

Forces train Iraqi public safety agency

Sgt. Jon Soles
MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — There are two lines of tape, one green and one red. Behind the red tape is a Soldier contaminated by a hazardous material. The Iraqi firefighters only have minutes to react, carefully moving the casualty, to the other side of the green tape, while at the same time remembering to clean from their own hands and suits' hazardous material.

It's up to the 425th Civil Affairs Battalion to show the Iraqi firemen the proper way to treat patients exposed to hazardous materials, while at the same setting up a decontamination site.

“Our goal is to limit the spread of contamination,” Pfc. Daniel Oubre, a chemical specialist assigned to Company A, 110th Chemical Battalion, Technical Escort Unit, tells a class of Iraqi firefighters at the Iraqi Civil Defense Directorate, here, July 26. “By the end of this week, the firefighters will be able to set up, run and break down a decontamination site.”

Another Soldier, Sgt. Michael Kuca, dressed in a puffy white decontamination suit and lays down on a stretcher, simulating a firefighter whose suit has torn, exposing him to hazardous materials. Staff Sgt. Gregory Lowe, of Lisbon Falls, Maine, a chemical specialist assigned to Company A, 110th Chemical Battalion, Technical Escort



Photo by Sgt. Jon Soles, MND-B PAO

Sgt. Michael Kuca of Fairbanks, Alaska, a civil affairs specialist assigned to the 425th CA Battalion, 364th CA Bde, 1st Cav. Div., helps an Iraqi firefighter egress from a hazardous material suit at the Iraqi Civil Defense Directorate, here, July 26, during hazardous materials training for Iraqi firefighters.

Unit and Oubre demonstrate the proper way to decontaminate Kuca by carefully folding the hood and sleeves of his suit so any solid or liquid contaminants pour away and then gently cut away the suit from his body. On the count of three, Lowe and Oubre lift Kuca's stretcher and carry him across the green tape – which marks the decontaminated area.

Kuca is a civil affairs specialist assigned to 425th Civil Affairs Battalion, 364th Civil Affairs Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division. Kuca's civil affairs unit has taken on the task of training Iraqi firefighters in a combat zone. Sgt. Maj. Garren Fulmer, a fire and emergency services advisor assigned to the 425th

CA Bn., 364th CA Bde., 1st Cav. Div., said the team was assembled together with civil affairs and chemical Soldiers, with the blessing and support of Multi-National Division-Baghdad.

“This is the best mission in Baghdad,” said Fulmer, who hails from Las Vegas. “My whole job the last seven months is to tell MND-B that fire exists and they need our help. I'm a strategic-level cheerleader.”

The firefighters at the Iraqi Civil Defense Directorate have been unpaid volunteers for years, but are training as national firefighters, trained in all aspects of fire and rescue, said Fulmer. He said the program is designed to be “self-replicating.”

“These are all ‘train the trainer’ classes,” said Fulmer, an Army Reserve Soldier who has been a professional firefighter for 18 years. “Everybody who takes the class is expected to be able to train others at the same level.”

The training at the Iraqi Civil Defense Directorate includes fire officer development, basic emergency medical technician, urban search and rescue, fire mechanics class and incident command systems. Hazardous materials handling is the most recent part of the training.

With help from a Provincial Reconstruction Team, Fulmer said his civil affairs team is able to train the Iraqis 40 at a time, for two months, without asking for any money from the Army.

“They tell us what they need and Kuca and I get the assets. If they don't have it, we find out who does,” Fulmer said. “We are building capacity every day and we are doing it for free.”

Fulmer said he is confident in the Iraqi firefighters he helped train.

“I would hire them back in the states. The students we've had are good people and they do well with the instruction,” said Fulmer.

As Coalition forces continue to drawdown, they are leaving behind not only a more self-sufficient Iraqi military, but a more self-sufficient and highly-trained public safety agency.

Shipping items home requires planning



Photo by Sgt. Joshua Risner MND-B PAO

Sgt. 1st Class Eric Tizol, from San Juan, Puerto Rico, assigned to Co. B, DSTB, 1st Cav. Div., prepares to mail packages at the Camp Liberty Post Office, July 24.

By Sgt. Joshua Risner
MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — It's almost inevitable that during a year-long deployment, a Soldier will acquire more items, souvenirs and other things that won't fit in his duffel bag when it comes time to redeploy. That leaves the Soldier with one option: shipping the items back home.

Soldiers are allowed to mail items back home as long as they follow a few simple guidelines.

Any cardboard box will do for shipping purposes, but any addresses and barcodes on them

need to be blacked out, according to Russell Henning, the postal supervisor for Liberty Post Office, which services an average of 260 customers per day.

"Look at [the box] and if it's confusing to you, it will be confusing to anybody," said the Enid, Okla. native. "Just make it so you can look at it and tell where it needs to go. It could be kicked out to the wrong address otherwise."

Footlockers purchased at the Post Exchange are authorized for shipping, according to Sgt. L.J. Willis, a mail clerk from Joanna, S.C., assigned to Company C, Di-

vision Special Troops Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division. "The footlockers from the PX, the [tactical] boxes you get from supply, usually those are the biggest things we ship," he said.

The most a package can weigh is 70 lbs, Henning added. "That is absolutely the most you can mail," he said. "No matter what it is, if it's over 70 lbs, it's not going anywhere."

Being able to mail a large box doesn't mean that anything put in it can be mailed, however. There are a number of items that are prohibited.

Anything to do with a weapon: ammunition; brass; parts; accessories, are all unauthorized to mail. "A lot of people try to ship weapons parts; they don't know they're not supposed to ship them," said Willis.

"We can't even ship a bipod — practically nothing that has to do with a weapon can be mailed."

One exception to the weapons policy is a knife, though it cannot be more than six inches in length, Willis added. "You can't mail home a sword or any of those big knives that you can buy at the bazaar," he said.

Anything that contains alcohol cannot be mailed, Henning explained. "This includes things like

Nyquil, aftershave, cologne, perfume and mouthwash," he said.

Anything containing any kind of powder, to include protein shakes and the like, must have an unbroken seal to be shipped. "If something happens and that powder gets loose, it causes a big scare," Henning explained. "Basically, nothing can go if it's in danger of spilling all over everything."

Animals or animal products cannot be shipped due to U.S. Customs regulations, according to Henning. "A lot of people buy those little scorpions under glass; even that can't go," he added.

In addition to the aforementioned items, there are many other things that cannot be mailed. The mail clerks at the post office will be happy to help sort out what is unauthorized — it's their job, Henning added.

"Don't try to sneak unauthorized items through," Henning urged. "If it gets out of the post office, you are not the only one who could get in trouble. The mail clerk who helped you could get fired."

The Post Office allows Soldiers the opportunity to get excess property back home without the hassle of having to take it on the plane.

Three brothers serve second tour together

By Spc. Ruth McClary
30th HBCT PAO, MND-B

BAGHDAD — When Sgt. Jeremy Brown of Glenville, W. Va., was involuntarily recalled to deploy to Iraq this year, it quickly became a family affair.

Both his brothers, Sgt. David Brown also of Glenville and Spc. Poleman Brown of Buckhannon, W. Va., volunteered to deploy, too.

This is the second "group" Iraq deployment for the three brothers, who are assigned to Company D, 230th Brigade Support Battalion, 30th Heavy Brigade Combat Team. "We don't

get lonely or homesick quite as much when we deploy together," said Jeremy, the oldest of the three.

They are the only children of David and Judith Brown of Glenville. "Mom has gotten used to it but I don't think she likes it very much," said Jeremy. "Dad is proud of us. He would like for one or two of us to go, but not all three at one time."

In 2005, the three volunteered for a tour in Iraq with the West Virginia Army National Guard's 1257th Transportation Company of Huntington, W. Va. They were split into different platoons, but

visited each other regularly. This time they live and work closer to each other.

Jeremy and Poleman, the middle son, work together in the supply section and David, the youngest, repairs vehicles at Camp Stryker, near Baghdad.

"We are the distribution platoon; we supply everything except ammunition and fuel," said Jeremy. "As the supply sergeant I am Poleman's boss; I actually expect more out of him because he is my brother."

While the three have jobs on the camp, they also do missions off the base. "Going on a mission

is an adrenaline rush," said Jeremy. "It's why we are here and what we get paid to do." This is Jeremy's fourth overseas tour, David's third, and Poleman's second. All three brothers plan to remain in the military until they retire. David needs at least 10 more years of service, Jeremy needs 12, and Poleman needs 14.

Little brother outranks them both and will retire first," said David about himself. All agreed that if, in the future, one of the three was called to deploy again, the other two would be there with him.

Soldiers make friends in Jalabi village

Photos and captions by Pfc. Kelly LeCompte, 30th HBCT PAO



BAGHDAD — Iraqi children in the rural village of Jalabi, in the Radwaniyah district, follow and ask questions of Sgt. 1st Class Henry Rhodes, of Sanford, N.C., as he walks during a mission in the area, July 24. Rhodes, a platoon sergeant with Company D, 252nd Combined Arms Battalion, 30th Heavy Brigade Combat Team, was with fellow Soldiers who were in the area to speak to local leaders and discuss improvements in the area.



Sgt. 1st Class Henry Rhodes, gives snack crackers to Iraqi children during a mission. Rhodes became popular with the children and they followed him around the rest of the time the Soldiers were in the area. Rhodes said it was the first time any Coalition forces had stopped at the village in more than a year, which was one reason for the excitement from the children. Soldiers were in the area to speak to local leaders about the possibility of helping with improvements in the area.



Spc. Mitchell Johnson, a medic with Company D, 252nd CAB, 30th HBCT, treats an Iraqi boy's burns in the rural village of Jalabi, July 24. Johnson, from Wilmington, N.C., cleaned the wounds and applied a cream to help them heal, and gave the boy a tube of the cream for future treatments.



Spc. Mitchell Johnson, from Wilmington, N.C., wraps an Iraqi boy's burns in the rural Jalabi village, in the Radwaniyah district, just south of Baghdad.

On This Day In Military History

1932 — During the Great Depression, President Herbert Hoover orders the U.S. Army under General Douglas MacArthur to evict by force the Bonus Marchers from the nation's capital. Two months before, the so-called "Bonus Expeditionary Force," a group of some 1,000 World War I veterans seeking cash payments for their veterans' bonus certificates, had arrived in Washington, D.C. Most of the marchers were unemployed veterans in desperate financial straits. In June, other veteran groups spontaneously made their way to the nation's capital, swelling the Bonus Marchers to nearly 20,000 strong. Camping in vacant government buildings and in open fields made available by District of Columbia Police Chief Pelham D. Glassford, they demanded passage of the veterans' payment bill introduced by Representative Wright Patman. While awaiting a vote on the issue, the veterans conducted themselves in an orderly and peaceful fashion, and on June 15 the Patman bill passed in the House of Representatives. However, two days later, its defeat in the Senate infuriated the marchers, who refused to return home. In an increasingly tense situation, the federal government provided money for the protesters' trip home, but 2,000 refused the offer and continued to protest.



MacArthur

MND-B Pic of the day!



Photo by Pfc. Kelly LeCompte, 30th HBCT PAO

BAGHDAD — Staff Sgt. David Roberson, a tanker with Company D, 252nd Combined Arms Battalion, 30th Heavy Brigade Combat Team, chats with Iraqi children, who had been unloading supplies to stock a small shop in the rural village of Jalabi, just outside Baghdad, July 24. Roberson, from Kinston, N.C., and his fellow Soldiers were in the village to speak to local leaders about the possibility of helping with improvements in the area.

FAMOUS FEATS OF CHUCK NORRIS

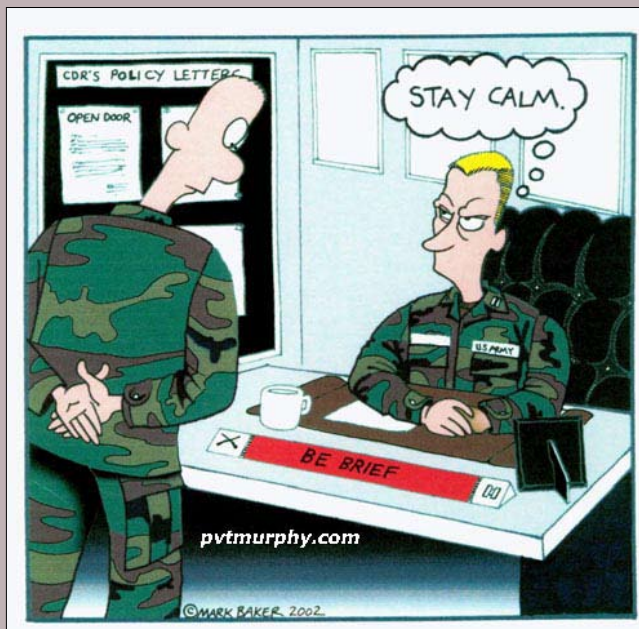


DID YOU KNOW?

Contrary to popular belief, there is indeed enough Chuck Norris to go around.

Pvt. Murphy

by Mark Baker



Quote For Today

“One isn’t necessarily born with courage, but one is born with potential. Without courage, we cannot practice any other virtue with consistency. We can’t be kind, true, merciful, generous, or honest.”

— Maya Angelou, 1928-

American author, poet, stateswoman

Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



Today
114° F | 89° F



Tomorrow
111° F | 82° F



Wednesday
111° F | 82° F

TRIVIA TIME!!

What Civil War general graduated first in the West Point class of 1829?

Last Issue’s Answer: The Cold War

Cav Round-Up radio newscast available

MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — The Cav Round-Up is a three-minute radio newscast from Baghdad covering military units and events across Multi-National Division — Baghdad.

Today’s Cav Round-Up # 119 was produced by Sgt Erik Fardette, MND-B Public Affairs Office.

The July 27 newscast includes the following two stories:

1. 1st Cavalry soldiers keep their hand to hand combat skills sharp.

For those who have a passion to roughhouse, there is a rumble room. Grapplers get there when they can at the WarEagle Mayor cell. Wrestlers and MMA have a place to go to practice. It is run by a Civil Affairs Major with a peculiar nickname.

2. Texas Governor Rick Perry visits 1st Air Cavalry Brigade sol-

diers.

Governor was pleased with the progress he has seen in Iraq. Since 2006, the progress is tremendous. He is especially fond of meeting with Soldiers from his home state.

NIPR LINK: Cav Round-Up

SIPR LINK: Cav Round-Up

Check out more news at the 1st Cavalry Division’s homepage: www.hood.army.mil/1stcavdiv/

Trigger’s Teasers

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

The objective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers. There are three very simple constraints to follow: **Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order. Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order. Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.**

Every Sudoku game begins with a number of squares already filled in, and the difficulty of each game is largely a function of how many squares are filled in. The more squares that are known, the easier it is to figure out which numbers go in the open squares. As you fill in squares correctly, options for the remaining squares are narrowed and it becomes easier to fill them in.

Yesterday’s Answers

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



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Submissions should be sent to the Public Affairs NCOIC nicholas.conner@mnd-b.army.mil and include author’s name, rank, unit and contact information. The **Daily Charge** reserves the right to edit submissions selected for the paper.

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