

THE Dog Face Daily

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Serving Task Force Marne

MPs provide overwatch, IPs take lead



Sgt. Daniel T. West

Specialist Joseph Fluty, 511th Military Police Company, from Fort Drum, N.Y., maintains security as Iraqi Policemen search vehicles at a checkpoint in al-Kut, Iraq.

International Relief and Development meeting held in Khidr

1ST LT. MARSHALL TUCKER
3-7TH INF. REGT., 4TH BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB ISKAN – Iraqi citizens came together to discuss economic development during an International Relief and Development meeting held May 8 in Khidr, south of Baghdad.

Hassanin Hamid, IRD business development unit manager, discussed with the group what IRD can offer. He said he wanted to help by

offering grants to those seeking to become involved with projects.

Hassanin said as long as the project is feasible and beneficial to the individual and the area, he will fund it.

The assembled group voiced a few concerns about electricity and clean water, and Sabah Kafaig, Iskandariyah Nahia chairman, helped people understand what their government is doing for them.

Hassanin gave five packets out to local contractors and distributed applications to attendees from the local area. He fielded questions and urged them to make a difference and help rebuild the country of Iraq.

Once the applications are turned into the Iskandariyah Nahia Council, the IRD will call them when the grant is ready for disbursement. They will also conduct future inspections to ensure money was used wisely.

Ceremony marks completion of school construction

SGT. 1ST CLASS KERENSA HARDY
3RD BCT, 101ST ABN. DIV. (AASLT)

CAMP STRIKER – Iraqi citizens celebrated the completion of construction at the Omah Moktar School for Girls in the Qadisiyah Apartment Complex in Mahmudiyah, about 20 kilometers south of Baghdad, May 8.

After nearly three months of construction, the Moktar School's approximately 600 students can now enjoy new windows, gates and doors, as well as new auditorium furniture. Exterior improvements included raising the outer wall as an added security measure.

"The educational environment was greatly enhanced and helped to bolster pride in their school," said 1st Lt. Jason Potter, Moktar School project manager, 3rd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). "This project was significant in that it showed the residents of the neighborhood that the Coalition forces are really here to help."

Mahmudiyah Qada Council chairman Abu Amar, Mahmudiyah Nahia



Courtesy photo

Students stand in front of the newly renovated Omah Moktar School for Girls in the Qadisiyah Apartment Complex in Mahmudiyah.

Council president Talib Abbas and Dr. Qais al-Hanni from the Ministry of Education attended the ceremony.

Al-Hanni reminded attendees of education's importance and maintaining an environment that encourages children to learn.

Students took the stage throughout the ceremony to give speeches, sing and

recite poems. One group also performed a short skit reflecting on the successes of Iraqi Security Forces in improving security in the area, and cleaning up the neighborhood's appearance.

At the end of the ceremony, Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 25th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division distributed school supplies to the students.

MNC-1 Equal Opportunity Office presents
Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Location:
CAMP VICTORY STAGE

When:
THURSDAY,
MAY 22, 2008
From 7:00pm to 8:30pm

POC:
MND-C EO OFFICE
DSN: 822-7654/53/9088
SIPR: 243-4128

All MND-C Soldiers are encouraged to attend

THE Dog Face Daily

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3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division
3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Abn. Division (Assault)
4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division
3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division
214th Fires Brigade
7th Sustainment Brigade
720th Military Police Battalion
354th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Soldier leaves All-Army Softball team to deploy

PFC. EVAN LOYD

2ND BCT, 1ST ARMD. DIV.

FOB HAMMER – Corporal Roxanne Finks walks into the dusty office, sits down and begins working on her computer. Her fingers move like lightning on the black keyboard.

It's early in her deployment with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, and she has a lot of work to do, smoothing out the wrinkles on the unit's computer networks. She hasn't always been an information system operations analyst, though. Before being assigned to the communications section of the 2nd BCT, 1st Armd. Div., she played softball for the All-Army team.

"I was just in the right place at the right time," she said. "I don't even think I'm that great."

Finks started playing baseball when she was young and switched to softball during her high school years. After graduating high school, she turned down an athletic scholarship at a nearby college to join the Army.

"Everyone always asks me why I didn't go to the college team," said Finks, a native of San Diego, Calif. "At the time, I just didn't think I had the skill to play college softball. Also, the Army helped me gain independence and will help me later with school."

Still, Finks loved softball and didn't



Courtesy photo

Corporal Roxanne Finks, from San Diego, Calif., a Soldier in the communications section for 2nd BCT, 1st Armor Div., fields a ball while playing infield for the All-Army Team at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa. 2008.

want to give it up. While she was stationed in Yansung, Korea, she decided to play ball in post-sized tournaments. She played so well at the Pacific Wide Tournament in Yansung, that a recruiter for the All-Army team invited her to attend

tryouts at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa.

As a result of the tryout, Finks managed to get a spot on the second string. After a year, she earned her place as the middle infielder.

"That first year, my position was the bench cheerer," she said. "But, I paid my dues and got into my spot the second year."

After Finks' second season, she was offered the choice between staying with the team or deploying with a unit to Iraq. She decided she would deploy to serve her country.

"I think everyone should put their time in," Finks said. "This is what I feel I should do right now. You got to do what you got to do."

Finks' day goes a little different from when she once trained all day to play softball. With the communication section, she's currently working on the transitions of tactical and automation computers. She helps establish network connections and provide a system to track friendly forces on the battlefield and radio communication for war fighters on the ground. With all those duties, Finks has almost no free time for softball.

"I usually finish my day and head straight to my bed," she said. "I still keep my glove and a ball with me though. I'd sleep with it if I had to. It's my outlet for fun in life."

Safety Thought of the Day

Ground Guiding Safety Reminders

- A ground guide is required when a vehicle is moved in a confined or congested area, including cantonments and parking areas; during limited visibility; or if the driver is in doubt about adequate clearance.
- All Soldiers must be trained in standard hand and arm signals and flashlight signals before ground guiding a vehicle or operating a vehicle using a ground guide.
- Ground guides should keep 10 yards between themselves and the vehicles front and rear corners and stay out of the vehicle path of travel.
- Instruct drivers to STOP immediately if they lose sight of the ground guide, see a ground guide in a dangerous position, or don't understand signals.
- Ground guides must never run in front of a vehicle or walk backwards while ground guiding.
- For all vehicles larger than a HMMWV, use 2 ground guides when backing up. They must maintain visual contact with each other, and the front guide must stop the vehicle if they lose sight of the rear ground guide.
- Only one ground guide gives the signal to the driver.
- Ref: FM 21-305, FM 21-60, TC 21 306, GTA 17-02-019 & TF Marne Policy Letter dated 04 Nov 07.

Headline Highlights

Photo ops with gang leaders; self-tracheotomy again

Rio firm in trouble for slum tour with a twist

RIO DE JANEIRO (Reuters) – A Rio de Janeiro tour company could be in trouble for giving tourists too intimate a view of life in the city's notorious slums, including photo opportunities with drug gang leaders.

The Brazilian city's tourism chief said on Monday that the company, Private Tours, could be stripped of its license after a report in Sunday's Folha de Sao Paulo newspaper that it had set up meetings between traffickers and tourists.

The paper sent a reporter disguised as a foreign tourist on the 4-hour, \$55 (28 pound) tour of Rocinha, the city's largest slum, that included visits to the "bocas de fumo" where traffickers sell drugs to Rio residents.

It said the traffickers told the tourists stories about their time in prison, described the life of a Rio drug dealer, and would then pose for pictures with their guns -- as long as their faces were not photographed.

Rio tourism chief Rubem Medina said the firm could lose its license if the story was accurate.

"It's not necessary to do this kind of tour in Rio; there are a lot of wonderful attractions," he told Reuters.

Pedro Novak of the Private Tours firm acknowledged that he ran that kind of tour but that "I'm not the only one."

Several companies have for years

offered tours of the city's more than 600 slums, offering tourists a controversial alternative to the city's beaches and an insight into the lives of the more than 1 million people who live there.

The slums, or favelas, are largely controlled by heavily armed drug gangs with names such as "Red Command" and "Friends of Friends" that fight each other for control of the lucrative cocaine market.

Omaha man says this was his second self-tracheotomy

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) – The 55-year-old Omaha man who performed a tracheotomy on himself with a steak knife says he did the same thing to himself two years ago.

Steve Wilder said Friday that his throat is shrunk because of radiation treatments for cancer. Those treatments ended four years ago, but scar tissue remains. He said seasonal allergies may have caused his struggle to breathe overnight April 30.

"I didn't feel no pain. I was just trying to survive," Wilder said in his high-pitched, gravelly voice. "I got relief right away. There was a big gush of blood, and I was able to start sucking in air."

Wilder said he fell asleep watching television in his basement but awakened when he felt himself suffocating. His wife, Cora, called an ambulance.

"I thought they might get here fast

enough that I wouldn't have to do that," he said. "But I couldn't breathe no more."

He bolted for the kitchen and picked up a steak knife and made a quarter-inch incision.

"I knew that would chop it open pretty good," he said.

After medics took him to a hospital, he was given antibiotics to prevent a possible infection. The next day his physician inserted a tube in his throat.

Wilder, who did not give his occupation, said he's working again and feeling good.

He said he's had three tracheotomies since 2004. He performed the first one on himself in 2006 under similar circumstances.

"They think I might have some kind of allergy," Wilder said. "The only time I get a shortage of wind is in the spring. It's seasonal."

A spokeswoman for Immanuel Medical Center, Lora Ullerich, said Friday that because of federal medical privacy restrictions she would not be able to comment on Wilder's situation.

A tracheotomy, a procedure that opens up the windpipe, typically is done in a surgical setting. Wilder said he isn't ready to perform tracheotomies on other people.

But his doctor told him that he did a pretty good job on himself.

"I told him we should split the bill then," Wilder said.

Sudoku

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

from Sudoku Easy Presented by Will Shortz

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC QUESTION OF THE DAY

How many are there?

ish-ged ah-ded-hoom?