



THE JUNGLEER

VOL. 1 ISSUE 5

41 INFANTRY BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM

SEPTEMBER 7, 2009

TOA officially begins mission duty, responsibility

Story by Spc. Anita VanderMolen, TF Jungleer

In the past month, the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team task forces: Atlas, Volunteer, Stetson and Guardian, have conducted Transfer of Authority Ceremonies. The task forces assumed responsibilities from the out-going units of the 56th IBCT, Texas National Guard.

Since arriving in Iraq, the task forces conducted relief-in-place training, also known as right-seat rides. The outgoing unit teaches the incoming unit their new duties and responsibilities. It is on-the-job training, with the departing unit showing how to do the mission and the incoming unit watching and learning.

After the observation training is done, the incoming unit takes the wheel and gets hands-on experience with guidance from the outgoing unit. It is also known

as the right-seat/left-seat ride.

Once this training is done, the Soldiers will do the work they came here to do: convoy security and base defense with knowledge and skill specific to the mission.

The Transfer of Authority Ceremony signifies the transition of being trained to assume the mission. It is the day that the 41st IBCT officially assumes the duties and responsibilities of the outgoing unit. The brigade's ceremonies that took place were:

- BDOC, August 1
- 41st IBCT TF Jungleer, August 15
- Task Forces Volunteer and Stetson, August 4
- Task Forces Guardian and Atlas, August 12
- Stetson and Guardian CSC, August 13 and Sept. 1



Members of 2nd Battalion 142nd Infantry, Texas, and TF Atlas conduct a Transfer of Authority Ceremony in Al Asad, Iraq, on August 12, 2009.

The 2-142 IN has been instrumental in the successful transition between units by providing side by side operations with all of its companies and staff. Changing of the Guard, Lt. Col. Brian James and Command Sgt. Maj. Shane Lake uncased the 141 Battalion Colors during TOA event.

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Wing

Soldier's Info

YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/theJungleerTube

Blog: www.jungleer.blogspot.com

Freedom Salute.com: Salute someone who has supported you

Southern Oregon University: sou.edu/DeployedSoldier

Army Family Readiness Group: www.armyfrg.org

41st Facebook Group: www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=89211769848

Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/mq8rh9>

Weather: www.weatherforyou.com

Twitter: www.twitter.com/41stIBCT

DVIDS: www.dvidshub.net/units/41IBCT

Passport Application form: travel.state.gov



CSM Storm encourages Soldiers, leaders

Soldiers of the 41st IBCT:

I would like to thank each and every one of you for what you have already accomplished. I know we are all under-staffed and under-equipped, and yet, you still find a way to accomplish each and every task to the highest standards.

We are able to accomplish these tasks with less because of the caliber of Soldiers we have on the ground. Our Soldiers bring a vast knowledge and skill set to the fight that the active component will never be able to.

I would like to tell you that it will get easier as our deployment progresses, but the truth is, as the draw down continues it will only get busier.

Our missions will continue to increase, however, we cannot lose sight of the administrative side of the house. Evaluations, awards, and other administrative actions need to be completed in a timely manner. Don't forget, unlike previous deployments, the APFT must be taken. If we do not take care of business now our Soldiers will suffer when the states conduct their promotion boards.

Make sure you look out for each other during these next eight months. Watch your friends, subordinates and peers to insure that they are not struggling with something happening back home.

Sometimes it is hard to talk to people about personal

issues. I challenge each and every one of you to take the time to ask. Sometimes a Soldier just needs someone to listen. There is no reason why any Soldier should feel alone. We are all one family here to do one job and that is to bring everyone home.

Communicating through your chain of command is the key to success. If there is something you need and are not receiving, please address it. I cannot

guarantee that we can get what you are asking for but every leader at every level will do what they can to help.

In closing, for the officers and noncommissioned officers of this brigade: it is not what we do as a leader that makes us successful, it is our Soldiers who make us successful and great leaders. Everything we do must start and end with the Soldier. Take care of them as they are our most precious asset to the organization.



*Michael J. Storm
Command Sergeant Major
41 Infantry Brigade Combat*

PT: More than just passing a fitness test

Story by Spc. Anita VanderMolen, TF Jungleer

If you are in the military there is one thing you can count on to happen: the Army Physical Fitness Test. There is more to getting fit than just to pass the test.

"The benefits of physical fitness help Soldiers on deployment with the stressful and harsh environment we experience here in Iraq," 1st Sgt. Michael Wentworth, 41st Brigade HHC, said. "The temperature and

dust make it hard to perform well if they don't have some measure of physical fitness."

Side benefits also include confidence, increased performance in training, stamina for long working hours, and helps in alleviating stress.

"It is also the opportunity to get it right, to lose weight and get healthy to stay healthy," he added.

Wanted: Deployment Posters

Are you artistically talented? Would you like your name known worldwide?

Design a deployment poster for the 41st Brigade. Please make it a World War II style cartoon. Any medium accepted for submission.

The poster will be approximately 2'x 3', in color. Submissions are due 01 November 2009.

Questions?

Email Spc. Anita VanderMolen at anita.vandermolen@us.army.mil



Brig. Gen. Wentz makes a stop in Al Asad

Story and photo by 2Lt. Janyce Prine, TF Atlas

The 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) takes over command and control of all logistical operations in the Iraqi theater. Brig. Gen. Paul L. Wentz, the commanding general, and Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Joseph from the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) visited Al Asad Air Base on 15 August.

They met with Lt. Col. James and staff to receive an update on missions being conducted by TF Atlas, here and at Camp Korean Village.

Brig. Gen. Wentz expressed his excitement about working with TF Atlas during the deployment, while providing assistance when needed.

“As we continue to provide

support to our Iraqi partners, the 13th’s focus will shift to the coordination, synchronization, and execution of [the drawdown],” said Brig. Gen. Wentz.

“This is a mission that requires tactical patience and technical diligence. It will be a marathon, not a sprint.”

While here at Al Asad Air Base, Brig. Gen. Wentz and Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph were able to tour the base and see what various services and facilities were available for the Soldiers stationed there.



Maj. Daniel Morris, HHC, Capt. Erin Bagley, D2-162, and Capt. Sung Ji welcome BG Paul L. Wentz, 13th ESC Commanding General to Al Asad Air Base. BG Wentz stopped in to meet with TF Atlas command staff and to receive an update on TF Atlas missions.

Quote obtained from Story written by
Spc. Naveed Ali Shah
13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) Public Affairs

Texas hands reins to Oregon

Story and Photo by 1st Sgt. Gavin McIlvenna, TF Stetson

Inside a walled compound on East Liberty, a group of senior officers and noncommissioned officers gathered around a flag pole for a small, but important, ceremony.

Smiles and dusty Stetsons worn by command representatives, 1-124th Cavalry Squadron, Texas Army National Guard, prepared to bring down a wind battered flag. Their squadron flag, now faded and rough on the edges, has flown proudly over their headquarters since their arrival to Iraq. They gathered around to lower their colors and return to their families back in Texas.

On the other side of the flag pole stood the command representatives of the 1-82nd Cavalry Squadron. They were ready to assume authority of the mission. With Stetsons still packed in a connex en-route to Iraq, the two Squadron command sergeants major began the quiet ceremony wearing patrol caps.

Command Sgt. Maj. John Hoxie, 1-124th Cavalry Squadron, lowered his squadron flag as those assembled stood at attention. Command Sgt. Maj. Stanley Getz, 1-82nd Cavalry Squadron, provided assistance. Command Sgt. Maj. Getz then attached the bright clean 1-82nd colors and raised it above the new headquarters, signifying the transfer of authority from Texas to Oregon.

“Crossing the line” and shaking hands, both Cavalry units enjoyed the moment. They paused only to take photos. Proudly carrying his unit colors, Command Sgt. Maj. Hoxie led his first sergeants out of the compound and set about preparing for the re-deployment of their cavalrymen.

Anyone passing by could easily tell that something had changed in

the compound, not just the new paint on the T-wall. A crisp, clean, 1-82nd Cavalry flag stood out against the dirty combat vehicles lined up on the road.





Almost to cruising altitude

Story by 1Lt. Michael A. Jones, TF Volunteer

As the Soldiers of the 1115th CSC plan, rehearse and execute their convoy security missions, the company as a whole has set new standards for itself daily.

The leadership is developing better ways to organize, distribute and manage human and other assets.

The commander tells us, "This is what I'm looking for," and we develop courses of action that are functional.

The Soldiers are absorbing the new plans with zeal and executing with precision.

During a rock drill, Spc. Damon R. Davis was called on to explain what the convoy does during an ambush unblocked with small arms fire. He described, in detail, exactly what he was taught.

Competence is the watchword of the day and no one wants to be, "that guy." The NCO's constantly provide feedback for

what works and what doesn't.

Sgt. 1st Class Andrew L. Spears came up with a layout that requires each casualty collection point to have their gear "dress right dress."

The professionalism of the leaders and Soldiers in the day to day rehearsals and layouts are reminiscent of the old Army. Inspections were meticulous and the Soldiers were tough.

"We want to thrive not just survive," said Sgt. 1st. Class Ivan L. Baros. So far, we are thriving.

The quality of men that I work with makes every day here a great day to be in the Army.

As we continue to raise the bar of excellence, we are approaching cruising altitude

where we can start passing out refreshments and enjoy the flight.



A Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle used for convoy security missions by 41st IBCT.

Photo by Spc. Anita VanderMolen

Thinking about leave

By 1st Lt. James Gardner, TF Jungler

I know leave has been on your mind since you arrived in country. Many of you want to go home, to Australia, to Barbados, or to some far off distant place. However, there is one thing you should know before you go.

Most spouses of deployed servicemembers are now eligible for 14 days of unpaid leave from their employer.

As of June 25, 2009, Oregon employers of 25 or more persons, are required to provide up to 14 days of unpaid leave to an employee who is a spouse of a member of the armed forces.

In addition, a failure to grant leave or discriminating against a spouse is an unlawful employment practice.

If you have any questions concerning this rule or the rules pertaining to leave for servicemembers OCONUS, please contact 1st Lt. James A. Gardner at DSN 318-833-5793 or by email at james.andrew.gardner@iraq.centcom.mil.

For servicemembers or their spouses, CONUS, please contact CPT Robert Kavanaugh by email at robert.kavanaugh@us.army.mil or by phone at 503-557-6018.



Finally turning some wrenches

Story and photos by Capt. James Wolhar, TF Volunteer

The 262nd Ordnance Company is here at Camp Ad-der, Iraq, doing what they have been trained to do.

Sgt. 1st Class Oscar Bundick and his team of 12 Soldiers, his “Dirty Dozen,” are military trained mechanics. These Soldiers, preparing for the deployment since January 2009, have not had a chance to concentrate on mechanical training.

“It would have been nice to have been trained on the vehicles prior to arriving in Iraq,” Sgt. 1st Class Bundick said. “Even so, my team is doing a great job. They are learning something new every day.”

Up to the point of getting into country, the primary focus was Soldier skills. Bundick’s team has not had the opportunity to concentrate on mechanic’s work. His team is now 100% enveloped in maintenance.

“It’s a whole new world,” said Spc. Brandi Kalinowski, a mechanic for

2nd Platoon. “We do not have these types of vehicles back home to work

on, so everything is new. We are finally getting to do what we are trained to do and we are learning something new every day.”

Bundick has divided his “Dirty Dozen” into two teams. Each team is assigned to monitor and repair 18 platoon vehicles. Staff Sgt. George McMullen, the shop foreman, supervises maintenance work and directly supervises the shop chiefs, Sgt. William Nichols and Sgt. Todd James.

“Now [Sgt. 1st Class Bundick] has more maintenance or ‘wrench time’ than he knows what to do with,” said Sgt. Nichols, team chief for 1st platoon.



Spc. Bruce Predoux positions jack stands to support a HMMWV preparing to repair the brakes.

Spc. Brandi Kalinowski gets assistance rolling a replacement tire in the maintenance bay for one of her vehicles.



He sums up how he makes his team successful with one word, Nichols replied, “Teamwork.” “That’s how you keep it rolling.”

Nichols assigned each of his mechanics to a certain type of vehicle. They will become specialists on that vehicle. The arrangement helps his team to identify and repair complicated issues that arise.

“It’s hard to keep up with all of the missions,” Sgt. Lisa Hughes, specialist on the MRAP who works for Sgt. Nichols said. “We put in long hours and lots of hard work but it’s all worth it when the vehicles come back safely from the mission.”

Sgt. Hughes uses a checklist to inspect the vehicles and incorporates the driver’s help as she looks over the vehicles. By integrating the drivers and mechanics, both become fully aware of the condition of their vehicles.

Although both team chiefs are set up in two different bays they both agree teamwork is the recipe for success.

“We all attack the vehicles together,” Sgt. Todd James said. “We inspect them together and repair them together.”

It is quite evident Bundick’s team takes their job seriously. They replace fuel filters, water pumps, shocks, drive shafts and any other part you can imagine. They are there before the sun comes up and many are there after the sun sets. They have put in many 14 – 16 hour days already. Conditions do not have any indication of slowing down.

Rest assured, “The Dirty Dozen” of the 262nd Ordnance Company are doing what they were trained to do: turn wrenches.



Distance Learning Program offered while deployed

Story and photo by Sgt 1st Class Stephen Wing, TF Atlas

On August 21, 2009, a different kind of ceremony was held at Al Asad, Iraq.

Soldiers of TF Atlas graduated from the basic non-commissioned officers course while serving in a combat zone.

Most soldiers attend BNOC while serving state-side at the local regional training institute or at an active duty base close to home.

Not this class.

Sgt. Sean Lathim, of G Battery 141 Brigade Support Battalion, was able to successfully complete BNOC while deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sgt. Lathim conducts maintenance on G Battery's convoy security company equipment during the day and continues his professional development at night.

He chose to attend the basic noncommissioned officers course in Iraq to save time.

"Soldiers serving overseas face several challenges," Lathim said. "One challenge is the time spent away from love ones. By attending BNCOC here I will not have to return home to my family and then leave again for school."

The course was conducted through the Distant Learning Program, with the assistance of instructors located at the academy.



TF Atlas Command Sgt. Maj. Shane Lake congratulates Sgt. Sean Lathim of G Battery 141 BSB at BNCOC graduation.

Lathim and other Soldiers were taught the necessary skills to be tactically and technically proficient.

Due to his unique current deployed status, he is able to implement these skills immediately and increase his abilities as a leader.

TF Atlas will continue to provide this unique opportunity to all Army Soldiers serving in this theater by acting as the noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the school house during the deployment period.

Soldier Spotlight: Pvt. Nathan Livengood

Story and photo by 1Lt. Alex Leonard, TF Stetson

Private Nathan Livengood, age 20, is one of the youngest Soldiers in TF Stetson HHC.

Pvt. Livengood originally enlisted into the National Guard as a cook. He is presently assigned as a gunner on our convoy logistics patrols.

"This is a lot better experience," said Livengood. "I thought I'd be cooking or doing foot patrols."

During gunnery qualification at Fort Stewart, Livengood qualified with the highest scores in the company demonstrating his proficiency for the task at hand.

Livengood's primary responsibility as a gunner is the protection of Coalition personnel and equipment.

The role of a gunner encompasses many duties vital to the mission.



"I feel like my training and experience has prepared me for any situation I might see on the road," he said.

A gunner operates as a vehicle navigator.

His position in the turret provides the best view of the surroundings, to include a 360 degree view of the battlespace.

Livengood also communicates with passing vehicles and personnel on the ground.

The gunner's turret provides protection and prevents U.S. Soldiers from having to dismount from the security of their vehicles.

Pvt. Nathan Livengood is bearing the weight of great responsibility and is confident in his abilities to succeed.



Green Chili scent to Iraq.....yummmm!

Story by Maj. Ted N. Chavez, TF Volunteer

It's green chile season in Hatch, New Mexico. It's the harvest everyone from New Mexico anxiously awaits. The harvest, going back generations, ties all New Mexicans to this one unique ingredient that can be used with virtually every meal.

The later part of August and early September is the peak of the green chile crop. Distribution is in high gear across the state. The buzz at every household is which produce store or vender has the hot, medium, or mild selection and how much does a sack of green chile costs this year.

The green chile is picked, stuffed in gunny sacks, loaded on flat bed trucks and distributed to local vendors across the state. The vendors set up for business with their sacks of green chile peppers. They stand by their hot, medium and mild taste standards.

Fancy roasters are used to expedite the green chile roasting process.

When the green chile is roasted, it produces a hypnotizing smell that touches everyone across the state. I can even smell it here in Iraq as I'm sure all NMARNG soldiers can too.

Green chile is part of most, if not all, New Mexican cuisine ranging from enchiladas, chile rellenos, huevos rancheros, stuffed sopapillas, and burritos. It's also very popular on pizza and cheese burgers. I would even venture to say that if someone conducted a poll in New Mexico on the most popular ingredients on pizza it would be, without a doubt, pepperoni and

green chile. The same goes for green chile cheeseburgers.

The best place to get a really good green chile cheeseburger is at the Ruidoso Downs, a popular horse racing track in New Mexico.

The hamburger stands at the Ruidoso Downs roast the green chile at the same time they cook your cheeseburger. It produces an awesome smell that reaches every seat.

Some people would argue that the best green chile burger is a Fiesta Burger. The burger is found at the annual local church fiestas in celebration of their foundation. I would say the Fiesta Burger is a close second.

My guys are preparing for their leave. I'm sure one of the top things on their list is to have an authentic New Mexican meal which will, most likely, include green chile.

I think it's time to call home and put in my order for some green chiles.



Photo courtesy of alwayshungry.com

Dear EO: new column offered by EqualOpp officer

By Capt. Jason Lunceford, 41st IBCT Equal Opportunity Officer

The Brigade Public Affairs Office and Equal Opportunity Advisor have teamed up to bring you a new column beginning in the next newsletter. This new column is titled, "Dear EO," and will be similar to the "Dear Abby" columns found in many newspapers.

Simply email any issues or questions that you have regarding Equal Opportunity matters, like sexual harassment and discrimination or any issues that may

impact the morale of your unit, to the 41 IBCT Equal Opportunity Advisor, Capt. Jason Lunceford, at jason.lunceford@iraq.centcom.mil. He will reply to your questions through the "Dear EO" column, as well as reply directly to you via email.

Be sure to include a callsign in your email. This way we ensure anonymity for your response in the newsletter.

THE PORTLAND MARATHON IS COMING TO CAMP ADDER
OCTOBER 3 MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW



The Swords of Qadisyah

Story and Photo by 1Lt. Christopher Shull, TF Stetson

The “Swords of Qadisyah,” (translated Hands of Victory) were built by Saddam Hussein in 1989 to commemorate victory in the Iran-Iraq War, two years before the war actually ended, according to Wikipedia.

Seated inside the fortified International Zone, or “Green Zone,” each blade is constructed of stainless steel claimed from Iraqi guns and tanks destroyed in the Iran-Iraq War. They weigh 24 tons each.

At the base of each bronze arm lie hundreds of helmets, which Hussein claimed were taken from Iranians killed during the war.

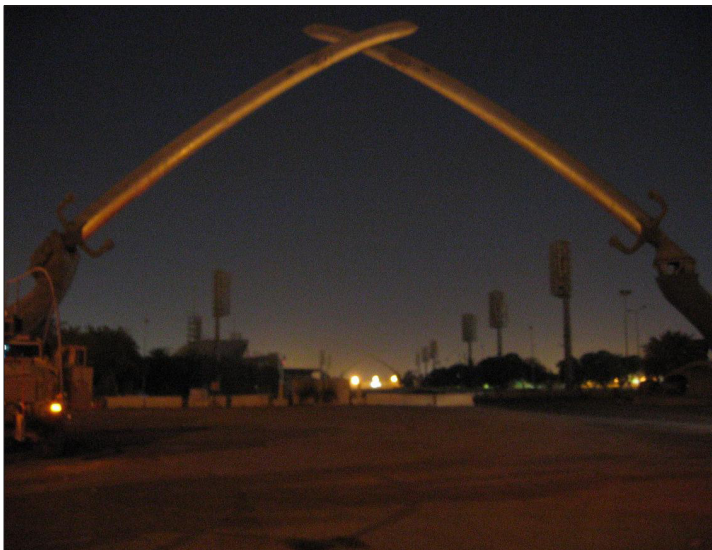
Wikipedia reports that Iraqi President Al-Maliki had slated the swords for removal. Portions of one hand are now removed. However, the removal was halted upon fears that the end of this Hussein-era memorial could deepen the rift between Iraqi Shiites and Sunnis.

Soldiers from the 41st BCT, Task Force Stetson, now pass by the Swords of Qadisyah on a regular basis while running convoys in the International Zone.

The base of each sword is hollowed out, allowing Soldiers to view up into the monument and take pictures.

Photography, however, is

complicated by the darkness that covers the Task Force’s convoy movements.



Staying Connected

Story by 1Lt. Jonah Liddell, TF Stetson

As the men and women of Bravo Troop set into their routine for the deployment and improve their fighting positions they are also improving their relationships and communications capabilities with those back home.

Only a few years ago the written word and an occasional call was the norm for communicating with friends and family while on a deployment. This medium has all but been replaced by a much faster and more readily available method, the internet.

A letter that once took a week or more to arrive now only takes seconds. Soldiers are also able to use many new programs online to communicate. The pos-

sibilities are endless. A Soldier can use their personal computer to call any phone number in the world, they can text or chat, or with a web camera they can see and talk to their loved ones.

The advancements in technology allow something more than just transmitting and receiving of information. They bridge the gap of thousands of miles allowing someone to feel as if their loved one was only a short distance away. It allows parents to watch and take part in their child’s growth and development.

For a Soldier, it reminds us that we are not forgotten. We are still loved and missed no matter how far from home.



BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

AIDEN LEE RICHARD KENT BORN TO SPC. MATOUSEK KENT ON JULY 18, WEIGHING 6 LBS, 4 OZ.
THOMAS WARREN HUG BORN TO SPC. JOSHUA HUG ON AUG. 5, WEIGHING 7 LBS, 11 OZ.



This old CHU

Staff Sgt. Brian Hilkemann, TF Stetson

The sounds of power tools and hammers have increased in the work and living areas of the 1195th Transportation Company. Soldiers settle into their missions and surroundings. Many have taken up small construction projects to pass the time. They made their containerized housing units, more space efficient and user friendly.

The 1195th TC's tactical operation center has seen its fair share of additions. Benches have been made for Soldiers to use during squad meetings and a shelving unit for communication equipment.

"I have my black tote under my bed and my green tote is on top of my wall locker," said Staff Sgt. Ryan Johnson, of Lexington, NE. "It gives us more space in the room."

With the amount of gear that each Soldier has, space becomes a premium in most of the housing units.



Decks, shelves and bed lofts have been the projects

Staff Sgt. Ryan Johnson relaxes beneath his bed. He lofted the bed to make more space in his CHU.

of choice for most Soldiers.

Staff Sgt. Johnson acquired lumber to raise his bed four feet higher. Spc. Scott Dickmeyer of Lincoln, NE, and Spc. Brandon Reichert of McCook, NE, disassembled an older pre-existing deck and built a bigger structure adjacent to their CHU. It took them about a week for the whole project which included the addition of a railing system and camouflage netting for shade.

The Soldiers' deck has now become a spot for barbequing and relaxing between missions.

A relaxing deck area awaits Soldiers when they are not on a mission.



ARMY CRIBS: YOUR CHU, YOUR CASTLE HOUSING UNIT

Got a CHU that your friends envy? Take a picture and describe what you have done to improve your CHU.

Winner will have entry sent to MTV Cribs.

Send the JPEG photo, with your name and task force to the PAO at:

anita.vandermolen@us.army.mil

Deadline: 30 September 2009



A future worth securing

Story and photos by Spc. Anita VanderMolen, TF Jungleer

SCANIA— Outside the wire, Soldiers wear full battle rattle. They scout the area for IEDs, mortars, rockets, insurgents or anything that may threaten the lives around them.

Alpha Co. 2-162 Infantry's quick reaction force for Scania, is ready for anything.

"I am sworn to protect all citizens of Scania," 1st Sgt. Geoffrey Miotke said. "I do so with a posture that has my guys ready all the time."

The Soldiers are also ready to man the entry control points of Scania and provide security for a variety of missions in their area of operations.

"We go on dismounted patrols, provide security for key leader engagement missions with the command and interact with a lot of the locals outside [the base]," Capt. Charles Ellis said.

On August 18, a patrol provided security for a goodwill mission made of members from the 167th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, stationed in Scania. The CSSB visited a water treatment facility near Scania. The Soldiers scouted the area and provided protection while the CSSB members walked to the facility. They pulled security during the mission and also did reconnaissance of the

area around the water treatment facility.

The Soldiers also had an encounter with some demonstrators. The confrontation was mild and without trouble. They did personnel searches when local people came near the facility.

On the way back to the base the group had another encounter, this time with the local livestock. The incident also passed without confrontation.

Another security mission happened the next day. A local sheik invited the command staff of Alpha Co 2-162 IN and the 167th CSSB to attend a pre-Ramadan feast in his house.

The Soldiers secured the outside and inside of the house during the feast to protect those in attendance.

During the visit with the sheik, we discussed if they had any incidents or any security risks in the area and how we can support him, said Capt. Ellis.

Even though the Soldiers were on duty, they were able to eat an authentic pre-Ramadan meal and drink some Chai tea.

The Soldiers in Scania provide an invaluable service for those around them. The safe environment they create makes it possible for others to go outside the wire. Their reconnaissance skills enable a clear path for traveling. When they secure the area, diplomacy can take place and relationships

through interaction with the local populace can be built.





The war within the war: Part 1

Story by 1Lt. Dan Cotton, TF Atlas

Over 3,500 soldiers from the Oregon National Guard are currently deployed in combat operations in Iraq.

In the first month in Iraq, the Soldiers ran numerous missions in a hostile environment, often with little sleep and no margin for error.

However, back in the bases another war is being fought within the ranks. It is a war with losses on both sides but each camp remains resolute and ready to continue the battle. Some of the first strikes have been made. Complex plans are being devised to carry on the Oregon "Civil War."

Within hours of landing in Iraq, Soldiers were already outfitting their rooms, offices, and motor pools with University of Oregon and Oregon State University memorabilia.

Football season is upon us. The goading and good natured ribbing has already begun. Offices, adorned

with pictures of Donald the Duck and Benny the Beaver, have been covertly defaced. Some Soldiers have set up friendly bets to see who has the best season.

Each side is trying to outdo the other with more OSU or U of O support than their competitors.

As usual, the Duck fans have come out of the gate hard, ridding off the huge win at Reser stadium last season.

The Beaver fans, however, like their team, take a little longer to get warmed up. Once they have their momentum, they are a force. They seem to have brought their A-game to this battle.

The anticipation of the coming season is palpable within the ranks of the 41st Infantry Brigade. Lines have been drawn and the gauntlet thrown. The battle for which team has the most support among the men and women of Oregon has begun.



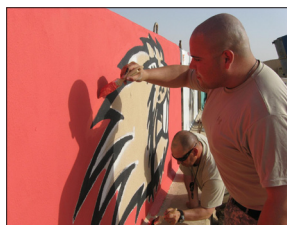
Barriers promote Oregon, unit pride

Story and photos by 1Lt. Mathew H. Lawson, Tfstetson

A jersey barrier located near a dining facility at Camp Buehring, Kuwait mysteriously appeared one morning years ago. The barrier was green with a large yellow "O."

Sgt. 1st. Class Robert Andrade and Spc. Chaz Matthews, of the 1-82 CAV, scrambled to paint a barrier on August 22, while in Kuwait, to rival the green and yellow University of Oregon "O."

Spc. Matthews showed his 'rattle-can' skills by quickly



free handing the outline of the Oregon State University mascot.

The finishing work of the mural was the easier part though it took the longest time to complete, said Andrade.

The painting pair started working in cool mornings with coffee in hand and ended in the hot afternoons with lots of empty bottles on the ground.



The 1-82 CAV worked hard to represent Oregon and their unit. Not only did they paint the OSU barrier, but also, one to show their Stetson pride.

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL???

GET YOUR DUCK OR BEAVER COLORS OUT!

THE 113TH CIVIL WAR GAME IS ON ITS WAY WITH AN ESPN BROADCAST
THURSDAY, DEC. 3RD.