

Under Secretary of Defense visits Village of Hope

SGT. DAVID TURNER
2ND BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB KALSU – The Under Secretary of Defense for Policy visited Patrol Base Stone in southern Baghdad May 1 to see progress in a unique program that teaches job skills to local citizens.

Eric Edelman met with members of the 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division attached to 2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div., and Airmen of the 557th Expeditionary Red Horse Squadron to see developments in the Village of Hope project.

The Village of Hope is a program that provides local citizens, most of them former members of the Sons of Iraq, construction skills to earn better jobs and help rebuild their communities.

Funding for the project comes from the U.S. Congress' Demilitarization, Demobilization and Reconstruction fund.

Colonel James W. Adams, deputy commander for 2nd BCT, briefed Edelman on the project, showing him how DDR funds help rebuild one village at a time in Iraq.

"We've applied these funds to demo-



Sgt. David Turner

Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Eric Edelman is briefed by Col. James W. Adams, deputy commander of 2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div., on operations at PB Stone. Edelman's visit was part of a three-day tour of Iraq.

bilize (SoI) from their security role, to phase them into this jobs-works program and to help begin reconstruction in their local neighborhoods," said Ad-

ams, of Middleton, Tenn. "It's a perfect fit for what Congress designed DDR

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Iraqi Security Forces, Coalition forces distribute food, toys

SGT. DANIEL T. WEST
214TH FB

FOB DELTA – Iraqi Security Forces and American Soldiers distributed humanitarian assistance to more than 200 families in the Zuwarijat district of al-Kut, 163 kilometers southeast of Baghdad, April 30, as part of Operation Thunder II.

The humanitarian mission furthered the operation's goal of establishing a permanent ISF presence in the area.

During Operation Thunder II, ISF occupied three buildings to serve as temporary joint security stations until a permanent facility is built, said Col. Peter Baker, commander of the 214th Fires Brigade.

"This is the first time since I came to al-Kut that ISF has come into and stayed in an area with no permanent ISF presence," Baker said.

Zuwarijat, like the Sadr area of Baghdad, was used by Saddam Hussein as a place for people he considered undesirable, said Capt. Hayder

Ali Adnan, of the Iraqi Police. The standard of living is very low.

The Iraqi Security Forces moved into the area to show residents of Zuwarijat the strength of the security forces and give them the opportunity to support ISF in finding criminals, Adnan said.

The Iraqi Army led the mission, with the support of IP and assistance in planning from American forces, Baker said.

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Machinist saves Army time, money

PFC. MONICA K. SMITH
3RD CAB, 3RD INF. DIV.

CAMP STRIKER – The combat aviation shop is filled with techno music and heavy metal as the brigade's only machinist works busily to craft custom-made tools in support of maintenance companies.

As the machinist for Company B, 603rd Aviation Support Battalion, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, Sgt. Mark White saves the Army millions of dollars by producing parts and tools difficult to obtain during deployment.

"I extract bolts, repair treads, make bolts, make stuff not available in the supply system by taking measurements and then I make it right here in my own shop," White said.

The wait for these parts and tools is usually long, especially for specific parts Soldiers use to work on aircrafts every day. In adding up the tool cost, plus shipping and time saved from waiting, White's platoon sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class Jose Cruz-Ortiz, estimated he was able to save the Army \$3 million during his deployment.

"My job is deployment heavy," White said. "In Savannah they can go and buy stuff or they can order it and get it really quick. The work I do here saves the Army a lot of time so they don't have to order things overseas and have it shipped."

The requests and blueprints White receives from his customers come in various mediums: some as precise as a drawing with accompanying measurements, others as vague as hand gestures combined with the phrase, "it's about this big."

"Customers come up with some pret-



Pfc. Monica K. Smith

Sgt. Mark White, machinist in Co. B, 603rd ASB, turns metal while shaving unnecessary parts to make an aft transmission stand sleeve at the 3rd CAB flight line shop at Camp Striker, Iraq.

ty crazy stuff," White said. "But for the most part it's all important stuff. They don't waste my time."

There are times when White will create a part without understanding its role.

"I made two brass ones and already they want me to make more," said White holding up a metal rod. "I don't even know what it is."

All requests go through production control to ensure his labor is put to good use, White says. The PC office decides what is important and what isn't.

"He works wonders," Cruz-Ortiz said. "During PC meetings people will ask if he can make something for them."

At times the measurement for a

product he makes has a variable of plus or minus one-one thousandth of an inch. Those measurements are called "critical measurements," White said. He works diligently with a dial caliber and magnifying glass to achieve precision.

"(The measurement is) so exact that if I'm just a little off I have to scrap the whole thing and start over," White said.

When White enlisted in the Army, many of his military occupational specialty choices were infantry related, however he did notice one as machinist. Having enjoyed shop class in high

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THE Dog Face Daily

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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

354th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

HOPE: *Local citizens learn new job skills*

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funds for."

Air Force Capt. Michael Askegren, 557th ERHS, Village of Hope site commander, showed Edelman the training facility at PB Stone, where U.S. military engineers teach students carpentry, plumbing and electrical engineering.

"The primary point of the Village of Hope program is to provide a sustainable skill set that they can use later," Askegren said.

"They will have a sustainable skill that will lead to economic growth and a better community," he added.

One major reason for the project taking hold here is many homes and buildings in the area were destroyed last fall when al-Qaeda fighters attacked citizens, Iraqi Army and Coalition forces.

Currently, 36 Airmen are working with members of the 2nd BCT and 20th Engineer Brigade to train the first class of approximately 50 students, which will graduate May 8. Three more Village of Hope classes, 50 students each, will take place over the course of the year.

Adams said the future of the program looks promising.

"Our obligation is to see this program through," he said. "It will continue even when we leave. This program will continue and Hawr Rajab will be rebuilt as to its pre-war state."

MISSION: *Soldiers work with ISF*

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"I think the joint security mission and the assistance mission was very effective and successful," Adnan said. "The distribution mission was good."

Baker said the missions were a good example of ISF growth.

"They are more skilled and better with planning. It's a tremendous growth in capacity in a short time," he said.

Baker said he was pleased with the results of the operation, but warned that the future stability of the area is far from assured.

"It's only been a week, but it's been a good week," he said.



Sgt. Daniel T. West

Cpl. David Silva, of the 511th Military Police Company, from Fort Drum, N.Y., passes a package of food supplies to an IP officer in Zuwarjat, a district of al-Kut, Iraq.

MACHINIST

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school, White chose the position.

"I enjoy it and it's fun," White said. "I like the job satisfaction. I know what I'm doing saves the Army a lot of money and helps people."

In addition to working for each of the units within the brigade, White has also assisted the Air Force, the Iraqi Army and once provided more than 100 modified M16 mounts for Company B, 2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, from Fort Drum, N.Y.

However, all projects are prioritized.

"When there's an (aircraft on ground) I stop everything and work on that," White said. "If I have the day off they'll come get me, but I know the job's important, so I don't really mind if they have to come and get me."

White's shop is an aviation intermediate level maintenance. However, there are times when producing a specialty tool requires authorization at the depot level in Corpus Christi, Texas. At first, they were wary of White's ability to produce such precise tools, but now he's granted authorization as soon as he requests it.

Safety Thought of the Day

NVG Limitations & Control Measures

Control Measures:

- Use good continuous scanning techniques and don't focus on fixed objects.
- Ensure goggles are properly adjusted. Slow down in low light conditions and/or poor visibility.
- Know and understand the effects of visual cues and illusions. Conduct thorough map recons and brief all hazards during the convoy brief. Avoid overconfidence and the tendency to outperform the capabilities of the NVGs. Proficiency builds with experience.
- Provide adequate time to "dark adapt" and wear tinted eye protection during

the daytime to speed the process. Avoid looking directly at bright lights, flares, lightning, and lasers. Instead, use off center vision to maintain the best night vision possible.

Limitations:

- Reduced field-of-view (only 40 degrees).
- Reduced visual acuity (sharpness of vision).
- Reduced depth perception & distance estimation ability.
- Dark adaptation generally takes 30-45 minutes.

Ref: TC 21-305-2.

Headline Highlights

Inmate cards; reception arrest; soccer appeal; bad check

Will cards for inmates help officials solve crimes?

NEW YORK (Reuters) – Inmates in 58 county jails across New York are getting playing cards with the pictures of missing persons in hopes the photos will jog memories and help solve cold cases.

Under a state Senate pilot program, 7,200 decks of cards are being sent to the jails. They include telephone numbers of tip lines that offer rewards to anyone – including prisoners – who provide information about the crimes.

The cards were paid for with a \$10,000 grant from Republican Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno from funds he controls.

“This program seeks to go right to the source of crime, providing incarcerated criminals information via playing cards who, in turn, may have credible information or leads that help solve these crimes,” Bruno said in a statement.

A spokesman for Bruno said a similar scheme in Florida prisons had resulted in leads that helped close old cases..

NY bride, groom plead guilty in reception spat with band

PORT CHESTER, N.Y. (AP) – A New York bride and groom arrested at their wedding reception after the bride trashed a set of conga drums in a spat with the band have pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct.

The bride was also accused of breaking a speaker in a dispute over the music

at the April 5 reception. Fabiana Reyes has been sentenced in Village Court to the six days she already spent in jail. The 41-year-old also paid the band \$1,500 for the damage.

Her 42-year-old husband and their 21-year-old daughter were accused of interfering with Reyes’ arrest. Elmo and Helen Fernandez pleaded guilty Thursday. Police used stun guns on both during the fracas.

The daughter says the couple were legally married in 1986 but delayed their church wedding until last month.

Japanese soccer player counts cost of garlic appeal

TOKYO (Reuters) – Japan striker Kazuki Ganaha is counting the cost of his bid to overturn a ban imposed for taking intravenous garlic infusions.

The 27-year-old was suspended for six games last year for breaking the J-League’s anti-doping rules after coming down with influenza.

Ganaha appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), who heard his case at a two-day hearing in Tokyo this week.

CAS are expected to rule within the next few weeks but Ganaha’s legal costs are mounting and he has already paid out around \$100,000 (50,600 pounds).

“I don’t have any regrets,” Ganaha told Friday’s Japanese papers. “The slate needs to be wiped clean. I’m not attempting to betray soccer.

“I’m doing this so other players don’t

end up in the same position.”

Although Ganaha did not take a banned substance, intravenous treatment is banned by Japan’s domestic league in line with world soccer’s governing body FIFA.

The Kawasaki Frontale player was put on a drip by a doctor at the J-League club, who were fined just under \$100,000.

Man arrested in Texas for trying to cash \$360 billion check

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) – Charles Ray Fuller must have been planning one big record company. The 21-year-old North Texas man was arrested last week for trying to cash a \$360 billion check, saying he wanted to start a record business. Tellers at the Fort Worth bank were immediately suspicious – perhaps the 10 zeros on a personal check tipped them off.

Fuller, of suburban Crowley, was arrested on a forgery charge. He was released after posting \$3,750 bail.

Fuller said his girlfriend’s mother gave him the check to start a record business. But bank employees who contacted the account’s owner said the woman told them she did not give him permission to take or cash the check.

In addition to the forgery count, Fuller was charged with unlawfully carrying a weapon and possessing marijuana. Officers reported finding less than two ounces of marijuana and a .25-caliber handgun and magazine in his pockets.

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

from Sudoku Easy Presented by Will Shortz

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC QUESTION OF THE DAY

Who doesn't belong here? mih-noo il-lee moo-min-ah?