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March 21, 2009

## 204th BSB brings support closer

SGT. JOSH LECAPELAIN  
2ND BCT, 4TH INF. DIV.



CAMP ECHO – Soldiers from the 204th Brigade Support Battalion have recently begun to relocate from Forward Operating Base Kalsu to Camp Echo, where the rest of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division is located.

Maj. Thomas P. Bryant, 204th BSB operations officer and a native of Silver Creek, Miss., said the move is being made to better support 2nd BCT, 4th Inf. Div. operations, but that their mission will not change at all.

Soldiers who have already arrived at Camp Echo are excited about the new location.

"I like Camp Echo a lot," said Spc. Evan Rector, a 204th BSB equipment repairer, and a native of Tullahoma, Tenn. "It has a lot of the amenities that you can find back home."

Rector, who arrived at Camp Echo in December, said the move has improved morale and aided in unit cohesion.

He added that 204th BSB Soldiers have worked steadily on improving their new headquarters building, tearing everything down to the concrete floors and walls and rebuilding to meet their needs.

"I'm impressed so far," said Bryant, a graduate of Alcorn State University. "I'm amazed at (the level of) enthusiasm and what Soldiers can do."

Bryant said he believes the entire battalion will be relocated and operational at Camp Echo by mid-March.



Photo courtesy of 204th BSB  
Spc. Tin Quach of Co. A, 204th BSB, secures one of the unit's all-terrain vehicles before movement from FOB Kalsu to Camp Echo recently.



# Iraqi, U.S. Soldiers give joint aid to Musharah

**SGT. 1ST CLASS MARK SCHENK**  
4TH BCT, 1ST CAV. DIV.



**FOB HUNTER** – Iraqi and U.S. Soldiers conducted a joint humanitarian mission to provide medical attention and essential supplies to the citizens of Musharah near the military base here recently.

The 1st and 3rd battalions, of the 41st Iraqi Army Brigade lead the effort with assistance from Soldiers of the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division. Approximately 210 Iraqi children from this community in Iraq's Maysan province benefited from the mission.

During the visit, American medics examined the children for everything from routine stuffy noses to a number of complex health problems, which were eventually referred to the Iraqi National Assistance Center in Baghdad for possible treatment in America.

"I was just recently attached to this unit, so this was my first mission," said Spc. Brenda Goode, a combat medic as-



Photo by Sgt. 1st. Class Mark Schenk

**Sgt. Ray Chavez, from Arlington Tx. and Pfc. Jonathon Ahrem, from Long Island NY., treat a young Iraqi boy during a joint humanitarian mission recently.**



Photo by Sgt. 1st. Class Mark Schenk

**Sgt. Ray Chavez, from Arlington Tx., passes out toys to young Iraqi girls during a joint humanitarian mission recently.**

signed to the 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment. "I was really surprised, not only by the diversity of the complaints, but by how nice the people were and how grateful they were for our support."

The Musharah children also received school supplies, vitamins, toys, blankets, games and clothes that were donated from families, friends and organizations at Ft Hood, Tx. The Soldiers also supplied the local clinic with medications, and donated medical supplies.

"It's just so kind of the families who sent this to us; not knowing us, but willing to help us," said an Iraqi mother who brought her son in for an ear infection. "I am overcome with their generosity."

Soldiers and mothers alike found something to be grateful for during the mission.

"Helping these kids really makes me miss my own at home, but I know it makes a difference," said Staff Sgt. Kristofer Van Maaren, a native of Petaluma Ca., and Senior Scout, assigned to 1st Sqdn., 9th Cav. Regt. "But I know that we are accomplishing something not just for the here and now, but their future as well."

## THE Mountain View

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### Contributing Units

172nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team  
2nd BCT, 4th Infantry Division  
4th BCT, 1st Cavalry Division  
41st Fires Brigade  
343rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment  
793rd Military Police Battalion  
Division Special Troops Battalion, 10th Mtn. Div.  
Task Force 449



# IP K-9 commander learns K-9 techniques, handling



Photo by Sgt. Debralee P. Crankshaw

**Sgt. Ccapo attacks Spc. Timothy Conley, 212th Military Police Detachment K-9 handler, during a bite exercise to demonstrate the capabilities of the military working dogs to the Iraqi Police K-9 commander from Hillah. (Inset) Capt. Anis Fadhil, Iraqi Police K-9 unit commander from Hillah (right) and Dr. Abdil Husain Mohsin, IP K-9 veterinarian, greet Sgt. Xando and his handler, Spc. Timothy Conley, 212th Military Police Detachment K-9 handler and a native of Puyallup, Wash. The IPs visited the kennels to witness the capabilities of the military working dogs.**

By **SGT. DEBRALEE P. CRANKSHAW**  
MND - C



**FOB KALSU** – As the U.S. continues to assist Iraqis in becoming a self-sustaining force, the U.S. is providing them with valuable training, including the use of working dogs.

The 212th Military Police Detachment demonstrated to the Iraqi Police K-9 unit commander from Hillah just how essential military working dogs can be in accomplishing the mission during a training exercise March 15.

The 212th provided a demonstration in basic obedience and aggression. Soldiers gave commands to their dogs, led them through an obstacle course and performed biting and explosives detection exercises.

"The purpose of the training is to show the capabilities of the dogs and get the Iraqis used to training the dogs," said Staff Sgt. Christopher Rodgers, Forward Operating Base Kalsu kennel master from Bradford, Pa. "It gives them a goal to accomplish. They have seen the capabilities of the dogs so now they have something to work toward."

Capt. Anis Fadhil, the IP K-9 commander, took the training to heart.

"When we get the dogs, we will try to duplicate the training as closely as possible," he said.

The training not only showed the commander what to work for, it also provided information on how to run his own kennel.

"Seeing our kennels helped give him a good idea of how it's supposed to happen, so they can go back and start their



Photo by Sgt. Debralee P. Crankshaw

**Sgt. Ccapo attacks Spc. Timothy Conley, 212th Military Police Detachment K-9 handler, during a bite exercise to demonstrate the capabilities of the military working dogs to the Iraqi Police K-9 commander from Hillah.**

kennels up," said Rodgers.

This visit was the first of many, according to Rodgers. U.S. handlers will work closely with Iraqi handlers to teach them how to manage working dogs on their next visit.

"This will help Iraq because of the situation everyday with (improvised explosive devices) and suicide bombers," he said. "This will help decrease that kind of activity."



# Headline Round-up

## World News:

ATHENS, Greece - Greece's Merchant Marine Ministry says pirates have seized a Greek-owned cargo ship in the Gulf of Aden off the coast of Somalia. The ministry says the St. Vincent-flagged Titan, with 24 crew members on board, was seized late Thursday night. Three of the crew members, including the captain, are Greek. The Titan had been sailing from the Black Sea to Korea with a cargo of metal when it came under attack, the ministry said.

## U.S. News:

SAN DIEGO - Two narcotics suspects have been arrested after leading police on a wild chase, tossing more than \$17,000 in cash out of their truck's windows as motorists stopped freeway traffic to grab the bills. The pursuit began Thursday afternoon when police and federal drug agents followed two men who drove off in a pickup truck, Drug Enforcement Administration spokeswoman Eileen Zeidler said.

## Odd News:

WELLINGTON, New Zealand - A hatchling of a rare reptile with lineage dating back to the dinosaur age has been found in the wild on the New Zealand mainland for the first time in about 200 years, a wildlife official said Thursday.

## Quote of the Day

*"The object of war is not to die for your country but to make the other bastard die for his."*  
- Gen. George S. Patton

## The CG wants YOUR input about a new blog!

The CG wants to set up another blog in addition to The Mountain Sound-Off, with the topics and discussion on the new blog driven by YOU - the Soldiers, Family members and community partners.

We'd like your thoughts on how you want this new blog to work: How do we choose topics for discussion? How often should we update the topic? Do we limit participation? Do we limit topics to just military matters? What do we call it? Etc.

To let the CG and others know, go to the Mountain Sound Off Blog at

[www.taskforcemountain.com](http://www.taskforcemountain.com)



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## AROUND THE COMMUNITY

### Lions Den

March 21

Salsa Class @ 8 p.m.

Salsa Party @ 9 p.m.

### Fishbowl Gym

March 21

Full body aerobics @ 6 a.m.

March 27

Relay for Life HOPE Ceremony @ 8 p.m.

March 28

Cancer awareness 5K/10K walk run. Free t-shirt and continental breakfast. Race begins @ 7 a.m.

April 11

Pirate's Cove Run 5K/10K.

Registration begins @ 7 a.m., race begins @ 8 a.m.

T-shirts awarded to top finishers.

### Babylon Theater

March 21

Express @ 4 p.m.

Punisher War Zone @ 7 p.m.

Changeling @ 9:30 p.m.

### Freedom Chapel

Sundays

Protestant (Traditional) @ 10 a.m.

Roman Catholic Mass @ 12 p.m.

LDS service @ 2 p.m.

Eastern Orthodox @ 4 p.m.

Protestant (Contemporary) @ 12 p.m.

Mondays

A History of Christianity @ 7 p.m.

Tuesdays

God & the Military @ 6:30 p.m.

Wednesdays

Guitar Lessons @ 7 p.m.

Thursdays

Catholic Choir practice @ 5:30 p.m.

Fridays

Catholic hour @ 6:30 p.m.

# Solution Saturday

## Saturday, March 14

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

## Monday, March 16

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

## Tuesday, March 17



## Wednesday, March 18

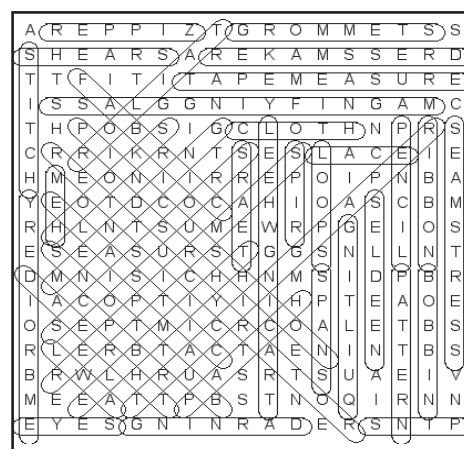
5	8	1	6	2	4	7	9	3
2	6	9	5	7	3	4	8	1
3	4	7	8	9	1	5	6	2
1	5	6	4	3	8	2	7	9
8	3	2	7	5	9	6	1	4
9	7	4	1	6	2	8	3	5
4	1	5	9	8	6	3	2	7
6	9	3	2	4	7	1	5	8
7	2	8	3	1	5	9	4	6

from LiveWire Puzzles

## Thursday, March 19

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

from LiveWire Puzzles



from LiveWire Puzzles

## Friday, March 20

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

from LiveWire Puzzles

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



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