

# JOINT BASE BALAD'S EXPEDITIONARY TIMES

Proudly serving the finest expeditionary Servicemembers throughout Iraq

www.dvidshub.net (search phrase: Expeditionary Times)

Vol. 1, Issue 19

## Mission melting pot story on pg. 5



Photo by Sgt. Aaron LeBlanc

Members of the 165th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Sustainment Brigade, participate in a transfer of authority ceremony held at Camp Taji, Iraq, April 21, signifying the moment at which the 165th assumed responsibility for the battlespace formerly controlled by the 1103rd CSSB.

### Interpreters help "bridge the gap"

See page 4



### NCOs take first step

New NCOs take part in induction ceremony signifying their new leadership role

See pages 8-9

### Women pave the way

A look at how things have changed for women in the military over the years

See page 11

## 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) extends helping hand to interested voters

by Spc. Anthony Hooker

Expeditionary Times staff

**JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq** – Voting assistance officers of the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) held two federal voting absentee ballot drives Oct. 15-16 and Oct. 20-22 at the Eastside Morale, Welfare, and Recreation facility.

The events were part of the 3d ESC's effort to register or assist Servicemembers and civilian employees who wished to submit an absentee ballot for the Nov. 4 general election.

Maj. James Hess, VAO for the 3d

*"Going through the absentee voting process was very convenient and easy . . . it was a painless process."*

Sgt 1st Class Odell Smith  
1st Battalion, 293rd Infantry Regiment

ESC; Capt. Kelvin Acosta; and Sgt. 1st Class Albert Gardner provided absentee ballots along with voting assistance material for new voters, or guidance for anyone having dif-

ficulty receiving a ballot from their home area.

Acosta, VAO for the 3d ESC's Headquarters Company, and a Salinas, Puerto Rico, native, said the

team came to MWR East to do whatever was necessary to help citizens cast a vote before the November elections. By providing their services at a site that entertains resi-

dents and visitors of JBB, Acosta said the 3d ESC was able to reach a significant amount of people.

Having assisted nearly 200 voters in an earlier voter registration drive, Acosta said the number of participants assisted tripled, largely by word – of – mouth.

"Most people I have talked to said they have never (experienced) this type of approach," said Acosta. "When people get a one-on-one approach, they feel more comfortable, like they are taken care of."

See VOTE, Page 10



## PMO Blotter: 17 Oct. – 23 Oct.

### Minor Vehicle Accident:

An Air Force servicemember notified security forces, via telephone of a minor vehicle accident. SF patrols arrived on scene and made contact with the vehicle operator, who stated that while attempting to negotiate a turn, his tractor trailer struck another parked trailer. Damage consisted of a bent strut bar on the tractor. A report was completed on scene. The Servicemember was instructed to report the incident to his chain of command and report to security forces in 72 hours to acquire a copy of the report.

### UXO Discovery:

An Air Force member reported finding unexploded ordnance on Texas Ave. Security forces, Fire Department, and Explosive Ordnance Disposal responded. Additional SF patrols responded, evacuated buildings, and set control points for the cordon. EOD personnel then detonated the UXO in-place.

### Minor Vehicle Accident:

An Air Force Servicemember notified the security forces, via telephone, of a minor vehicle accident. The SF patrols arrived on scene and made contact with the vehicle operator. The Servicemember stated while attempting to maneuver around another vehicle, she struck a drainage pipe. The damage to the vehicle consisted of a bent and re-positioned bumper. The Servicemember was instructed to report the incident to her chain of command and report to SF in 72 hours to obtain a copy of the report.

### Informational Entry/Vehicle Damage:

The JDOC was notified via telephone of a vehicle that had suffered damage due to the indirect fire attack. SF patrols were dispatched to the vehicle's location to ascertain the damages. The damage consisted of a chipped windshield and a broken passenger headlight. Digital photos were taken to record the damage.

### Attempted Theft of Government Property:

A civilian contractor notified security forces of an attempt to steal government fuel. While refueling his vehicle, a civilian attempted to go beyond the allowable supply by bribing the fuel attendant. Security forces responded and completed a written statement on-scene. The complainant was instructed to report this violation to his chain of command and report to security forces after 72 hours to obtain a copy of the report.

### **Contact the Provost Marshal Office:**

**NIPR- 443-8602**

**SIPR- 241-1171**

**Email- PMOdesk@iraq.centcom.mil**



Photo by Spc. Anthony Hooker

**Iraqi Children cross the Euphrates river to meet Soldiers July 30 in Al Batha, Iraq.**

## The fish doesn't know about the water until you take him out of it.

by Angela M. Aube

TRADOC Culture Center

**FORT HUACHUCA, Az.** – Often in the military, we are thrust into new environments that are much different from our own. Remember that first day at Basic Training: Many of us were introduced to a new world that we did not know existed. The same can be said for being deployed to a different region of the world—even if we have already been there before.

So, what does the quote “The fish doesn't know about the water until you take him out of it” mean? It means that we can never quite be prepared for entering a new region. As humans immersed in our culture, we are often not aware of our own individual and collective cultures until we are thrust into these new situations. Being confronted with people who have a completely different worldview and who think in a different way can be challenging. We may find difficulty in complet-

ing our mission because we just do not understand how someone else could be so wrong about everything. Being a fish out of water can be difficult, confusing, and potentially dangerous. It is important that we learn to function in new environments as efficiently as possible.

The key to communicating and operating in another country—another culture—is to first understand ourselves. How do we view the world? What do we value and believe? More importantly: why? When we are placed in these new environments, we are forced to ask ourselves these questions. When we find the answers to these questions, we are more prepared for the missions ahead of us—understanding our allies and enemies—and better positioned to return home safely.

So, the final question is: If you are taken out of your home waters, are you going to suffocate or are you going to learn to breathe in a new way?

## Culture Points

1. For Iraqis, having a big family is a great achievement – this is a basic right that every person and animal deserves (They are very opposed to spaying and neutering animals).
2. Blood money can only be paid after an apology is given.
3. Noah lived in Iraq; many biblical events and people are centered in Iraq.
4. Private property has been an Iraqi value for nearly 5,000 years.

*Submitted by William S. Parrish*

### We invite you to....

*Please send comments, ideas, or questions about cultural situations you may have encountered to the Editor. Also, please forward any topics you would like to learn more about!*

*expeditionarytimes@iraq.centcom.mil*

# EXPEDITIONARY TIMES

3<sup>d</sup> ESC Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Mike Lally

Expeditionary Times is authorized for publication by the 3<sup>d</sup> Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) for the Joint Base Balad community. The contents of the Expeditionary Times are unofficial and are not to be considered the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, including the Department of Defense or Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Expeditionary Times is a command information newspaper in accordance with Army Regulation 360-1 and reviewed by the ESC G2 for security purposes.

Expeditionary Times is published weekly by the Stars and Stripes central office, with a circulation of 5,000 papers.

The Public Affairs Office is located on New Jersey Ave. Building 7508, DSN 318-433-2154. Expeditionary Times, HHC 3d ESC, APO AE 09391. Web site at [www.dvidshub.net](http://www.dvidshub.net)

### **Managing Editor**

Maj. Paul Hayes, 3<sup>d</sup> ESC  
[paul.r.hayes@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:paul.r.hayes@iraq.centcom.mil)

### **215th MPAD Commander**

Maj. Timothy Horton, 215th MPAD  
[timothy.horton@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:timothy.horton@iraq.centcom.mil)

### **215th MPAD NCOIC**

Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class David Zerbe, 215th MPAD  
[david.zerbe@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:david.zerbe@iraq.centcom.mil)

### **3<sup>d</sup> ESC PAO NCOIC**

Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class David McClain, 3<sup>d</sup> ESC  
[david.mcclain@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:david.mcclain@iraq.centcom.mil)

### **3d ESC G2, Security Manager**

Lt. Col Dale Davis, 3<sup>d</sup> ESC  
[dale.davis@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:dale.davis@iraq.centcom.mil)

### **Expeditionary Times NCOIC**

Staff Sgt. Tim Sander, 215th MPAD  
[timothy.sander@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:timothy.sander@iraq.centcom.mil)

### **Photo Editor**

Sgt. Gary Hawkins, 215th MPAD  
[gary.hawkins@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:gary.hawkins@iraq.centcom.mil)

### **Layout and Design**

Spc. Ryan Hohman, 215th MPAD  
[ryan.hohman@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:ryan.hohman@iraq.centcom.mil)

### **Staff Writers**

Spc. Anthony Hooker, 215th MPAD  
[anthony.hooker@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:anthony.hooker@iraq.centcom.mil)  
Spc. Charlotte Martinez, 215th MPAD  
[charlotte.martinez@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:charlotte.martinez@iraq.centcom.mil)  
Spc. Michael Behlin, 3<sup>d</sup> ESC  
[michael.behlin@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:michael.behlin@iraq.centcom.mil)  
Pfc. Amanda Tucker, 3<sup>d</sup> ESC  
[amanda.tucker1@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:amanda.tucker1@iraq.centcom.mil)

### **Contributing Public Affairs Offices**

1st Sustainment Brigade  
16th Sustainment Brigade  
371st Sustainment Brigade  
7th Sustainment Brigade  
332nd Air Expeditionary Wing  
20th Engineer Brigade  
55th Sustainment Brigade  
402nd Army Field Support Brigade  
CJSOTF-AP  
76th Infantry Brigade Combat Team  
Task Force 34

### **Distribution**

Sgt. Geno L. Gardner, 215th MPAD  
[geno.gardner@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:geno.gardner@iraq.centcom.mil)

**Contact the Expeditionary Times staff at:**  
[expeditionarytimes@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:expeditionarytimes@iraq.centcom.mil)

**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<sup>d</sup> 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.



# Army Material Commander visits 3d ESC



Photo by Spc. Charlotte Martinez

Gen. Benjamin Griffin, commander, United States Army Materiel Command from Fort Belvoir, Va., steps off the plane Oct. 22 to greet Brig. Gen. Michael J. Lally, commander, 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), during his visit to Joint Base Balad.

# ‘Hooah’ Soldier of the week



Photo by Spc. Michael Behlin

Sergeant 1st Class Nathan Havice, a Oakridge, Ore., native and G4 non-tactical vehicle manager with the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), is congratulated by Brig. Gen. Michael Lally, 3d ESC commanding general, for being selected this week’s “Hooah Soldier of the Week”.

# 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)
------------------	----------------------------

**PROTESTANT—SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**

SATURDAY 9 A.M.	PROVIDER CHAPEL
-----------------	-----------------

**PROTESTANT—CHURCH OF CHRIST**

SUNDAY 3:30 P.M.	CASTLE HEIGHTS (4155)
------------------	-----------------------

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL:**

GILBERT CHAPEL: 443-7703 PROVIDER CHAPEL: 433-2430 FREEDOM CHAPEL: 443-6303

**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
-------------------	-----------------

**PAGAN/ WICCAN FELLOWSHIP**

THURSDAY, SATURDAY 7 P.M.	EDEN CHAPEL
---------------------------	-------------

**BUDDHIST FELLOWSHIP**

TUESDAY 7 P.M.	EDEN CHAPEL
----------------	-------------

**PROTESTANT – SPANISH NON-DENOMINATIONAL**

SUNDAY 4:15 P.M.	GILBERT MEMORIAL CHAPEL
------------------	-------------------------

**EASTERN ORTHODOX- DEVINE LITURGY**

SUNDAY 9 A.M.	PROVIDER CHAPEL ANNEX
---------------	-----------------------

*\*Please note, schedule is subject to change.*



# Interpreters help train and advise Iraqi Forces

by Spc. Andrea Merritt

1st Sustainment Brigade

*Editor's note: For safety reasons, all interpreters mentioned in the article are referred to by fictional names.*

**CAMP TAJI, Iraq** – For years, Coalition Forces have trained and advised Iraqi Forces with the goal of helping the once war-torn country become a more stable, independent and self-sustaining country.

Through the help of interpreters, who sometimes assist Coalition Forces at the risk of their own personal safety, the coalition is able to be more effective in the way they teach the Iraqis.

“For the most part, they can make things flow a lot faster,” said Capt. Jeffrey Stuke, an Englewood, Ohio native and a member of the force protection training team from the 1st Squadron, 152nd Cavalry Regiment, an Indiana National Guard unit attached to the 1st Sustainment Brigade.

In the 1st Sust. Bde., there are 11 interpreters who aid the brigade’s training teams in their mission. Although interpreting provides a source of income, many do this job because they simply believe in what they do.

“I believe in the changes in my country brought by the U.S. I do this to help my country and my people and to support my family,” said Johnnie, an interpreter assigned to the 1st Sust. Bde.

Johnnie’s main job is to inter-



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bryant Maude

(Left to right) Col. Kevin O’Connell, commander of the 1st Sustainment Brigade; Shawn, an interpreter assigned to the brigade’s Iraqi Security Forces Cell; Col. Mohammed Abdalwahab, the maintenance company commander for the Iraqi Army Maintenance Program; and Command Sgt. Maj. Frank Car-doza, the 1st Sust. Bde. senior enlisted member, pose for a picture during a dinner hosted by Mohammed on Oct. 9.

pret for Col. Kevin O’Connell, commander, 1st Sustainment Brigade, and a native of Clinton, Md., when he interacts with his Iraqi counterparts. When Johnnie is not assisting the brigade commander, he works with the brigade’s Iraqi Security Forces Cell.

As an Iraqi native, Johnnie was raised during the rule of Saddam Hussein and his regime. During Saddam’s reign, Johnnie’s uncle was executed and his family was targeted by the Baath Party.

“Whenever someone was executed in Saddam’s system, that person’s family was considered a bad family who didn’t deserve to make a living. My father couldn’t work. At that time, there was a file at the Baath Party office and they

would place an “X” on that family. My family had an “X” on them,” Johnnie explained.

“It was a nightmare. No one could ever dream that Saddam would be gone one day,” he said.

After Saddam was removed from power, Johnnie’s father began working as an interpreter with U.S. Forces on Taji. Soon, he and his uncles followed in his father’s footsteps.

For the past five years, Johnnie has worked as an interpreter. Earlier in his career he was assigned to a 3rd Infantry Division unit and assisted soldiers during patrols in different neighborhoods.

“I have been on about 400 patrols and hit by IEDs seven times and survived. Their job was to se-

cure the (main supply route) and find insurgents and improvised explosive devices. At checkpoints, we stopped a lot of insurgents and IEDs from killing innocent people,” said Johnnie.

Another interpreter in the brigade is Ibrahim. He is originally from Kurdistan, but he moved to the United States and has become a naturalized citizen since then. Ibrahim works as an interpreter for the 1st Sqdn., 152nd Cav. Regt.

“In 1991, when the Kurds revolted against Saddam, his army came up there so most of the population ran away from their cities and their homes to the Turkey border and the Iranian border,” said Ibrahim. “That was my beginning to get out of Iraq. I stayed in Tur-

key for a year and then I got a visa to come to the United States as a refugee.”

While in the United States, Ibrahim attended Tennessee State University in Nashville and obtained a degree in engineering. When he did not get the job he applied for to be interpreter for an overseas engineering company, he applied to be an interpreter for U.S. Forces in Iraq.

“I’m really happy with my job out here working with the Army, especially the group that I work with now. I enjoy it. Every day I learn something new. It feels real good because I get to help these guys that don’t understand their language,” said Ibrahim.

“It’s fun to be between two people that don’t understand each other and translate. It makes me feel proud of what I am doing,” Ibrahim said.

Since returning to the Middle East, Ibrahim has seen many notable changes in society.

“This is the country that was under the dictatorship, now it’s liberated. It was nice to see Iraq taking a step toward democracy. It makes me feel (good) to work with those advisors that work with the Iraqis every day to try to make things work. This Army is going to be Iraq’s Army; it’s not going to be under dictatorship where somebody is oppressing the Iraqi people,” said Ibrahim.

Like Ibrahim, Shawn also fled to the United States in search of a better life, but returned to Iraq to work as an interpreter. He was born and raised in the Baghdad area, but in

See **INTERPRETER**, Page 10

## Quick fire response saves vital equipment

by Air Force Staff Sgt. Don Branum

332nd Air Expeditionary Wing

**JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq** – Four Airmen with the 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron protected \$52 million in aircraft parts from being damaged or destroyed with their quick response to an electrical fire at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, Sept. 22.

Staff Sgt. Akeilee Murchison, Senior Airman Heather Libiszewski, Airman 1st Class Mayra Colon-Santiago and Airman Martin Renzi responded within moments of detecting the fire, which was caused by a broken gaslight fixture, in the 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron Aircraft Parts Store.

“Airman Colon-Santiago smelled smoke and notified us there was a fire,” Murchison said. “Renzi and I saw the flames coming from the fixture.”

Libiszewski located the nearest fire extinguisher and cleared the ground fire, then handed the extinguisher to Renzi, who smothered the fire at the base of the fixture.

Meanwhile, Murchison called 911 and directed the Joint Base Balad Fire Department to the scene.

After the fire, officials with the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron turned off power to the building. They determined that faulty wiring in the light ballast caused the

gaslight to burst and start the fire, and they checked the remaining ballasts to ensure no others had faults, said Master Sgt. Stacey Harter, deputy chief of the Joint Base Balad Fire Department.

Murchison and Senior Airman William McCarthy, both deployed from Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass., made sure fire extinguishers in other 332nd ELRS work centers were identified and easily accessible so that other Airmen could similarly prevent fires from spreading out of control. Murchison is a unit safety representative for the squadron.

The Air Force requires Airmen to be trained on fire extinguisher safety annually for emergency situations such as the one in which Murchison and her Airmen found themselves, said Senior Master Sgt. James Ferrari, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing ground safety manager. The annual training will help Airmen remember which fire extinguishers should be used for grease-burning, electrical or other fires.

“What these Airmen did is a great thing, and we need to make sure all our Airmen are prepared to take the initiative if a fire breaks out in their workcenters,” said Ferrari, who is deployed from the Air National Guard’s 110th Fighter Wing in Battle Creek, Mich.

Airmen should inspect fire extinguishers in their work ar-



Photo by Airman 1st Class Jason Epley

Airman 1st Class Mayra Colon-Santiago, Airman 1st Class Martin Renzi, Staff Sgt. Akeilee Murchison and Senior Airman Heather Libiszewski, pose with the fire extinguisher they used to put out a fire in the Joint Base Balad, Iraq, Aircraft Supply Store Sept. 22.

eas and living quarters at least once a month, Ferrari said. To inspect the fire extinguisher, pick it up in both hands, give it a good shake and check the pressure gauge at the top. The shake helps the dry chemicals within ABC-type and BC-type fire extinguishers mix properly and ensures the extinguisher is full.



# Mission melting pot: Combat sustainment in today's plug and play Army

by Sgt. Aaron LeBlanc

1st Sustainment Brigade

*Editors Note: LeBlanc is a unit public affairs representative for the 1st Sust. Bde's, 165th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion. This article received distribution on the national level.*

**CAMP TAJI, Iraq** – The 165th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion is currently managing a dynamic mission that ranges from class one supply delivery, to the movement of bulk fuel, to the administration of the premier maintenance operation on Camp Taji, Iraq. This diversity of mission is made possible through the Army's "plug and play" philosophy that has gained wide acceptance as it continues to increase the flexibility and utility of military forces.

The headquarters element of the 165th, a Louisiana National Guard company from Bossier City, is the only company within the Battalion native to the lineage of the unit. The remainder of the Battalion, comprised of Army National Guard, Active Duty, and Army Reserve companies of combat arms units, transportation units, and maintenance units, was assembled in country.

In addition to moving every class of supply while providing their own security, the Soldiers of the 165th bear the brunt of the logistics effort that allows Camp Taji to function.

For over a year, the 515th Transportation Company, 165th CSB, an active duty unit from Manheim, Germany, was responsible for the delivery of all fuel on Camp Taji and the surrounding Multi-National Division - Baghdad area. Every drop of fuel passing through the main generators here got to where it was needed thanks in part to the tireless efforts of the 515th. As their 15-month tour comes to a close, the Soldiers have handed the torch off to the

1538th Transportation Company, an Indiana National Guard unit which has hit the ground running without missing a beat.

The 536th Maintenance Company, out of Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, manages the largest and most comprehensive maintenance operation on the base and boasts command and control of one of the largest supply support activity warehouse complexes in the country. If it's broken, the professionals of the 536th can probably fix it; their capabilities include not only vehicle repair, but also small arms and radio equipment repair.

A detachment of the 297th Inland Cargo Transportation Company, also belonging to the 165th, is responsible for the administration of the Camp Taji Central Receiving and Shipping Point, and has received high praise from Brig. Gen Michael Lally, the commanding general of the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) for their organization and efficiency in support of the Warfighter.

The 165th's support operations section oversees the administration of Camp Taji's Class I yard and bulk fuel farm, and are responsible for focusing the concerted efforts of the battalion's various transportation and combat arms companies, who together have delivered over 20,000 concrete barriers and an estimated 150,000 tons of supplies into the heart of Baghdad, and have



Photo by Sgt. Aaron LeBlanc

**Top: A shipment of tires is loaded at the Camp Taji Central Receiving and Shipping Point, or CRSP, bound for tactical vehicles in need of fresh rubber. The Taji CRSP is operated by the 297th Transportation Company, 165th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Sustainment Brigade, and is another example of the diverse mission that is combat sustainment.**



U.S. Army courtesy photo

**Left: Members of Company G, 1st Battalion, 206th Field Artillery, currently assigned to the 165th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Sustainment Brigade engage in a live-fire exercise in Kuwait prior to arriving at Camp Taji.**

completed over 10,000 maintenance jobs.

Soldiers pulled from various units within the 165th are spearheading the effort to turn over U.S. Army humvees to the Iraqi Army, and have delivered more than 2,000 humvees since the 165th's arrival in April.

As part of an ongoing push to form a more effective and efficient logistics apparatus, Soldiers from the headquarters element of the battalion, along with Soldiers of the 536th, are working closely with mechanics of the Iraqi Army, helping them to become better able to maintain their ever-growing fleet of humvees.

Finally, the 377th Combat Heavy Equipment Transport Company, an active duty

unit from Fort Bliss, Texas, are capable of transporting and delivering the Army's largest tracked vehicles, including 80-ton M-1 Abrahams main battle tanks, to wherever they may be needed in the theater of operations.

Thanks to the modular system in today's plug and play Army, all of these capabilities – from heavy equipment transport, to the combat capabilities of the convoy security elements organic to the battalion, to the ability to deliver vast quantities of any class of supply anywhere in Multi-National Division – Baghdad, – coexist under a single guidon: the battalion colors of the 165th CSSB.

## 3d ESC hosts ISF LTAT Conference

by Lt. Col. Billy Hall/Lt. Col. Don Forrester

3d ESC ISF Team

**JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq** – The Iraqi Security Forces team, with the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), conducted the first periodic logistics training and assistance team review at Joint Base Balad, Oct. 16 and 17.

The review was held to make sure the 3d ESC was implementing Multi-National Corps – Iraq's guidelines for Coalition Forces to partner with the Iraqi Army.

The 3d ESC assumed the mission to work with the logistics organizations of the Iraqi Army and provide them with mentors and advisors across the Iraq theater of operations.

The 3d ESC's ISF team briefed the five sustainment brigades reporting to the 3d

on their campaign plan, reporting requirements, LTAT resourcing, and other future events with the Iraqi Ground Forces Command and the joint headquarters. All five brigades had representatives present.

Updates were given on each of the Iraqi Army partnerships, which focused on the current capabilities of the IA units in regards to manning, equipping, training and bases, as well as current and future training initiatives.

Lt. Col. Billy Hall, a member of the LTAT, said everyone at the review provided positive feedback, which helped create camaraderie between the advisor teams. He said the ISF personnel realize the impact they are having with the current Iraqi Army as well as the future IA.

Partnering with third line maintenance, supply and distribution activities and

synchronizing with LTATs from the divisions around Iraq will result in effective IA sustainment, said Hall. The units that are working with the Iraqi Army to help develop a professional, values based organization have provided their best Soldiers, he said.

Maj. Kevin Reszka, the 3d ESC resource manager, attended the conference to answer questions and provide information on the various resources available to support the different LTATs in remote areas of Iraq.

The results of the periodic LTAT review allowed the 3d ESC to see what is being accomplished, identify shortfalls and define where commanders can develop plans to achieve greater gains in working with the IA to provide security and the freedom that accompanies it, said Hall.



# Sergeant major volunteers to deploy with son to Iraq

by Sgt. Keith M. Anderson

16th Sustainment Brigade

## CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE SPEICHER, Iraq



Sgt. Maj. Danny Wood is a liaison officer with Task Force 1-151 Infantry, 76th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Indiana Army National Guard, who volunteered for this deployment — his fourth — to go with his son, 1st Lt. Andrew Wood, commander, Alpha Co., 1st Battalion, 151st Infantry Regiment, to Iraq.

“When I returned home from last year’s deployment and found out Andy was deploying with the 76th Infantry Brigade, I volunteered to deploy again to be with my son,” said the 56-year-old father of three from Spencer, Ind. “I had just returned from Baghdad, but he’s my only son, and I knew it’ll probably be the only time during my career that I could serve with him.”

Wood, who has served in the Army National Guard for 33 years, said his wife, Micki, understood his decision.

“If something were to happen to Andy and I didn’t come (to Iraq), I’d have to live with that,” said Wood.

The two of them have a great working relationship, he said, and don’t have a problem separating family and work.

“When we’re alone, I’m Dad; if we’re with other staff, I’m sergeant major,” Wood said.

Andrew, 33, from Coal City, Ind., said he and his father have a strong bond.

“I joined the Guard between my junior and senior year (of high school),” Andrew said. “My father didn’t push me,



courtesy photo

**Sgt. Maj. Danny Wood, liaison officer, Task Force 1-151 Infantry, 76th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Indiana Army National Guard, volunteered for this deployment — his fourth — to go with his son, 1st Lt. Andrew Wood, commander, Alpha Co., 1st Battalion, 151st Infantry Regiment, to Iraq.**

it wasn’t his idea. He, at the time, was a prior-service staff sergeant, and because I joined, he joined around three days later. This has certainly been a bond that most fathers and sons do not have. We are able to relate to one another on issues. It’s a special thing.”

Andrew said he looks up to his father, a long-time artilleryman and farmer, cattleman and limestone cutter, who cut much of the rock used to repair the walls of the Pentagon after Sept. 11, 2001.

“Most sons want to be like their Dad,” Andrew said. “I have tried to emulate him my entire life; he has been my role model.”

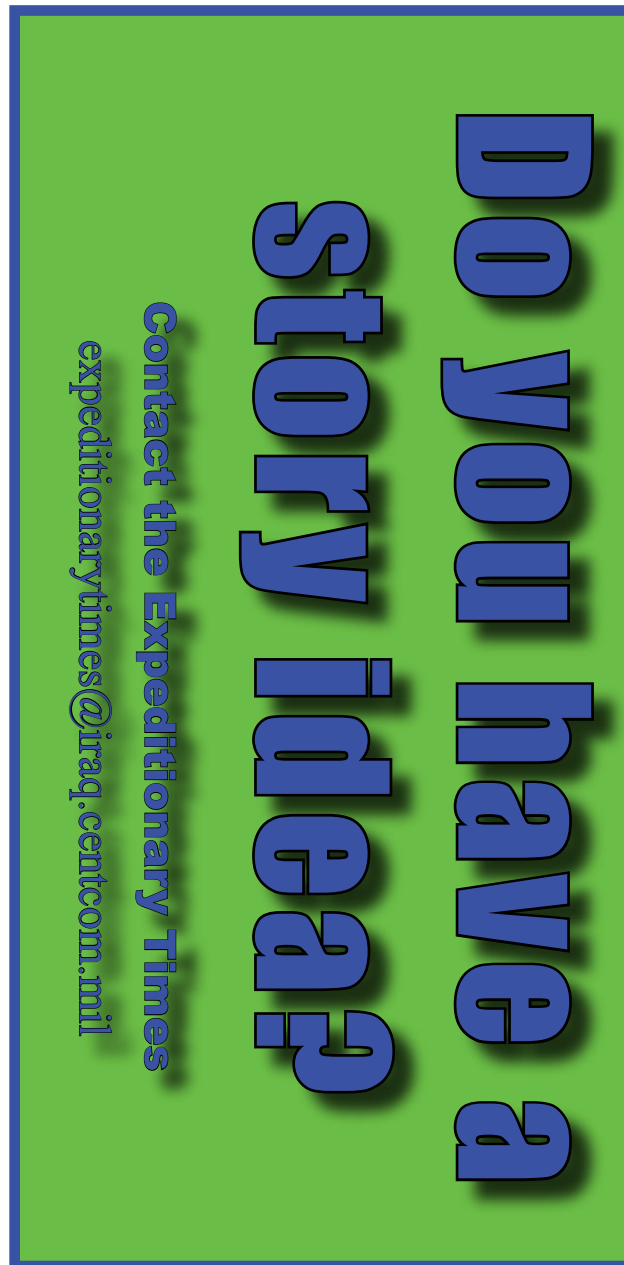


Photo by Pfc. Amanda Tucker

**Maj. Deon Green, a Milwaukee, Wis., native and staff judge advocate for the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), talks to commanders and command sergeants major about senior leader action processing during the 3d ESC commander’s conference on Joint Base Balad, Iraq, Oct. 16.**

## Leaders come together during commander’s conference

by Pfc. Amanda Tucker

Expeditionary Times staff

**JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq** – The 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) hosted a commander’s conference on Joint Base Balad, Oct. 15.

The purpose of the conference was to share information on incoming and outgoing units in theater and gain an outlook on current and emerging problems effecting logistical operations in theater.

“As a command, we are very busy with retrograde, deploying units, and training support to the Iraqi Army,” said Brig. Gen. Michael Lally, the commanding general for the 3d ESC, based out of Fort Knox, Ky. “This conference helped ensure the commanders and command sergeants major understand the challenges facing each other and the entire command,” said Lally.

Commanders and command sergeants major from the 3d ESC, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 7th Sustainment Brigade, 16th Sustainment Brigade, 55th Sustainment Brigade, 371st Sustainment Brigade, 76th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, and 330th Transportation Battalion attended the meeting.

Lally opened the conference by addressing the senior leaders with his wishes to coordinate efforts to make sure all brigades were working toward the common goal.

The leaders discussed information concerning their unit’s operation throughout Iraq. The commanders and command sergeants major spoke about maintenance and drivers training conducted before and during deployments to Iraq, including training conducted at Camp Buehring, Kuwait.

Capt. Joseph Green, the commander for the 44th Military History Detachment, briefed the commanders on the importance of documenting their unit’s operations for future historical purposes.

Maj. Deon Green, a Milwaukee, Wis., native, and the staff judge advocate for the 3d ESC, briefed the leaders on senior leader action processing. Green answered questions about legal actions that could stop Soldiers from leaving theater.

Lally released the commanders and command sergeants major after two days of meetings that will lead to more efficient operations within the 3d ESC.



# UPAR – your unit should never leave home base without one

by Sgt. 1st Class Dave McClain

Expeditionary Times staff

UPARs – they link their unit with the outside world. Does your unit have a UPAR? UPAR stands for unit public affairs representative and sometimes the UPAR is the only person who stands between your unit and the vast desert of untold stories.

In these days of 24-hour news operations and more media choices than you can shake a remote control at, it takes that much extra effort for your unit's message to be heard. UPARs make that happen.

The Army has an energetic and vibrant public affairs branch, but only has enough Soldiers and officers to assign trained public affairs personnel to brigade-level units and above. So what's a smaller unit to do? Assign a UPAR, that's what.

The Army Public Affairs Handbook says, "Unit Public Affairs Representatives, or 'stringers,' are assigned through additional duty appointments to represent their units for PA functions."

Sure, it's an additional duty, but few additional duties can have a greater impact on how your unit is seen by the outside world – OR be this much fun!

UPARs find the stories that a public affairs officer or Soldier in a higher headquarters might never become aware of. The UPAR can write a story and/or take a

picture that could get theater-wide or even world-wide exposure.

1st Lt. Stefanie Kuntz, UPAR of the 371st Sustainment Brigade, said, "Because of their unique position as a Soldier first, assigned to a particular unit, UPARs are the eyes and ears for the brigade and division PAOs."

The American public has a right to know how their tax money is being spent, including what the Army is doing while in Iraq. What's more, your unit's family members, friends and community members want all the news of your unit they can get. A single UPAR can keep people informed on what their unit is doing while deployed and lift morale back home as well.

UPARs can be any rank, officer or enlisted, have a lot of experience in journalism and photography or none at all. Training is available for UPARs, both online and in person. The 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) has started a program to send public affairs soldiers to their sustainment brigades to train for the UPARs from smaller units.

The 371st Sustainment Brigade at Al Asad recently hosted such training. Kuntz brought together UPARs from some of her brigade's downtrace units. Before that training, Kuntz had been the only UPAR for her entire brigade.

"It was great to bring all our UPARs together, talk about what makes for a great

public affairs program, and generate a little interest within the battalions getting the word out on the great things 371st Soldiers do!" said Kuntz.

Once a UPAR is identified and trained, higher headquarters public affairs offices are there to help. Assistance and advice are never more than a phone call or an e-mail away.

Being a UPAR can be a lot of fun, too. UPARs often get to go places they wouldn't normally get to go and talk to people they wouldn't normally get to meet and when covering events, they often have one of the best seats in the house. They have to be close to the action because they represent the eyes and ears of the entire outside world.

Attend an important event or discover a really cool story for yourself. Take a picture. Write an article. Tell your unit's story. Keep the folks back home informed. Tell the rest of the world about the great Soldiers in your unit and the great things your unit is doing defending the cause of freedom. If this sounds good to you, ask your unit to contact your higher headquarters' public affairs office and find out more about being a UPAR. The 3d ESC Public Affairs Office can also help. You can write to us at [escpao@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:escpao@iraq.centcom.mil).

Just don't wait too long. There are great stories in your unit just waiting to be told. If you're not going to tell them, who will?

## SHOUT OUT!!!

## TELL YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS HOW MUCH YOU MISS THEM

Contact the 3d ESC Public Affairs Office for scheduling.

E-mail [escpao@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:escpao@iraq.centcom.mil)

# DFAC Council helps address dining facility issues on JBB

by Spc. Michael Behlin

Expeditionary Times staff

**JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq** – Helping transient and tenant Soldiers make recommendations and improvements to dining facilities throughout the Iraqi theater is the DFAC Advisory Council.

Started many years ago, the council was originally known as the enlisted dining facility council. Enlisted Soldiers were more likely to eat their meals in the DFAC because they lived in the barracks. To some, the dining facility was their main source of meals.

Over the years, however, with the rising amount of deployments, the DFAC Council became a way to help Servicemembers regardless of rank and branch of service.

"The DFAC council was formed to receive feedback from our diners on what they like, what they would like to see, and

what could be improved within the facility," said Chief Warrant Officer Tiffany Alexander, 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) Food Advisor.

"We have an open dialogue between the folks that work in the food service arena and our customers that come through the facilities to help make better choices," said Alexander.

Through monthly meetings, the DFAC Advisory Council obtains feedback from Servicemembers using the DFACs to assist KBR in improving the quality of service provided on Joint Base Balad, and other posts throughout the Iraqi and Afghanistan theater.

While there are DFAC advisory councils on military posts in the United States, the operation is usually different than those in war zones since there are items that can't be obtained. This is relevant because, at times, there can be gripes and complaints that can't be accommodated in these

areas.

"One of the requests that have come out of the council meetings is just having more healthy choice items, you know, really small things," said Alexander. "Sometimes, we do get really odd requests and when those requests come, we have to let them know that it's not going to happen and that they're still in Iraq."

The council may want to provide more options among dining facility items, but it's not as though the council is just a JBB entity. When there are requests, the item requested has to be included in the catalog, and that request goes up the chain to include other bases – even bases in other countries.

"We may want to provide our customers with something but it's not just the folks on JBB that requests go up to," Alexander said. "It has to be the same request throughout theater and then we take it up to Army Cen-

tral Command, and then they not only have to think about Iraq, but they have to think about Kuwait, Qatar, and Afghanistan."

Sitting on the council are key personnel from KBR and tenant units across theater. These personnel include unit representatives such as Alexander, as well as DFAC noncommissioned officers in charge.

One of the more popular items discussed at meetings is the addition of fresh milk to the DFAC menu. While fresh milk is available to some bases throughout Iraq, JBB's location and the location of the distributor make it hard to obtain. Due to logistical challenges such as road conditions and truck delays, it's not feasible to have fresh milk due to its short shelf life.

While most people automatically think of food products when hearing of a DFAC council, facility conditions are also a topic of discussion. The council is re-

sponsible for setting and upholding dining facility standards.

These standards include the requirement of everyone washing their hands upon entry and DFAC cleanliness.

"The mayor cell does walk through inspections when they check temperatures of water being used to clean dishes, types of solutions used, oven temperatures, and the proper thawing of meats," said Master Sgt. Karen Wilkerson, 3d ESC senior food management NCO. "All of the folks that work in the facilities have to be qualified and go through classes on sanitation and preparation."

These steps are important in the preparation and finished product that the dining facility produces, but ultimately, the customer's input is what the council is looking to gather. With their input, the dining facilities can look to improve what is thought to be deficiencies theater-wide.

"Servicemembers need to continue to come out and provide us information about what they see in the facilities," said Alexander. "They can fill out comment cards to provide us with feedback because we do look at those."



# Corps of Noncommissioned Officers welcome new noncommissioned officers inducted into the corps

by Pfc. Amanda Tucker

Expeditionary Times staff

**JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq** - Ninety-seven noncommissioned officers were inducted into the NCO corps during an NCO induction ceremony at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, Oct. 15.

The ceremony began with the entrance of the official party, including Command Sgt. Maj. Willie Tennant, the senior enlisted member of the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), based out of Fort Knox, Ky., Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin Hill, the senior enlisted member of Multi-National Force-Iraq, and Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Allen, the senior enlisted member of the XVIII Airborne Corps and Multi-National Corps - Iraq.

To kick off the ceremony, Sgt. Monica Olson, a Lyman, Neb., na-

tive, and the 3d ESC commanding general's executive administrator, sang the "The Star Spangled Banner." Master Sgt. Brandon Thomas, a Bradenton, Fla., native, and mobility noncommissioned officer in charge for the 3d ESC, delivered the invocation.

"We want to let them know it is a big step in their military career," said Tennant. "What we (did) is we set up a ceremony to illustrate to them the importance of being a noncommissioned officer (and) being a sergeant in charge of Soldiers."

Tennant awarded Sgt. Johnathan Days, a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 7th Sustainment Brigade, based out of Ft. Eustis, Va., noncommissioned officer of the quarter. Tennant also awarded Sgt. Bryce Vieth of the 530th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion warrior of the quarter.

Sgt. 1st Class Megith Kassim, a Detroit native and medical supply sergeant for the 3d ESC, held the honor of lighting the candle placed on the prisoner of war/killed in action table.

Units from Balad coordinated to performed skits for the new NCOs.

A video was played for the audience with Soldiers from the 3d ESC reading the origin of the NCO. Four Soldiers from the 20th Quartermaster Company, based out of Ft. Campbell, Ky., recited the Soldiers Creed, followed by another four Soldiers from the 602nd Maintenance Company, based out of Ft. Hood, Texas, reciting the Soldiers request. Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 293rd Infantry Regiment performed a skit in full battle gear of doing pre-combat checks to illustrate the importance of accounting for Soldiers.

"The noncommissioned officer is the ... leader that is out with the Soldiers each and every day," said Tennant. "That's the Soldier that checks the Soldier to make sure ... that they are ready for the mission."

After the motivating skits and recitations, 97 NCOs raised their right hands and were sworn into the NCO corps by Tennant. Each Soldier stepped over the line of authority and signed the NCO's induction book before receiving a copy of the NCO creed.

After all the inducted NCOs were back at their seats, Hill spoke to the NCOs about their new duties and responsibilities. He explained the power acquired by becoming NCOs. To close the ceremony, the NCOs recited the NCO creed and sang the Army song before the official party departed.



Sgt. Tiffany R. Binns, a Rices Landing, Pa., native and member of the 444th Human Resource Command out of Pittsburgh, Pa., steps over the line of authority as part of her induction into the NCO corps during a ceremony held on Joint Base Balad, Iraq Oct. 15.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Gary Hawkins





Photo by Pfc. Amanda Tucker

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 293rd Infantry Regiment, perform a skit during a noncommissioned officer induction ceremony on Joint Base Balad, Iraq Oct. 15.



Photo by Pfc. Amanda Tucker

Top: Sgt. 1st Class Megith Kassim, a Detroit native and medical supply sergeant for the 3d ESC, lights the candle placed on the prisoner of war/killed in action table during a noncommissioned officer induction ceremony on Joint Base Balad, Iraq Oct. 15.  
Left: Sgt. Brian Brown, a Baltimore, Md., native and member of the 55th Sustainment Brigade from Fort Belvoir, Va., signs the noncommissioned officer's book as part of his induction into the NCO corps.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Gary Hawkins



**VOTE, from Page 1**

Sgt. 1st Class Odell Smith, a member of 1st Battalion, 293d Infantry Regiment, was visiting the MWR to grab a bottle of cold water when he learned about the drive. Surprised at the convenience of the service, Smith, an Indianapolis native who was preparing to rejoin a logistics training assistance team once he left JBB, jumped on the chance to submit a ballot.

Smith said his vote was completed and sealed in less than five minutes.

"I'm just coming back from leave and forgot to get what I needed to vote," said Smith. "Going through the absentee voting process was very convenient and easy . . . it was a painless process."

Applicants were asked if they were registered to vote. If they were, they received and completed a federal write-in absentee ballot. Once the ballot was signed and validated, the ballots would be sent to the military mail service. The ballots are then prioritized and separated from regular outgoing mail to be received by the appropriate voting districts.

"A number of these ballots will become official ballots because many (people) are

unable to receive (one) from home or they are just arriving in theater," said Gardner. "This augments the official drive – it gives you an opportunity if nothing else is available."

Hess, from Spanaway, Wash., said the 3d ESC has emphasized registration of all Soldiers under their command. All sustainment brigades were required to report their unit's registration status weekly, as well as provide voting materials for Soldiers, members of supporting services and civilian contractors.

Acosta said Soldiers are already empowered through media outlets to understand the issues, but need the opportunity to cast their vote.

"That's my purpose," said Acosta, "take care of people, make sure their vote is cast and that they participate in this democracy."

Smith said the drive marked a positive moment in his day.

"(The voter drive) is very good for morale," said Smith. "Our next president will be our commander-in-chief. I want to make sure my vote counts."



Photo by Spc. Anthony Hooker

**Capt. Kelvin Acosta, the voting assistance officer for Headquarter Company, 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), gives instruction to Sgt. 1st Class Odell Smith during an absentee ballot voting drive Oct. 15 at the eastside Morale, Welfare and Recreation center. Acosta is a native of Salinas, Puerto Rico.**

**INTERPRETER, from Page 4**

1978, he journeyed to the United States and settled in Los Angeles, where many of his Family members went earlier in the decade.

At the age of 17, Shawn convinced the Iraqi authorities that he was going out of the country for a short period of time to travel as a tourist, but his intentions were to leave and never return.

"In high school, they were imposing on us to be part of student militia armies. I didn't want to join the Baath Party Army, so I was very determined to leave Iraq because I envisioned the future would be very devastating in Iraq. I was lucky to envision that at that age," Shawn said.

"That was not my goal. I was a student and I wanted to be free – not to be imposed to join any party. I was eager to get my education. I realized my freedoms were going to be restricted in Iraq, so I convinced my parents to allow me to leave," he said.

On his way to the United States, Shawn stopped in Italy and waited for his older brother, who left two days after he did so they wouldn't arouse suspicion. After they were together, Shawn and his brother managed to go to Greece for a year and a half before coming to the United States to apply for political asylum.

"My experience in Europe matured me a lot. It taught me . . . to be strong and dependent on myself. It was an adventure and learning experience for me," Shawn said.

About a year after Shawn and his brother came to the United States, their parents followed. Today, Shawn and the rest of his Family are proud American citizens. Out of dedication to his country, Shawn chose to become an interpreter after a friend told him about the job.

"I have a friend who has been working in theater for about three years in the Diyala province area. He is close to me and he encouraged me to apply for this job. When I heard the job involved the United States Army, I always admired the Armed Forces, so that was an area I was interested in," Shawn said.

Four months ago, Shawn returned to the country where he was born, and began working as an interpreter for the 1st Sust. Bde. Iraqi Security Forces Cell. He works with the Soldiers who advise Iraqi Army Soldiers, Iraqi Military Police, and the Third Line Maintenance Facility.

Although Johnnie, Ibrahim, and Shawn enjoy their jobs, they have to keep safety uppermost in their minds.

"All interpreters have fear because we're not Soldiers. We're not trained to handle hostile actions, but our faith keeps us strong and the company and unit we work with are superb people. They really make life easier here," Shawn said.

In 2004, while working as an interpreter, Johnnie and his Family received death threats because people in his neighborhood found out he was working with the U.S. Army. Although he had to move his Family, he never thought of quitting his job.

"I didn't stop. I believe in my job and changes. If I think like that about my own safety and quitting, nothing will be changed, so I believe I can continue," Johnnie said.

Without the dedication of interpreters, the mission of Coalition Forces who train Iraqis wouldn't be possible. Interpreters, in essence, bridge the gap that is often brought by the language barrier. Through them, U.S. Soldiers are able to communicate effectively with Iraqis in order to get the mission accomplished.

For the advisors, one of the main reasons of being successful in their training team mission is to have a friendly relationship with their interpreters. The interpreters not only translate, but they also keep Soldiers mindful of the Iraqi culture, which helps in keeping good relationships with the Iraqi Soldiers.

"We both know we have a job to do here and we are going to focus on the job. If we don't have a friendly relationship, then the job would be very difficult and neither me or my interpreter would want that," Stukeby said.

At the end of the day, despite any cultural differences, the interpreters and the advisors all have the same vision and goal in mind.

"Iraq as a country, I wish them stability. That's my vision for them, stability and peace so they can join other countries and live a better standard of life. There are a lot of good people in Iraq," said Shawn.

"We did the right thing to come to this country and save it from the previous government - the dictatorship that ruled this country for three decades. I think we're planting the seeds in them for their future generation and I think they're going to appreciate us a lot in the future," Shawn said.

**Joint Base Balad Relays**  
**"Meet Of Champions"**  
 Hosted By: 8<sup>th</sup> ORD Co

**Events:**  
 Men, Women, Seniors  
 100m Dash  
 200m Dash  
 400m Run  
 800m Run  
 1600m Run  
 4x100m relay  
 4x200m relay  
 4x400m relay  
 Long Jump  
 Discus  
 Shot Put

**When: 1-2 November 2008**  
**Time: Opening Ceremonies begins on 1 Nov 0700hrs – 1700hrs (Prelims)**  
**2 Nov 1500hrs – UTC (Finals)**  
**Location: Hoft Stadium**  
**Registration: Via Email, limited To first 18 teams**  
**Who: Open To All Residents (Team Event).**

**POC: SSG Nelson**  
**Email: howard.nelson@iraq.centcom.mil**

**PRO VS. GI JOE**  
 DOIN' A LITTLE FOR THOSE WHO DO A LOT

**PRO VS. GI JOE SETS UP REAL-TIME VIDEO GAME COMPETITIONS BETWEEN PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES IN THE STATES AND TROOPS STATIONED OVERSEAS OVER THE INTERNET USING PLAYSTATION, XBOX AND THE Wii!**  
**SIGN UP TODAY TO JOIN IN THE FUN!!!**

**FOR DETAILS, CONTACT ADDIE COLLINS:**  
**ADDIECOLLINS@GMAIL.COM**

XBOX 360



# Women continue to pave the way for Army leadership

by Spc. Andrea Merritt

1st Sustainment Brigade

**CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq** – Throughout military history, women have proudly served their nation and even though it was a struggle, they continued to serve while simultaneously striving for equality in the force.

In June 2008, Lt. Gen. Anne E. Dunwoody, the Deputy Commanding General of the Army Material Command, was nominated by President George W. Bush for promotion to four-star general, making her highest-ranking woman in military history.

Dunwoody's accomplishment, is evidence of how things have changed for women in the military over the years. Although women make up a smaller percentage of the Army force, women in leadership positions have become more common. The road has been paved and women continue to lead the way.

When the 398th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, a Maryland Army Reserve unit, arrived to Iraq and took over the mission of the 553rd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, it gained control of five companies whose missions, combined, extend support throughout Multi-National Divisions – Baghdad and Center.

Of those five companies, two are led by young female officers who were unexpectedly placed into leadership positions, but continued to thrive and guide their organizations in the necessary direction to successfully complete their missions.

"I don't necessarily think it's harder for women in positions of leadership," said 1st Lt. Celia Nowicki, the commander of the 503rd Maintenance Company, attached to the 398th CSSB, 1st Sustainment Brigade.

*"Listen to your Soldiers and listen to those around you."*

Capt. DeShaunda Allen  
62nd Quartermaster Co.

"I think it was harder for them ten or 15 years ago; but with all of the advances, progression and active roles and efforts on their behalf, they have made it easier and more accepting in the workplace and in the military," continued Nowicki, a native of Cincinnati, OH.

As the commander of the 503rd Maint. Co., a Ft. Bragg, N.C., unit currently deployed to Iraq on a 15-month rotation, it is Nowicki's duty to make sure her unit successfully completes its wartime mission.

After high school, Nowicki passed up a few softball scholarships and applied to go to the United States Military Academy at West Point. Upon graduating from the academy in 2006, she was on track to go to the World Class Athlete Program and serve a portion of her military obligation with the U.S. Team Handball, Women's National Team in New York.

Instead of continuing to train with the team in hopes of going to the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, she received orders to go to Ft. Bragg, N.C., where she initially served with the 249th Quartermaster Company.

In May 2007, Nowicki was assigned to the 503rd Maintenance Company and served as the platoon leader for the Supply Support Activity. In January 2008, she became the executive officer for the company.

Before she had a chance to become comfortable in her new job as executive officer, she was assigned to a new duty position. In March 2008, less than a week before the unit departed for Iraq, she was appointed as the unit's new company commander.

"I was nervous, but that's normal human emotion when you're named commander five days before your unit leaves to come to Iraq," Nowicki stated. "I've got a better grasp on it now. It was a little shaky those first 90 days, but I continue give that effort and praise to everyone else who has helped inform me and keep me in line with information. If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't be a quality leader."

Another leader in the 398th CSSB is Capt. DeShaunda Allen, the commander of the 62nd Quartermaster Co., out of Ft. Hood, Texas. Although the unit has been in theater since January, Allen didn't take control of the unit until May.

Despite receiving a new commander in the midst of their deployment, the Soldiers never lost their momentum and continued to give great customer service once Allen stepped in.

The Soldiers in the unit are responsible for carrying out the bulk of the battalion's mission, which includes running the second largest bulk fuel farm in Iraq, managing the base's water bottle plant, operating the Class I point, and providing real-time route status information for combat logistics patrols.

"All of the platoons are executing their missions superbly with limited resources, and I know that their performances are evidence of their forte and technical proficiency that make this organization exceptional," said Allen, a Dallas native.

Although Allen is a commissioned officer, she began her Army career ten years

ago as a private. It was during basic training that she found she would always have to prove herself as a leader.

"Early on in my career in basic training, I had a male Soldier who refused to have to follow a female Soldier and that has stayed in my mind ever since," said Allen candidly. "I haven't been faced with challenges as of now though, because I see myself as an equal with my male counterparts."

"I constantly speak with all the leaders in my organization for feedback on how they believe I am doing as a leader and they believe I am doing a great job. They are able to continue doing their missions and tasks as a leader because I have inspired them to give me 100 percent effort knowing they will receive 100 percent from me in return," stated Allen.

Though Nowicki and Allen are new to command, they have led their units to successfully perform their wartime missions. As deployment continues, they continue to learn and become more confident in their abilities to lead troops.

"We have females that are moving up to the general position as well as higher ranking NCOs. I think that while there may be a select few who experience a more difficult task when they move into a leadership position, I think it's how they go about reacting to the natural things that come up that determine their confidence level and the perception of them by their peers, subordinates as well as their superiors with looking past who they are in terms of gender to the type of leader they are," Nowicki said.

"Listen to your Soldiers and listen to those around you. If you don't listen to your Soldiers, then you won't be able to help them, your unit, or yourself as a commander or leader to help take the company to a greater level than when you received the it," Nowicki said.

## Iraqi colonel shows appreciation



Photo by Pfc. Amanda Tucker

Left to right: Iraqi Army Col. Muhammed presents Col. Therese O'Brien, a Dellslow, W.V., native and commander of the 55th Sustainment Brigade, based out of Fort Belvoir, Va., a gift of appreciation for her visit to the 3rd Line Repair and Maintenance Company in Kirkush, Iraq, Oct. 8.

MNF-I  
TF SAFE

Check CHUs days

MNF-I  
TF SAFE

Each Tuesday Check The Following In Your CHU

- ✱ Power strips are free of debris and clothing
- ✱ Electrical devices not in use are unplugged
- ✱ Power strips and outlets are not overloaded
- ✱ Smoke detector is operational
- ✱ Fire extinguisher is serviceable (in the green)
- ✱ Room is neat and orderly

This Simple Act Could Save You, Your CHU and Your Buddy Too



# A diverse set of skills

by Staff Sgt. James E. Brown Jr.

1st Sustainment Brigade

**CAMP TAJI, Iraq** – The Army National Guard is a large and diverse institution that is spread throughout each of the 50 states. This organization is made up of citizen Soldiers who essentially lead double lives.



Each Soldier serves their nation by performing their duty one weekend a month and two weeks during annual training. At the same time, they maintain full-time employment in the civilian world.

For some National Guard Soldiers, their civilian job mirrors their military duties; but in most cases, it does not. They must master two sets of skills – one for their nation and the other to provide for their Families.

The following Soldiers of the Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 1st Squadron, 152nd Cavalry Regiment, an Indiana Army National Guard unit attached to the 1st Sustainment Brigade, are a snapshot of the diversity in its ranks.

A native of Whiteland, Ind., 2nd Lt. Shaun Tompkins works as a lead pharmacy technician in his civilian career. As a pharmacy technician he fills prescriptions, inputs prescriptions into a database, troubleshoots insurance issues, and also runs the register. He has been doing this for almost five years and he enjoys it.

Although he works as a pharmacy technician in the civilian world, Tompkins has served as the unit's signal officer for the past two years. He supplies the communication needs for the squadron commander, troubleshoots and maintains network and radio equipment, and runs telephone and Internet wire to create much needed communications connectivity.

"The Signal Corps is more challenging than what I do in the civilian sector. (I) can take a lot of the experiences that (I've) learned in the military and transverse that into the civilian sector making a pretty good career in information technology, and use that if I ever decide to make a career change," said Tompkins.

When not serving in her military capacity, Pfc. Jennifer Bowser serves up hot wings and fries at a local restaurant and also works as a hostess at a restaurant in her hometown of Indianapolis.

"I deliver food and drinks, greet customers that enter the business, arrange seating for everyone, and ensure that their visit was a good one," said Bowser.

Although Bowser has been serving customers for a year in the food service arena, she serves customers in a different capacity in her military job. Bowser works as a human resource specialist for the 1st Sqdn., 152nd Cav. Regt. It is Bowser's job to prepare and process recommendations for awards and decorations as well as handle the unit's personnel accounting, strength management, and overall administration requirements.

When asked what she thought about her military occupational skill, Bowser said, "It's an opportunity to serve with the Guard, do different things, and get more experience, not only in my civilian life, but also the military life."

For Sgt. Charles Hayes, being a chaplain's assistant is a lot different than working as a shipping and receiving dock team leader back home in West Point, Ky.

In his civilian career, Hayes ships and receives items through courier services, manually loads and unloads semi trucks, and also refurbishes laptops and big screen TVs for various businesses and individuals.

Hayes has been working in the shipping and receiving field for 12 years and as a chaplain's assistant for 11 years. While the two jobs have nothing in common, Hayes revealed he chose his particular military occupational specialty to fulfill a more spiritual and personal need.

"I assist the chaplain in setting up religious services, administrative paperwork, and (personal security)," said Hayes. "I became a chaplain's assistant because I wasn't sure on my religious background, and I figured that this job would help me find my religious background."

Even though most National Guard Soldiers have military duties that don't mirror their civilian jobs, this type of job skill diversity can prove to be much more valuable when they are deployed because they have something extra to add to the fight.

## MESSAGES FROM HOME



To SGT Kurt Hornstra, 561st Engineer Company  
I love you and your soon-to-be son Cole loves  
you too! He tells me everyday with his strong  
kicks! We miss you and can't wait for you to come  
home for the birth.

From wife Christel

## First Army commander visits Joint Base Balad



Photo by Staff Sgt. Gary Hawkins

Maj. Robert Frank, a member of the 259th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, based out of Aurora, Co., briefly explains their mission on Joint Base Balad, Iraq to Lt. Gen. Thomas Miller, commanding general of First Army, based out of Ft. Gillem, Ga., during a visit Oct. 23.



# JB BALAD ACTIVITIES

### INDOOR POOL

Swim Lessons:  
Mon., Wed., - 6 p.m.  
Tue., Thu., Sat., - 6:30 p.m.  
AquaTraining:  
Tue., Thu., - 7:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m.

### EAST FITNESS CENTER

Open Court Volleyball:  
Sunday- 6 p.m.  
Aerobics:  
Mon., Wed., Fri.- 5:30-6:30 a.m.  
Yoga Class:  
Mon., Fri.- 6-7 a.m.  
Step Aerobics:  
Mon., Wed., Fri.- 5:30 p.m.  
Conditioning Training Class:  
Mon., Wed., Fri.- 7:15-8 p.m.  
Brazilian Jui-Jitsu:

Mon., Wed., Fri.- 9-10 p.m.  
MMA Training:  
Mon., Wed., Fri.- 10-11 p.m.  
Abs-Aerobics:  
Tue., Thu., 6-7 a.m., 5-6 p.m.  
Edge Weapons & Stick Fighting Combative Training:  
Tue., Thur., Sat., - 8-10 p.m.

### EAST RECREATION CENTER

4-ball tourney:  
Sunday- 8 p.m.  
8-ball tourney:  
Monday- 8 p.m.  
Karaoke:  
Monday- 8 p.m.  
Swing Class:  
Tuesday- 8 p.m.  
Table Tennis:  
Tuesday- 8 p.m.

9-ball tourney:  
Wednesday- 8 p.m.  
Dungeons & Dragons:  
Thursday- 7:30 p.m.  
Poetry Night:  
Thursday- 8 p.m.  
6-ball tourney:  
Thursday- 8 p.m.  
Caribbean Night:  
Friday- 8 p.m.  
Chess & Dominoes Tourney:  
Friday- 8 p.m.  
Salsa Class:  
Saturday- 8:30 p.m.  
Poker:  
Saturday- 7:30 p.m.

### H6 FITNESS CENTER

Spin:  
Sunday- 9 a.m.  
Mon., Wed., Fri., - 2 a.m., 8 a.m.  
2 p.m., 7 p.m., 9 p.m.  
Tue., Thu., - 5:45 a.m., 9 a.m., 8:30 p.m.

Saturday- 9 a.m., 7 p.m.  
Boxing:  
Sunday- 4 p.m.  
Tue., Thu., - 2 p.m.  
Boot Camp:  
Sunday- 8:45 a.m.  
Tue., Thu., - 7 p.m.  
Power Abs:  
Mon., Tue., Thu., - 8 p.m.  
Friday- 9 p.m.  
CC Cross Fit:  
Monday-Saturday- 10:30 p.m.  
Cross Fit:  
Mon., Wed., Fri., - 5:45 a.m., 7 a.m., 3 p.m., 6 p.m.  
Tue., Thu., - 7 a.m., 3 p.m.  
Sunday- 5:45 a.m., 7 a.m., 3 p.m.  
P90x:  
Monday- Saturday- 4:30 a.m., 4 p.m., 10 p.m., 12 a.m.  
Soccer:  
Tue., Thu., - 8 p.m.  
Yoga:  
Wednesday- 8 p.m.  
MCAP Level 1:

Friday- 8 p.m.  
5 on 5 Basketball:  
Saturday- 8 p.m.

### H6 RECREATION CENTER

Bingo:  
Sunday- 8 p.m.  
Texas Hold'em:  
Mon., Fri., - 2 p.m., 8:30 p.m.  
8-ball tourney:  
Tuesday- 2 a.m., 8:30 p.m.  
Ping-pong tourney:  
Tuesday- 8:30 p.m.  
Spades:  
Wednesday- 2 a.m., 8:30 p.m.  
Salsa:  
Wednesday- 8:30 p.m.  
9-ball:  
Thursday- 2 a.m., 8:30 p.m.  
Karaoke:  
Thursday- 8:30 p.m.  
Dominos:  
Saturday- 8:30 p.m.  
Darts:  
Saturday- 8:30 p.m.

### WEST RECREATION CENTER

Green Bean Karaoke:  
Sun., Wed., 7:30pm  
9-ball tourney:  
Monday- 8 p.m.  
Ping-pong tourney:  
Tuesday- 8 p.m.  
Foosball tourney:  
Tuesday- 8 p.m.  
Jam Session:  
Tuesday- 7:30 p.m.  
8-ball tourney:  
Wednesday- 8 p.m.  
Guitar Lessons:  
Thursday- 7:30 p.m.  
Game tourney:  
Thursday- 1 p.m., 8 p.m.  
Enlisted Poker:  
Friday- 1 p.m., 8 p.m.  
Officer Poker:  
Saturday- 1 p.m., 8 p.m.  
Squat Competition:  
Saturday- 8 p.m.

### WEST FITNESS CENTER

3 on 3 basketball tourney:  
Saturday- 7:30 p.m.

6 on 6 volleyball tourney:  
Friday- 7 p.m.  
Aerobics:  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday- 7 p.m.  
Body by Midgett Toning Class:  
Tue., Thu., - 7 p.m.  
Dodge ball Game:  
Tuesday- 7:30 p.m.  
Furman's Martial Arts:  
Mon., Wed., Sun., - 1 p.m.  
Gaston's Self-Defense Class:  
Fri., Sat.- 7 p.m.  
Open court basketball:  
Thursday- 7 p.m.  
Open court soccer:  
Mon., Wed., - 7 p.m.  
Zingano Brazilian Jui Jitsu:  
Tue., Thu., - 8:30 p.m.

### CIRCUIT GYM

Floor hockey:  
Mon., Wed., Fri., - 8-10 p.m.

# SUSTAINER REEL TIME THEATER

## Movie Times

Wednesday, October 29  
5 p.m. Quarantine  
8 p.m. Babylon A.D.  
Thursday, October 30  
5 p.m. College  
8 p.m. Quarantine  
Friday, October 31  
8:30 p.m. Pride and Glory  
Saturday, November 1  
2 p.m. The Women  
5 p.m. Pride And Glory  
8 p.m. Righteous Kill  
Sunday, November 2  
2 p.m. Righteous Kill  
5 p.m. The Women  
8 p.m. The Family That Preys  
Monday, November 3  
5 p.m. The Family That Preys  
8 p.m. The Women  
Tuesday, November 4  
5 p.m. Righteous Kill  
8 p.m. Pride And Glory

(Schedule is subject to change)

## Movies This Week

### Pride and Glory

A gritty and emotional portrait of the New York City Police Department, the film follows a multi-generational police family whose moral code is tested when one of two sons on the force investigates an incendiary case involving his older brother and brother-in-law. The case forces the family to choose between their loyalties to one another and their loyalties to the department.



### Righteous Kill

Two veteran detectives (Robert De Niro, Al Pacino) hunt a vigilante whose crimes resemble those of a killer they put behind bars long ago.



### The Family that Preys

Wealthy socialite Charlotte Cartwright (Kathy Bates) and her dear friend Alice Pratt (Alfre Woodard), a working class woman of high ideals, have enjoyed a lasting friendship throughout many years. Suddenly, their lives become mired in turmoil as their adult children's extramarital affairs, unethical business practices and a dark paternity secret threaten to derail family fortunes and unravel the lives of all involved. In the midst of the turmoil, Charlotte and Alice decide to take a breather from it all by making a cross-country road trip.



### The Women

Mary Haines (Meg Ryan) is a clothing designer who seems to have it all – a beautiful country home, a rich financier husband, an adorable 11-year-old daughter and a part-time career creating designs for her father's venerable clothing company. Her best friend, Sylvie Fowler (Annette Bening), leads another enviable life – a happily single editor of a prominent fashion magazine, a possessor of a huge closet of designer clothes and a revered arbiter of taste and style poised on New York's cutting edge. But when Mary's husband enters into an affair with Crystal Allen (Eva Mendes), a sultry 'spritzer girl' lurking behind the Saks Fifth Avenue perfume counter, all hell breaks loose. Mary and Sylvie's relationship is tested to the breaking point while their tight-knit circle of friends, including mega-mommy Edie Cohen (Debra Messing) and author Alex Fisher (Jada Pinkett-Smith), all start to question their own friendships and romantic relationships as well.



## Movies Coming Soon





# News around Iraq

## Security level allows thousands to view soccer match

**SAMARRA, Iraq** – Thousands of spectators filled the stands at the Samarra Sports Complex to witness a soccer match between club teams from Samarra and Baghdad Oct. 19.

As a show of the level of security the city is now experiencing, thousands were able to gather and watch as Football Club Samarra defeated Football Club Baghdad Student Union 3-1.

This match marked the first time two soccer teams were able to play in the once embattled city since the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003. Several months ago, Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces were clashing with enemy fighters inside the city in an attempt to rid it of insurgent activity.

ISF provided the overall security for the event and the match ended with no incidents.

“Through the cooperation of Iraqi Security Forces, Sons of Iraq and Coalition Forces; and the active support of the city’s residents, Samarra is now safe enough to host a soccer game that attracted thousands of spectators,” said Lt. Col. JP McGee, 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment commander. “This soccer game holds huge significance for Samarra and all of Iraq. After years of violence and unrest, Samarra has expelled terrorists and established a degree of security unimaginable a year ago.”

McGee said the fact that a team from Baghdad could travel to Samarra, play in a soccer match and then return home safely represents a return of normalcy to Iraq and the reuniting of the country.

“Samarra’s triumph makes it all the more special,” he said. “In this type of struggle, victory will not be marked by a formal surrender ceremony as in past conflicts. Rather, events like this soccer game will herald Iraq’s triumph over terrorism and Iraq’s reemergence as a strong, united nation.”

## Engineers commit to Task Force Gold Spike

**BAGHDAD** – Recently, Maj. Gen. Jeffery Hammond, commanding general, Multi-National Division – Baghdad and 4th Infantry Division, issued FRAGO 211, creating Task Force Gold Spike, a unit of the 926th Engineer Brigade tasked with the reconstruction of the Rusafa district.

Task Force Gold Spike will assist the Government of Iraq through reconstruction and restoration of essential services using local national contractors within Rusafa. Their projects will be funded with Construction Emergency Resource Projects and Iraqi-Construction Emergency Resource Projects funds.

Col. Jared Olsen, deputy commander, 926th Engineer Brigade, commands both Task Force Gold and Task Force Gold Spike.

“Task Force Gold Spike will stimulate the Government of Iraq to deliver essential services to the people of Rusafa necessary for their health and well being,” said Brig. Gen. Jeffery Talley, commander, 926th Engineer Brigade. “Our initial projects will concentrate on sewer, water, trash hauling/clearance and solar lighting. Modeled after Task Force Gold, Task Force Gold Spike will improve living conditions and the quality of life in Rusafa.”

“The creation of Task Force Gold Spike is based on the unprecedented success of Task Force Gold, the 926th Engineer unit rebuilding (operational environment) Gold, located in the Thawra 1 and Thawra 2 sectors of Sadr City assigned to Coalition Forces,” said Olsen.



“Since May 29, formation of Task Force Gold, the OE Gold sector of Sadr City has been transformed by new and improved infrastructure and services provided to the residents of Baghdad’s most densely populated district by Task Force Gold and the engineers of the 926th Engineer Brigade,” said Olsen.

In 120 days, 33 schools were renovated in OE Gold; seven public health clinics were upgraded and re-outfitted. Newly installed solar lighting on main thoroughfares brings safety and neighborhood security to a war-torn district. Multiple micro-generators bring dependable electricity to thousands of families in Sadr City who were previously deprived of regular power. Parks, playgrounds and recreation facilities, including soccer fields and a swimming pool, were built throughout OE Gold.

Apart from the significant quality of life makeover in OE Gold, Task Force Gold focused its efforts on route sanitation and regular trash hauling, yielding breakthroughs in safety and sanitation, as well as sewer line maintenance. Priority for Task Force Gold Spike reconstruction will be in the northern Rusafa district neighborhoods.

Task Force Gold Spike, working in partnership with the Government of Iraq and the mayor of Baghdad, will accomplish its work in three phases: phase 1-project assessment and prioritization of projects; phase 2- project generation and phase 3-project management to completion

## IA, IP and U.S. Soldiers together for a nation

**CAMP ECHO, Iraq** – Iraqi Army Soldiers, Iraqi Police and U.S. Soldiers are living and working together at the Joint Security Station in Diwaniya. This, along with daily missions and cross-training, illustrates they are all dedicated to one goal: a self-sustaining and independently-secured Iraq.

In the short time since the arrival of Company C, 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, they have conducted training and daily missions that keep the Iraqi Security Forces in the forefront and the U.S. Soldiers providing assistance when needed.

There is a vast improvement to the quality and capability of the ISF, said Staff Sgt. Adam Martinez, Company C section sergeant. He said the ISF presence is now strong and consistent in Diwaniya.

“Iraq has changed a lot since the last two times I’ve

been here. It went from having hardly any checkpoints to having them every one or two blocks here,” said Martinez. “I think that helps the public. They see the IPs or IAs all over the place or on patrols and it lets the people know that the (ISF) are taking charge of their country. It gives (the ISF) a face to the public so they can see how they’re working hard to make their country better.

“It seems as if the people will approach them for any problems, because they’re used to seeing the ISF out there,” he said, adding that the citizens’ requests for ISF assistance illustrates that the people trust them to keep the peace.

The U.S. presence in the area provides more of a support role and assistance in professionalizing the ISF, said 1st Lt. Cory Guenther, Company C fire support officer.

“Our working with them shows them a baseline of what standards we’re using and gives them a (suggestion) of some of the tasks they should be accomplishing,” he said.

With each patrol including IA and IP personnel, there are fewer U.S. Soldiers required for the missions, which places less strain on U.S. manpower, said Guenther.

The Iraqis will take more and more of the security responsibilities and the Company C Soldiers will fade more and more into the background, until they are no longer needed.

Working with the Americans helps the ISF become more proficient, said Hori, a Soldier with the 4th Bn., 8th IA Division. He said that they are all working together and eager for the time when the ISF will be able to do their jobs without foreign assistance and Iraq will be strong and self-reliant.

## Primary school opens for Baghdad children

**BAGHDAD** – The Al Furtain Primary School opened in Baghdad’s Mansour district Oct. 12.

The ceremony marked the completion of renovations brought about through the combined efforts of members of the Khadra Neighborhood Advisory Council and the Mansour District Advisory Council, Iraqi Security and Coalition Forces.

These groups worked together to add new windows, new doors, fresh paint and refurbished bathrooms to improve the school which provides education to approximately 400 Iraqi boys and girls.

“The much needed renovations to the school will assist Iraq’s future generations to enjoy school facilities that are more conducive to learning,” said Maj. Jay Bullock, operations officer, 4th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment.

With security set and renovations complete, teachers will be able to concentrate on education, instead of fear or run-down equipment or buildings, said Haji Sattar from the Khadra Neighborhood Advisory Council.

“The renovations to this school will allow teachers to concentrate on education and not broken windows, plaster falling from ceilings, and lack of lighting,” Sattar said. “Students will enjoy the newly improved environment that is a signal for their bright future.”

Students treated the audience, which included the deputy minister of education, to a brief presentation and the singing of the Iraqi national anthem.

“The success of the renovation lies in the team effort. Local Iraqi neighborhood and district area councils provided input on which school needed renovation,” said Lt. Col. Monty Willoughby, commander, 4-10th Cav. Regt. “Iraqi Army Soldiers provided security for the contractors to work, and Civil Affairs Soldiers provided quality assurance of the work.”



# 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.

**Alabama**

- It is legal to drive the wrong way down a one-way street if you have a lantern attached to the front of your automobile.
- Putting salt on a railroad track may be punishable by death.
- It is considered an offense to open an umbrella on a street, for fear of spooking horses.

**Alaska**

- While it is legal to shoot bears, waking a sleeping bear for the purpose of taking a photograph is prohibited.
- Moose may not be viewed from an airplane.
- It is considered an offense to push a live moose out of a moving airplane.
- In Anchorage, no one may tie their pet dog to the roof of a car.

# Sudoku

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.

**Level: Easy**

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

**Last weeks answers**

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

**PVT. MURPHY’S LAW**

# Upcoming sports on AFN

**Wednesday 10/29/08**

NHL on Versus: Philadelphia Flyers @ Atlanta Thrashers, live 2 a.m. AFN/xtra

NBA Opening Night on TNT: NBA Tip-Off '08 - Celtics Ring Ceremony, live 2 a.m. AFN/sports

NBA Opening Night on TNT: Cleveland Cavaliers @ Boston Celtics, live 3 a.m. AFN/sports

NBA Opening Night on TNT: Portland Trail Blazers @ Los Angeles Lakers, live 5:30 AFN/sports

NHL: Pittsburgh Penguins @ San Jose Sharks, live 5:30 AFN/xtra

NFL RePLAY - Game 1: Teams TBD \* 90-Minute Fast-Paced Game of the Week, tape delayed 1 p.m. AFN/sports

NFL RePLAY - Game 2: Teams TBD \* 90-Minute Fast-Paced Game of the Week, tape delayed 2:30 p.m. AFN/sports

NBA Opening Night on TNT: Cleveland Cavaliers @ Boston Celtics, tape delayed 6 p.m. AFN/sports

NBA Opening Night on TNT: Portland Trail Blazers @ Los Angeles Lakers, tape delayed 6 p.m. AFN/sports

**Thursday 10/30/08**

2008 World Series - Game 6: Philadelphia Phillies @ Tampa Bay Rays (If Necessary), live 3 a.m. AFN/sports

NBA Wednesday: Phoenix Suns @ San Antonio Spurs, live 3 a.m. AFN/xtra

NBA Wednesday: Los Angeles Lakers @ Los Angeles Clippers, live 5:30 a.m. AFN/xtra

NFL RePLAY - Game 3: Teams TBD \* 90-Minute Fast-Paced Game of the Week, tape delayed 10 a.m. AFN/sports

NFL RePLAY - Game 4: Teams TBD \* 90-Minute Fast-Paced Game of the Week, tape delayed 11:30 a.m. AFN/sports

2008 World Series - Game 6: Philadelphia Phillies @ Tampa Bay Rays (If Necessary), tape delayed 1 p.m. AFN/sports

2008 World Series - Game 6: Philadelphia Phillies @ Tampa Bay Rays (If Necessary), tape delayed 8 p.m. AFN/sports

**Friday 10/31/08**

NBA on TNT: Houston Rockets @ Dallas Mavericks, live 3 a.m. AFN/xtra

2008 World Series - Game 7: Philadelphia Phillies @ Tampa Bay Rays (If Necessary), live 3 a.m. AFN/sports

NBA on TNT: New Orleans Hornets @ Phoenix Suns, live 5:30 a.m. AFN/xtra

ESPN College Football Primetime: South Florida @ Cincinnati \* 2-hr ESPN Cutdown Version, tape delayed 10 a.m. AFN/sports

2008 World Series - Game 7: Philadelphia Phillies @ Tampa Bay Rays (If Necessary), tape delayed 1 p.m. AFN/sports

2008 World Series - Game 7: Philadelphia Phillies @ Tampa Bay Rays (If Necessary), tape delayed 8 p.m. AFN/sports

**Saturday 11/1/08**

NBA: Sacramento Kings @ Miami Heat, live 3 a.m. AFN/sports

Vancouver Canucks @ Anaheim Ducks, live 5 a.m. AFN/prime pacific

NBA Friday: San Antonio Spurs @ Portland Trail Blazers, live 5:30 a.m. AFN/sports

NBA: Denver Nuggets @ Los Angeles Clippers, live 5:30 AFN/xtra

NBA Friday: San Antonio Spurs @ Portland Trail Blazers \* 2-Hr ESPN Cutdown Version, tape delayed 10 a.m. AFN/sports

College Football: Teams TBD, live 7 p.m. AFN/sports

College Football: Teams TBD, live 7 p.m. AFN/xtra

College Football: Teams TBD, live 8 p.m. AFN/prime atlantic

College Football: Teams TBD, live 10:30 p.m. AFN/prime atlantic

College Football: Teams TBD, live 10:30 p.m. AFN/sports

**Sunday 11/2/08**

College Football: Teams TBD, live 3 a.m. AFN/prime atlantic

College Football: Teams TBD, live 3 a.m. AFN/sports

College Football: Teams TBD, live 3 a.m. AFN/xtra

College Football: Teams TBD, tape delayed 10 a.m. AFN/sports

CBS NFL Today or FOX NFL Sunday, live 7 p.m. AFN/prime atlantic

CBS NFL Today or FOX NFL Sunday, live 7 p.m. AFN/xtra

NFL: Week 9: Teams TBD, live 8 p.m. AFN/sports

NFL: Week 9: Teams TBD, live 8 p.m. AFN/prime atlantic

NFL: Week 9: Teams TBD, live 8 p.m. AFN/xtra

NFL: Week 9: Teams TBD, live 11 p.m. AFN/sports

NFL: Week 9: Teams TBD, live 11 p.m. AFN/prime atlantic

NASCAR Sprint Cup Series: Dickies 500 (Texas Motor Speedway, Fort Worth, TX) (JIP), live 11 p.m. AFN/xtra

**Monday 11/3/08**

ESPN College Football Primetime: East Carolina @ UCF, live 3:15 a.m. AFN/xtra

NBC Sunday Night Football - Week 9: New England Patriots @ Indianapolis Colts, live 3:15 a.m. AFN/sports

NFL: Week 9: Teams TBD, tape delayed 7 a.m. AFN/xtra

NHRA POWERade Drag Racing: ACDelco Las Vegas NHRA Nationals, tape delayed 10 a.m. AFN/xtra

ATP Tennis Masters Series - BNP Paribas Masters: Men's Final (Paris, France), tape delayed 11 a.m. AFN/sports

NBC Sunday Night Football - Week 9: New England Patriots @ Indianapolis Colts, tape delayed 2 p.m. AFN/sports

NBC Sunday Night Football - Week 9: New England Patriots @ Indianapolis Colts, tape delayed 8 p.m. AFN/sports

**Tuesday 11/4/08**

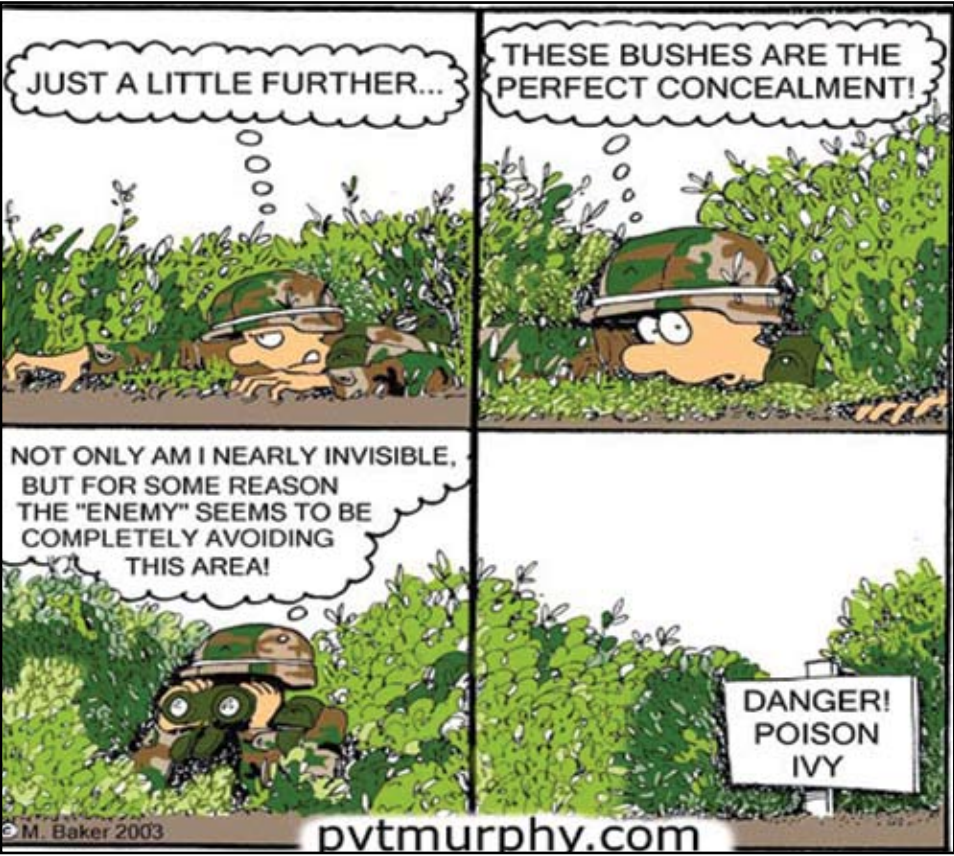
NHL on Versus: Buffalo Sabres @ New Jersey Devils, live 2 a.m. AFN/xtra

ESPN Monday Night Football - Week 9: Pittsburgh Steelers @ Washington Redskins, live 3:30 AFN/sports

NBA: Utah Jazz @ Los Angeles Clippers, live 5:30 a.m. AFN/xtra

ESPN Monday Night Football - Week 9: Pittsburgh Steelers @ Washington Redskins, tape delayed 1 p.m. AFN/sports

ESPN Monday Night Football - Week 9: Pittsburgh Steelers @ Washington Redskins, tape delayed 8 p.m. AFN/sports





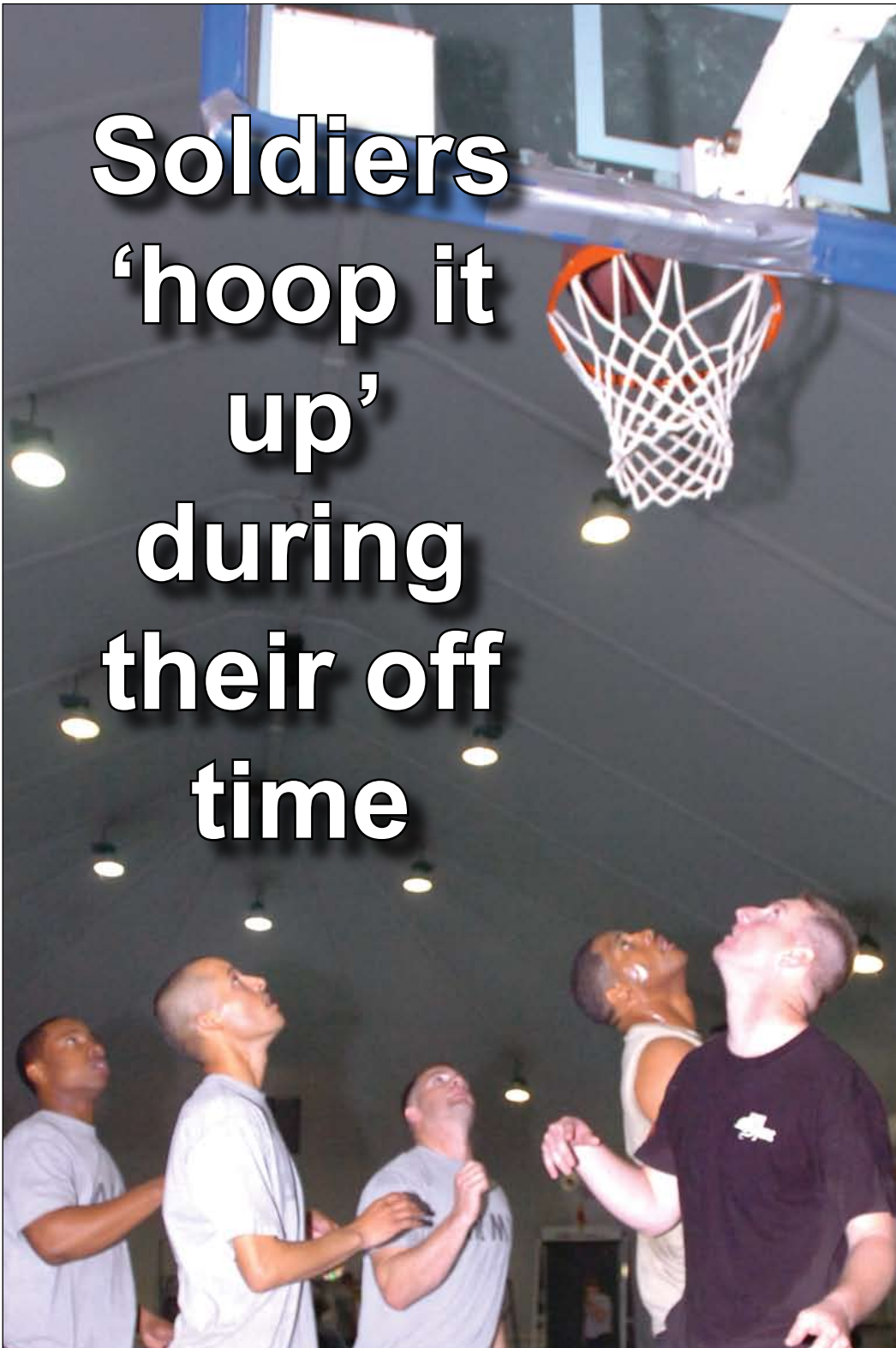


Photo by Spc. Ryan Hohman



Photo by Spc. Ryan Hohman



Photo by Spc. Ryan Hohman

**Top:** Staff Sgt. Brian Taibodbau, a member of the 1st Squadron 32nd Cavalry Regiment based out of Fort Cambell, Ky., plays a pick up game of basketball at the East Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fitness center at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, Oct. 23.  
**Left:** Soldiers wait to catch a rebound while they play a pick up game of basketball at the East Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fitness center at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, Oct. 23.



Photo by Spc. Ryan Hohman

**Sgt. Dale Jones**, a member of the 1st Squadron 32nd Cavalry Regiment based out of Fort Cambell, Ky, attempts a hook shot during a pick up game of basketball at the East Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fitness center at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, Oct. 23.



Photo by Spc. Ryan Hohman

**Top:** Sgt. Dale Jones, a member of the 1st Squadron 32nd Cavalry Regiment based out of Fort Cambell, Ky, Texas, attempts a jump shot during a pick up game of basketball at the East Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fitness center at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, Oct. 23.  
**Left:** Spc. Timothy Baily, a member of the 74th Engineer Company based out of Fort Hood, Texas, attempts a jump shot during a pick up game of basketball at the East Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fitness center at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, Oct. 23.