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January 31, 2009

Operation Goodwill aids Iraqis in Maysan



Photo by Pfc. Todd Rogers

An IP from the Maysan Province distributes first aid kits to the families of Abu Rummanah during a combined humanitarian operation with Soldiers of 2nd Bn., 7th Cav. Regt., 4th BCT, 1st Cav. Div. in Amarah Jan. 23.

PFC. TODD ROGERS
4TH BCT, 1ST CAV. DIV.



FOB GARRY OWEN — Iraqi Police from the Al Hussein Station assisted by Soldiers from 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, joined forces during Operation Goodwill to send a positive message to the citizens in Amarah Jan. 23.

"We have a lot of things to coordinate between us and the Coalition," said Maj. Gen. Saad Ali Ati, from Maysan during a recent conference at Contingency Operating Base Adder. "We share information and intelligence, and it's working."

The 2nd Battalion, 7th Cav. Regiment Soldiers pulled se-

curity while the IP distributed humanitarian aid.

"Working with the Iraqi Police and going door to door with them to see families is both rewarding to me and the IP's," said 2nd Lt. Timothy Hayes, a fire support officer from Buffalo, NY. "That's the reason we are here, to help the citizens of Iraq."

After visiting several dozen homes in the areas of Abu Romanah, the IP traveled to the northern part of Amarah. They visited farms and villages near the Tigris River to distribute food, toys and medical supplies to the Iraqis.

"This is a sign of (changing times) for the war here in Iraq," said Sgt. Robert Andrews, a resident of Fort Hood, Texas. "It's now all about the hearts and minds (of the Iraqi people)."

Iraqi Security Forces: Ensuring vote counts twice

STAFF SGT. MICHEL SAURET
MND - C



CAMP VICTORY – During the 2005 provincial Iraqi elections, voters had their fingers stained with election ink to prevent them from voting twice.

Some held their fingers up in pride as they took part in democracy; others hid their faces from cameras, afraid of becoming victims of sectarian violence.

This year, ink or not, Iraqi Security Forces will make their vote count twice. Once through their own ballots, then again through the people they serve.

"We have a high commitment to provide security to people that come to vote. At the same time, we also wish to do the same thing," said 1st Lt. Ammar Abdul Zahramuvjia'a, a troop commander within the 10th Iraqi Army Division.

IA Soldiers, Iraqi Policemen and other security forces will vote a few days ahead of the rest of the population. On election day, they will stand guard to ensure those with stained fingers can vote without fear.

"I was here in 2005 when the first elections were held," said Maj. Troy Wayman, of Ainsworth, Neb., an ISF coordinator with the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division. "Everyone in the ISF was proud of their right to vote and expressed it by showing their painted finger to us over and over. Everyone was jubilant. This year, that same enthusiasm is prevalent."

The ISF have been preparing for several months now for the upcoming election. Coalition Soldiers have been working with them in the planning

stages. Once the big day comes, however, Iraqi police will stand watch around polling sites, while Iraqi soldiers will serve on the outskirts of the cities, at the forefront of security. Coalition members will stand aside.

"We have no hand whatsoever in the elections, said Maj. Ryan Foxworth, the operations advisor for the 10th IA Div., and member of the 4th BCT, 1st Cav. Div. "As enablers, we see their plans. We see their needs... We'll be standing by if they need us (but) I don't foresee them needing us at all."

Foxworth has been working with the IA, IP

See VOTE, page 4



Photo by Pfc. Terence Ewings

(Above) Col. Philip Battaglia, 4th BCT, 1st Cav. Div. commander, greets brigade commanders from the 10th IA Div. prior to an elections conference on COB Adder Jan. 24. (Left) Lt. Gen Lloyd Austin, Multi-National Corps – Iraq commanding general, and Col. Philip Battaglia, 4th BCT, 1st Cav. Div. commander, dine with leaders of the 10th IA Div. after an elections conference on Contingency Operating Base Adder Jan. 24.



THE Mountain View

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Contributing Units

172nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team
2nd BCT, 4th Infantry Division
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793rd Military Police Battalion
Division Special Troops Battalion, 10th Mtn. Div.
Task Force 449



Media queries please contact TF Mountain Public Affairs at MND-Center_PAO@iraq.centcom.mil

K-9 provides vital support to Soldiers

SGT. RODNEY FOLIENTE
2ND BCT, 4TH INF. DIV.



CAMP ECHO – Canine series part 2:

Army Staff Sgt. Buddy

“He’s a very happy-go-lucky guy and very friendly,” said Army Sgt. Tyler Barriere, military working dog handler, 163rd Military Police Detachment, based out of Fort Campbell, Ky., and attached to the STB.

He added, however, that Army Staff Sgt. Buddy can be aggressive when needed, and any terrorist he found “would be pretty scared to see this 91-pound Belgian Malinois chasing after them.”

Buddy’s main job is to protect Soldiers and civilians against roadside bombs and thwart terrorist efforts by locating weapons caches. But in addition to being an explosive detection dog, Buddy is trained as an attack dog, able to run down suspects and hold them for detention.

Buddy plopped down next to Barriere after leaping through windows during a search demonstration. Buddy has served for six years and Barriere has been a dog handler in the Army for two years. This is their first deployment together, arriving in Iraq in September 2008. Barriere comes from Ithaca, N.Y.

“Good boy!” exclaimed Barriere, gently slapping Buddy’s sides. The encouragement caused his long tail to whip back and forth happily. Buddy then sprinted after a thrown dog toy, catching it midair, before strolling back, his tail wagging even faster in a black and tan blur.

“I love being a dog handler,” said Barriere, with a huge smile looking at his dog.

“I have a great relationship with Buddy. We spend all our time together, and we’ve got a good bond. He’s always there if I come back from a stressful day, and he cheers me up. There can’t be anything better than that.”

Editors Note: This is the second part of a series highlighting the four dogs in a previous story as well as other exceptional canine servicemembers.



Photos by Sgt. Rodney Foliente

(Above) Army Staff Sgt. Buddy, an explosive detection and attack dog, stands tall to sniff a suspicious scent as Army Sgt. Tyler Barriere, military working dog handler, 163rd MP Det., based out of Fort Campbell, Ky., and attached to STB, 2nd BCT, 4th Inf. Div., looks on during a search demonstration at Camp Echo Jan. 7. Barriere calls Ithaca, N.Y., home and has been with Buddy for more than a year. (Left) Buddy relaxes after a search demonstration at Camp Echo Jan. 7. He is a Belgian Malinois and has served in the Army for six years.

VOTE

From page 2

and representatives from Provincial Reconstruction teams on election security plans.

He said this election was one of the first operations he's seen IA and IP come together to serve the populace. Foxworth said the ISF are prepared for every possible attack, and they don't lack the confidence to do their job.

"The same security concerns from four years ago are there, but now they feel they're better prepared to use their own resources and security preparations," said Foxworth, of Red Springs, N.C.

Unlike the last election, ISF have been in the lead for every aspect of security.

Also, the various security roles were not delegated as well as this year. For

example, Soldiers were often doing work meant for police and vice versa. Now the police are becoming more involved among the people. Their security presence will serve at the polling sites, ballot warehouse and counting centers.

Also, Foxworth has seen a great relationship and trust grow between the Iraqi people and their Army.

Earlier this January, he saw the two come together in celebration during Iraqi Day. The festivities took place at the Samawah Soccer Stadium in Muthana Province to honor the 88th birthday of the IA.

The streets were lined with vehicles. There were no empty seats in the stands, with a lot of cheering and excitement coming from the crowds.

"The people were very receptive," Foxworth said. "I think the people in our province (al-Qadasiyah) think the

ISF can secure them."

The people's confidence in their security forces is warranted considering the amount of planning ISF have conducted the last few months. The security working groups have met six times to review election issues and other concerns. Once the election is behind them, these workgroups are where Coalition forces will have been the most involved.

"(My Soldiers) are so optimistic. They are ready to elect a new leader that will serve this country. We (as Iraqis) are free to choose the chosen ones of this country. (The Americans) have been very good to us and we accept their help," said Chief Warrant Officer Jamal Ibraheem, Staff Major General deputy.

"We look forward to the day when we need not their help, but only their friendship."

Sports Talk

By SPC. JOSH LECAPELAIN

"Steel" reign set to continue in Tampa

In the waning hours of the Arizona Cardinals' dream season, everything seemed to be falling into place.

Larry Fitzgerald, the catalyst of the Cardinals' improbable run, talked about restructuring his contract so the team could keep his partner in crime, Anquan Boldin. Kurt Warner had become a reclamation project for the ages; a hero of yore willing himself to one last run at greatness. Edgerinn James, the running back who had been demoted and called washed up during this regular season, suddenly seemed rejuvenated and ready to earn his first legitimate Super Bowl ring.

Even Arizona's head coach, Ken Whisenhunt, had ties to the Pittsburgh Steelers and a reason to want to topple them – In 2007, following Bill Cowler's departure as coach, the team looked elsewhere, bypassing then-offensive coordinator Whisenhunt for inexperienced defensive coordinator Mike Tomlin.

All the chips seem stacked, with many calling on Arizona pulling off an upset the level of the New York Giants beating the New England Patriots last year, Saw 5 winning the Best Picture Oscar or anyone buying Paris Hilton's next CD.

Sometimes, there is no happy ending though; Pittsburgh isn't going to lose this game.

When you compare the two teams, the biggest advantage that can be placed on either side is the physicality of the Steelers. They hit really, really hard. They play tough, all four downs.

They are going to pop every red jersey they see, often and with a ferocious anger that would make Marsellus Wallace in "Pulp Fiction" blush.

Ben Roethlisberger is not a big game quarterback; he doesn't have to be with this offense. All that is required out of "Big Ben" is handing the ball to "Fast" Willie Parker and making sure Hines Ward and Santonio Holmes get their looks.

On defense, the Steelers have arguably two of the absolute best in the game today – James Harrison, the reigning National Football League Defensive Player of the Year, and Troy Polamalu, who just as easily could have been selected for the same honor.

Polamalu is the best safety in the business today, the very definition of a game-changer. His hits radiate through stadiums, rippling like sonic echoes against walls, bones and plastic cups. When opponents aren't cowering in fear of him, they have to fear the equally intimidating "Silverback" Harrison.

For a team like Arizona with a mediocre running game, they are going to have to take to the air early and often to have a chance. If Polamalu cheats up and is near Fitzgerald (who has become the most dynamic player in the game), the Cardinals will have to click on every other cylinder to have a shot – a possibility, but in no way something worth effectively considering an option.

It won't be a blowout, but it won't be all that close, either. Pittsburgh 31, Arizona 21.

Staff Section Round-up

Chaplain's Family Life Minute

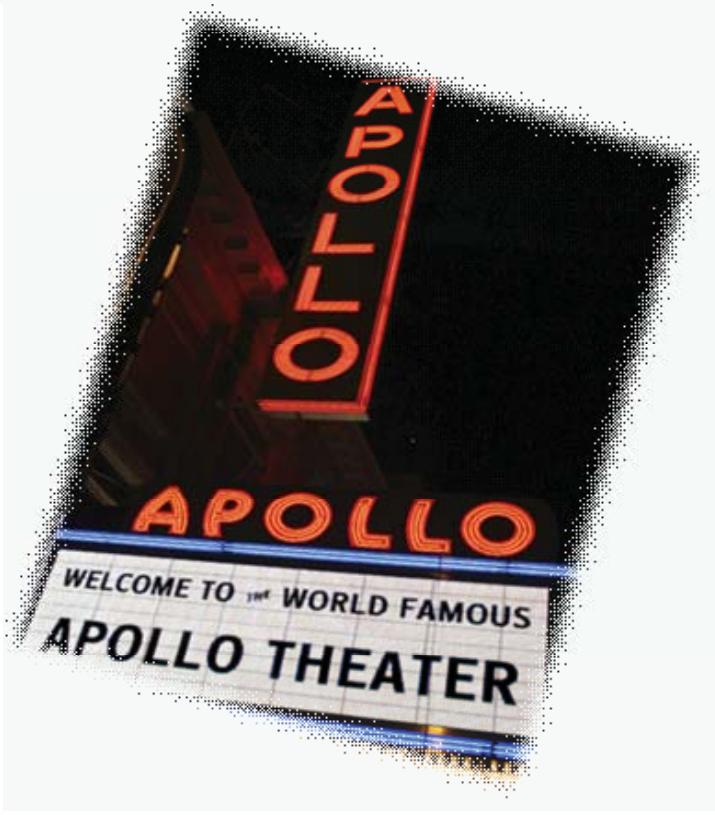
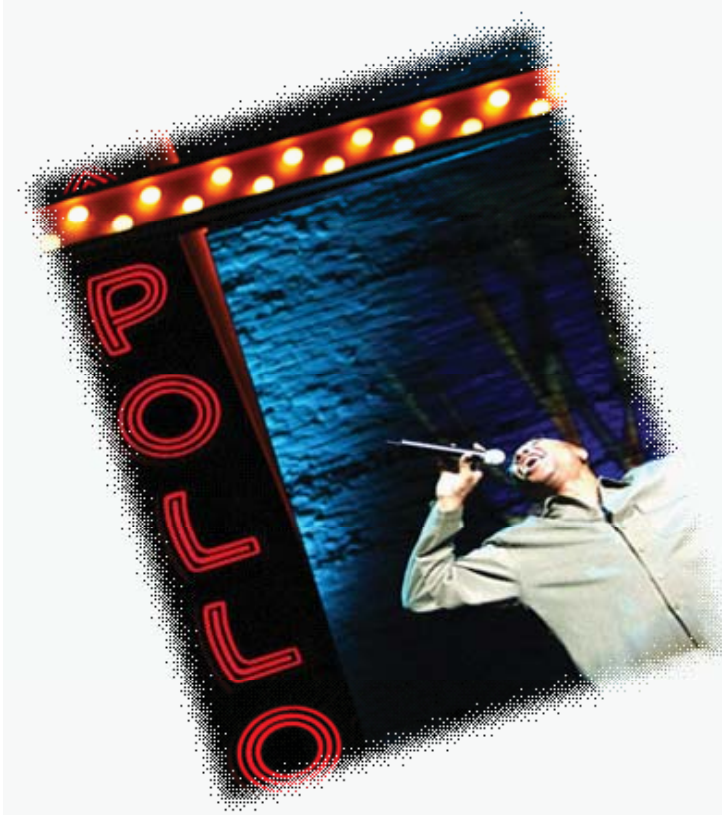
To conflict or not to conflict, that is often a question for some who are concerned about discussing sensitive issues. There is a tendency by some to give in just to avoid conflict. Others have a tendency to go for the jugular and viciously attack to gain control and victory. What is the best solution?

To humbly problem solve. Humbly in that one is to seek the greater good of the other when it comes to all issues. One does not get married to be in it for him or her self. The blessing of marriage is in what one can give rather than what one can receive.

As solutions are brainstormed and issues are discussed, a sense of caring is developed. As time goes on and as a couple sees that issues can successfully be overcome humbly and gently, the tendency is to duplicate success in the same fashion.

So, let us not be afraid to confront the issues that challenge us as we "climb to glory."

Ch. (Maj.) Paul Ramsey
MND-C Family Life Chaplain



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WHERE:

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Headline Round-up

U.S. News:

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Gov. Rod Blagojevich was thrown out of office Jan. 29 without a single lawmaker coming to his defense, brought down by a government-for-sale scandal that stretched from Chicago to Capitol Hill and turned the foul-mouthed politician into a national punchline. Blagojevich, accused of trying to sell Barack Obama's vacant Senate seat, becomes the first U.S. governor in more than 20 years to be removed by impeachment. After a four-day trial, the Illinois Senate voted 59-0 to convict him of abuse of power, automatically ousting the second-term Democrat. In a second, identical vote, lawmakers further barred Blagojevich from ever holding public office in the state again.

World News:

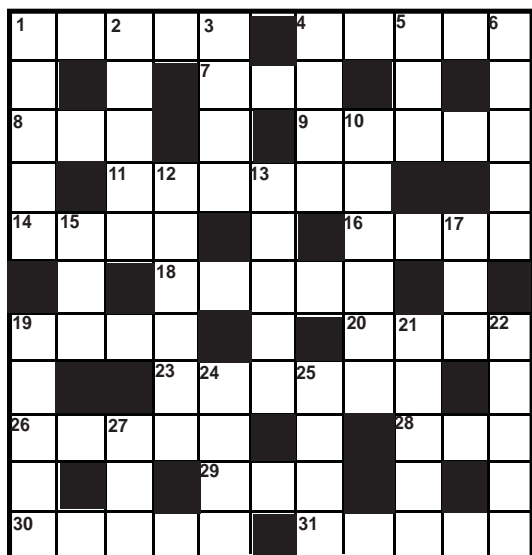
NAIROBI, Kenya - Somali pirates hijacked a German tanker loaded with liquefied petroleum gas Jan. 29 off the Horn of Africa. The ship's 13-man crew was reported safe even though gunshots were heard over the ship's radio. The MV Longchamp is the third ship captured this month in the Gulf of Aden, one of the world's busiest shipping lanes. The Longchamp, registered in the Bahamas, is managed by the German firm Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement, which said in a statement that seven pirates boarded the tanker early Thursday.

Entertainment:

Fans waiting with bated breath for news of a "Dark Knight" sequel might want to hold onto their capes. "(Director) Chris Nolan is the guy who's had the vision of 'The Dark Knight' and this incarnation of Batman and we know that he's thinking about (it) — if he can think all the way through what another one would be like," "Dark Knight" producer Charles Roven told Access Hollywood at the junket for his latest film, "The International." "We'll know if he's gotten to the end of that process when he tells us." Roven also produced the superhero film's predecessor, "Batman Begins," but while he said he wanted to make a better film with the sequel, he didn't expect its record-breaking box office success — or its awards season muscle. "The Dark Knight" has earned eight Oscar nominations, although it was snubbed for best picture and best director.

Quote of the Day

Above all, we must realize that no arsenal, or no weapon in the arsenals of the world, is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women. -Ronald Reagan



Across

1. Bird's homes
4. Requires; wants
7. Self confidence; arrogance
8. Litigate
9. Smoothes (wood)
11. Stands up
14. A.K.A the abominable snowman
16. Indian ladies garment
18. Your brother's daughter
19. Stitches
20. Hunt down; find
23. Sign up for
26. Avoid; steer clear of
28. Colour; tone
29. Had food
30. Change direction (car)
31. Book of maps

Down

1. Curious; prying
2. Perspire; exude moisture
3. Prefix meaning half
4. Organ of smell
5. A long time, geological phase
6. Japanese raw fish cuisine
10. Rate; review
12. Washed out
13. Hard outer covering
15. The night before
17. Fish eggs
19. Oozes out
21. _____ alcohol, a.k.a Ethanol
22. Leg joints
24. Not far
25. Thought
27. The top card

AROUND THE COMMUNITY

Lion's Den

Jan. 31

The 10th Mountain Division:
Salsa Band in concert @ 9 p.m.,
featuring GRUPO HISTERIA

Salsa Lesson @ 8 p.m.

Fridays

"Gospel Hour: Moments of Joy"
@ noon

Fishbowl Gym

Jan. 31

Full Body Aerobics @ 6 a.m.

Abs class @ 7:30 p.m.

Freedom Chapel

Tuesdays

God & the Military @ 7 - 9:30
p.m. three weeks

Wednesdays

Guitar Lessons @ 7 p.m.

Fridays

Catholic Hour @ 6:30 p.m.

Sunday

Protestant (Traditional) @ 10
a.m.

Roman Catholic Mass @ noon

LDS Service @ 2 p.m.

Eastern Orthodox @ 4 p.m.

Protestant (Contemporary) @ 7
p.m.

Slayer

Jan. 31

Slayer 10k run at 7 a.m.

Assemble at MWR south by
6:30-6:45 a.m. for sign in.

Feb. 7

R & B group "FRESH" is
performing on Slayer's
gazebo in front of the
fishbowl gym @ 7:30 p.m.

Victory

Feb. 4

Swing Dance Lessons @ 8 - 10
p.m. Building 51 MWR

Cropper

Jan. 31

The U.S. Air Force band will be
performing @ 7 p.m.

Solution Saturday

Saturday, Jan. 24

E	N	D		D	O	G		I	N	F	E	R	
V		A		E		L	E		G		E		O
I	N	D	U	L	G	E			L		A	R	T
C			V		E			O		T			
T	I	T	L	E				O	T	H	E	R	
	N									E		U	
S	K	I	N							T	R	U	G
O		N										R	
S	A	V	E	S				C	O	M	I	C	
	A		I		C		H				A		
E	N	D		S		A	M	A	T	E	U	R	
V		E		A	M	P		I		L		A	
E	A	S	E	L		E	A	R		M	A	T	

from Puzzler's Cave: The Online Crossword Community

Monday, Jan. 26

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

Tuesday, Jan. 27

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

Wednesday, Jan. 28

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

Thursday, Jan. 29

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

R	M	A	R	I	P	M	E	L	O	K	I	N	A	R	U	F	I	Y	A	A	I
I	O	F	I	T	A	K	A	D	O	T	E	U	C	R	O	E	H	R	C	T	
A	S	G	B	L	A	R	U	P	E	E	O	W	N	C	E	R	A	O	A	A	H
L	M	N	N	U	A	C	Z	K	K	T	L	S	N	C	C	I	T	L	T	A	
Y	A	O	I	B	S	T	R	L	I	E	H	W	U	P	F	A	B	O	A	B	
P	R	D	M	E	O	O	I	G	O	I	N	E	S	U	A	V	I	K	T	F	
O	D	W	N	A	O	L	G	R	L	T	N	K	R	O	D	A	K	O	O		
U	A	E	E	N	U	N	L	G	K	T	E	I	D	E	U	N	L	W	N	R	
N	R	N	R	U	I	T	I	V	W	U	R	L	R	N	M	L	A	B	E	A	
D	I	T	N	R	O	N	A	A	I	C	A	O	A	H	C	A	W	I	O	N	
H	A	L	A	O	G	F	N	V	N	A	C	R	N	E	S	Z	K	R	M	R	A
Y	Y	Y	U	K	G	Z	Y	A	O	D	N	R	A	A	A	T	I	O	E	D	A
U	R	S	Y	H	A	D	R	D	L	O	E	O	E	N	T	E	A	N	T	A	N
R	Y	H	A	T	N	F	O	O	R	A	N	D	S	D	I	U	T	E	I	L	C
H	A	N	R	A	A	L	G	T	A	N	A	M	R	E	L	Q	Y	E	C	A	O
R	I	V	K	Y	L	L	A	N	G	E	N	T	U	P	Y	E	A	A	S	L	O
B	E	F	I	A	V	E	G	N	E	T	T	N	T	R	O	F	U	N	L	I	O
I	A	A	R	L	L	N	L	I	O	U	G	I	Y	A	G	O	G	O	N		
R	U	B	L	E	O	D	I	O	M	U	R	T	L	U	G	N	O	R	U	E	L
L	D	I	N	A	R	B	A	A	A	L	A	T	D	I	R	H	A	M	R	S	L

from LiveWire Puzzles

Friday, Jan. 30

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

Trivia:

The Pennines are the range of hills that runs in a north-south direction through the central part of England

To find out the answer to each day's puzzle right away, go to:



www.taskforcemountain.com