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Iraqi medics enhance trauma skills



Photo by Sgt. Allison Churchill

Pvt. Ali Ibrahim Zuqier, medic, 8th MTR, applies a bandage to a comrade's wound during a trauma care lanes exercise recently at the end of training taught by medics in Co. C, 589th BSB on FOB Delta.

SGT. ALLISON CHURCHILL 41ST FB



FOB DELTA – Iraqi Army 8th Motorized Transport Regiment medics put their skills to the test during a lanes exercise at the troop medical clinic here recently.

The lanes were the culmination of a six-day class taught by medics in Company C, 589th Brigade Support Battalion, 41st Fires Brigade.

"We changed the conditions on them," said Capt. Jake Bustoz, medical advisor, 8th MTR Military Transition Team.

Bustoz, a native of Post, Texas, said the medics in the Numaniyah-based unit are very skilled in clinical medicine, but haven't had much experience in trauma care.

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The medics typically stay in the ambulance during patrols and therefore rarely have to perform in combat situations, said Petty Officer 1st Class Curtis Derrick, medic with the 8th MTR MiTT and Albuquerque, N.M. resident.

The lanes were designed to be similar to the end of a combat lifesaver class, said Staff Sgt. Reginald Lockett, of Cleveland, a class instructor.

To pass the class, each medic had to quickly get to the patient, get their patient into a safe zone, assess and begin treating injuries, start an intravenous line and call a litter team to transport the patient to the ambulance - all while Lockett and his fellow instructors yelled, imitated gunfire and splashed water to recreate a hostile situation.

The Iraqis said they look forward to working with the FOB Delta medics for more training.

"We thank you for what you did for us," said Pvt. Åli Ibrahim Zuqier.

Bustoz said he's found inspiration while working with the Iraqi medics.

"The more time we spend with them, I see their passion coming out," said Bustoz. "Their innovation to do more with less gives me motivation."



What topics would you like to see the CG post on the blog for discussion?

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

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THE **Mountain View**

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589th BSB wins DA-level safety award

SGT. ALLISON CHURCHILL 41ST FB



FOB DELTA – The Iron Caissons of 589th Brigade Support Battalion, 41st Fires Brigade, were named the first recipients of the Army Industrial Operations Safety Award recently.

It is the second DA-level award the battalion has won since standing up in 2005.

"What I think helped our battalion win are the constant safety considerations we take into account on a daily basis," said 1st Lt. Andrea Radu, of Andover, N.J., battalion safety officer and executive officer of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 589th BSB. "A lot of our Soldiers work hands-on with heavy and hazardous equipment and it is imperative that NCOs train their Soldiers well to make them conscious of the risks they face doing their jobs."

The battalion had only been in Iraq for four months when the nomination packet was due but that short period gave the Soldiers opportunities to show off their training.

An average of 100 Soldiers work or interact in the motor pool every day, performing maintenance on nearly 100 vehicles per week with no incidents, said Sgt. 1st Class Santiago Rodriguez, of Bronte, Texas, battalion motor sergeant. "We have constant NCO supervision," said Staff Sgt. Steven Berndt, of Elgin, Ill., shop foreman, Company B, of the motor pool run by the company.

Company A also went into overdrive, delivering 112,000 gallons of fuel and 170,000 gallons of water to the joint security stations, said Radu. Drivers for the logistical patrols cross-train on a variety of vehicles so no one gets fatigued on the road, Radu noted in the nomination packet.

"The difference was made by leaders enforcing standards and Soldiers following and complying with instructions," said Maj. Carmelo Madera, of Guayama, Puerto Rico, executive officer, 589th BSB.

> Photo by Sgt. Allison Churchill

(Left) Sqt. 1st Santiago Class Rodriguez, 589th BSB motor sergeant, of Bronte, Texas, and Staff Sgt. Steven Berndt, shop foreman, of Elgin, III., observe as a Soldier conducts vehicle repairs. Berndt said he and his fellow NCOs in the motor pool promote a "safety friendly environment," one reason the battalion was named the first winner of the Army Industrial **Operations Safety** Award. (Inset) Sgt. Harper, Russel welder, of Irving, Texas, Co. Β, 589th BSB, completes a welding project in the Service and Recovery shop in the motor pool run by Co. B. The battalion was recently the winner of a DA-level safety award. It is the second DAlevel award the battalion has won since standing up in 2005.



Headline Round-up

World News:

APELDOORN, Netherlands - Four people were killed and 13 injured when a car slammed into a crowd watching Queen Beatrix and her family at a holiday parade, Dutch authorities said April 30. Officials said the incident appeared to be deliberate, but not an act of terrorism. A prosecutor identified only as L. Goossens told reporters the driver of the car was injured and was in police custody in the hospital. Eight of the injured were in serious condition. The small black car plowed through a line of spectators then slammed into a stone monument just a few yards from the open bus where the queen and the royal family were being greeted by the crowd. People were seen flying through the air after the car swerved across police railings.

U.S. News:

WASHINGTON - Legislation to rein in credit card practices and eliminate sudden rate hikes and late fees that have entangled millions of American consumers is getting closer to becoming law, bolstered by presidential pressure and the back-drop of economic calamity. Measures before the House and Senate are designed to enhance protections for credit card customers. The House bill, which was being put to a vote April 30, would prohibit so-called double-cycle billing and retroactive rate hikes and ban the issuance of credit cards to people under 18, but wouldn't take effect until a year after enactment. Another requirement in the bill, that customers receive 45 days notice before their interest rates are increased, would go into effect in 90 days. Double-cycle billing eliminates the interest-free period for consumers who move from paying the full balance monthly to carrying a balance. Similar regulations by the Federal Reserve don't take effect until July 2010.

U.S. News:

WASHINGTON - Justice David Souter is planning to retire after nearly two decades on the Supreme Court. Souter's departure, expected once the current term ends in late June, would give President Barack Obama his first chance to nominate a justice. The New Hampshire native, appointed to the court in 1990, is expected to remain on the bench until a successor is confirmed.

Quote of the Day "Action and reaction, ebb and flow, trial and error, change - this is the rhythm of living." – Bruce Barton

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For the answer to today's puzzle, go to: www.taskforce mountain.com

AROUND THE COMMUNITY

PX Open: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

DFAC 1 Worship

Sunday Roman Catholic Mass, UK led @ 9:30 a.m. General Protestant @ 11 a.m. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saint @ 2 p.m.

General Protestant @ 6:30 p.m.

DFAC 3 Worship

Sunday Gospel Worship @ 2 p.m.

DFAC 4 Worship

Monday - Saturday Daily Mass @ 8 p.m. Sunday Protestant Contemporary Worship @ 10 a.m. Holy communion, Protestant (UK) @ 11:30 a.m. Roman Catholic Mass, UK led @ 8:30 p.m.

Alteration Shop

Open: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Barber Shop

Open: 9 a.m. -8 p.m.

Finance

Monday - Saturday Open: 9 - 11:30 a.m., 1:30 - 4 p.m. Sunday Open: 1 - 4 p.m.

Solution Saturday



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

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