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Serving Task Force Marne

Soldiers distribute school supplies

SGT. 1ST CLASS TAMI HILLIS
4TH BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB KALSU — A convoy rolls up to a small school in the Monsouri area of Iraq, just outside FOB Kalsu, and at first glance the school looks abandoned. Then small faces start appearing and heads lean out the windows.

Moments later, Soldiers with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 76th Field Artillery, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, and the 415th Civil Affairs Battalion, from Kalamazoo, Mich., currently assigned to 1-76th FA, are surrounded by helpful faculty and eager students, waiting to see what has been brought.

The Soldiers delivered backpacks filled with school supplies, soccer balls and notebooks April 14 to the al-Raqhaa School, for primary and secondary students, and the Abu Shear School, for primary students. Each school has approximately 800 students.

“A lot of the missions we’re doing right now are school improvements and this mission helps the kids get the materials they need in order to get an

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Sgt. 1st Class Tami Hillis

Cpl. Markbradley Vincze, from Lufkin, Texas, gives students from al-Raqhaa School backpacks in the Monsouri area of Iraq. Soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1-76th FA, 4th BCT, 3rd Inf. Div., delivered backpacks, soccer balls and notebooks to students there.

Informant tip yields weapons cache

CAPT. MICHAEL STARZ
3RD BCT, 101ST ABN. DIV. (AASLT)

YUSFIYAH — A tip from an informant led U.S. and Iraqi Army Soldiers to a weapons cache in Shubayshen Village, south of Baghdad, April 16.

Soldiers from 4th Battalion, 25th Brigade, 6th IA Division and Company C, 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), conducted a search through

the area until they came upon the site described by the informant.

Finding the cache, the Soldiers spent several hours digging up the munitions, which consisted of approximately 600 tank rounds.

First Sgt. Roy Bruce, senior enlisted member of Company C, said positions established in the area with Operation Marne Piledriver emboldened the informant to come forward.

“The informant told us that al-Qaeda in Iraq emplaced this cache

last year and that he finally felt safe enough due to IA presence to reveal the cache,” said 1st Lt. Bo Alf, Company C intelligence officer. “The informant, his family and neighbors told us of the false promises of al-Qaeda and how they want to return to the fold of the Government of Iraq.”

Marne Piledriver is an ongoing Multi-National Division - Center operation focused on capacity-building projects throughout the area of operations of 3rd BCT, 101st Abn. Div. (AASLT). During the operation, Iraqi Security Forces are taking the lead in targeting remaining insurgent pockets with the help of Coalition forces.

SCHOOL

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education,” said Cpl. Markbradley Vincze, a father of one from Lufkin, Texas.

Spc. Christopher Ryder, a Lake Charles, La., native and three-year veteran, said they try to put a smile on the kids’ faces.

“It makes me feel like I am actually making a difference,” Ryder said. “It shows the kids that we’re good people.”

Over time the goal is to get a backback and supplies to each student.

“Right now we’re using a systematic way of distributing our generosity throughout our (area of operation),” said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Robert Green, target acquisition platoon leader. “So we started with these two schools and we’re kind of going in a clockwise motion around our AO with school drops.”

There are approximately 10 schools in the unit’s AO.

“We’ve gotten to know the people in our AO and it feels nice doing something good for them,” said Spc. Joseph Carroll, a one-year veteran from South Bend, Ill. “It also gives the Army a positive image.”

This type of mission helps build relationship between Coalition forces and Iraqi residents.

“It shows the people that we’re not just here for ourselves; we’re going to work for the community, work for the children,” said Green, a father of three and St. Louis, Mo., native. “I think if you win the children, you win the adults. They’re kids just like our kids, they just have less.”

The unit plans to work with the CA team on a continuous basis until each school has supplies for every student, said Green.

“Hopefully the young ones remember American Soldiers as helpful, so maybe our kids won’t have to be here in 20 years,” said Pfc. Agustin Aguilar Jr., a one-year veteran from Tucson, Ariz. “They are grateful for anything and they don’t look at us and run away - they know we’re friendly to them.”



Spc. Amanda McBride

Leaders from the 3rd Infantry Division, Iraqi Security Forces and local officials sit during the ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the official opening of the Jurf as Sahkr Town Hall.

Town Hall opens in Jurf as Sahkr

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

FOB KALSU — Approximately 500 people gathered to commemorate the grand opening of the Jurf as Sahkr Town Hall April 15 in Jurf as Sahkr, Iraq.

Leaders from the 3rd Infantry Division, Iraqi Security Forces and local officials were present for the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

“The opening of the Jurf town hall is just another indicator of the progress that continues to occur in the area,” said Col. Timothy Newsome, commander of 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Inf. Div. “An area that this time last year was, in fact, a staging base for (al-Qaeda in Iraq) operations in the middle of the Euphrates River Valley.”

Many buildings had been destroyed in the area due to insurgent violence. Local leaders were forced to use other locations throughout

town to hold meetings and conduct government functions.

Sheikh Sabbah al-Janabi, a sheikh in the Janabi tribe and leader of Jurf as Sahkr, said there had been no suitable building since the violence. “With help from (Coalition forces), we have been able to build this building in limited time.”

Through partnership with the civil affairs team attached to 3-7th Inf. Regt., residents of Jurf as Sahkr came together to build the town hall.

With funding provided by 4th BCT, 3rd Inf. Div., local contractors constructed the hall in four months.

The new building provides a place where all the city government branches can come together and have a permanent structure to work from.

The four-room building will house the town’s public works branch, including trash collection, sanitation and water, along with an office for Sheikh Sabbah.

THE Dog Face Daily

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214th Fires Brigade
7th Sustainment Brigade
720th Military Police Battalion
302nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment



Got RISK?

<https://crc.army.mil>

➔ A Soldier died April 1 from injuries sustained in a vehicle accident that occurred March 20 at approximately 1200 local near Junction, Texas. The Soldier was driving a 2007 Chevrolet Malibu when he lost control of the vehicle and struck an overpass embankment. He was wearing a seat belt.
COST: 1 Soldier Killed

➔ A Soldier was killed and another injured in a vehicle accident March 22 at approximately 0345 local in Eatontown, N.J. The Soldier was driving a 2007 Lexus IS-250 at a high rate of speed with another Soldier when he lost control of the vehicle and struck a tree. Neither Soldier was wearing a seat belt.
**COST: 1 Soldier Killed
1 Soldier Injured**

Safety Thought of the Day

Sport and Dietary Supplements

Things to REMEMBER:

- Make health care providers aware of supplement use, especially if taking medications.
- Choose supplements that are manufactured by large or well-known companies.
- Avoid products that do not include dosage recommendations, lot numbers or an expiration date.
- Take only the recommended dosage. Remember, there are no current regulations that govern the serving size or amount of ingredients in a supplement.
- Taking supplements can increase a Soldier's risk to Heat Injury.
- Beware of phrases like "miracle cure" & "latest breakthrough," If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- Some adverse effects include heat injuries, high blood pressure, irregular heart rate, kidney failure, inability to sweat, dehydration, low blood sugar,

anxiety, and gastrointestinal complaints, among others. If these side effects are experienced, contact a health care provider immediately.



File photo

Headline Highlights

The right name; high value robbery; sympathy for team; jogging pilgrim

Get the right name and open doors for your child

LONDON (Reuters) – British parents spend 30 million hours a year picking the names of their newborn children, a survey showed on Thursday.

And choosing the right name can be crucial – if you want your child to get on in life.

The survey by Abbey Banking showed that parents agonize for up to 45 hours over the name of their child – a combined 30 million hours annually in Britain.

One in three parents believed the right name can give a child confidence while up to two million thought it could help their child's career prospects.

"There is no doubt that children's names reflect people's aspirations and parents believe names can affect career prospects," said Abbey Banking director Steve Shore.

The latest national statistics update showed that Grace, Ruby and Olivia ranked as the current top names for girls and Jack, Thomas and Oliver for boys.

Robbers steal watches worth \$1.4 million

LONDON (Reuters) – Armed robbers stole designer watches worth 700,000 pounds in simultaneous daytime raids on two upmarket de-

partment stores in Manchester on Wednesday, police said.

Two men carrying claw hammers smashed display cases at Selfridges, while a third filled a bag with watches worth 400,000 pounds.

At the same time, two men wearing motorcycle helmets attacked a security guard at the nearby Harvey Nichols store, broke cabinets with hammers and stole watches worth 300,000 pounds.

Both stores in the city's Exchange Square shopping district were open at the time, but no customers were injured, police said.

The five men escaped in a stolen red Ford Transit van before switching to an unknown getaway car.

Detective Sergeant Dave Turner, of Greater Manchester Police, said: "This incident has left one man with minor injuries and a number of other people extremely distressed.

"These men seem to have had a clear plan of attack. They were after high-value pieces and knew which counters to target to find them."

School team hit for 66 runs in two innings

TOKYO (Reuters) – A Japanese high school pleaded for a regional game to be abandoned after surrendering 66 runs in less than two innings, local media reported on Thursday.

The coach of Kawamoto technical high school threw in the towel to spare

his pitcher's arm with his team losing 66-0 with just one batter out in the bottom of the second.

The hapless hurler had already sent down over 250 pitches, allowing 26 runs in the first inning and 40 in the second before Kawamoto asked for mercy.

"At that pace the pitcher would have thrown around 500 pitches in four innings," Kawamoto's coach was quoted as saying. "There was a danger he could get injured."

Jogging pilgrim stuns motorists

BERLIN (Reuters) – Police in Germany were shocked to find a man running down a major highway pulling a three-wheeled trailer – but even more surprised to learn he was a Polish pilgrim on a 3,000 km (1,800 mile) trek.

Motorists near Coburg in Bavaria saw the man towing a load with a rod attached to his back and called police.

"Officers' initial astonishment quickly turned into admiration," a police statement said on Tuesday.

After questioning the man, police discovered he was a devout Roman Catholic Pole on his way home from a European pilgrimage that had taken him as far as Portugal.

Inside a converted roof luggage box, which also served as a bivouac, the 35-year-old was carrying all he needed for the journey, police said. After inspecting the vehicle, officers declared it roadworthy and sent him on his way.

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

from Sudoku Easy Presented by Will Shortz

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC QUESTION OF THE DAY

why?

laysh?