefighter challenge course.

“The activities today simulates the

physical exertion from a real emergency, for example, casualty evacuation, advancing hose lines, attacking the fire and carrying equipment,” said Nordstrom.

The Soldiers had to first pull a fire hose to them, then pick up the “Jaws of Life” and run it back to the

other side of the course. After that, Soldiers carried two hoses wrapped together to the opposite side, where they then had to hit a fire truck tire with a sledge hammer until the tire moved approximately 10 inches. Soldiers then had to do a duffelbag drag to simulate a casualty.

For the last part of the challenge, Soldiers ran with a charged hose to a certain spot and had to spray water.

The winners of the competition were three female captains who finished the events with the shortest time.

Capt. Lashanda Caver, the commander of the 403rd Inland Cargo Transfer Company, said the exercise was great physical training and it also showed how much concentration you have to have when putting out fires. Caver also said teamwork is a vital piece of a firefighter’s job and realizes after going through the training, just how much the firefighters go through.

“Good commanders know everything their Soldiers do,” said Lt. Col. Tim Sullivan, commander of the 13th CSSB. “Most of the time, we see firefighters as people who simply put fires out and we take that for granted. So when you get a chance to come out here, put their gear on and do what they do every day, you understand clearly, it’s not just about putting out fires.”

“Today was more of a ‘we wanted to show the junior officers and the battalion staff what (firefighters) do,’” said Nordstrom. “It was more of a demonstration than an exercise. It was very authentic,” he further remarked.



Capt. Christina Johnson, Colette Foster and Lashanda Caver open the valve of a fire hose during a firefighter’s challenge course as part of the training exercise held for members of the 13th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion.

Mass casualty exercise ensures

Anaconda is ready for anything

Story and Photos by Spc. Jay Venturini

Anaconda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq – Most people would agree that being stationed here is a pretty good deal. However, with the many amenities available, it is easy to forget that this is still a war zone with insurgents outside the gate who want to inflict harm.

With this in mind, the different emergency elements here conducted a mass causality exercise at many different sites throughout the installation to evaluate their overall response and reaction time.

“We are on one of the safest bases in Iraq, which can cause compliancy,” said Air Force Maj. Aaron Dunn, Detachment 1, 332nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group plans officer. “However, with 28,000 people on Anaconda, the emergency agencies have to be ready for anything at anytime.”

There were four different emergency scenarios which included a suicide bomber, indirect fire attack, entry control point attack and a fuel spill. The scenarios occured within an hour of each other and all produced causalities.

Each agency had specific roles to play during the exercise. The paramedics treated and evacuated the casualties; the fire department checked the buildings for fires while assisting paramedics and the police secured the site.



Emergency personnel prepare to move a casualty with a broken leg onto a stretcher during the mass casualty exercise. All emergency agencies on base were involved in the exercise.



Staff Sgt. Robin Kennedy, Task Force 62nd Multifunctional Medical Battalion Jameson Combat Medical Training Center instructor, adds more blood to a casualty's wound to prepare for a mass casualty exercise April, 1. The exercise used four different emergency scenarios to evaluate the emergency agencies reaction and response.

“The emergency personnel performed remarkably well,” said Senior Master Sgt. Scott Powers, superintendent of the Provost Marshal Office Law and Order Detachment. “It was great practice to have all the agencies working together to save lives.”

Another major arena in the exercise was the joint defense operations center, where personnel controlled the movement of emergency assets to the various sites.

“A major part of the exercise was to see how the personnel in the JDOC would perform with the difficult task of managing multiple attacks,” said Dunn.

With a variety of threats possible for the residents here, it is imperative that emergency personnel keep their skills and mindset sharp. Training exercises like this help them stay prepared.

“You’ll never know how to improve unless you practice,” said Powers. “By performing well in these exercises, it shows everyone that the emergency personnel are up to the challenge of keeping the residents of Anaconda safe.”



A Soldier administers “buddy aid” to a casualty before emergency personnel arrive during the mass casualty exercise. The exercises simulated a suicide vest detonation at a busy chow hall as one of its scenarios.

Women’s History Month finishes strong

by By Spc. Charlotte Martinez
Anaconda Times Staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq – Women’s History Month ended with a bang as two final events, a musical and a 5K run, signaled its conclusion. With both male and female participants in each event, servicemembers here showed the ideals of the past have improved greatly and that as an organization, we are united.

The musical was held March 29 at the Eastside Morale Welfare, and Recreation center and included both male and female performers to entertain the crowd.

“The musical pays tribute to women, with various songs to honor females: past, present and future,” said Lt. Col. Annette Richardson, a member of the 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary).

Richardson did her best to encourage audience participation as the show began. Members of the audience came up to the podium to tell jokes as an ice breaker to encourage crowd involvement.

Although the musical’s purpose was to commemorate women throughout history, only half of the performers were female. Spc. Dominique McClellan and Pfc. Walter

Byrd also paid tribute to females by singing songs such as “This Woman’s Work” by Kate Bush.

Pfc. Tommitrea Minniffee brought the crowd to their feet while singing “He Loves Me,” and Staff Sgt. Erin Murphy sang the national anthem as well as “Don’t Cry for Me Argentina.”

The musical ended with the audience participating in a small dance.

The final event commemorating Women’s History Month was a five kilometer run sponsored by the Women’s History Month committee. The run began at Holt Stadium March 30, and winded through the base before ending back at the stadium.

The first female to complete the run was 1st Lt. Brittany Commons, a liaison officer with the 326th Engineer Battalion.

“Women’s History Month means progression and achievement,” said Commons.

The commander of the 403rd Inland Cargo Transfer Company, Capt. Lashanda Caver, ran in front of her unit for this run, and allowed her unit to take up the rear of the formation. The 403rd has been seen at every



Photo by Spc. Charlotte Martinez

Capt. Lashanda Caver, the commander of the 403rd Inland Cargo Transfer Company, leads her troops during the Women’s History Month 5K run here, March 30.

5K run held here. men and women to come together and celebrate the past, with the present and show that America’s Armed Forces are united for the future.



Photo by Sgt 1st Class Denise Shelton

Col. Kevin O’Connell, a native of Clinton, Md., and the commander of the 1st Sustainment Brigade, led discussions during a commander’s conference at the post theater here April 3.

Commander’s conference provokes discussion

by Sgt 1st Class Denise Shelton
Anaconda Times staff

CAMP TAJI, Iraq - The 1st Sustainment Brigade hosted a commander’s conference April 3 at the post theater.

Col. Kevin O’Connell, a native of Clinton, Md., and the commander of the 1st Sus. Bde., led the discussions.

The conference included all the company and detachment commanders in the brigade as well as the brigade’s battalion command teams.

“I think it’s important, in even a combat zone engaged in high optempo operations, that we pull away from what’s urgent sometimes and take a bigger picture view of what’s important,” said O’Connell.

O’Connell said he thought the conference was well received and had a gambit of discussion.

“I thought it was very successful, and we covered a variety of topics; mostly thought-provoking discussions and dialogue producing topics that kept everybody engaged,” said

O’Connell.

“The last time we did this we had majors and battalion commanders; this time we wanted to get the company commanders involved. I think it’s good for them and good for us to discuss what they’re dealing with and to see what we are thinking about,” O’Connell said.

Attendee Capt. Stephen Bell, a native of Valparaiso, Ind., and commander of Company F, 151st Infantry, an Indiana Army National Guard unit, said it was good to see how the system works at the brigade-level.

“Normally, I don’t see that kind of stuff. So overall it’s a good perspective just to see things at the brigade level and get feedback,” Bell said.

Considering Bell is with an infantry company, he said the interactions he had with a sustainment unit is something he normally wouldn’t have exposure to. “I think from my perspective, we’ve gained a lot of experience and knowledge working from this side, not necessarily by being just a combat unit,” he added.

Equipment training improves Iraqi Army healthcare

by Pfc. Eric J. Martinez
13th Public Affairs Detachment

CAMP TAJI, IRAQ – The 551st Medical Logistics Company, Task Force 56, held a medical equipment training class for Iraqi Army Soldiers at Camp Taji, March 31.

The class covered proper safety, maintenance, and operating procedures used when operating the Pro 4, On-Site Gas Oxygen Filling Station.

“The system takes the 21 percent pure ambient oxygen from the air by compressing it and removing all other non essential gases to produce 93 percent pure oxygen that is ready for medical use,” said Chief Warrant Officer Jonathan D. Richardson, a health service maintenance technician for the 551st Medical Logistics Company.

Medical grade oxygen is used for breathing treatments, surgical procedures and various other forms of patient care.

The team worked with the Iraqi Army to first install the system and then create the proper training required to use the system.

“When we arrived in Iraq, they did not have any O2 capabilities and these units were in crates,” Richardson said, “My soldiers worked very diligently to get these systems installed.”

“They trained eight Iraqi Army Soldiers, showing them how to operate and fill medical grade oxygen bottles,” he said.



Photo by Pfc. Eric J. Martinez

IKliman Hermis, an interpreter with Task Force 62 Medical Brigade, shows Iraqi Soldiers how to use the Pro 4, On-Site Gas Oxygen Filling Station.

“If you know the steps, it’s quite simple to operate. The training is all about safely going over the gauges and teaching them to fill oxygen cylinders,” said Spc. Cory Zeigler, a medial logistics specialist with the 551st. “The training went well, and an individual from my class is already able to train his fellow Soldiers on operating the system.”

The On-Site Gas Oxygen Filling Station is capable of filling 60 to 70 oxygen tanks in a 24-hour period



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bryant Maude

Col. Kevin O’Connell, a native of Clinton, Md., and the commander of the 1st Sustainment Brigade (Left) greets Staff Brig. Gen. Sabah, the Taji Base commander, and his staff at a dinner held in Sabah’s honor April 1.

719th Trans. Bn. welcomes the 330th Trans. Bn. at TOA



Photo by Spc. Jay Venturini

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq – Lt. Col. William L. Mackinnon, 719th Transportation Battalion (Movement Control) Commander and Command Sgt. Maj. Gerald R. Davis, 719th Trans. Bn. (Movement Control), encase their unit flag during their transfer of authority ceremony at the circuit gym here April 2. The 719th was replaced by the 330th Transportation Battalion (Movement Control) from Fort Bragg, N.C.

Breaking bread

by Staff Sgt. Bryant Maude
1st Sus. Bde. PAO MND-B

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Col. Kevin O’Connell, a Clinton, Md., native, and the commander of the 1st Sustainment Brigade, took another step forward in building a partnership with Staff Brig. Gen. Sabah, the Taji Base commander, and his staff April 1, by hosting a dinner at the Cantigny Dinning Facility here for Sabah and his staff. O’Connell’s goal for the dinner was to encourage dialogue between the two units’ staff.

“Take time to get to know one another,” said O’Connell. “Each of you are seated across from your counterpart. Find out who they are, and let’s try and follow up with visits later on.”

The guests sat down in the Shadley room and chose items from a menu of chicken, steak, rice, vegetables, salad, and desert, and broke bread with their counterparts to encourage talk and friendship. For some, this was not their first time meeting.

“We’ve meet before,” said Maj. Jon Campi, a native of Leander, Texas, and the medical officer for the 1st SB. I had an opportunity to tour their facility a few weeks ago so I was pleased to see him again.”

After dinner, O’Connell took his guests on a tour of the Cantigny facility and Gen. Sabah was impressed.

“Surely the White House in America could not be this nice,” said Sabah. “I hope that someday my Soldiers could have such a nice facility.”

The next step in the relationship is to get each of the younger officers to go over to the Iraqi side of Taji to learn more about their counterpart and assess how they may be able to assist them.

Tiny stones cause boulder-sized pain

Even the healthiest of servicemembers can be brought to their knees from kidney stones.

by Staff Sgt. Mareshah Haynes
332nd Expeditionary Public Affairs

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq -- Battlefield warriors, in peak physical condition, the toughest of the tough, are being brought to their knees, writhing on the floor in tears and pain.

The culprit -- tiny kidney stones.

Surgeries to remove the small calcium deposits are the most common non-trauma related surgery performed at the Air Force Theater Hospital here, where approximately 20-30 patients each month are treated for nephrolithiasis, commonly known as kidney stone disease, said Col. (Dr.) John Mansfield, 332nd Expeditionary Medical Operations Squadron urologist.

Kidney stones don't only hurt individual servicemembers, they also hurt military operations.

"During that time frame [when passing a stone] the troop is out of the mission; they're incapable of working. In fact, stones are so severe that if there's a pilot we know who has a kidney stone, they're grounded until they're stone free. It could dangerously interrupt what they do for a living," Mansfield said.

Kidney stones are formed in the kidneys and cause pain for the sufferer when the stones fall into one of the sufferer's ureters, the tube that carries urine from the kidneys to the bladder. The ureters are about the diameter of a pencil and the urine opening is about the diameter of a sharpened pencil lead. The average stone seen at the AFTH is about the size of a pea.

Symptoms of kidney stone disease often occur without any notice and include sudden and severe pain on the side of the lower back, vomiting, nausea and blood in the urine, said Mansfield, who is deployed from Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

Maj. (Dr.) Paul DeFlorio, 332 EM-DOS emergency room staff physician, is one of the first doctors to attend to patients with kidney stones when they come into the emergency room, as they normally do.

"People are literally writhing in bed with pain," said Doctor DeFlorio who is who is deployed from Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. "They feel nausea and the sensation to urinate, but they can't. Some people have blood in the urine, which really frightens them, so they have a lot of anxiety. Predominately, there's a lot of pain. People liken it natural childbirth."

Kidney stones affect both men and women, but are more prevalent in men ages 20-40 years old, Mansfield said.

Eighty percent of the patients [seen at the AFTH] are male and patients come from all branches of the Armed Forces, he said. "Most commonly, patients have a [family or personal] history of stones. Patients who have a history of stones have a higher risk of making stones here in Iraq."

Deployed servicemembers have an increased risk of kidney stones because of several factors.

"Stones are more common in places where it's hot and dry," Mansfield said. "It's generally the lack of water intake. The combination of the hot climate, not enough liquid intake and anyone who has had a history of prior stone disease is at high risk for making more stones."

Other risk factors include excessive calcium, salt or protein intake from foods or supplements.

"Those protein shakes that are popular with body builders lower the pH of the urine and put people at risk for kidney stones; they need to watch those things very carefully especially if they have a history of kidney stones," Mansfield said.



Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Mareshah Haynes

Surgery to remove kidney stones from a patient is performed at the Air Force Theater Hospital here March 26. In the most severe cases of kidney stone disease, stones that are too large to be broken up with laser treatment, must be physically removed from the kidneys.

sfield said. "Also avoid a lot of salt and calcium."

A Soldier deployed to Camp Cropper, Iraq, Army Sgt. Robert Mosher, 345th Support Battalion based out of Oklahoma, recently experienced a case of kidney stone disease and was away from his unit and his mission for seven days while he was treated and recovered in the AFTH.

"It was uncomfortable," Mosher said. "I didn't go in [to the clinic] at first, but by [April 1] it was the worst pain I'd ever had, ever. It felt like I'd been in a 12-round fight and they worked me over pretty good in my kidneys."

Mosher's stones were small enough, 6-7 millimeters, to be treated with laser surgery and the stones were broken into smaller pieces and then removed from the ureter.

He said he had never had a kidney

stone, nor does he have a family history of stones. He believes the stones were caused by his diet, which he is planning to change.

Though the risks may be high for servicemembers, especially in the desert climate, kidney stone disease is preventable.

"By far the most important thing our [servicemembers] can do to prevent stones is to increase their fluid intake and produce more urine everyday," Mansfield said. "Our servicemembers, on average, need to produce 2.5 liters of urine per day. As it gets hotter and we lose more fluids through our skin when we sweat, we need to drink more to produce those 2.5 liters a day."

"If we can save one troop from having kidney stone disease, we're doing a world of good," he said

MESSAGES FROM HOME

Heather Paul
Hey Babe,
Stay safe, can't wait to see you hopefully in July!!! I am soooooooooo proud of you , Love you, miss you.
XOXOXOXO, MOMMA

Hello 1SG Briam Morris, Alpha Co. 1/9 FA
Just a quick shout out to say we love you and miss you very much. Our prayers are with you.
Love your wife Jackie and your daughter Birana Morris

To SFC David Logan of G/1-9 FA Battalion.....
Hi Dave we all love and miss you very, very, very much!!!!!!...see you in July..we can't wait!!!.be safe.....!!!!
Love your bamber and the kids and all the animal babies.....

We just wanted to let you know that the Sabo Train is missing its Conductor. We can't wait for you to come home. We love you and miss you muchly! You are in our thoughts and prayers. We hope you had a Happy Birthday. Only a few more months and we will never have to go through this again.
We love you and miss you very much, Jennifer, Michael, David and Ryan

Well my name is Salena A gerardo and it is our 1 year being married and our first deployment.it is very difficult at times but the love that i have for my soldier has kept me and the rest of our family strong.we are all waiting for your safe return home and i just want you to know that i am so very proud of you my love.you have sacrificed so much and now its time to be back in my arms.i love you baby and ive missed you more than you will ever know.hooah
love always,
Salena A. Gerardo

Josh Rasmussen,
Hey Josh just wanted you to know we love you and are so proud of you. Come home soon. Your family loves and needs you!
Lots of love from home,
MOM

MY HONEY MY HERO! HI BABY, WE CANT WAIT FOR YOU TO COME HOME... WE MISS YOU SO VERY MUCH...! WE LOVE YOU...WE MISS YOU... WE WANT YOU... WE NEED YOU...WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT YOU COMING HOME...AND CANT WAIT...BE SAFE OUT THERE HONEY AND GODSPEED. COME HOME TO US, WHERE YOU BELONG. LOVE,
KAREN, CODI, & DILLON

Bryan Rudyk,
"Fish-Head," we look forward to seeing you back Stateside down at Rudyk Ranch! Thanks for serving.
Andy & Meg Whelton

Messages From Home

Tell your Soldier how much you miss them and how you can't wait to see them.

Contact the 316th Public Affairs Office to print your message.

E-mail Anaconda.Times@iraq.centcom.mil

Come one, come all to a Sustainer theater near you...

**Combat Spring Break Out!!
40's Radio Talent Show**

**May 22nd 2000 - 2130
May 23rd Matinee 1400 - 1530
May 23rd 2000 - 2130**

For more information, contact
LTC Grumelot, 433-2026

America's warrior

A snapshot of servicemembers in the Global War on Terrorism



Spc. Jessica A. Archuleta

Full name and rank: Spc. Jessica A. Archuleta.
Unit: E Company, 2-159th Attack Recon Battalion.
Job Title: Ammunition Specialist.
Time in service: 2 ½ years.
Age: 21.
Hometown: Pueblo, Colorado.
Family (By name and Relation): Father David Archuleta; mother, Cindy Bowens;

and brother, Samuel Archuleta.
Pastimes (Hobbies): Skateboarding, and drama.
Life-changing event/moment: Joining the Army.
Lesson Learned: You can do anything you want.
The person I admire the most: Art Alexakis.

Why I joined the military: I wanted to ever since I was a young child.
If I wasn't in the military I would be: Struggling to make ends meet.
The one thing I would change about the Army: Add more Soldier training.
The one thing I think the Army got right: Free food at the DFAC.
What makes a good Soldier: Taking initiative, and knowing what is right and wrong.
What makes a good leader: Someone who can mentor others, and help them while getting the job done.
Unusual fact about you: I am shy around people I don't know.
Motivations in life: My family.
Goals: To become a chemist.
Hardest part of my job here: Getting the counts accurate.
Best part of my life: My friends and family.

CLP Academy, from Page 4

moment, the group began to look at the table closely because one of the trucks was giving off readings that were interfering with communications.

Pulling the cloth away, they found the owner had placed a spectrum analyzer underneath. It was measuring the radio waves coming from the DUKE and Guardian electronic warfare systems. The owner, a female, was detained and the unit later learned she was a graduate of the University of California with a degree in electrical engineering.

Butler said the story was a reminder for Soldiers to not get comfortable with their surroundings as the scene can change without any prior notice.

Cpl. Michael Blaylock, a C Troop Soldier, said the academy improved his tactical training.

"It was good to see the IED placements in a desert environment instead of some woodland training," he said.

Cpt. Christopher Lack, the commander of 1/152nd Cav, was glad his troops took part in the training.

"Initially, (the troops) didn't think the class was necessary," said Lack. "They got into it and found it was really professionally put together. The TTPs in country were new; I think it will help."

Lack concluded that the reinforcement the school offered will pay off.

"Our business is repetition and rehearsals," Lack said. "We've been doing this for two months. To get to do it in country -- with instructors who have

SHOUT OUT!!!

TELL YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS HOW MUCH YOU MISS THEM

Contact the 316th Public Affairs Office for scheduling.

E-mail Ronald.Reeves@iraq.centcom.mil

ANACONDA ACTIVITIES

INDOOR POOL
Aqua Training: Tuesday and Thursday- 7:45 p.m.

EAST FITNESS CENTER
Basketball League: Monday-Friday – 7 p.m.
Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu: Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 8 p.m.
Kyu Kyu Kempo: Sunday- 2 p.m.
Modern Army combatives: Tuesday and Thursday- 8:30 p.m.
Open court volleyball: Sunday- 6 p.m.
Shotokan Karate Do: Thursday- 6:45 p.m., Saturday- 8:30 p.m. and Sunday- 5:30 p.m.
Soo Bahk Do: 6 p.m.
Step Aerobics: Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 5:30 p.m.
Wrestling & physical fitness class: Tuesday- 6 p.m. and Saturday- 7 p.m.
Swing dance: Sunday- 7:30 p.m.

EAST RECREATION CENTER
8-ball tourney: Monday- 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.
9-ball tournament: Wednesday- 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Game Console Tourney: Thursday- 8 p.m.
Country Dance Class: Thursday- 7 p.m.
Dominoes: Friday- 8 p.m.
Karaoke: Monday- 8 p.m.
Model building: Sunday- 1 p.m.
Poetry/ open mic: Sunday- 7:30 p.m.

Poker tourney: Sunday- 6 p.m.
Salsa dance class: Saturday- 8:30 p.m.
Swing dance: Tuesday- 7p.m.
Ping pong tourney: Tuesday- 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

WEST RECREATION CENTER
8-ball tourney: Wednesday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.
9-ball tournament: Monday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Dungeons & Dragons: Saturday- 8 p.m.
Friday nights in Balad: Friday- 8 p.m.
Foosball: Tuesday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Green Bean karaoke: Wednesday and Sunday- 8 p.m.

WEST FITNESS CENTER
3-on-3 basketball tourney: Saturday- 7:30 p.m.
6-on-6 volleyball tourney: Friday- 7 p.m.
Aerobics: Monday, Wednesday, Friday- 7 p.m.
Body by Midgett Toning Class: Tuesday, Thursday - 7 p.m.
Dodge ball Game: Tuesday- 7:30 p.m.
Furman’s Martial Arts: Monday, Wednesday, Sunday- 1 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday, Sunday- 1 p.m.
Gaston’s Self-Defense Class: Friday, Saturday- 7 p.m.
Open court basketball: Thursday- 7 p.m.
Open court soccer: Monday, Wednesday - 7 p.m.
Zingano Brazilian Jui Jitsu: Tuesday, Thursday- 8:30 p.m.

CIRCUIT GYM
Floor hockey: Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 8 p.m



STUPID STATE LAWS

Ever wonder just how dumb things can be? Does your state have dumb laws? Read on and find out. The next few weeks, the Anaconda Times will have a series of dumb and stupid laws for each state. Many of the laws have been verified, but many have been taken from sources which do not include law citations. The laws cited below have been taken from news groups, web sites and city governments. Remember, something had to have happened to get these laws passed. Some laws have been repealed, but not all; some are still on the books.

- Iowa**
- Kisses may last for no more than five minutes.
 - One-armed piano players must perform for free.
- Kansas**
- No one may catch fish with his bare hands
 - The state game rule prohibits the use of mules to hunt ducks.
- Kentucky**
- Throwing eggs at a public speaker could result in up to one year in prison.
 - One may not dye a duckling blue and offer it for sale unless more than six are for sale at once.
- Louisiana**
- One could possibly land in jail for 20 years upon urinating in the city’s water supply.
 - It is a \$500 fine to instruct a pizza delivery man to deliver a pizza to your friend without them knowing.
- Maine**
- After January 14th you will be charged a fine for having your Christmas decorations still up.
 - You may not step out of a plane in flight.
- Maryland**
- It’s illegal to throw bales of hay from a second-story window within the city limits.
 - Citizens may not swim in the public fountains within the city limits.
- Massachusetts**
- Shooting ranges may not set up targets that resemble human beings.
 - It is illegal to give beer to hospital patients.

PVT. MURPHY’S LAW



SUSTAINER REEL TIME THEATER

Movie Times

Wednesday, April 16
5 p.m. Vantage Point
8 p.m. Witless Protection
Thursday, April 17
5 p.m. Nim's Island
8 p.m. Witless Protection
Friday, April 18
2 p.m. Semi-Pro
5 p.m. Jumper
8:30 p.m. Prom Night
Saturday, April 19
2 p.m. College Road Trip
5 p.m. Prom Night
8 p.m. Jumper
Sunday, April 20
2 p.m. Prom Night
5 p.m. Semi-Pro
8 p.m. College Road Trip
Monday, April 21
5 p.m. Prom Night
8 p.m. Semi-Pro
Tuesday, April 22
5 p.m. Jumper
8 p.m. Prom Night

(Schedule is subject to change)

Movies Coming Soon

Witless Protection
Vantage Point
Nim's Island
Spiderwick Chronicles

Movie Synopsis

Prom Night



Donna’s senior prom is supposed to be the best night of her life. After surviving a horrible tragedy, she has finally moved on and is enjoying her last year of high school. Surrounded by her best friends, she should be safe from the horrors of her past. But when the night turns deadly, there is only one person who

could be responsible...a man she thought was gone forever. Now, Donna and her friends must find a way to escape the sadistic rampage of an obsessed killer, and survive a night “to die for.”

Semi-Pro



In 1976, singer Jackie Moon (Will Ferrell) uses the profits from his one-and-only hit single to fulfill his longtime dream of owning a basketball team. Jackie’s team, the Flint Michigan Tropics, is the worst team in the league, and what’s more, the franchise may fold when the ABA and NBA announce plans

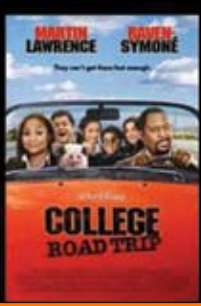
to merge. It’s up to Jackie and the Tropics to turn their game around and slam-dunk their chance for survival.

Jumper



Jumper concerns David (Hayden Christensen), a young man who quite literally wills himself away from his grim family life by teleporting to another place with the power of his mind. Years later, David is using his powers to raid bank vaults, seduce girls in London, lunch on the pyramids, and surf in Fiji. But he soon discovers that he is not the only one bestowed with this unique gift, and all is not well in the world of jumpers. There are people out there, such as Roland (Samuel L. Jackson), who view jumpers as a threat to all humankind, and have made it their mission in life to eliminate them. After jumping back to Michigan to get reacquainted with his long lost love, Millie (Rachel Bilson),

College Road Trip



A college-bound girl (Raven-Symone) has her hopes of independence shattered when her overbearing police chief father (Martin Lawrence) insists on escorting her on a road trip to prospective universities.

Upcoming sports on AFN

Wednesday 4/16/08
NHL: playoffs first round live 2:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
NBA: Sacramento @ Los Angeles Lakers live 5:30 a.m. AFN/xtra
NBA: Orlando @ Atlanta replay 11:00 a.m. AFN/sports
MLB: Milwaukee @ St. Louis replay 5:00 p.m. AFN/sports
Thursday 4/17/08
NHL: playoffs first round live 2:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
NBA: Utah @ San Antonio live 3:00 a.m. AFN/sports
NHL: playoffs first round live 5:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
NBA: Seattle @ Golden State live 5:30 a.m. AFN/sports

Friday 4/18/08
MLB: Boston @ New York Yankees live 2:00 a.m. AFN/sports
NHL: playoffs first round live 2:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
MLS: Columbus @ DC United live 3:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
NHL: playoffs first round live 5:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
MLB: Seattle @ Oakland live 5:00 a.m. AFN/sports
MLB: Texas @ Toronto replay 11:00 a.m. AFN/sports
MLB: Pittsburgh @ Chicago Cubs live 9:00 p.m. AFN/sports

Saturday 4/19/08
MLB: New York Mets @ Philadelphia live 2:00 a.m. AFN/sports
MLB: Detroit @ Toronto live 2:00 a.m. AFN/prime

NHL: playoffs first round live 2:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
NHL: playoffs first round live 5:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
MLB: San Francisco @ St. Louis replay 11:00 a.m. AFN/sports
Indy Car: Indy Japan 300 live 7:00 p.m. AFN/xtra
NHL: playoffs first round (if necessary) live 8:00 p.m. AFN/prime
NBA: playoffs first round live 10:00 p.m. AFN/sports
MLB: Cleveland @ Minnesota live 10:30 p.m. AFN/xtra
MLB: Los Angeles Dodgers @ Atlanta live 11:00 p.m. AFN/prime

Saturday 4/20/08
NBA: playoffs first round live 12:30 a.m. AFN/sports
NHL: playoffs first round (if necessary) live 2:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
NBA: playoffs first round live 3:00 a.m. AFN/sports
MLB: Seattle @ Los Angeles Angels live 5:00 a.m. AFN/prime
NBA: playoffs first round live 5:30 a.m. AFN/sports
MLB: New York Mets @ Philadelphia replay 10:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
Boxing: Bernard Hopkins vs. Joe Calzaghe replay 2:00 p.m. AFN/sports
MLB: San Diego @ Arizona replay 3:00 p.m. AFN/xtra
NASCAR: Nationwide Series: Mexico 200 live 9:00 p.m. AFN/xtra
NBA: playoffs first round live 10:00 p.m. AFN/sports
NHL: playoffs first round (if necessary) live 10:00 p.m. AFN/prime

Monday 4/21/08
NBA: playoffs first round live 12:30 a.m. AFN/sports
NHL: playoffs first round (if necessary) live 2:00 a.m. AFN/xtra

NBA: playoffs first round live 3:00 a.m. AFN/sports
MLB: New York Mets @ Philadelphia live 3:00 a.m. AFN/prime
IndyCar: Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach replay 5:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
NBA: playoffs first round live 5:30 a.m. AFN/sports
MLB: Los Angeles Dodgers @ Atlanta replay 7:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
PGA Tour: Verizon Heritage replay 10:00 a.m. AFN/sports

Tuesday 4/22/08
NBA: playoffs first round live 2:00 a.m. AFN/sports
NHL: playoffs first round (if necessary) live 2:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
NBA: playoffs first round live 4:30 a.m. AFN/sports
NHL: playoffs first round (if necessary) live 5:00 a.m. AFN/xtra
MLB: New York Mets @ Chicago Cubs replay 10:00 a.m. AFN/sports
MLB: St. Louis @ Milwaukee live 8:00 p.m. AFN/sports



546th ASMC sponsors ‘Splash and Dash’



Photo by Spc. Anthony Hooker



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Top Left: Contestants begin their first lap during the Splash and Dash Biathlon Challenge held April 6 at Turner Indoor Pool.

Top Right: Marcus Conningham leaves the pool after completing the 800 meter swim.

Middle Left: Captain Yuri Campbell changes clothes after the swimming portion of the Splash and Dash Biathlon Challenge. Campbell, the commander of the 261st Multifunctional Medical Company, finished 33rd among male competitors and 40th overall.

Bottom Left: Mike Moore starts the 5 kilometer Race during the Splash and Dash Biathlon Challenge. He finished 31st among male competitors and 38th overall.

Bottom Right: 1st Lt. Brittany Commons completes the 5K run during the Splash and Dash Biathlon Challenge. Commons, a member of the 326th Engineer Battalion, finished 1st among female competitors and 11th overall.



Photo by Spc. Anthony Hooker