

THE Dog Face Daily

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Serving Task Force Marne

Sledgehammer Brigade hands reins to Striker

SPC. JUSTIN SNYDER
2ND BCT, 1ST ARMD. DIV.

FOB HAMMER – Authority in the Mada'in Qada area of Iraq transferred from the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, to the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, here May 15.

"Like the Hammer Brigade, the Iron Brigade will be at your side to continue to support and assist you," said 2nd BCT commander, Col. Pat White, to Iraqis in attendance. "We are honored to be a part of your history."

The ceremony began with the playing of both the United States and Iraqi national anthems. Following the anthems, Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, commanding general of Multi-National Division – Center, addressed the crowd, which included 2nd BCT Soldiers, 3rd HBCT Soldiers and many local Iraqi leaders and citizens.

Lynch, a native of Hamilton, Ohio, told the crowd that his Soldiers could not have been successful alone and that the partnerships they developed with the Iraqi Army and National Police were a large part of their success.

"Everyone did this together, including the courageous people of the



Spc. Justin Snyder

Colonel Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., commander of 3rd HBCT, 3rd Inf. Div., and Command Sgt. Maj. James Pearson, of 3rd HBCT, case their unit's colors during a transfer of authority ceremony at FOB Hammer.

Mada'in Qada," Lynch said. "We are excited about what the future holds for you as Col. Pat White and the [Iron] Brigade Combat Team takes command. They will take things to the next level in the Mada'in Qada."

He then introduced Col. Wayne W. Grigsby Jr., 3rd HBCT commander, and congratulated him on a job well done.

"Wayne, you did an outstanding job and your Soldiers were lucky to have served with you," Lynch said. "Nothing

was too great for you to accomplish and you accomplished it all. The people of the Mada'in Qada will miss you greatly."

Grigsby, a native of Prince George's County, Md., took the microphone and thanked the Iraqis for accepting him and his Soldiers as their neighbors.

When the Hammer Soldiers arrived in the Mada'in Qada 15 months ago, the region was strangled by Shia and Sunni, extremist influences. The markets were vacant, women and children could not walk safely in the streets and irrigation canals were dry, leaving the area sparse of drinking water.

The Hammer Soldiers went to work, alongside the IA, NP and Sons of Iraq, providing security, which led to the detaining of more than 500 suspected criminals, 47 of them being high-value targets. This allowed them to help revitalize markets, build schools and improve water distribution facilities, once again returning glory to the people of the Mada'in Qada.

On this celebratory day, Grigsby said he was proud to be a part of the rebuilding, and it was because of the bold citi-

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703rd BSB hosts 8th IA Logistics Conference

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

FOB KALSU – Approximately 50 Coalition forces, Iraqi Army leadership and logistics personnel attended the 8th IA Logistics Conference May 14 at FOB Kalsu, approximately 60 kilome-

ters south of Baghdad.

The 703rd Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, hosted the conference to identify issues and concerns regarding 8th IA Division logistics operations and generate solutions.

Attendees included leadership and

logistics representatives from the 30th, 31st, 32nd and 33rd Brigades in the 8th IA Div., 8th IA division-level logistics, Location Command and 8th Motor Transport Regiments (MTR) leadership and 4th BCT key logistics representa-

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Clearing agents on prowl for prohibited items



Sgt. 1st Class Steve Opet

Sergeant First Class Darryl Reynolds, HHC, 3rd CAB, goes through his belongings during a customs inspection on items from the CAB at Camp Striker, Baghdad.

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

CAMP STRIKER — As Task Force Marne units redeploy to Georgia, clearing agents ensure Soldiers know which items they can and cannot bring back to the United States.

Sergeant Donte Jones, who works in supply and logistics for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, says customs serves to restrict items that may harm the agriculture and economy of the United States.

"Diseases may occur and ... spread over the United States," Jones said.

As Soldiers pack up their belongings, they want to avoid packing things that can't be taken with them.

"One of the most common problems is powdered substances," said Master Sgt. Terence Conners, member of HHC, 3rd CAB, and senior customs brigade clearing agent. "No powdered substance if the seal is broken."

Typical powders include foot pow-

ders and powdered protein drinks. Other rules include only one type of pill per container and it must include the person's name and a valid expiration date.

Conners said the hardest part of customs checks is waiting on a unit not prepared for an inspection.

"Just make sure all your stuff is laid out and ready to go," he said. "It will make the process faster. If there's a question, don't wait until the (the day of the inspection) to ask. Each unit has a (customs border clearing agent)."

Soldiers seeking specific details on customs can ask their supply and logistics office for their customs border clearing agent.

Soldiers who decide to mail personal items home should know the post office has different rules regarding what can and cannot be shipped.

Common questions include shipping of military equipment. Packages can weigh up to 70 pounds; however, bullets, magazines, lighters, gas masks and knives longer than 6-inches (with the exception of ceremonial and decorative swords) are prohibited.

STRIKER

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zens of Iraq that they were able to come so far.

"All things have changed in the Mada'in Qada and we have transformed," Grigsby said. "In our time here, the bold citizens have stepped forward. Because of you, the Mada'in Qada is a better place for future generations."

Grigsby promised more improvements would come as the Iron Brigade took over command in the qada.

"The Sledgehammer Brigade is leaving, but the mission will continue on," Grigsby said. "Col. White and the great Iron Brigade will take on this task and continue to make the Mada'in Qada even better than it stands today."

Grigsby left the podium and cased the colors of the 3rd HBCT, signifying the brigade's mission completed, turning over command to the 2nd BCT.

White, from Apple Valley, Ca., followed by uncasing the Iron Brigade's colors, signifying the transfer of authority as official. The Iron Brigade stands strong and ready to perform full spec-

trum operations in the Mada'in Qada.

White thanked the 3rd HBCT for a great transition and said that there is nothing more important than what the Army is doing in Iraq. He said the Iron Brigade would continue to support and assist the people of Iraq, but it would involve their help.

"As the transition moves forward, there remains one constant, to free citizens in this Mada'in Qada," White said. "It is up to you to provide the leadership, security and economic growth required to improve this Mada'in one day at a time."

THE

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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

TALK: Leadership discusses operations, generate solutions

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tives.

Commander of the 703rd BSB, Lt. Col. John Chadbourne, said the conference allowed each of the IA brigade G4 sections to present their status and issues to the IA division's G4.

It also afforded the Local Command, belonging to the Iraqi Ground Forces Command, and the 8th MTR, under the 8th IA Div., the opportunity to brief each brigade on ways they can help with logistics capacity building, Chadbourne said.

The leaders discussed the IA division's needs for logistics facilities, calibration tools and other high-end equipment to meet their repair demands. Because their fleet is comprised of vehicle models from other countries, parts are difficult to acquire.

The MTR and Location Command can provide fleets of medium and heavy trucks for moving equipment, ammunition and troops at the request of commanders. The MTR and Location Command also provide commanders a responsive and effective means to sustain their fighting force, including maintenance, supplies, equipment, ammunition and fuel.

Chadbourne said leadership at the conference discussed a train-the-trainer program, also known as the T3 program. This program allows Coalition forces to teach IA Soldiers how to take care of different logistics issues. In turn, these IA Soldiers will become the trainers of their own forces.

The T3 program includes tasks such as: first responder, equipment main-



Spc. Amanda McBride

During an Iraqi media press conference, Col. Timothy Deady, 8th IA MiTT commander; Col. Ali, 8th IA G4; Lt. Col. John Chadbourne, commander of 703rd BSB; and Maj. Abbas, MTR G4, answer questions following the 8th IA Logistics Conference at FOB Kalsu.

tenance, storage and distribution, unit supply, fire marshal, safety, field sanitation, recovery operations and more.

The 703rd BSB will provide personnel to conduct and execute the T3 program once each IA brigade decides on a date and participants to receive training.

Each of the four IA brigades works with military transition team (MiTT) members who specialize in different logistic tasks. Each MiTT will receive notes and a tentative timeline from the conference so they can help in the train-

ing program and meet logistics needs, Chadbourne said.

This will help IA logistics become self-sustaining so they won't have to rely on Coalition forces in the future.

Also, the 8th IA G4 and the MTR are going to address shortfalls in equipment and personnel required for the IA division to become self sustaining.

"The conference was an overwhelming success and has opened the door to future operations to build logistics capacity for the 8th Division Iraqi Army," Chadbourne said.

Safety Thought of the Day

ATV Safety Reminders

- All operators will be properly trained and licensed on the equipment.
- Perform a thorough PMCS.
- All personnel will wear helmets, eye protection, & seatbelts.
- Operators will obey all traffic rules. Ensure speed is appropriate for conditions.
- Passengers will not ride in the cargo section. Only 2 personnel allowed on ATV.
- All cargo must be secured to prevent shifting during movement.
- Cargo will not be placed in a position that will obscure the operator's vision.
- Legs will remain inside the vehicle during movement.
- Personnel will not exit the vehicle until movement has stopped.
- Apply the parking brake before exiting the vehicle.

Headline Highlights

Gas strike; 'Lizard Man' attack; rainbow-seeing shrimp

Wis. man won't buy gas for 31 days, maybe longer

SHEBOYGAN, Wis. (AP) — Brian LaFave couldn't care less how high gasoline prices climb these days — he's parked his pickup truck and is refusing to buy gas for a month, possibly longer.

"The goal is to not use one drop of gas for 31 days," LaFave said, calling it his personal stand against the oil companies.

Now LaFave, 31, is riding his bicycle or walking everywhere he goes. He won't even let friends pick him up unless they already planned on being in the neighborhood.

"If they're not going out of their way, I can take the ride," he said. "But if they're going out of their way, then ... I'm still consuming gasoline so it kind of defeats the purpose."

LaFave started the effort May 11. He bikes to his third-shift job at Aldrich Chemical in Sheboygan Falls, a 9-mile commute.

"I did like a practice run ... two days in a row to make sure I could do it," he said. "I'm not in the greatest shape. The mornings are the worst. It feels like it takes forever. I get like a mile down the road and I want to die."

It's a big change for someone who put 300 miles on his truck the week before he stopped driving it.

LaFave fills out a chart each day listing how many miles he bikes, the destination and the gas price that

day, among other things. He plans to compute his savings and donate that amount to a charity that provides food to children in Africa.

"I think just with the gas prices being so high, everybody complains about it but no one ever really does anything about it," LaFave said. "People continue to drive nonstop and not think about it, but I just wanted to take a stand and say, 'I'm not gonna pay this much money for gas.'"

DNA tests exonerate 'Lizard Man' in van attack

BISHOPVILLE, S.C. (AP) — DNA testing has shown an attack on a family van some blamed on the legendary Lizard Man appears to have been actually done by a domestic dog. Something chewed up the front fender of Bob and Dixie Rawson's van in February. Bite marks were left on the wheel wells and blood was found on the vehicle.

The Item of Sumter reported that a veterinary lab in California tested the blood and found it came from a dog.

But Bob Rawson isn't sure, saying it would have to be one big dog.

Lee County Sheriff E.J. Melvin isn't convinced either. He thinks it was a coyote or wolf.

Lizard Man became a phenomenon in the area 20 years ago when people began reporting a tall, big-eyed swamp creature. Authorities never figured out exactly what prompted the sightings.

Australian shrimp can see beyond the rainbow

LONDON (Reuters) — A giant shrimp living on Australia's Great Barrier Reef can see a world beyond the rainbow that is invisible to other animals, scientists said on Wednesday.

Mantis shrimps, dubbed "thumb splitters" by divers because of their vicious claws, have the most complex eyes in the animal kingdom, capable of seeing colours from the ultraviolet to the infrared, as well as detecting other subtle variations in light.

They view the world in up to 12 primary colours — four times as many as humans — and can measure six different kinds of light polarisation, Swiss and Australian researchers reported.

Polarisation is the direction of oscillation in light waves.

Just why *Gonodactylus smithii* needs this level of rarefied vision is unclear, although the researchers suspect it is to do with food and sex.

"Some of the animals they like to eat are transparent and quite hard to see in sea-water, except they're packed full of polarising sugars. I suspect they light up like Christmas trees as far as these shrimp are concerned," said Andrew White of the University of Queensland.

And the shrimps probably use tiny changes in colour and polarisation to send sexual signals between males and females, the researchers believe.

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

from Sudoku Easy Presented by Will Shortz

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC QUESTION OF THE DAY

Where are they hiding? into gah-rah-yib?