

JOINT BASE BALAD'S EXPEDITIONARY TIMES

Proudly serving the finest expeditionary Servicemembers throughout Iraq

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Vol. 1, Issue 11



Giving back pg. 7

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Chris Seaton

Staff Sgt. Max Bunhey, a 12th Combat Aviation Brigade unit movement noncommissioned officer, hands out toys to Iraqi children Aug. 16.

Great Gains

Logistic Training Advisory Team 55 makes great gains toward Iraqi self sustainment

Page 5

Early progress in Taji facility

Taji level III wheeled vehicle maintenance facility showing early progress

Pages 8-9



Women's Equality

Servicemembers throughout Iraq celebrate women's right to vote

Page 11

Iraqi Army teams up with 2-320th FAR for a safer Iraq

by Staff Sgt. Tim Sander

Expeditionary Times staff

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq—The massive blades of the CH-47 Chinook helicopter were churning through the hot, night air, throwing dust and rocks from the barren field into the Soldiers' faces as it lifted into the dark sky, leaving them behind with only their weapons and Iraqi counterparts to keep them safe.

As the dust began to settle, the

"The local citizens ... saw Iraqi Soldiers, U.S. Soldiers and Airmen descend on their village from the sky as one team fighting the insurgency to secure Iraq."

Sgt. Maj. Robert Levis
2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment

U.S. Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, and Iraqi Soldiers of 3rd Battalion,

17th Brigade, started moving, using the dim, green glow of their night-vision goggles to navigate

through the rugged terrain and into their target village Aug. 11.

The purpose of the mission was

to conduct a joint air assault with Iraqi Security Forces to deny the enemy freedom of movement while searching for weapon caches, said Sgt. 1st Class Peter E. Bjorklund, a native of Seattle, and the platoon sergeant of 2nd platoon, 2-320th FAR. A secondary goal of the operation was to provide the IA with valuable training in night-time air assault missions.

According to Sgt. Maj. Robert

See **AIR ASSAULT**, Page 3

PMO Blotter: 22 Aug. – 28 Aug.

Indecent Exposure: A female bus driver observed a male Soldier expose himself to her on at least three occasions before finally notifying PMO. PMO apprehended the suspect 48 hours after the bus driver reported the incident. A search of the suspect's housing unit led to the discovering of some very disturbing videos of the suspect involved in illicit sex acts. **PMO Commentary:** The display of sexually deviant behavior in public is more than likely the sign of disturbing behavior hidden below the surface; notify the PMO immediately when such behavior is observed.

Major Vehicle Accident: A female Ugandan SOC contractor driving a small van crossed over the median on Victory Loop, just north of Snake Circle, and crashed into a parked bus on the opposite side of the road. The SOC van was totaled and two contractors in the van were evacuated to the AFTH for treatment.

Stolen Generator: A floodlight generator, valued at \$6,200, was stolen from behind DFAC #3. The generator was secured with a chain at the time of the larceny. The chain was found lying on the ground with the lock cut.

Assault/ Disrespecting an NCO: A private first class struck his team leader in the jaw in a dispute over CQ duty.

Stolen Bicycle: A \$3,000 Cannondale Bicycle was stolen from outside the Babel Internet Office on the west side of post. The bicycle was secured with a chain wound through the tires and frame but not secured to an immovable object.

Contact the Provost Marshal Office:

NIPR- 443-8602

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Email- PMOdesk@iraq.centcom.mil



TRADOC Culture Center

Did you know?

Many of our favorite stories originated in the Middle East. One of the most famous collection of Arab folk tales, "The Thousand and One Nights," was probably put together in Iraq sometime around AD 1000–1500. Supposedly, a beautiful woman named Scheherazade marries a king who has killed all his previous wives. Each night she tells him a story that is a "cliffhanger," so that he must keep her alive to find out the ending. This goes on for one thousand and one nights. Finally the king decides to let her stay alive forever as his wife. Among the stories she tells are the well-known tales of "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves," "Aladdin and the Magic Lamp," and "The Voyages of Sinbad the Sailor."

Another famous story originating in ancient Iraq – then known as Mesopotamia – is "the Epic of Gilgamesh." The poem tells of Gilgamesh's struggles to achieve immortality.

A love of literature is a tool that may be used to bring together parties in conflict. Mutual interest is a great starting point to begin the resolution process and build relationships.

Submitted by Michelle Gray, Africa Team, TCC

Culture Points

1. The more you try to force a change in cultural beliefs, the more the culture will cling to what they believe is true.
2. Culture is the glue that binds any society together.
3. We apply cultural awareness to maintain our friendships and to avoid making new enemies.
4. Cultural awareness is a planned step toward victory and an early step toward peace.
5. Behavior is the expression of a culture's values and beliefs.

Submitted by William S. Parrish, Africa Team, TCC



Photo by Sgt. Gary Hawkins

Cultural Reminder

When working with your Iraqi counterpart, remember that you will not always see "eye to eye" on every issue. One successful approach to resolving conflict is to find a middle ground. If you and your counterpart disagree on how supplies are accounted for, you both begin to look for reasons why accountability is important. For example, if the unit you are working with receives a monthly allocation of water, the importance of accountability can be reiterated if the allocation is exhausted before the next scheduled delivery. Use this situation to show your counterpart that if they documented where all of the water went, they will know exactly who received their allocation and hold them accountable- if they ask for more.

Behind this mind set is the cultural norm that during the Baath Party rule, certain staples such as water were provided on a weekly basis. Iraqis were not required to account for items since they were provided with additional supplies if needed. This type of accountability is a new concept or cultural behavior for many Iraqis. It is important to remember

that when our values and beliefs are confronted with changing physical or social conditions that it may require a little time to adjust our behaviors.

Culture training is an integral part of your situational awareness of the battlefield. If you are trained on the norms and sensitivities of the culture you are working in, it will aid in the identification of the appropriate action to take in a certain situation.

Helpful Website

Thanks to Marc Hill, the TCC website is up and running. It can be located on ICON, <https://icon.army.mil>, in the Training Toolkit column, or you can access our site at <https://icon.army.mil/apps/tcc/index.cfm>. The website contains information on the Army Education and Training Curriculum, points of contact, articles, links, and various other reference materials. Please provide feedback to Mr. Hill at marc.hill@gdit.com; Let us know what you think!

Another helpful website used to explore other cultures is www.everyculture.com. This site was used as a resource in the "Did you know?" section.

EXPEDITIONARY TIMES

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Mission Statement: The Expeditionary Times Staff publishes a weekly newspaper with a primary mission of providing command information to all Servicemembers, partners, and Families of the 3^d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) team and a secondary mission of providing a means for units on Joint Base Balad to disseminate command information to their audiences.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tim Sander

U.S. Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, and Iraqi Soldiers of 3rd Battalion, 17th Brigade, prepare to load onto a CH-47 Chinook helicopter for a joint air assault mission Aug. 11.

AIR ASSAULT, from Page 1

Levis, the operations sergeant major of 2-320th FAR, another benefit of the joint mission was that it built confidence between the local Iraqi citizens and the IA.

“The local citizens ... saw Iraqi Soldiers, U.S. Soldiers and Airmen descend on their village from the sky as one team fighting the insurgency to secure Iraq,” said Levis, a native of Clarks-ville, Tenn.

Capt. Rob Pratt, the command-er of Bravo Battery, 2-320th, said the results of missions like this are beginning to emerge as lo-cal Iraqi citizens are increasingly

providing the ISF with valuable information that leads to a safer Iraq.

“The overall perception of the population right now is ‘Hey, the IA is taking ownership,’” said Pratt, a native of Moorefield, W. Va. One of the goals of Coalition Forces, said Pratt, is to aid and reinforce that.

In addition to the valuable ex-perience the IA gained from the mission, Levis said the night-time air assault served other purposes as well.

“The air assault alone will mo-tivate any Soldier; and to do it at night, under night vision, really adds to (the IA Soldiers’) capa-bilities,” he said.

Since 2-320th FAR arrived in Iraq last September, their main priorities have been securing the population and aiding the devel-opment of ISF.

“Task Force ‘Balls,’ in con-junction with the military transi-tion team, is conducting joint pa-trols on a weekly basis to identify any shortcomings and to prepare the Iraqi Army to take the lead in this fight,” said Levis.

According to Levis, these ef-forts have paid off: “We have reduced the enemy threat to the people of Iraq and personnel liv-ing on the local bases immensely and continue to provide econom-ic stability and assistance to the local government daily.”



Photo by Spc. Michael Behlin

Tech.e Sgt. Billy Shearer, a Beaver Creek, Ohio, native and para-legal with the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) Judge Advocate General office, is congratulated by Brig. Gen. Michael Lally, 3d ESC commanding general, for being selected this week’s “Hooah Soldier of the Week.”

Date: 17 Sept

True Strength

(RAW power lifting competition)

Competition will be held in the H-8 Rec center

EVENTS:

SQUAT

BENCH

DEADLIFT

Weight-in at 1200-1500

Comp starts 1800

Approved gear:

Belt

Knee wraps

Wrist wraps

No suits

No bench shirts

Rules and info: POC TSGT Stewart 445-7818

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)
12:30 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.	GILBERT MEMORIAL (H-6)
2 P.M.	CASTLE HEIGHTS (4155)
8 P.M.	EDEN CHAPEL
7 P.M.	FREEDOM CHAPEL (WEST SIDE)
8:30 P.M.	FREEDOM CHAPEL (WEST SIDE)
WEDNESDAY 8 P.M.	GILBERT MEMORIAL (H-6)

PROTESTANT – LITURGICAL

SUNDAY 11 A.M.	LUTHERAN-PROVIDER CHAPEL
3 P.M.	EPISCOPAL- LUTHERAN GILBERT CHAPEL (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 CHAPEL
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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)
SUNDAY 8:30 A.M.	GILBERT MEMORIAL (H-6)
11 A.M.	PROVIDER CHAPEL
11 A.M.	AIR FORCE HOSPITAL CHAPEL
MON-SAT 11:45 A.M.	PROVIDER CHAPEL
THURSDAY 11 A.M.	AIR FORCE HOSPITAL CHAPEL
MON,WED,FRI 5P.M.	GILBERT MEMORIAL
FRIDAY-HOLY HOUR 7 P.M.	PROVIDER CHAPEL

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)
SATURDAY 8 A.M.	GILBERT MEMORIAL (H-6)
6 P.M.	GILBERT MEMORIAL (H-6)

ISLAMIC SERVICE

FRIDAY 12:30 P.M.	PROVIDER CHAPEL
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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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PROTESTANT – SPANISH NON-DENOMINATIONAL

SATURDAY 7:30 P.M.	PROVIDER CHAPEL
SUNDAY 4:15 P.M.	GILBERT MEMORIAL CHAPEL
<u>EASTERN ORTHODOX- DEVINE LITURGY</u>	
SUNDAY 9 A.M.	PROVIDER CHAPEL ANNEX

*Please note, schedule is subject to change.

Generator mechanics keep systems ready

by Spc. Anthony Hooker

Expeditionary Times staff

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq— Sgt. Terry Gay, a generator mechanic with the 63rd Expeditionary Signal Battalion, said doing his job means getting overlooked.

“(People) don’t even know I’m here until something breaks,” said Gay, a Montgomery, Ala. native.

Gay’s job skill is a forgotten duty on today’s battlefield, mainly because commercial power has become the source of energy for many contingency and forward operating bases throughout Iraq. With bases housing thousands of troops for long periods of time, private contracting groups have picked up the responsibility of supporting Servicemembers’ basic needs. Soldiers responsible for providing food, shelter, and energy at established bases have been replaced by civilian-run services.

Lt. Col. Carlos Morales, the 63rd ESB’s commander, oversees more than 20 communication systems spread throughout Multi-National Division-Baghdad, MND-North and Multi-National Corps-Iraq. The 63rd ESB, based out of Fort Gordon, Ga., is required to provide continuous phone and digital service, said Morales.

For some small bases, however, generator mechanics find their skill-set remains critical to a mission’s success. Morales said his generator mechanics must be ready on short notice to get out and service mobile generators.

“My mechanics have to cover multiple sites,” said Morales. “They often visit areas that have unreliable or no commercial power.”

Morales also said the visits allow the mechanics to become his eyes on the ground.

“Doing checks and services gives (leadership) a good notification of how well Soldiers are taking care of their generators and supporting equipment,” Morales said. “That’s important because these sites’ communications are so critical.”

Gay, who is on his second deployment, said people trained in his military skill will go to units that don’t use commercial power.

“Location is big in how you are used,” Gay said. “If you go to the field, you’ll always need a generator.”

Pvt. Thai Vang, a generator mechanic with the 542nd Maintenance Support Company, based out of Fort Lewis, Wash., and deployed to COB Adder, conducts technical inspections on equipment powered by generators. Vang, who is part of the unit’s water pump team, occasionally has to assess or fix generators that power equipment used to pump water from the nearby Euphrates river into the canals. The pump is managed by paid locals, but Vang understands that it is ultimately his duty to make sure a generator he oversees is fully functional.

“Occasionally, I have to get in and do services because the locals’ standards are different from the United States Army,” Vang said.

Vang said his skills can’t afford to be dismissed.

“I see the value in my job, but I don’t know when I may be used,” Vang said. “All I can do is make sure I stay prepared.”

Sgt. Roy Dukes, a satellite operator with the 63rd ESB, said having same-day service helps he and a distant-end operator solve problems within minutes.

“When our system goes down, we’re talking about two FOBs that have no communication,” said Dukes, referring to the effect a down generator can cause. “They can’t call out on the phone, the computers can’t be used . . . with mechanics on site, we can have problems resolved smoothly.”

Although stationed at JBB, Gay has provided services at other camps, including Camp Cobra, a small outpost located near Sadr City in Baghdad. In addition to checking fluid levels and air filters, Gay had to protect himself and his squad members from small-arms fire. That meant completing services in full gear, along with having someone provide security.

Gay realized he was near one of Iraq’s most hostile areas, but the job required his services.

“When we were at Cobra, the generator went down and it was the only satellite communications at the FOB,” said Gay.

Gay said to be successful, he had to always be prepared.

“There are a bunch of people depending on you to keep communications going in Iraq,” said Gay. “For the transmission to be effective, the shot has to be back up within a few hours . . . I must be aware of what I’m doing.”

Whether it was fuel or small-arms fire, Gay said staying focused was the key.

“If you’re not on top of your game, it’ll beat you.”



Photo by Staff Sgt. Don Branum

An F-16 Fighting Falcon piloted by Capt. Michael Lutmer and loaded with 500-pound GBU-54 Laser Joint Direct Attack Munitions taxis toward a runway here Aug. 15.

Balad warfighters unleash new weapon against mobile insurgent targets

by Staff Sgt. Don Branum

332nd Air Expeditionary Wing

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — Coalition air forces in Iraq unleashed a new precision guided weapon Aug. 12 when two F-16 Fighting Falcon pilots executed the first-ever combat employment of a GBU-54 Laser Joint Direct Attack Munition against a moving enemy vehicle in Diyala Province.

The GBU-54 is the U.S. Air Force’s newest 500-pound precision weapon, equipped with a special targeting system that uses a combination of GPS and laser guidance to accurately engage and destroy moving targets.

“This employment first represents a great step in our Air Force’s ability to deliver precise effects across the spectrum of combat,” said Lt. Gen. Gary North, commander of U.S. Air Forces Central and U.S. Central Command Combined Force Air Component Commander. “The first combat employment of this weapon is the validation of the exacting hard work of an entire team of professionals who developed, tested and fielded this weapon on an extremely short timeline, based on an urgent needs request we established in the combat zone.”

“We have consistently used precision-guided weapons to engage stationary threats with superb combat effects,” said Brig. Gen. Brian Bishop, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing commander. “This weapon allows our combat pilots to engage a broad range of moving targets with dramatically increased capabilities and it increases our ability to strike the enemy throughout a much, much broader engagement envelope.”

The joint terminal attack controller who called in the airstrike is part of a military transition team supporting Iraqi army operations in Diyala, said Marine Maj. Robert Washington, 1st Iraqi Army Division MiTT fires adviser.

“From my perspective as an artilleryman, being able to hit a moving ground target is a great advantage especially with insurgents using vehicles to escape quickly once they’re identified,” said Washington, who manages all aspects of fire support for the 1st IA Division MiTT, including artillery, mortars and air support. “Any improvement we can get is a big one.”

The pilots who employed the GBU-54 are captains deployed from Shaw Air Force Base, S.C. They have flown a combined 1,360 hours in F-16s with more than 400 combined combat hours. Their identities were withheld for operational security reasons.

Both pilots have to work together closely to successfully employ the GBU-54.

“It’s a complicated weapon to employ; it takes two people backing each other up and making sure the weapon is employed properly,” one of the pilots said.

Both considered the historic significance of their

successful mission.

“I thought it was a really rewarding being a part of history, in a sense, when you consider the evolution of precision guided weapons,” the second pilot said.

That evolution has allowed the Air Force to employ weapons proportionately to the enemy threat, said Col. Michael Fantini, 332nd Expeditionary Operations Group commander.

“Precision’s a big deal,” he said. “In World War II, it took a lot of bombs to take out a target due to (low) accuracy. If I don’t have accuracy, I need more bombs.”

“Now, the fact that we can nearly always put one weapon against one target means we need less ordnance to destroy a target and less air power to put against a threat to achieve a desired effect,” he said. “That translates to less exposure to the threat environment and a higher probability of killing targets.” It also minimizes collateral damage, a critical consideration in winning the peace.

Teamwork in all aspects, from development to the actual weapon employment, was crucial, North said.

“Teamwork was the name of the game to accomplish this,” he said. “From the experts in our Air Force Materiel Command who shaped our requirements, then developed, tested and fielded the weapon, to our aircraft maintainers, our munitions Airmen, and weapons loaders . . . and everyone in between . . . they made the operational employment of this weapon possible.

“At endgame, on Aug. 12, the team of the U.S. Air Force joint terminal attack controller, alongside his ground unit commander in this event, ensured all criteria were met for the first combat delivery of the LJDAM. And finally, our F-16 pilot accurately and precisely delivered and guided the weapon to desired weapons effects, the disabling and destruction of an enemy vehicle and personnel,” he said.

Development of the weapon began in January 2007 as an urgent operational need request, said Lt. Col. David Lujan, 332nd Expeditionary Operations Group deputy commander. Lujan was the program management officer for the GBU-54’s development while commanding the 86th Fighter Weapons Squadron at Eglin AFB, Fla. The 86th FWS tests precision guided munitions for the Air Force.

“Around 2006, warfighters started to ask us for better capabilities against movers,” said Lujan, who is deployed from Luke AFB, Ariz. “Boeing came up with the idea of putting the laser kit on the GBU-38, and we pitched it to the Air Force under an urgent operational need request.”

The Air Force made the 86th FWS’ request a top priority, moving the GBU-54 through the development and testing cycle in less than 17 months, fielding the bombs aboard 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing F-16s in May.

LTAT 55 makes great gains at KMTB

by Sgt. Gary Hawkins

Expeditionary Times staff

KIRKUSH MILITARY TRAINING BASE, Iraq— Kirkush Military Training Base, located more than 100 miles east-southeast of Joint Base Balad, is home to the 5th Iraqi Army Division. Their mission is to plan, create and sustain support operations in Dayala province.

The Logistics Training Advisory Team 55, or LTAT 55, assigned to the 13th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, stationed at Fort Benning, Ga., is working with Base Location Command at KMTB to assist, support and advise the 5th IA by providing skilled, aggressive, logistical training and assessment teams to mentor and shape the IA sustainment units.

The 5th IA stood up a vehicle maintenance shop late in 2007 and was overwhelmed with vehicles that were not operational. The lack of documentation of parts and supplies on hand was partially due to lack of trained personnel.

“When I started here, I found a lot of vehicles out of order ... record keeping did not exist due to absence of officers and only a few Soldiers here,” said Col. Mohammed, commander of the level three vehicle maintenance shop for the 5th IA at KMTB.

“We advised the maintenance shop with suggestions and ideas on how to set up a good records keeping system,” said Sgt. Jeffrey Morataya, U.S. senior advisor for the 5th IA, 3rd level maintenance shop and a member of the 13th CSSB, which belongs to the 55th Sustainment Brigade from Fort Belvoir, Va. “It was up to Col. Mohammed to decide how to proceed from there.”

After a brief records review, safety was one of the main things noticed that needed to improve. With large vehicles and speed being a major problem, implementation of safeguards for all Soldiers was needed, including hearing and eye protection and the use of ground guides.

“One of the first things we suggested was to implement motor pool speed limits, the use of ground guides and wearing of head and eye protection during vehicle maintenance and movements,” said Morataya. “We also suggested posting a 24 hour guard at the gate ... to help prevent parts and supplies from coming up missing.”

The maintenance shop has seen immeasurable improvements in the ability of the IA to complete their work more efficiently over the last year, but not all things have progressed as quickly. Sometimes it takes months to get parts and supplies needed to keep the vehicles in a good state of repair. With an invitation from Col. Mohammed, the Iraqi Ministry of Defense inspected the facility and seemed impressed with the progress and how smooth the operation was.

“When the MoD arrived, they saw



Photo by Sgt. Gary Hawkins

An Iraqi Army mechanic works to remove and replace a transmission on an up-armored humvee at the level three maintenance shop on Kirkush Military Training Base, Iraq Aug. 13.

how effective it was and how our partnership was working,” said Morataya. “Now, the MoD gives Col. Mohammed a higher priority of receiving parts and supplies it needs to be more efficient.”

The right kind of leadership and work ethics on both sides has allowed the 5th IA maintenance shop to improve at a rapid pace. After working side by side for the past year, the friendships and respect by one another has created a lasting impression on both, individuals and sections.

“I was able to work with a group of IA that was interested in my ideas and suggestions,” said Morataya. “I consider Col. Mohammed a friend and pretty blessed to work side by side with him and his Soldiers.”

“I often tell my Soldiers to look at Sgt. M. as a role model, the way he works without supervision,” said Mohammed. “When a Soldier can work on his own without a higher-up looking over his shoulder, that’s when his loyalty to his country is proven.”

Respect has proven to be an invaluable tool in the way the CF and the IA work together, but everyone knows that the CF won’t be there forever. Soon the time will come when they will return home to their own families with the memories of friends.

“They are blessed to have a person like Mohammed. He came back in the Army after the IA was disbanded and returned to help,” said Morataya. “He cares very much for his Soldiers and has made it very easy for us to go everyday and work with them any way we can.”

“Oh my God! I will be happy and sad for Sgt. M. when he leaves,” said Mohammed. “I will be sad that he will not be able to finish some of his work but happy for him to be going home to see his family.”



Photo by Sgt. Gary Hawkins

An Iraqi Army mechanic fastens some hoses after changing a radiator on an up-armored humvee at the level three maintenance shop on Kirkush Military Training Base, Iraq Aug 13.

Working side by side is paying off for the IA and the 13th CSSB at KMTB. They have put together detailed plans for maintenance repair, scheduling and bookkeeping that has improved the output of the entire shop. The long term goals are to continue establishing more efficient ways to operate and improve the ability of the mechanics to produce the highest quality repair shop in the IA.

“I believe learning is an ever going process that does not end,” said Mohammed. “We learn everyday on the job and always review our performance and try to improve it.”

Everyone involved in this relationship said the cooperation between the IA and

CF is working well. The training and advisements are being considered seriously and refinements are being made one step at a time with no end in sight. With the goal of being self reliant at the end of the tunnel, teamwork is playing a major roll all decisions made.

“The good news is the partnership is working and it’s working very well,” said Lt. Col. Tim Sullivan the commander of the 13 CSSB. “We are continuously assessing the unit’s capabilities and provide feedback to CF and Iraqi Security Forces Leadership and are constantly trying to implement and conduct recurring logistics training and closing the gap towards the IA self-reliance.”

Do you have a story idea?

Contact the Expeditionary Times

anaconda.times@iraq.centcom.mil

Iraqi Army VIPs visit 536th Maintenance Company

by Sgt. James E. Brown Jr.

1st Sustainment Brigade

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – A contingent of Iraqi Army generals from the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defense paid a visit to the 1st Sustainment Brigade's communication and equipment repair facilities here Aug.

24 to learn the differences between the 1st SB facility and the Iraqi version on the other side of Taji.

Soldiers with the 536th Maintenance Company, 165th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st SB, gave the Iraqi generals a tour of the facility where they were able to witness how U.S. Army personnel operated their facility and what procedures are used to repair critical electronic equipment.

After learning and comparing as much as they could from the U.S. Army personnel, the Iraqi Army generals made their way to the newly transitioned Ministry of Defense mandated radio repair facility on the Iraqi

side of the base. This facility is under the command of Brig. Gen. Mohammad, the Directorate General of Communications.

Mohammad shared all that his shop had to offer with his guests and exactly what they accomplished on a daily basis.

"Ministry of Defense has a lack of repair technicians available, but with the limited availability and the help of the Coalition Forces, they still are able to achieve their goals," said Mohammad.

A large number of electronic hand-held radios that his personnel fixed were stacked on a shelf – tagged with completed work orders. Iraqi Army Soldiers sat in their individual work stations, expertly troubleshooting electronic circuit boards. They used multimeters to check the continuity of each circuit determining if it was still operational. A second group of Soldiers replaced worn out or damaged circuit boards.

The group of generals seemed genuinely impressed with the professionalism and abilities the Iraqi Army Soldiers possessed. The amount of jobs completed on a daily basis and the expertise they demonstrated on each task indicated an ever more capable Iraqi Army.



Photo by Staff Sgt. James E. Brown Jr.

Directorate General of Communications of the Radio Repair Facility and Installation Officer, Brig. Gen. Mohammad, (right) travels with other senior officers of the Iraqi Army, touring communication and equipment repair facilities on the U.S. forces side of Camp Taji.

FOB in a box

by Pfc. Amanda Tucker

Expeditionary Times staff

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq—When you think of an entire forward operating base in a box, the concept seems laughable. In fact, the term is not entirely accurate, but the general idea behind the phrase is on point. The "box" is an average of 25 containers that measure 20 feet long, eight feet wide, and eight feet tall; and can hold up to 41,300 lbs. each.

The supplies carried in the large military containers are meant to provide Soldiers with living quarters for 60 to 90 days of operation. Packing these containers can take as little as 10 minutes to an hour, each, depending on the type of supplies going into each. These containers are then transported to Iraqi Security Forces throughout Iraq.

Normal contents of the "FOB in a box" include cots, sleeping mats, blankets, light sets and tents, said Spc. Kimberly Hamacher, a native of Greeley, Colo., and supply clerk for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 13th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, based out

of Fort Benning, Ga.

"It was a command-directed initiative to support the Iraqi Security Forces during that time of deployment away from their permanent structure," said Chief Warrant Officer Mark Fed, the officer in charge of sustenance, clothing and petroleum products for the 3d Expeditionary Sustainment Command, based out of Fort Knox, Ky.

Although a FOB in a box is a contingency package meant for ISF, they are not the only ones who benefit from them.

"We actually have contingency packages for our own Soldiers, as well as Coalition Forces," said Fed.

Coalition Forces are supplied with Contingency Combat Outpost Packages, which normally consist of 14 to 15 containers of supplies – 10 less than the ISF receive.

"It's just for them to do a mission while they're out," said Fed. "Then, once they finish their mission ... they pack it back up and take it back. I think it has been a great success to them. We are here to assist them to get back to the place of stability."

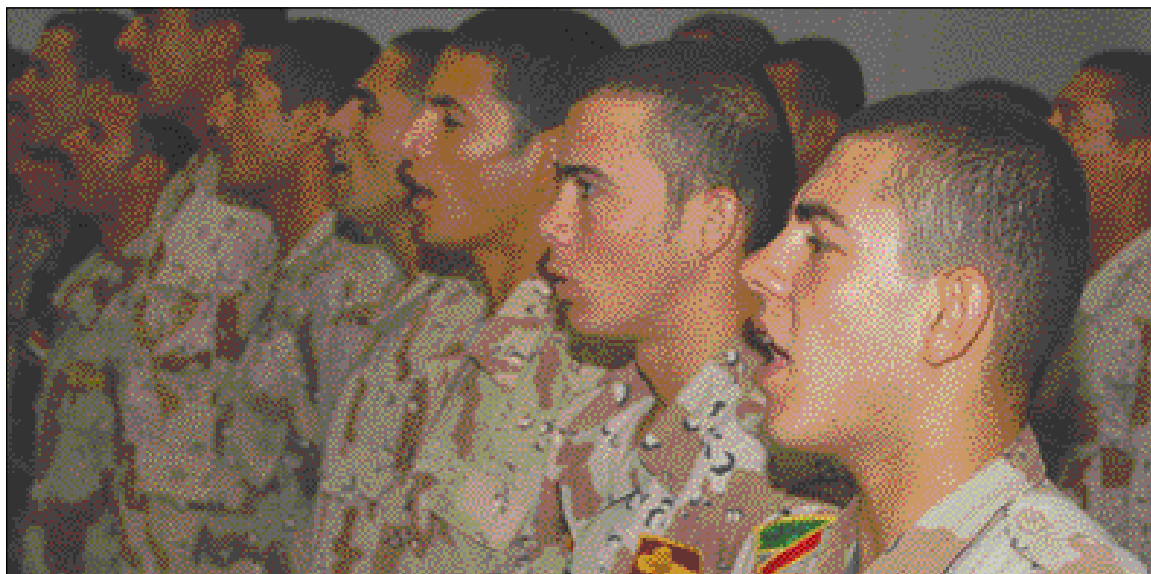


Photo by Sgt. Keith M. Anderson

Iraqi Soldiers recite the "Warrior Ethos of the Iraqi Soldier," during the graduation of class 08-08, Iraqi Army Warrior Leader Course, at the COB Q-West Morale, Welfare and Recreation Center, Aug. 24.

Iraqi Soldiers graduate leadership course

by Sgt. Keith M. Anderson

16th Sustainment Brigade

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE Q-WEST, Iraq — Thirty-three Iraqi Army Soldiers — ranging from private to sergeant major — graduated the Iraqi Army Warrior Leader Course, class 08-08, at Contingency Operating Base Q-West, Iraq, Aug. 24.

The three-week course, run by Soldiers from the U.S. Army's 1st Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, "trains, teaches and mentors" Iraqi Soldiers in Army fundamentals such as rifle marksmanship, first aid, map reading and guard duty; as well as leadership responsibilities such as the laws of war, effective communication, the military decision-making process and mission essential task lists.

"The primary focus of this course is leadership," said Sgt. James Vos, ceremony narrator and platoon sergeant, IAWLC. "In addition, students are trained

on basic skills in over 30 subject areas."

Iraqi Army Pvt. Thamer Fadel Ali, class 08-08 honor graduate, said through an interpreter that his dedication got him through the course.

"Always, I am motivated, and I listen to the classes, and I know how to lead," Ali said.

The 22-year-old from Qayyarah, Iraq, who will be getting married soon, said he plans to make the Iraqi Army a career.

"I love the Army, and I want to support my family, and I want to make this country safe," Ali said.

The course teaches more than military skills, said U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Mark Jenkins, the commandant of the course.

"They'll be able to take what they've learned back to their units and train other noncommissioned officers and Soldiers," Jenkins said. "And the course helps them to have more pride in their service, and it shows them that what they're doing is very important for themselves, their families and their country."

The school at Q-West has trained 860 Iraqi Soldiers to date, Jenkins said.

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12th CAB Family members do their part

by Sgt. 1st Class Chris Seaton

Task Force XII

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — You could probably argue that the Families of the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade have given enough. Saying goodbye to a spouse or parent for 15 months, while living in a small German community thousands of miles from home is no small sacrifice.

But last December, after Iraq's scorching-hot summers and hard-packed sand had given way to bone-chilling winds, near-constant rain and mud, Staff Sgt. Max Bunhey asked the Ansbach community to dig a little deeper.

"It was a little cold out there," recalls Bunhey, who works in the brigade's unit movement office. "I saw Iraqi kids running around the fenceline, some with no shoes or jackets, so I thought maybe we could start collecting some donations from back home."

Bunhey, a native of Santa Ana, Calif., asked his wife, Liliana, and daughters, Monica and Christina, to send him a box of children's coats and shoes. He said he thought it would be a good way to teach his daughters a lesson in giving.

"My kids were really excited knowing they were doing something to benefit kids who were less fortunate," he said.

"They started talking to friends and Family members in their schools and Family readiness groups," said Bunhey. "The word went out and the people in the community opened up their hearts and the donations started pouring in."

As the packages arrived, Bun-

"Seeing an Iraqi kid smile for the right reasons makes it all worth it."

Staff Sgt. Max Bunhey
12th Combat Aviation Brigade



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Chris Seaton

An Iraqi boy clutches a stuffed animal that was donated by the Ansbach military community in Germany. Since December, the community, led by Family members of the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, has donated more than 300 boxes of clothes, toys and shoes to help the local population.

hey turned them over to civil affairs Soldiers who delivered the gifts during humanitarian aid missions near Joint Base Balad.

"We're always grateful for the supplies we get, and we can always use more," said Spc. Joshua

Link, a Myrtle Beach, S.C., native and member of Alpha Company, 404th Civil Affairs Battalion. "We're in a position where we can give out as much as we get."

In all, Bunhey said, the community sent more than 300 boxes

of shoes, coats, toys and clothing.

"My wife ran out of storage space, so she went to the rear detachment, and they were kind enough to lend her office space in the brigade headquarters building for storage until the FRG's could

box it up," he said.

As more people got involved and the operation outgrew its humble beginnings, Lt. Col. Rick Crogan, the 12th CAB Deputy Commander, asked the brigade chaplain's office at Camp Taji to help out.

"The outpouring of compassion was phenomenal within the (Ansbach) community," said Crogan. "(The Bunhey Family) and other volunteers worked very hard to ensure those items made it to Iraq."

"We gave out boxes to military transition teams, civil affairs and even our sister unit chaplain's office in 1st Sustainment Brigade to deliver to a local community," said Sgt. 1st Class Amonty Cochran, the brigade's chaplain assistant.

Bunhey said his favorite part was getting the opportunity to personally deliver some of the gifts.

"Some of it, I get to hand out directly to the kids," he said. "Seeing an Iraqi kid smile for the right reasons makes it all worth it."

"The stuff you put in a box as an afterthought, or sell at a yard sale means so much to a lot of these people," added Link. "If we can give them something they don't have, maybe they can hold on a little longer and help support the 'big picture' mission in Iraq."

Bunhey said the real gift was witnessing the generosity of the Family members back home.

"My wife and kids were shocked to see the generosity of the communities," he said. "The Family members who gave, and the FRG's who spread the word and boxed the donations made a big impact on us all."

A little lesson for development



Photo by Sgt. Gary Hawkins

Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Allen, the command sergeant major for Multi-National Corps-Iraq, speaks to Soldiers attending the noncommissioned officer development program during a brief visit to Joint Base Balad, Aug. 18.

1835th Combat Stress Control

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POC:
1835th CSC Prevention Team
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bree.hartman@iraq.centcom.mil
alana.antonich@iraq.centcom.mil



**Leaders—Don't let your
soldiers suffer in silence...We
can Help.**

Taji level III wheeled vehicle maintenance facility celebrates early progress

Story and photos by Staff Sgt Bryant Maude

1st Sustainment Brigade

CAMP TAJI, Iraq - The temperatures swelled into the triple digits as Iraqi maintenance troops stood tall and proud next to one of the 150-plus vehicles on parade near the Taji level III wheeled vehicle maintenance facility Aug 26.



The vehicles and mechanics were part of a ceremony held to highlight their recent achievements. The guest of honor was Staff Gen. Nasier Abadi, the Iraqi Army Deputy Chief of Staff, and others from the Iraqi Army and Coalition Forces.

A passage from the Quaran was read and a moment of silence for prayer was observed. Then, the guest speaker took the podium and praised the hard work of the officers and Soldiers of the level III facility.

"We have done a great job fixing a lot of vehicles during this campaign, so congratulations," said Brig. Gen. Muniem, the electrical and mechanical engineering officer, and key note speaker for the event. "They are very professional and work very hard to support the Iraqi Army and our country."

The event was also a treat for a small group of Soldiers from the 1st Sustainment Brigade who started working with

their Iraqi counterparts in April 2008.

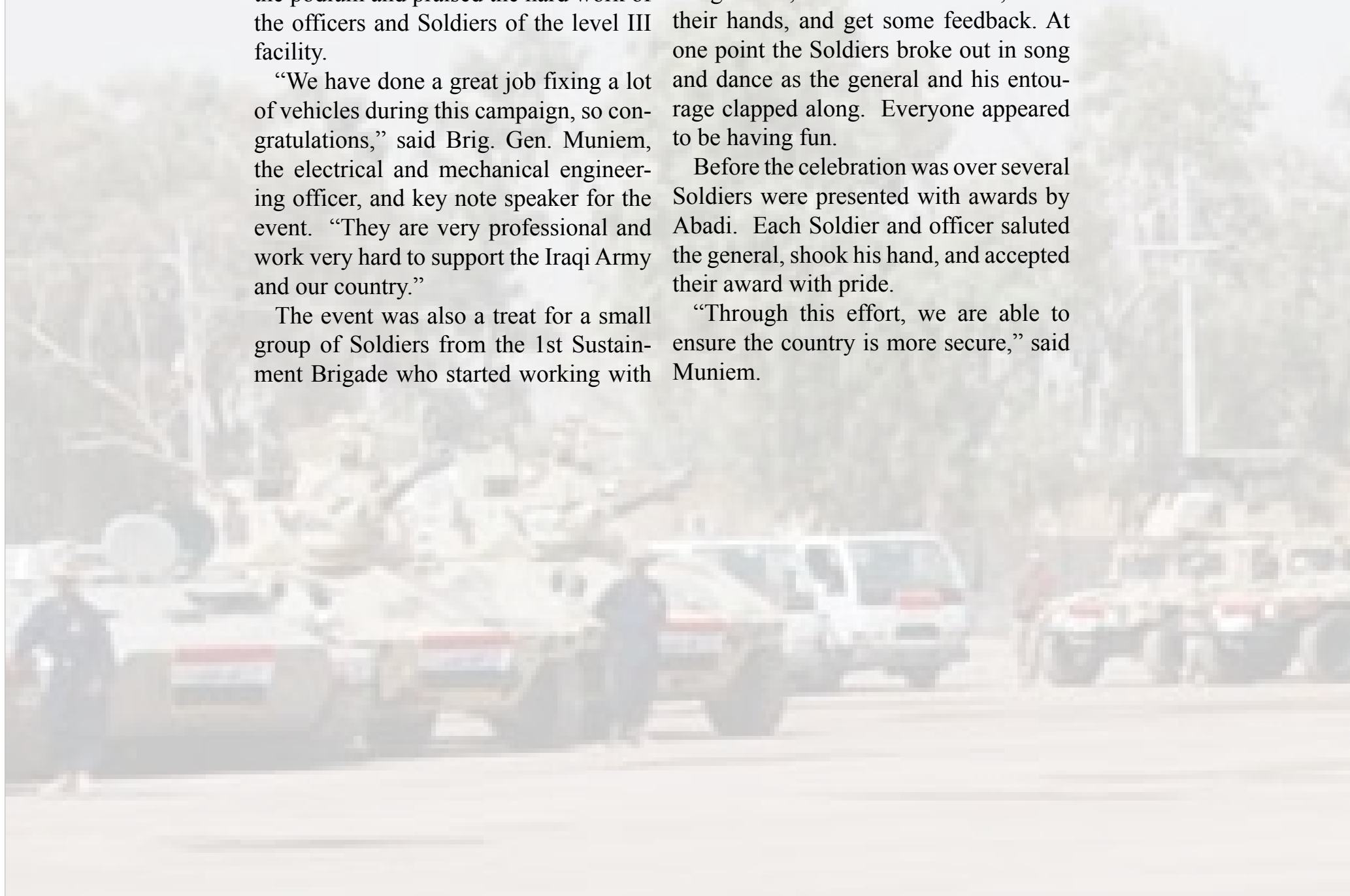
"It's exciting! This is a ceremony that highlights the Iraqi's ability to do level III maintenance and the Iraqi Army took over the level III track and the level III wheeled facility officially 1 June. So from June to now they have managed to repair 150 wheeled vehicles and 25 tracked vehicles," said Capt. Randall Weiser, the Iraqi Security Force Cell officer in charge. "This averages out to about twenty vehicles a week, which is great."

"This represents change for the Iraqi Army," said Chief Warrant Officer Keith Hammitt, the maintenance advisor to Col. Mohammed. "This is a result of their own hard work and sacrifice."

After the talk, Nasier was escorted onto the field where he cut the ceremonial ribbon and then had an opportunity to walk the grounds, meet the mechanics, shake their hands, and get some feedback. At one point the Soldiers broke out in song and dance as the general and his entourage clapped along. Everyone appeared to be having fun.

Before the celebration was over several Soldiers were presented with awards by Abadi. Each Soldier and officer saluted the general, shook his hand, and accepted their award with pride.

"Through this effort, we are able to ensure the country is more secure," said Muniem.





A team of Iraqi firefighters stand by in support during a celebration that was held at the Taji level III wheeled vehicle maintenance facility Aug 26.



Staff Gen. Nasier Abadi, the Iraqi Army deputy chief of staff (center), cuts the ceremonial ribbon, signifying the great gains made by the Iraqi maintenance Soldiers at the Taji level III wheeled vehicle maintenance facility Aug 26.



Staff Gen. Nasier Abadi, the Iraqi Army deputy chief of staff, congratulates an Iraqi maintenance Soldier assigned to the Taji level III wheeled vehicle maintenance facility during a celebration ceremony Aug 26.



Staff Gen. Nasier Abadi, the Iraqi Army deputy chief of staff, stops and talks with one of the Taji level III wheeled vehicle maintenance facility Soldiers as he walked the line of nearly 130 wheeled vehicles and 20 track vehicles that were recently repaired here.

3d ESC opens American Legion National Convention

by Spc. Michael Behlin

Expeditionary Times staff

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq— The 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) opened the American Legion National Convention Tuesday in Phoenix via satellite.

3d ESC commanding general, Brig. Gen. Michael Lally, spoke to more than 6000 members of the American Legion about the importance of their organization and its significance to former and current members of the United States Armed Services.

“For almost 90 years, the American Legion has dedicated itself to serving communities, serving veterans, and serving our country,” Lally said. “It’s special for me to be able to welcome you today and I want to thank you personally for your past and continued service to our great country.”

Participating with Lally during the opening ceremonies were several 3d ESC Servicemembers, and fellow Legionnaires which included a mixed quartet of Soldiers and Airmen who performed The National Anthem.

The American Legion was founded in Paris by World War I Soldiers and Marines of the American Expeditionary Force in 1919. Chartered by Congress the same year, the American Legion operates as a patriotic, mutual-help, war-time veteran’s organization. Veteran membership dates back as far as those who fought in World Wars I and II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

Nationally Headquartered in Indianapolis, the American Legion is the world’s largest veterans’ asso-



Photo by Sgt. Gary Hawkins

Brig. Gen. Michael Lally, 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) commanding general, speaks from Joint Base Balad, Iraq to Legionnaires during the opening ceremony of the American Legion National Convention in Phoenix. Lally noted that “the American Legion has dedicated itself to serving communities, serving veterans, and serving our country.”

ciation. With membership hovering near 3 million members, the American Legion has about 15,000 posts worldwide which are broken up into 55 departments; one for each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico, and the Philippines.

The organization has fought for benefits of veterans and family members of veterans who died at war. The Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion states that its purpose is to:

“Uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and

nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.”

Lally assured convention attendees that the 3d ESC, which is the senior logistics headquarters under Multi-National Corps-Iraq and is responsible for all logistics operations within the Iraqi theater, will uphold American Legion values throughout its deployment.

“You need to know that the values you fought for, and continue to fight for each day, we carry with us here in Iraq,” Lally told Legionnaires. “We won’t let you down.”



Photo by Airman 1st Class Chris Griffin

Airman 1st Class Caitlin Davies, 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron, sounds reveille during a 407th Air Expeditionary Group formation here July 24.

Airman plays a traditional tune

by Tech. Sgt. Francesca Popp

407th Air Expeditionary Group

ALI BASE, Iraq – Airmen gathered around the base flag pole just before 7 a.m., and formed up to hear the command, “Sound Reveille!”



Those two words are Airman 1st Class Caitlin Davies’ cue to begin playing her solo.

Davies, a 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron operations flight network integration technician here, is the only bugler deployed to Iraq, said Master Sgt. Abdullah Mustapha, noncommissioned officer in charge of the Ali Base Honor Guard.

“We are really proud that she stepped up to do this,” Mustapha said. “It brings us back to a time when there were no recordings and it adds a nice touch to the ceremonies here.”

Mustapha recently learned that Davies could play the bugle while the two were cleaning out the honor guard storage closet.

“She grabbed the bugle and started playing,” he said.

Davies has 13 years of musical experience. She said she’s honored to provide live music during ceremonies here.

“It means a lot to provide a familiar tradition to Servicemembers during a time of war,” said Davies, who is deployed from Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. “The bugler position is a hard one to fill because qualified musicians aren’t always in abundance, so I’m glad to fill in the hole while I can.”

Having a bugler actually play Reveille gives the ceremony more impact than recorded music, Mustapha said.

“It just gives our ceremonies a more organic and original touch,” said Mustapha, who is deployed from Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska. “It helps us reflect on our history and the history of the armed forces.”

“The goal of music is to move the spirit in whatever style the music calls for,” said Davies, a native of Morrisville, Pa. “Would you rather see the Grand Canyon for yourself or view a photograph in National Geographic? We want to see things in person for ourselves – the overall effect is more engaging.”

Davies said she practices five days a week for 15 minutes and for two hours during honor guard practices.

“She has a great attitude and initiative,” said Mustapha, a New Orleans native. “She embodies everything that an honor guard member is supposed to be.”

Davies’ forte is the French horn. She had not played the bugle before deploying nearly four months ago.

“Solo bugling is very new to me,” she said. “I was rusty the first time because it had been a while since I had performed a solo. French hornists almost always play harmony; not all are in the limelight providing melody.”

Davies gathers her emotions to express them in music, puts the shiny instrument to her lips and proceeds to sound Reveille.

Sling load delivery



Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Joseph W. Pfaff

BALAD, Iraq – 10th Special Forces Group Service Support Company’s aerial delivery section, supporting Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force - Arabian Peninsula, hooks a generator onto cargo straps suspended from a MH-47 helicopter Aug. 3, 2008. This is the first time the GSSC attempted the sling load operation as an alternate method of transporting a piece of equipment to a remote location.

Servicemembers celebrate women's right to vote



Photo by Pfc. Amanda Tucker

Servicemembers jog around one of the corners of the route for the Woman's Equality run at Joint Base Balad Aug. 26.

Susan B. Anthony on women's right to vote

Friends and fellow citizens: I stand before you tonight under indictment for the alleged crime of having voted at the last presidential election, without having a lawful right to vote. It shall be my work this evening to prove to you that in thus voting, I not only committed no crime, but, instead, simply exercised my citizen's rights, guaranteed to me and all United States citizens by the National Constitution, beyond the power of any state to deny

The preamble of the Federal Constitution says:

"We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

It was we, the people; not we, the white male citizens; nor yet we, the male citizens; but we, the whole people, who formed the Union. And we formed it, not to give the blessings of liberty, but to secure them; not to the half of ourselves and the half of our posterity, but to the whole people - women as well as men. And it is a downright mockery to talk to women of their enjoyment of the blessings of liberty while they are denied the use of the only means of securing them provided by this democratic-republican government - the ballot.

For any state to make sex a qualification that must ever result in the disfranchisement of one entire half of the people, is to pass a bill of attainder, or, an ex post facto law, and is therefore a violation of the supreme law of the land. By it the blessings of liberty are forever withheld from women and their female posterity.

To them this government has no just powers derived from the consent of the governed. To them this government is not a democracy. It is not a republic. It is an odious aristocracy; a hateful oligarchy of sex; the most hateful aristocracy ever established on the face of the globe; an oligarchy of wealth, where the rich govern the poor. An oligarchy of learning, where the educated govern the ignorant, or even an oligarchy of race, where the Saxon rules the African, might be endured; but this oligarchy of sex, which makes father, brothers, husband, sons, the oligarchs over the mother and sisters, the wife and daughters, of every household - which ordains all men sovereigns, all women subjects, carries dissension, discord, and rebellion into every home of the nation.

Webster, Worcester, and Bouvier all define a citizen to be a person in the United States, entitled to vote and hold office.

The only question left to be settled now is: Are women persons? And I hardly believe any of our opponents will have the hardihood to say they are not. Being persons, then, women are citizens; and no state has a right to make any law, or to enforce any old law, that shall abridge their privileges or immunities. Hence, every discrimination against women in the constitutions and laws of the several states is today null and void, precisely as is every one against Negroes.

Susan B. Anthony - 1873



Susan B. Anthony

by Pfc. Amanda Tucker

Expeditionary Times staff

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – In honor of the 19th amendment, Servicemembers of Joint Base Balad celebrated Women's Equality Day Aug. 26.

The theme was Celebrating Woman's Right to Vote.

The day began with Col. Therese O'Brien, the commander of the 55th Sustainment Brigade, based out of Fort Belvoir, Va., and a native of Dellslow, W. Va., delivering the opening remarks before the Woman's Equality Run at Holt Stadium. The 5K run started at 5:30 a.m.

The festivities, however, didn't end there. A luncheon took place, with O'Brien as the guest speaker, at 11:30 a.m. in the Audie Murphie Room of the Oasis Dining Facility.

O'Brien talked about all the great injustices women had been forced to live with throughout history. She spoke of how we as women at one time could not vote, hold elective office, attend college, or even gain custody of children.

The room was quiet as the rise and fall of her voice filled the room with a tone of reverence to women like Susan B. Anthony, Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Stanton, ladies who stood up for women's rights throughout history.

"This is why we celebrate today. A long

standing injustice was not allowed to stand. Women finally became a people (and citizens) in this country, legally, when they won the right to vote."

O'Brien challenged the female military members to set the example for others, calling to attention the fact that females still had restrictions in the military. She pointed out that women can not serve in direct ground combat, are not permitted to attend ranger school, can not be drafted and are not required to register with selective service.

"We must remain vigilant to protect all our rights and freedoms for all our people," said O'Brien.

Although women still have rights to fight for, there has still been a large improvement from where

the average woman's position was in society.

"We're doing it all now as opposed to how it used to be before these women had fought so hard to get women where we need to be," said Master Sgt. Tuynuykua Jackson, the equal opportunity advisor for the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary). "We're in top positions; we're lawyers, we're judges, we're first sergeants, and we're sergeants' major. We just recently had Hillary Clinton, who was running for president. Everyone has the right to vote ... and have a voice," said the Biloxi, Miss., native.



Q-West celebrates Women's Equality Day

by Sgt. 1st. Class Adam V. Shaw

16th Sustainment Brigade

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE Q-WEST, Iraq — Soldiers here celebrated Women's Equality Day with singing, a saxophone rendition,



a poem, and a historical narration of the women's suffrage movement at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Theater, Aug. 26.

This year's Women's Equality Day was the 88th anniversary of women's right to vote.

"I think it is important that we remember the struggles of so many women in history that made it possible," said Staff Sgt. Melissa Doak, event coordinator and human resources sergeant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 76th Brigade Special Troops Battalion. "This year, because it is an election year, I wanted to portray the importance of the vote, not only for men, but for women as well."

For the participants, the event highlighted the equality between the sexes.

"It shows the strength in women," said Spc. Jocelynn Clary, supply specialist, 16th Sustainment Brigade. "It also shows that we are just as capable as men."

Clary, 21, from Woodbridge, Va., sang in

the celebration and said it was the first time she had ever sung in front of an audience.

"I was nervous at first, but by the end, I felt like a diva," said Clary.

For one of the two male participants the event was an opportunity to show his support of women's equality.

"I was just trying to show support," said Pfc. Chad Henson, property book clerk, 16th SB, who played the saxophone. "I was honored and privileged to be part of the celebration."

One Soldier wrote a poem to commemorate the event.

"Women's freedom, that's what inspired me to write my poem," said Spc. Jessica McFadden, human resource specialist, 16th SB. "I'm signing autographs this week."

McFadden, 24, from Columbia, S.C., wrote "God's letter to a woman" and said she was amazed by how far women have come over the past century.

"Women have come a long way to show that we are equals," she said. "We very nearly had a woman president. That would have been unheard of 100 years ago."

The celebration wasn't just for women though.

"Women are the backbone of our country," said Spc. Edward Churbee, generator mechanic, 1st Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment. "They raised us, they are our mothers and sisters, so why shouldn't they be equal? Why shouldn't they be represented in Washington, D.C.?"

News around Iraq

Soldiers find weapons cache in southeastern Baghdad

★ FORWARD OPERATING BASE FALCON, Iraq – Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers captured a weapons cache Aug. 27 in the Abu T'shir community of the Rashid district in southern Baghdad.

At approximately 2:30 a.m., Soldiers of Troop C, 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, seized 10 60mm mortar rounds, 10 mortar fuses and two 80mm mortar rounds.

A Coalition Forces explosives ordnance disposal unit responded to the site.

"The Soldiers of the 1st BCT work day and night, conducting security operations to locate criminals and haul in caches. Their continuing efforts help reinforce the enduring stability and security in the Rashid district," said Maj. Dave Olson, spokesman for the 1st BCT, 4th Inf. Div. "Thanks to the tireless efforts of the Soldiers of the 1st 'Raider' Brigade, the Iraqi citizens continue to enjoy peace and prosperity throughout southern Baghdad."

Pool reopening symbolizes return to normalcy in Beida

★ BEIDA, Iraq – In what was once a recruiting hotbed for terrorist and Special Groups elements in northern Baghdad, a pool complex now serves as a spot of relief for residents.

The pool reopened Aug. 26 as community leaders and residents gathered to celebrate the return of the Al Asafah Pool complex.

The complex was in such a state of disrepair that residents had long stopped patronizing it and squatters had taken up residence there, with some even raising sheep on the pool deck. Additionally, the pool hall located inside the main building had become a makeshift recruiting center for extremists.

"One of the first patrols we went on was to go assess this pool," said Capt. Clint Rusch, fire support officer for Company C, 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 68th Armor Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team. "In the counter-insurgency environment, this is the enemy's strong point – the ability to provide necessary services to the populace."

Major renovations included repairing the outer wall, remodeling shower rooms and refurbishing the concession stand. Once other details were decided upon, a contract was awarded and work began in early March. After hostilities flared up in Sadr City in late March, work halted for five weeks.

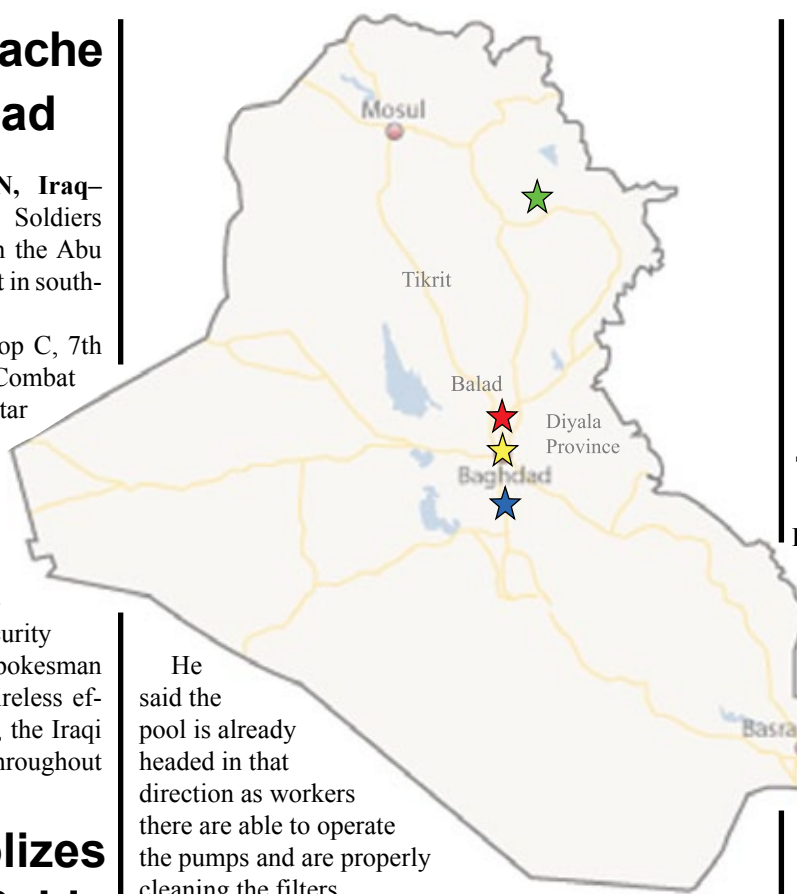
The ribbon-cutting ceremony marked the official reopening of the complex, but its doors have been able to remain open for business during refurbishment, collecting about \$2 per admission. The accompanying billiards pool hall also remains open and is a popular hangout for residents.

"Our contractor didn't want to drain the pool completely when kids are still using it, so he was able to set it up so the kids could swim while construction was going on. They were working 24 hours a day on the project," said the Bloomington, Minn., native.

Attendance at the Al Asafah Pool is up more than eight times what it was during the same time period in 2007.

Once the rainy season begins and the pool is no longer being used, Rusch said the pools will be drained and the tile replaced.

"The perfect end state would be that the project becomes self-sufficient – it doesn't require any American influence to be able to continue," he said.



He said the pool is already headed in that direction as workers there are able to operate the pumps and are properly cleaning the filters.

"We work hard to satisfy our clients," said Hader Hameed Majid, the Iraqi contractor who oversaw the \$200,000 project, adding that he uses some of his profit margin on each project to give something back.

"I don't lose anything if I cut a share from my profits and give it here for my country," Hader said.

Rusch said he hopes that this pool will become a destination much the same as swimming pools serve for American children.

"We want the community to have the ability to experience a part of childhood that every kid should have," he said.

Iraqi Security Forces conduct riot control training

★ KIRKUK, Iraq – As Iraq continues to emerge as a free and democratic country, its security forces must be prepared to maintain stability and keep the land in order.

Under the guidance of the 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade; Emergency Services Unit of northeastern Iraq's Kirkuk Province recently conducted training on how to effectively control and eventually dissolve citizen riots and protests, Aug. 20.

Adopting the Army's military decision-making process, Kirkuk's ESU staff members created guidelines and standard operating procedures for several scenarios involving up to 5,000 people.

Although Coalition Forces from the 1-10th Mtn. Div. and the 212th Military Police Company were on hand to supervise and act as mentors, the training process was left almost entirely in the hands of Iraqi officials; continuing a nationwide transfer of authority.

"A suicide bomber recently caused a lot of chaos in this region when he targeted a large number of Iraqi civilians who had gathered for a protest," said Capt. James Burnett, 2-22 Inf. Fire Support Officer. "Afterward, Iraqi officials wanted their security forces to be better prepared to handle similar situations, and we agreed to give them advice and monitor their progress."

The training involved several different aspects that would be combined and used as a single, overall process, including fire and rescue departments, intelligence gathering, communications and deployment of manpower.

Iraqis involved in the training were eager to learn and quick to adapt to every scenario they were challenged with.

"It's amazing to witness how well Iraqi Security Forces react to each new exercise and how quickly they learn," said Master Sgt. Matt Raines, 1-10th Mtn. Div. Military Transition Team, who also helped mentor the training. "They have an overwhelming desire to prove to themselves, Coalition Forces-and most of all to the Iraqi people- that they are capable of protecting their country."

Conference focuses on future for security forces

★ BAGHDAD – Leaders from Task Force Mountain, Multi-National Corps – Iraq and units working with the Iraqi Security Forces met with Iraqi Army commanders for a one-day conference Aug. 20.

"What we are trying to do is identify force generation needs. We are looking at the way ahead," said Capt. Steven Chadwick, an ISF coordinator with 10th Mountain Div.

The conference focused on manning, equipping and training the ISF to be a more effective and self-sustaining force.

"We already know where we are going to be in six months," he said. "We are looking two years-plus, trying to figure out what we see the IA looking like, what challenges we are going to encounter in getting to that end state."

As insurgent attacks have slowed dramatically in the past ten months, new IA units have stood up at a rapid pace. "The Coalition troop surge gave the ISF a chance to accelerate their growth," said Lt. Gen. Frank G. Helmick, commander of Multi-National Security Transition Corps – Iraq.

"The (IA) has made enormous strides at this point in time," said Col. Thomas James, commander of the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division. "Comparing them now to when I was back here for (Operation Iraqi Freedom) I and OIF II – you can't do it."

When IA units began executing combat operations such as the March 2008 operations in Basrah; Coalition Forces still provided most of the IA's support needs, said Helmick.

"The (IA) knows how to conduct operations," said Chadwick. "They know how to clear rooms; they know how to conduct a cordon and search. They do that all the time, and they are doing that on their own, like in (recent operations in) Amarah. They are conducting major combat operations, like up in Diyala right now, with minimal Coalition support."

In the coming year, said Helmick, ISF have the chance to use the gains made in security to increase their capacity of "enablers" – support units that provide engineering, logistics, air support and other assistance to combat units.

James said that the main challenges the IA now face are related to training. Learning to develop their own intelligence, implement logistics systems and operate communications will be key in future operations, he said.

New equipment is also being fielded to IA units in an effort to modernize the force. IA units are now receiving M-16 rifles, up-armored humvees and sophisticated radios to perform their missions. A whole new generation of military equipment is being purchased by the IA, including helicopters, tanks and equipment to defeat improvised explosive devices.

With new equipment, comes specialized training. A new program called Warfighter Training is giving IA battalions the chance to conduct exercises that develop team and leadership skills while units gain proficiency with new vehicles and weapons. Soldiers also learn counterinsurgency and other training not necessarily provided by military transition teams.

MESSAGES FROM HOME

Shout Out from home

Show your Soldier how much you miss them by sending messages, pictures, or poems in the Expeditionary Times newspaper.

Contact the 3^d ESC Public Affairs Office to print your message.

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



I just want to tell SFC Aaron T. Loos how very proud of him we are! This is his third tour to Iraq for extended time (12+ months) and he never ceases to amaze me how composed and strong he can be when duty calls. He is truly a soldier in all sense of the word! His dedication to his job and his Country is a tribute to his sacrifices he makes with his career choice. I know he much rather be home with his family, but he rises to the challenge when he is called without complaint and makes us proud to recognize all he does to protect our freedom and keep us from harms way. We love you and miss you and look forward to your safe homecoming! Love your wife Laura and children: Brianna, Brennan and Matthew.

Avant brings the power of love



Photo by Spc. Anthony Hooker

Rhythm and blues artist Avant sings to a military audience during a performance Aug. 25 at Joint Base Balad. Avant is on a 12-day tour of Iraq and Kuwait in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

MNF-I Memo 11-1 (Aug 2008)
ANNEX R
MNF-I UNIFORM WEAR, APPEARANCE,
CONDUCT AND STANDARDS

SWIMMING

Personnel may swim only in authorized swimming areas in appropriate swim attire. **Males will wear baggy shorts, physical training shorts or swim trunks; females will wear a one-piece sports swim suit, or baggy shorts and the PT top. Speedos two-piece suits are prohibited.** All attire must be modest, conservative, and respectful of host-nation considerations.

AUTHORIZED MALE SWIMWEAR

MALE OR FEMALE

AUTHORIZED FEMALE SWIMWEAR

front side back

MNF-I POLICY IS STRICTLY ENFORCED

VIOLATORS WILL BE BARRED FROM THIS FACILITY

The Caribbean Heritage Committee is sponsoring a Domino tournament

Welcome to Caribbean Night
Reggae, Reggae-Ton, Soca, Calypso,
Merengue, Salsa and Kompa.

Doors will be open every Friday night from
2000hrs to 0000hrs @ the Eastside MWR

HOC: SFC Joseph 318-483-2564.
SFC Friday 318 483-2238.
SSG Jean 318-433-2745.
Ann 318 483-0031
SGT Kirk 318-483-4030.
Anderson 07809073953

JB BALAD ACTIVITIES

INDOOR POOL <i>Aqua Training:</i> Tuesday and Thursday- 7:45 p.m.	<i>Soo Bahk Do:</i> 6 p.m. <i>Step Aerobics:</i> Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 5:30 p.m. <i>Wrestling & physical fitness class:</i> Tuesday- 6 p.m. and Saturday- 7 p.m. <i>Swing dance:</i> Sunday- 7:30 p.m. <i>Abs-Aerobics:</i> Tuesday and Thursday- 6 a.m. and 5 p.m.	<i>Dominoes:</i> Friday- 8 p.m. <i>Karaoke:</i> Monday- 8 p.m. <i>Model building:</i> Sunday- 1 p.m. <i>Poetry/ open mic:</i> Sunday- 7:30 p.m. <i>Poker tourney:</i> Sunday- 6 p.m. <i>Salsa dance class:</i> Saturday- 8:30 p.m. <i>Swing dance:</i> Tuesday- 7p.m. <i>Ping pong tourney:</i> Tuesday- 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.	<i>urday-</i> 8 p.m. <i>Friday nights in Balad:</i> Friday- 8 p.m. <i>Foosball:</i> Tuesday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. <i>Green Bean karaoke:</i> Wednesday and Sunday- 8 p.m. <i>Ice Ball Tourney:</i> Thursday- 4 p.m. <i>Ping pong tourney:</i> Tuesday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. <i>Salsa dance class:</i> Thursday- 8:30 p.m. <i>Spades, Chess and Dominoes:</i> Friday – 1 p.m. <i>Texas hold ‘em:</i> Saturday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. <i>Game Counsel Tourney:</i> Thursday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.	<i>Aerobics:</i> Monday, Wednesday, Friday- 7 p.m. <i>Body by Midgett Toning Class:</i> Tuesday, Thursday - 7 p.m. <i>Dodge ball Game:</i> Tuesday- 7:30 p.m. <i>Furman’s Martial Arts:</i> Monday, Wednesday, Sunday- 1 p.m. <i>Gaston’s Self-Defense Class:</i> Friday, Saturday- 7 p.m. <i>Open court basketball:</i> Thursday- 7 p.m. <i>Open court soccer:</i> Monday, Wednesday - 7 p.m. <i>Zingano Brazilian Jui Jitsu:</i> Tuesday, Thursday- 8:30 p.m.
EAST FITNESS CENTER <i>Basketball League:</i> Monday-Friday – 7 p.m. <i>Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu:</i> Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 8 p.m. <i>Kyu Kyu Kempo:</i> Sunday- 2 p.m. <i>Edged weapons and stick fighting combatives training:</i> Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays 8 p.m. <i>Open court volleyball:</i> Sunday- 6 p.m. <i>Shotokan Karate Do:</i> Monday, Wednesday and Friday- 6 p.m.	EAST RECREATION CENTER <i>8-ball tourney:</i> Monday- 8 p.m <i>9-ball tournament:</i> Wednesday- 8 p.m. <i>Game Console Tourney:</i> Thursday- 8 p.m. <i>Country Dance Class:</i> Thursday- 7 p.m.	WEST RECREATION CENTER <i>8-ball tourney:</i> Wednesday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m <i>9-ball tournament:</i> Monday- 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. <i>Dungeons & Dragons:</i> Saturday-	WEST FITNESS CENTER <i>3-on-3 basketball tourney:</i> Saturday- 7:30 p.m. <i>6-on-6 volleyball tourney:</i> Friday- 7 p.m.	CIRCUIT GYM <i>Floor hockey:</i> Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 8 p.m

SUSTAINER REEL TIME THEATER

Movie Times

Wednesday, September 3 5 p.m. Wanted 8 p.m. Iron Man	Thursday, September 4 5 p.m. Wanted 8 p.m. The Incredible Hulk	Friday, September 5 2 p.m. Space Chimps 5 p.m. Mamma Mia 8 p.m. Death Race	Saturday, September 6 2 p.m. Mamma Mia 5 p.m. Death Race 8 p.m. The Dark Knight	Sunday, September 7 2 p.m. Death Race 5 p.m. The Dark Knight 8 p.m. Mamma Mia	Monday, September 8 5 p.m. Space Chimp 8 p.m. Death Race	Tuesday, September 9 5 p.m. Death Race 8 p.m. The Dark Knight
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Coming Soon
The X-Files
Babylon A.D.
Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2

(Schedule is subject to change)

New Movies



Space Chimps

Jeff Daniels, Stanley Tucci, Cheryl Hines, and Andy Samberg lend their voices to this computer-animated comedy following the descendants of the first chimps in space as they blast off for fun and adventure on a far-away planet. Ham III (Samberg) is the grandson of Ham, the first-ever chimp astronaut. This ne'er-do-well chimp may not be the most qualified ape for the job, but a scheming senator (Tucci) has recruited him for a most dangerous mission. It seems that a powerful tyrant (Daniels) has overtaken an alien world, and now it's up to Ham III and his trusty simian crew (Hines and Patrick Warburton) to help overthrow the deep-space despot. Perhaps with some training from Ham III's mentor (Kenan Thompson) and the help of a friendly alien (Kristin Chenoweth) this fearless group of anthropoids can make the universe a safer place for aliens and humans alike.



Death Race

The time is the not-so-distant future, and as America's prisons begin overflowing with violent criminals, the powers that be devise a grisly game that will free up space in the cells and entertain the masses at the same time. Jensen Ames (Jason Statham) is a three-time speedway champion with a dark past. A survival expert and ex-con whose sordid history comes back to haunt him when he is framed for a murder he didn't commit, Ames is forced to choose between don-



Mamma Mia!

Independent-minded single mother Donna (Meryl Streep) has always done her best to raise her spirited daughter, Sophie (Amanda Seyfried), while simultaneously running a successful hotel on a small Greek island, but now the time has come for this hardworking mom to finally let go. In just a few days, Sophie will be married, and Donna will stand by bittersweetly as her little girl takes flight. Unbeknownst to the mother, Sophie has furtively invited three very special guests. When Sophie walks down the aisle on that fateful day, she wants her father to hand her off. The only problem is that Donna has never revealed the true identity of Sophie's father, leaving the resourceful future bride to narrow the list down to three potential candidates.

ning the metallic mask of a mythical racer known as Frankenstein or languishing away on Terminal Island -- America's most notorious penitentiary. Over the course of the next three days, this unlikely champion will get behind the wheel of a nightmare machine outfitted with machine guns, grenade launchers, and flamethrowers in a desperate attempt to outrun some of the most violent criminals ever imprisoned. Should Ames be the first to cross the checkered flag, he will win his freedom; should he come in second, however, death would be preferable to a grim future in a cramped concrete cell. Co-stars include Joan Allen, Ian McShane, Natalie Martinez, and Tyrese Gibson, who takes over the role of Machine Gun Joe, made famous by Sylvester Stallone in the original.

STUPID STATE LAWS

Ever wonder just how dumb things can be? Does your state have dumb laws? Read on and find out. In the upcoming weeks, the Expeditionary 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.

North Dakota

- It is illegal to lie down and fall asleep with your shoes on.
- Beer and pretzels can't be served at the same time in any bar or restaurant.
- In Fargo, one may be jailed for wearing a hat while dancing, or even for wearing a hat to a function where dancing is taking place.
- In Devil's Lake, New Year's celebrations are somewhat bland in this town as fireworks may not be set off after 11:00 p.m.

Ohio

- Women are prohibited from wearing patent leather shoes in public.
- It is illegal to get a fish drunk.
- The Ohio driver's education manual states that you must honk the horn whenever you pass another car.
- Participating or conducting a duel is prohibited.
- No one may be arrested on Sunday or on the Fourth of July.



Upcoming sports on AFN



Wednesday 9/3/08

Tennis: 2008 US Open: Men's Fourth Rounds and Women's Quarterfinal (USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, Flushing Meadows, NY), live 2 a.m. AFN/sports
MLB: New York Yankees @ Tampa Bay Rays, live 2 a.m. AFN/xtra
MLB: San Diego Padres @ Los Angeles Dodgers, live 5 a.m. AFN/xtra
MLB: New York Mets @ Milwaukee Brewers, tape delayed 1 p.m. AFN/xtra
Tennis: 2008 US Open: Men's and Women's Quarterfinal (USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, Flushing Meadows, NY), live 6 p.m. AFN/sports

Thursday 9/4/08

Tennis: 2008 US Open: Men's and Women's Quarterfinal (USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, Flushing Meadows, NY), live 2 a.m. AFN/sports
MLB: ESPN Wednesday Night Baseball: Teams TBD, live 2 p.m. AFN/xtra
MLB: San Diego Padres @ Los Angeles Dodgers, live 5 a.m. AFN/xtra
MLB: Los Angeles Angels @ Detroit Tigers, tape delayed 1 p.m. AFN/xtra
Tennis 2008 US Open: Men's Quarterfinal and Mixed Doubles Final (USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, Flushing Meadows, NY), live 6 p.m. AFN/sports

Friday 9/5/08

Tennis 2008 US Open: 2008 US Open: Men's Quarterfinal Rounds (USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, Flushing Meadows, NY), live 2 a.m. AFN/xtra
NFL: NBC Thursday Night Football - Week 1: Washington Redskins @ New York Giants, live 2 a.m. AFN/sports
NHRA POWERade Drag Racing Series: MAC Tools NHRA U.S. Nationals (Indianapolis, IN), tape delayed 6 a.m. AFN/xtra
College Football: ESPN College Football Primetime: South Carolina @ Vanderbilt * 2-Hr ESPN Cutdown Version, tape delay 10 a.m. AFN/sports
NFL: NBC NBC Thursday Night Football - Week 1: Washington Redskins @ New York Giants, tape delayed 8 p.m. AFN/sports

Saturday 9/6/08

College Football: ESPN College Football Primetime: Navy @ Ball State, live 2 a.m. AFN/sports
NASCAR Nationwide Series: Emerson Radio 250 (Richmond International Raceway, Richmond, VA), live 3 a.m. AFN/sports
MLB: New York Yankees @ Seattle Mariners, live 5 a.m. AFN/prime pacific
MLB: ESPN Friday Night Baseball: Arizona Diamondbacks @ Los Angeles Dodgers, live 5 a.m. AFN/sports
MLB: Pittsburgh Pirates @ San Francisco Giants (JIP), live 5:30 a.m. AFN/xtra
Tennis: 2008 US Open: Men's Doubles Finals & Women's Semifinals (USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, Flushing Meadows, NY) (JIP), tape delayed 10 a.m. AFN/sports
Tennis 2008 US Open: Men's Semifinals (USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, Flushing Meadows, NY), tape delayed 6 p.m. AFN/sports

Sunday 9/7/08

NASCAR: NASCAR Sprint Cup Series: Chevy Rock &

Roll 400 (Richmond International Raceway, Richmond, VA), live 2:30 a.m. AFN/xtra
College Football: College Football: Teams TBD, live 3 a.m. AFN/sports
College Football: College Football: Teams TBD, live 3 a.m. AFN/prime atlantic
Tennis: 2008 US Open: Women's Singles Final (USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, Flushing Meadows, NY), tape delay 10 a.m. AFN/sports
UFC: UFC 88: BREAKTHROUGH (Phillips Arena, Atlanta, GA), tape delayed 1 p.m. AFN/sports
Boxing: HBO World Boxing - Lightweight: Juan Diaz vs Michael Katsidis (Toyota Center, Houston, TX), tape delayed 1 p.m. AFN/sports
NFL: Sunday NFL Countdown, live 6 p.m. AFN/sports
NFL: FOX NFL Sunday, live 7 p.m. AFN/xtra
NFL: CBS NFL Today, live 7 p.m. AFN/prime pacific
NFL: NFL Kickoff '08: Tampa Bay Buccaneers @ New Orleans Saints, live 8 p.m. AFN/xtra
NFL: NFL Kickoff '08: Arizona Cardinals @ San Francisco 49ers, live 11 p.m. AFN/prime pacific
NFL: NFL Kickoff '08: Carolina Panthers @ San Diego Chargers, live 11 p.m. AFN/xtra
NFL: NFL Kickoff '08: Dallas Cowboys @ Cleveland Browns, live 11 p.m. AFN/sports

Monday 9/8/08

MLB: ESPN Sunday Night Baseball: Philadelphia Phillies @ New York Mets, live 3 a.m. AFN/prime pacific
NFL: NBC Sunday Night Football - Week 1: Chicago Bears @ Indianapolis Colts, live 3:15 a.m. AFN/sports
IndyCar: NASCAR Sprint Cup Series: CAS Sprint Cup 500 (California Speedway, Fontana, CA), live 3 a.m. AFN/xtra
IndyCar: IndyCar Racing Series: Peak Antifreeze IndyCar 300 (Chicagoland Speedway, Joliet, IL), tape delay 6 a.m. AFN/xtra
Tennis: 2008 US Open: Women's Doubles Finals (USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, Flushing Meadows, NY), tape delayed 8:30 a.m. AFN/sports
PGA TOUR: 2008 FedEx Cup - BMW Championship: Final Round (Bellerive Country Club, St. Louis, MO) (JIP), live 9 a.m. AFN/sports
UFC: UFC 88: BREAKTHROUGH (Phillips Arena, Atlanta, GA), taped delayed 10 a.m. AFN/xtra
NFL: NBC Sunday Night Football - Week 1: Chicago Bears @ Indianapolis Colts, tape delayed 1 p.m. AFN/sports
UFC: UFC 88: BREAKTHROUGH (Phillips Arena, Atlanta, GA), taped delayed 5 p.m. AFN/xtra
Tennis: 2008 US Open: Men's Singles Finals (USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, Flushing Meadows, NY), tape delayed 5 p.m. AFN/sports
NFL: NBC Sunday Night Football - Week 1: Chicago Bears @ Indianapolis Colts, tape delayed 8 p.m. AFN/sports

Tuesday 9/9/08

NFL: ESPN Monday Night Football - Week 1: Minnesota Vikings @ Green Bay Packers, live 2 a.m. AFN/sports
NFL: ESPN Monday Night Football - Week 1: Denver Broncos @ Oakland Raiders, live 5:15 a.m. AFN/sports
NFL: ESPN Monday Night Football - Week 1: Minnesota Vikings @ Green Bay Packers, tape delayed 1 p.m. AFN/sports
NFL: ESPN Monday Night Football - Week 1: Denver Broncos @ Oakland Raiders, tape delayed 8 p.m. AFN/sports

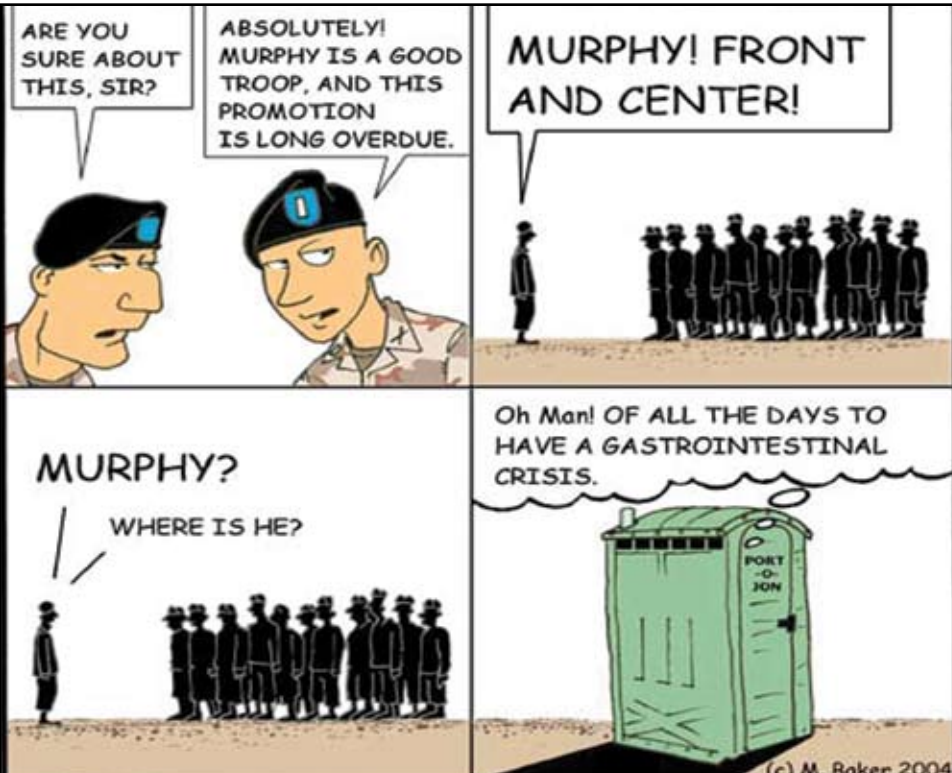
Sudoku

Level: Hard

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

The objective is to fill the 9×9 grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 boxes contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.

PVT. MURPHY'S LAW



Iraq according to Opet



Joint Base Balad flag football league



Photos by Spc. Ryan Hohman

Pfc. Dereck Jones, a member of the 602nd Maintenance Company, runs the ball for the Dirty Devils during a flag football game here Aug. 28.



Sgt. Landell Henderson, a member of the 602nd Maintenance Company, makes the opening kick for the Dirty Devils during a flag football game here Aug. 28.



Pfc. Justin Gray, a member of the 602nd Maintenance Company, and quarterback for the Dirty Devils, rushes the ball during a flag football game here Aug. 28.



Spc. Thomas Tabares, a member of the Alpha company, 40th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, catches a toss during a flag football game here Aug. 28.



Spc. Jason Hone, a member of the 602nd Maintenance Company, and linebacker for the Dirty Devils, dives for an interception during a flag football game here Aug. 28.



The Gator Dawgs, made up of members of Alpha company, 40th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, huddle up before a play during a flag football game here Aug. 28.



Spc. Derick Walker, a member of the Alpha company, 40th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, and quarterback for the Gator Dawgs, catches a hike during a flag football game here Aug. 28.