



The Desert Voice

Third Army/United States Army Central
"Ready Tonight ... Sustain The Fight ... Shape The Future"

August 18, 2010



Third Army brings Forces together:

**Third Army co-hosts Land
Forces Symposium pg. 3**

**Third Army invites senior NCOs to discuss
challenges; get hands on experience pg. 4**

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Command Sgt. Maj. John D. Fourhman, Third Army command sergeant major, discusses live-fire ranges with senior non-commissioned officers from Kazakhstan and Jordan during the fifth-annual Land Forces Symposium Aug. 3 at Fort Benning, Ga.

Contact us

Comments, questions, suggestions, story ideas? Call the Desert Voice editor at 430-6334 or e-mail at desertvoice@arifjan.arcent.army.mil.

Command Corner Shaping the Future with Selfless Service



Command Sgt. Maj. John D. Fourhman
Third Army command sergeant major

We here at Third Army are looking forward to many significant milestones.

From the Drawdown of Iraq and Build-up of Afghanistan, to the strategic relocation to Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter, South Carolina, our future is bright. It is imperative we remain focused on the mission at hand and lead our organization into the future with discipline and selfless service.

Third Army, as well as selfless service, is larger than any one individual. To reach the milestones in front of us, we must make sacrifices and utilize teamwork to accomplish our mission of Shaping the Future.

By late August 2010, U.S. Forces in Iraq, will have reduced the total number of equipment from 3.4 million pieces in January 2009 to a total of 1.2 million. Most of this equipment is transported out of Iraq through Kuwait.

This would not be possible without the commitment of every Third Army Soldier, regardless of rank, going a little further and working a little longer to ensure the mission is accomplished.

Closer to home; there are less than 400 days before Third Army's move to Shaw Air Force Base. This, too, will present significant challenges.

The move is currently in progress with key dates either recently passed, or just over the horizon. Families, Department of Army Civilians and many other personnel will move seamlessly over the next 400 days while Third Army continues all ongoing functions supporting conflicts and the defense of our nation.

We here at Third Army are among the busiest commands in the U.S. military. We rely on extensive teamwork to achieve success in our efforts.

During this time of transition, we must ensure we are working as a team in all of our daily duties.

I thank each of you for your service to our nation, unwavering commitment to accomplishing our mission, mentoring and caring for our most treasured resource; Servicemembers, and fostering a positive environment for cooperation and teamwork.

Patton's Own!

Lucky 7



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Third Army Commanding General

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Third Army co-hosts Land Forces Symposium

Story by
Sgt. Beth Lake
Third Army Public Affairs

Senior leaders from 13 countries in U.S. Central Command's area of operations came together for the fifth Land Forces Symposium in Columbus, Ga., Aug. 1-4.

The Land Forces Symposium is co-hosted by Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. George W. Casey Jr. and Third Army Commander Lt. Gen. William G. Webster.

During the four-day event, which addressed multilateral approaches to regional challenges, participants not only exchanged ideas, they focused on how to exchange efforts to address 21st century challenges. This was done through a series of panel topics on Consequence Management/Critical Infrastructure Protection, Regional Security Challenges and Security Cooperation programs. Panelists included experts from both U.S. and partner nations who shared their knowledge and experience.

"At Third Army we believe in teamwork, and maintaining a strong team enables synchronized efforts on a daily basis," Lt. Gen. Webster said as he spoke on the important role LFS plays in CENTCOM's area of operations. "LFS brings together our partner nations' militaries, as a team, to build trust and to enhance our abilities to support each other both individually and collectively. In the end, this will lead to better interoperability and mutual understanding."

In addition to the panel discussions, participants traveled to Fort Benning, Ga., to observe live-fire and urban operations demonstrations that provided insight into the tactics Soldiers and coalition forces are using today.

This year was the first time LFS added a non-commissioned officer component. During the event, NCOs had a separate program which focused on issues important to enlisted Soldiers. At times during the symposium the NCO and officer programs over-



Photo by Cpl. Alex Godinez

Lt. Gen. William G. Webster (left), Third Army/U.S. Army Central commander, talks with Lt. Gen. Shahid Iqbal, Pakistan 5 Corps commander, during a discussion panel at the Land Forces Symposium Aug. 2 in Columbus, Ga. Lt. Gen. Webster hosted senior leaders from 13 countries in U.S. Central Command's area of operations. The symposium plays an important role in Third Army's mission to Shape the Future by increasing interoperability between militaries.

lapped.

During his opening comments to the delegates, U.S. Forces Commander Gen. James D. Thurman spoke about NCOs and their value.

"I am heartened to see this LFS has a parallel program that is for senior non-commissioned officers," Gen. Thurman said. "The U.S. Army takes great pride in our NCOs and the important work they do training and mentoring Soldiers. Our NCOs are experienced professionals who not only provide inspiration and motivation to our troops, but also valuable advice and guidance to the officers."

Command Sgt. Maj. John D. Fourhman, Third Army command sergeant major, led the non-commissioned officer portion of LFS which brought together sergeants major and senior non-commissioned officers from partner nations.

Command Sgt. Maj. Fourhman designed the NCO portion to focus on three levels of training.

"I chose to focus on training for our NCO component because that is one thing that is common to everyone in this room," Command Sgt. Maj. Fourhman said. "That is our common

ground, regardless what country you are from. It is through forums like this that we can get a better understanding of how we all operate."

This is the last year that Third Army will co-host the symposium on an annual basis. Future symposia will be held every two years. In the interim year a maneuver symposium will be held instead. This will be focused at the division and brigade levels.

Lt. Gen. Webster touched on this at the closing symposium where he left delegates with a message about the importance of fostering military to military relationships.

"We will no longer hold LFS annually," Lt. Gen. Webster said. "The next Land Forces Symposium will be held in two years in 2012 and will be co-hosted in one of your countries. So as you depart, remember that you are part of this team. We must continue to strengthen the relationships we have built here at LFS. We must continue to work together, learning from one another, and combining our efforts to deter destabilizing influences. This will make us stronger, more capable, and inclined to work together with a greater degree of cooperation in the future."



Warrant Officer Mahmoud Sweid, a non-commissioned officer from Lebanon, gets hands-on training with the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon during the Land Forces Symposium Aug. 3 at Fort Benning, Ga. The Land Forces Symposium offers senior NCOs the opportunity to get hands on training with equipment while fostering military relationships and cooperation. During the four-day symposium, NCO leadership focused on regional security challenges and interoperability within their respective forces.

Third Army invites senior NCOs to discuss challenges get hands on experience

Story and Photos by
Sgt. M. Benjamin Gable
Third Army Public Affairs

Senior non-commissioned officers played a vital role during the four-day Land Forces Symposium held in Columbus, Ga., which began August 1.

Command Sgt. Maj. John D. Fourman, Third Army command sergeant major, led the NCO portion of events in which senior enlisted personnel from Afghanistan, Jordan, Kazakhstan and Lebanon focused on regional security challenges and interoperability within their respective forces.

LFS is an annual event that provides a forum for senior land forces commanders in Third Army's area of responsibility to discuss common military challenges, exchange views and foster security cooperation. This year's theme was "Multilateral approaches to regional challenges."

Though this was the fifth-annual



Warrant Officer Mohammad Ismail Al Smadi, a non-commissioned officer from Jordan, and Warrant Officer Mahmoud Sweid, from Lebanon, discuss the abilities of the M1A2 Abrams tank during the Land Forces Symposium Aug. 3 at Fort Benning, Ga. The Land Forces Symposium offered senior NCOs the opportunity to get hands-on participation with equipment while fostering military relationships and cooperation. During the four-day symposium, NCO leadership focused on regional security challenges and interoperability within their respective forces capabilities.

LFS; it was the first in which senior NCOs were invited and took on a major role.

During the four-day symposium, senior NCOs took part in panel discussions, attended live-fire exercises and received hand's on participation with U.S. weapons systems and military vehicles.

Each of the panels and exercises during these sessions were coordinated, led and executed by non-commissioned officers. The intent was to show the visiting delegates how NCOs can be essential elements to a military force.

"It was extremely important to show the value of the NCO corps," said Command Sgt. Maj. Fourhman. "It represents the value our NCOs bring to the battlefield and development of junior troops."

The senior NCOs focused on the responsibilities of enlisted leadership ranging from health and welfare of Soldiers, training and team collective tasks. They also discussed the NCO structure in each of the countries, contemporary issues in Third Army's area of responsibility and specific areas that can be influenced quickly such as development of the Corps and growing young Soldiers into tomorrow's leaders.

The LFS also provided the opportunity for the partner country's senior NCOs to establish and enhance personal and professional relationships.

Sgt. Maj. Safi Roshan, of the Afghanistan National Army, said the time



Command Sgt. Maj. John D. Fourhman, Third Army command sergeant major, speaks during a panel meeting with senior non-commissioned officers during the fifth-annual Land Forces Symposium Aug. 3 at Fort Benning, Ga. Senior NCOs discussed leadership courses for enlisted service members from each of the countries in attendance during the meeting. Each year, enlisted service members from multiple countries attend leadership courses held at Fort Benning.

invested and opportunities experienced during the symposium were invaluable.

"We made great strides and I'll take the lessons learned this week back to my country," Sgt. Maj. Roshan said. "Coming together in this manner will make us stronger as a [allied] nation."

Multiple meetings and presentations were held at Fort Benning, Ga., the home of maneuver warfare. Panel meetings there addressed senior leadership courses such as the Warrior

Leaders' Course and Sergeants' Major Academy.

Senior military leaders from thirteen countries from Central and South Asia and the Middle East met at this year's event.

The next LFS is scheduled for 2012. However, senior NCOs will meet during the interim year to further discuss the development of enlisted servicemembers and regional security challenges.





Desert Pipeline:

Teamwork in Kuwait keeps things in Iraq moving

Sgt. Christopher McQueen from Cameron, Mo., checks the hose connections on a fuel tanker at the Mina-Abdullah fuel point near Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. McQueen is assigned to the 1st Sustainment Brigade, under the 1st Theater Sustainment Command. Soldiers with the 1st SB and 1st TSC provide critical supplies and support for the warfighters drawing down from Iraq.

Story and Photos by
Natalie Cole

1st Sustainment Command (Theater) Public Affairs

Fuel, a basic necessity for the U.S. Army's movement and power, is serious business. The trucks, tanks, helicopters and planes in Iraq operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Soldiers with the 1st Sustainment Brigade at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, partner with Kuwait Bulk Fuels to keep all things mechanical moving in, and withdrawing from, Iraq.

The team of teams – 1st SB, contractors and international crew members – move one million gallons of fuel a day out of the Mina-Abdullah bulk-issue fueling site, said Richard Twining, project manager. One hundred percent of the fuel that moves from the site goes to the southern block of Iraq.

Located in the Shuaiba Industrial Area, the site in Kuwait is the ideal staging point for the U.S. Army in Iraq, because the fuel comes from a pipeline on location. Crew mem-

bers inject three chemicals into the untreated fuel to convert it into JP-8, a brand of fuel that runs in planes, helicopters and tactical vehicles, according to Twining.

Converting the fuel is critical. Without the chemicals, static in the fuel can cause problems for helicopters, ice could build up in the fragile fuel lines of a plane flying at high altitude, and fuel lines could become prematurely clogged.

After being treated, the fuel is ready to use. Large fuel tankers use fuel lines four inches in diameter to fill up at one of 10 oversized gas pumps (formally known as fueling points). After filling up, crew members and Soldiers inspect the trucks, including the seals that keep all the fuel in the fuel tanks. Checking the seals makes sure every last drop of fuel gets to where it's going, said Lawrence Bailey, site supervisor.

Each day, about 125 trucks fuel up and leave the site. With so many trucks and so much fuel, attention to

detail is part of upholding the motto at the site, which is "100 percent accountability, 100 percent quality,"

"We ensure mobility. The fuel has gotta flow, we have to be up to standard," Bailey said.

The Soldier-inspectors with the 1st SB provide extra sets of eyes for inspections and military oversight of the fueling contract.

In other words, Soldiers make sure "the government gets the most bang for its buck," said Sgt. 1st Class Michael Silver from Whitakers, N.C.

Each day, Soldiers go to the site for inventory and documentation. Bailey said "all of us are one team" that has one mission: "make sure the fuel in the trucks goes north."

Soldiers with the 1st SB operate under the 1st Theater Sustainment Command to sustain warfighters in Iraq and Afghanistan. Contractors and international crewmembers also work hand-in-hand with the 1st TSC to complete the support mission.

Commander's Qualified Recycling Program works toward zero footprint

Story and Photos by
Pfc. Dan Rangel
Third Army Public Affairs

The Area Support Group - Kuwait Commander's Qualified Recycling Program is seen as a model for all other Army installations to emulate.

The program has allowed Third Army to exchange ideas with its Kuwaiti hosts on how to leave with as small an ecological footprint as possible.

Clara 'CW' Lewis, pollution-prevention manager for the Environmental Health and Safety Directorate of Combat Support Associates, explained the emphasis Third Army's Kuwaiti hosts place on the program.

"Most people want to say the Kuwaitis don't care about their environment, but they do," Lewis said. "Last Earth Day I interviewed a Kuwaiti woman who is manager of a large environmental firm."

Many similar Kuwaiti programs focus on educating their citizens to make sure they learn about the environment and what they can do to protect it.

"The Kuwaitis were looking at us as leaders in the environment to see what we were doing so that we could share to make sure that we don't leave that negative footprint," Lewis said.

Leaving an ecological footprint is a comparison of one's demands on the Earth's ecosystem in relation to its capacity to regenerate itself.

Soldiers also expressed their desire

to preserve the environment as well.

"I think most the stuff we use, we can reuse. Paper we use can be reused," said Sgt. Candice Graham, an administrative non-commissioned officer for Third Army.

"I have a young son that's going to grow up in this world," Graham said. "[When people] run out of space to throw away trash, that effects him because he is the coming generation, so it is very important to me [to leave a zero footprint]."

Not only is leaving a 'zero footprint' good for the environment, being a good steward of waste is practicing good Operational Security as well.

"There are at least 40 people [in the Kuwaiti landfills] to receive those items that have been dumped into our trash trucks," Lewis said. "They go in and take what we didn't recycle ... They also see our information, our OPSEC information as well. So when you put these items into these blue trash bins, it is not the last time that someone is going to look at it."

With that in mind, Servicemembers can sort their waste and place it in the appropriate receptacles such as the green metal bins with the Commander's Qualified Recycling Program logo on it for folded cardboard and the blue bins that are for trash and solid waste.

Lewis is actively perusing another plan to collect plastic as well.

"If we don't have a plastic recycling, recapture program, all of that is going into the Kuwaiti landfill, which



A local employee bales cardboard at a recycling center on Camp Arifjan, Kuwait Aug. 3. The collection and recycling of cardboard shapes a greener future for Kuwait and allows Third Army to sustain the Fight while leaving the smallest ecological footprint possible.

is already stressed," Lewis said. "When they were building and designing their infrastructure, they had so many landfills and now we're down to one that handles solid waste."

As Servicemembers become compliant with the guidelines of the Commander's Qualified Recycling Program, the stress on the local landfills will be relieved.

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ACC-KU ensures fiscal responsibility

Story by
Cpl. Ryan Hohman
Third Army Public Affairs

As Third Army continues to Sustain the Fight throughout its area of operations one of the key factors in its success rely on civilian contracts throughout the theater. These contracts consist of a wide range of services across theater to include the dining facilities, telephone services, wash racks, and the United States Army Central University.

To manage these contracts, each section within Third Army has its own contracting office representative (COR). These CORs are in charge of negotiating contracts, ensuring specifications within the contracts are met, and paying the contracts.

"We have contracted billions of dollars of work, and the contractors must have oversight to ensure they are performing in accordance with the specification of work within the contract," said Jana Weston, deputy principal assistant respon-



Courtesy photo

Sandra L. Abraham, an acquisition manager trainer with Army Contracting Command – Kuwait, educates contracting office representatives on negotiating civilian contracts, ensuring everything within the contracts are met, and paying the contract. As contracting continues to be a major factor in ensuring Third Army's ability to Sustain the Fight, ACC-KU continues to lead the way in the field making sure CORs are fully trained when handling civilian contracts.

sible for contracting with the Army Contracting Command – Kuwait (ACC-KU) at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

With so much money being spent on these contracts ACC-KU is tasked with ensuring the section's CORs are completely trained and assisting them with any problems they might have.

"It is our responsibility to manage taxpayer money and make sure it is being spent appropriately," said Weston.

CORs must attend a mandatory three day class, quarterly ethics training, leadership training and are offered continuous mentoring provided by ACC-KU for the CORs throughout their deployment.

All training is tracked and reported in a training database and Continuous Learning Points are tracked to ensure all Acquisition Technology and Logistics professionals meet their 80-point requirement.

This information proved valuable to insure the CORs are able to do their jobs.

"We teach the CORs how to interact with contractors so they can be the eyes and the ears of the contracting officers and the customers, the unit commanders, by making sure the contractors are holding up to their contracts," said Sandra L. Abra-

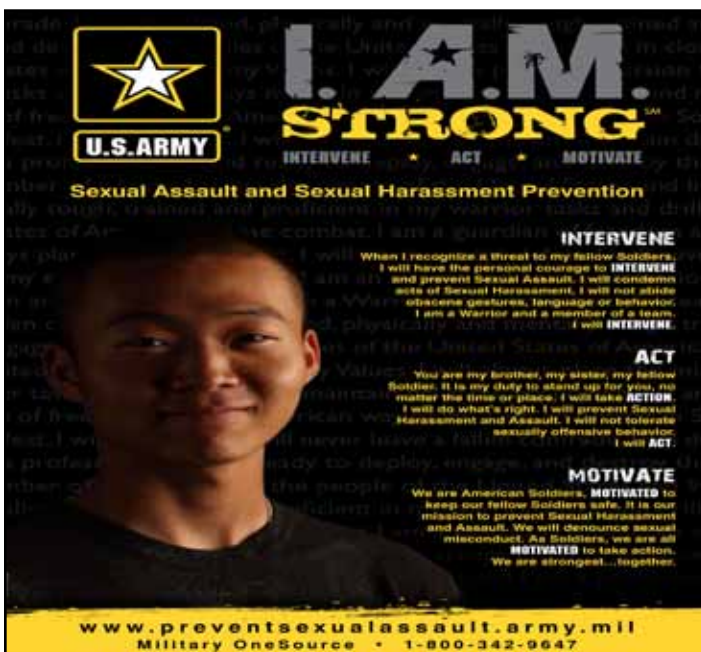
ham an acquisition manager trainer with ACC-KU.

Weston expressed why this training is so important for the CORs.

"In the past we had problems in Kuwait with fraud and abuse of power," said Weston. "Part of our risk-litigation strategy is to have a robust training program for our CORs, making sure they know how to perform good oversight and don't slip into coercive behavior."

Despite setbacks in the past, over the past two years ACC-KU has reorganized to become a leading example for all contracting commands, and won the Army Acquisition Executive Excellence Award for 2008.

As contracting continues to be a major factor in ensuring Third Army's ability to Sustain the Fight, ACC-KU continues to lead the way in the field making sure CORs are fully trained when handling civilian contracts.



Army boat crew hosts joint service water range

Story and Photos by
Natalie Cole

1st Sustainment Command
(Theater) Public Affairs

In the midst of searing temperatures and relentless humidity, Army Soldiers aboard the Logistics Support Vessel 4 (LSV4) hosted a joint water range exercise off the coast of the Kuwaiti Naval Base August 11. The water range afforded Navy, Coast Guard, and Army troops in Kuwait a realistic opportunity to fire weapons from a moving boat at moving targets on the balmy gulf seas.

Sailors with Expeditionary Security Squadron 9 and Coast Guard troops with the Port Security Unit 308 trained alongside Soldiers with the 605th Transportation Detachment.

While it may appear ironic that the more land-based Army hosted the water range, the Army has a very strong marine presence in the area. The Army's LSV 4 was ideal for training Coast Guard and Navy security teams because the large vessel has strong weapons capabilities and multiple weapon stations for troops to fire from.

The primary role of Navy and Coast Guard troops in the area is to escort and pull security for larger vessels or vessels that have high value cargo, said Petty Officer 1st Class John Haisley, a gunner's mate who gave a weapons refresher course to junior Navy and Coast Guard troops before they fired. The Navy and Coast Guard



Petty Officer 1st Class John Haisley, a Navys gunner's mate, prepares Sailors and Coast Guard troops to fire weapons at a water range off the coast of the Kuwaiti Naval Base August 11. The troops, who work on small security vessels, trained aboard the U.S. Army Logistics Support Vessel 4 because the Army boat crew has a variety of weapons capabilities and training expertise.

typically operate 25 to 35-foot water craft armed with weapons, so the training ensured the troops' readiness to perform their missions, Haisley explained.

The Soldiers on the LSV4 took part in the training as well because

they pull their own security when they sail into ports in the Gulf region. "There's still a threat out there, even though we're on the water," said Staff Sgt. Michael Sherman, a junior marine engineer from Moore, Okla. Before firing, Coast

Guard Seaman Robert Gallion said his goal for the day was "to learn more about the .50," referring to the .50 Caliber Machine Gun which is typical of boat security. After firing, Petty Officer 3rd Class Dean VanLuven, who had not fired on the water before, said he learned what to expect from the .50.

"It's hard to keep it in one spot, especially if we're moving, and the target's moving," VanLuven said.

The LSV 4 and other Army vessels like it carry supplies throughout the gulf. Army crews – from the warrant officer Boat Masters to the enlisted crew – operate the boats and are trained to do their own security, fire fighting, and repairs. Army marine operations demonstrate the diversity of the logistics missions supervised by the 1st Theater Sustainment Command at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

Soldiers on boats are not the typical image of the Army, but Sherman said he enjoys the work and camaraderie so much that he has done the job for 12 years. "You have to work closely, especially on a boat," he said. "We live together, work together, eat together. We have to be mindful of each others' wants," said Sherman.

The collaboration among the services will continue Haisley said, as the Army, Navy, and Coast Guard fulfill their various security missions in the Gulf.



Marines from 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Ground Combat Element, 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit perform military operations in urban terrain (MOUT) during a live-fire exercise at Camp Buehring, Kuwait Aug. 4.

Marines bring the heat to Kuwait

*Stories and Photos by
Cpl. Ryan Hohman
Third Army Public Affairs*

Marines from 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Ground Combat Element, 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit put their skills to the test during a live-fire exercise, all while being observed by Kuwaiti soldiers and British Army Brigadier Iain Chollerton and his staff at Camp Buehring, Kuwait Aug. 4.

"We are out here to assist the Kuwaiti Army by showing them how we safely conduct operations in an urban terrain using a wide range of weaponry from heavy machine guns, mechanized vehicles and light-caliber weapons fired from dismounted infantry," said Marine Lt. Col. Joseph Clearfield, bat-

alion commander for the 1/4 Marines.

During the training, the Marines used separate combat elements to raid a town and perform military operations in urban terrain (MOUT) to capture a high-value individual (HVI). Despite multiple combat elements moving during the live-fire exercise, the Marines proved they were ready for the challenge.

"Today's exercise is the culmination of a year's worth of training six months of conventional training and six months marine expeditionary specific skills," Clearfield said. "This is the fourth time we have been able to perform this kind of exercise which allowed us to build up our confidence and efficiency."

After the initial assault, the Marines began clearing and searching the buildings using their MOUT training to look for the high-value individual.

Marine Cpl. Andre Etkin, a team leader with the 1/4 Marines, explained how the exercise allowed his Marines to test many factors in their overall training.

"During the training I was able to see how my Marines work under live fire," Etkin said. "I was able to watch their clearing techniques, breaching techniques and see if they were able to hear

my commands."

The realistic training helps ensure the Marines are ready for combat.

"The biggest thing we look at is how our Marines do under fire," Etkin said. "My Marines did great, they never got tunnel vision or wasted ammo, and they focused on what they had to do and completed the mission."

Once the Marines had completed the assault they fell back and let the Kuwaiti Army perform the same exercise on a smaller scale.

"We spent the last three days training with the Kuwaiti Army. On the first day of planning the exercise, we performed a key leader reconnaissance," said Clearfield. "Next, was a full blown rehearsal with all hands. We went through, they watched us and then they went through while we watched them."

This joint training proves to be educational for both the Marines and



A Marine with 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Ground Combat Element, 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit listens to radio chatter during a live-fire exercise at Camp Buehring, Kuwait Aug. 4.



Cpl. Mikael Green, a Marine with 1st Battalion, 4th Element, 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, fires a guided missile (TOW) at a target while conducting exercise range at Camp Buehring, Kuwait Aug. 4.

Kuwaiti Army.

"My eyes have been opened. This is my first time to train with the Kuwaiti Army and I was really impressed," said Etkin, who also was a trainer with the Kuwaiti Army. "They were able to pick up the techniques we were showing them really quickly."

At the end of the day after the Marines had finished their exercise they proved they had what it takes to Sustain the Fight anywhere they go.

"They worked hard and executed the mission today using all of their training. I couldn't be more proud of my Marines," said Clearfield.

Marines train on the dusty trail

Humvees full of Marines rolled down a desert road watchful for any signs of trouble Aug. 4.

The words "contact left," are shouted over the radio causing the humvee gunners to immediately open fire and eliminate the threat, which allowed them to move on without hesitation.

Luckily for the threat, it is only a lifeless, pop-up silhouette used as target practice on the convoy live-fire exercise range at Camp Buehring, Kuwait.

Marines with the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Ground Combat Element, 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, conducted route-clearance training to sharpen their skills so they can better prepare for their upcoming deployment.



TOP: Marines with the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Ground Combat Element, 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit load into their vehicles before conducting route-clearance training at the convoy live-fire exercise range at Camp Buehring, Kuwait Aug 4.

LEFT: Cpl. Christopher Akstin, a team leader with 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Ground Combat Element, 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit shifts his vehicle into drive while conducting route-clearance training at the convoy live-fire exercise range at Camp Buehring, Kuwait Aug 4.

"As Marines we have to be ready for any situation anywhere in the world," said Sgt. Peter Jacquez, a squad leader with the 1/4 Marines. "That is why it is important that we bring a high intensity level to all our training."

During the training, the Marines were confronted with a wide range of situations, to include reacting to fire, identifying improvised-explosive devices, firing a Tube-launched, Optically-tracked, Wire data link, guided missile (TOW) and capturing a high-valued individual using military operations in urban terrain (MOUT), which tested every aspect of their training.

"This training provided us with a wide range of obstacles," said Jacquez. "We were able to develop ourselves as professionals because that is what we are, professional fighters."

This training gave the 1/4 Marines a

sense of realism usually only found in an actual combat situation.

"With this training we got to use live rounds in a 360-degree environment," said Cpl. Christopher Akstin, a team leader with 1/4 Marines and Iraq veteran. "This provided a more force-on-force training feel that is better than standard weapons training, because it gets you locked on to your target. So when the real thing happens you are ready to go."

As the dust settles and Marines complete their objective, they come together to discuss how the training went.

"At the end of the training I felt I could trust my Marines a lot more," said Akstin, "I've always had the trust in them, but seeing them perform in this environment made my trust that much more solid."



1st Battalion, 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Ground Combat Element, 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit conduct route-clearance training at the convoy live-fire exercise range at Camp Buehring, Kuwait Aug 4.

Camp Arifjan 'diplomat' troops work at intersection of Army logistics and humanitarian aid

Story by
Natalie Cole

1st Sustainment Command
(Theater) Public Affairs

A hurdle in humanitarian aid is getting supplies into the hands of people who need it, whether they are half-way around the world or in the midst of a crippling natural disaster. The forklifts, cargo ships, airplanes, customs fees and manpower it takes to move 40-foot containers brimming with supplies are not cheap or easy to come by.

In the face of such challenges, civilian organizations partner with the Civilian Military Operations Center at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, to deliver aid into Iraq and Afghanistan.

The 1st Theater Sustainment Command CMOC is made up of four Soldiers and one Airman assigned to a detachment of the 321st Civil Affairs Brigade, a reserve component from San Antonio, Texas. Key civil affairs missions include building strong relationships with local people by supplying humanitarian aid, participating in on-the-ground relief efforts, and undertaking projects that improve quality of life for those in need. Lt. Col. Joseph Leon, operations officer for the CMOC said, "What I like about CA is the human part; keeping relationships going."

The relationship between civilian nongovernmental and international organizations and the CMOC works two ways. The aid orga-



Courtesy Photo

Spc. Mead Lyons (left) and Staff Sgt. Michael Clemency pose with Iraqi children in Sunini after a key leader engagement.

nizations, which have no low-cost shipping alternatives in place, know their supplies will be delivered at little cost. In fact, if the aid organizations had to deliver the aid themselves "the cost would be so prohibitive, they wouldn't be able to do [it]," said Leon.

In turn, because of its work with aid organizations, civil affairs soldiers play a visible role in delivering aid that mitigates human suffering – a part of the delicate process of winning local people's hearts and minds.

Kuwait is an ideal location for CMOC because the country is a key logistics hub in the U.S. Army Central Command area of operations. Kuwait has modern, deep water sea ports that keep supplies moving into the area.

An additional benefit is that the Kuwaiti government waives customs fees for humanitarian aid

shipped as part of military operations. Col. Michael J. Keller, CMOC team chief, says this is an example of the "historical support that the government of Kuwait provides us." Indeed, such a waiver frees up cash so NGOs and IOs can provide more aid – a boon in savings considering that one recent container was filled with medical equipment valued at around half-a-million dollars.

Other savings opportunities have resulted from the military's drawdown from Iraq. With convoys of empty flatbed trucks driving into Iraq to take out equipment, the CMOC team seizes the opportunity to move aid "into Iraq at no cost," Keller said.

Logistics is such a powerful part of CMOC's role that Spc. Charles Anderson from Fort Walton Beach, Fla., is one of two transportation troops assigned to the CMOC team to keep

aid moving. Anderson, whose primary Army specialties involve logistics, works with the 1st TSC and its subordinate units to ensure containers get from the port into military freight containers and onto convoys headed to Iraq.

Wheel Chairs to Sewing kits

The humanitarian aid that comes through Kuwait includes wheel chairs, winter clothing, shoes, medical supplies and school supplies. The aid items are considered non-designated gifts, meaning they can be sent to wherever military operations and human need dictate, according to Keller.

Anderson said one of the most meaningful things he has been a part of in Kuwait was a shipment of about \$3 million dollars worth of clinical supplies. "We were moving dental chairs, surgical tables, gurneys, cots," he said. The items went to Northern Iraq to a newly built "full dental clinic with a small ER, room to house 40 people, a school, daycare," he explained.

Trained in logistics, Anderson said he never thought he would end up serving the Army in a civil affairs capacity.

"It's a good thing we're doing," he said. "With the CMOC I iron the process out to flow smoothly."

However, aid is not only sent from large nonprofits. Consider the case of a small church on the east coast of the United States

that helped a group of women in central Iraq start a small business. The story began when a group of Iraqi women got together and came up with an idea to start a business that capitalized on their sewing skills, Keller said. The women faced the dilemma of getting the resources to set their plans in motion. Meanwhile, the church back in the United States got the women's message. The American women took action and put together a humanitarian aid package with cloth and sewing supplies for the women in Iraq, Keller explained.

The reaction from the Iraqi women was overwhelming. "When they realized their request was overheard, they were shocked, surprised because it was beyond their frame of reference," he said. The frame of reference Keller refers to is the idea that usually a person from another culture or faith "would turn their back to them," and they did not.

When asked why such an example fits into the war effort, Keller said, "It demonstrates the diversity of America. What can come of an open society that demonstrates tolerance and acceptance in a country [Iraq] that has historically had hard barriers imposed between groups." He added,

"You don't make this kind of impact with bullets."

Col. Michael J. Keller
Civilian Military Operations Center team chief



Photo by Spc. Richard Del Vecchio

Local Iraqi children attempt to carry water bottles they were given by Iraqi soldiers who are conducting a humanitarian aid mission for the neighborhood in Mahmudiyah, Iraq,

"You don't make this kind of impact with bullets. You secure peace with this impact."

One of the keys to success in civil affairs is using global communications technology to showcase the work done on the ground, Keller said. "Our currency in humanitarian aid is photos of getting aid into the hands of the people who need it," he said. To keep transparency, the CMOC uses social media to display news, photos, and information about its aid missions. Leon added that civil affairs is "pushing for feedback

[about aid] once it gets in country." Such follow up information about how the aid is being used months after delivery is difficult to gather, although Anderson added that "every so often we get pictures from out in the field."

But the work of civil affairs goes beyond the logistics and manpower of transporting and passing out humanitarian aid. "While it's an important piece at this stage of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, it is just one of the tools in our kit," Keller said. "We have subject matter experts in areas ... to include education, law enforcement, engineering, health care, civilian supply, and agriculture," he said. With

a range of talent, civil affairs can contribute to operations that improve people's quality of life, thereby lessening the circumstances in which terrorism entrenches itself.

While the teams of civil affairs soldiers are small, soldiers Army-wide influence the civil affairs mission "through their conduct and in their work; by adhering to rules of engagement and their leaders' guidance," Keller said. Soldiers can also help by "passing up [their] observations" as far as the needs of the noncombatants they encounter on the ground.

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EOD helps keep Camp Arifjan safe

Story and Photos by
Pfc. Dan Rangel
Third Army Public Affairs

Explosive Ordnance technicians provided guidance for residents of Camp Arifjan on how to properly identify and act when encountered with UXO Aug. 11.

“Cylindrical metal objects that are green or grey have a greater chance of being UXOs,” said Staff Sgt. Aaron Samet, an Explosive Ordnance Disposal team leader, 1108th Ordnance Company (EOD).

“UXO can look very similar to ordinary objects,” Samet said. “You have to look at the circumstance in which you’re finding it. Is it a place that we know there are UXOs? Does it make sense for it to be there?”

Samet noted that EOD finds most unearthened ordnance after inclement weather or construction.

“It doesn’t rain much here, but if anything is buried and it rains and it will come out of the ground and sandstorms also uncover things,” Samet said. “There’s always construction going around on bases, so [construction workers] tend to find a lot of stuff when they’re pushing dirt around.”

Camp Arifjan residents who encounter UXOs are advised to leave the ordnances alone then gather information.



Staff Sgt. Aaron Samet, an EOD team leader, 1108th Ordnance Company (EOD), of Frederick, Md., performs maintenance on the Talon at Camp Arifjan Aug. 11. The Talon is just one of the tools that makes the 1108th Ordnance Company (EOD) Ready Tonight and at a moment’s notice to keep Camp Arifjan safe.

“When you think you have a UXO don’t go any closer too it,” Samet said. “Get a good location. Take a picture if you can — if not, get a good snapshot in your mind. Get a good description of it. [Close] off the area. Call us.”

After Samet’s team receives a UXO call, their response is set in motion.

“If we have decent information [on the UXO], we will look it up in our database here and see what kinds of precautions we have to take and what sorts of tools we need to deal with it,” Samet said. “Usually that doesn’t happen, so we just take our response truck, which is loaded down with a general assortment of [tools].”

Once an EOD team

arrives, they must decide upon how to make their approach.

“Depending on what it is, there are actually certain ways you’re supposed to approach [the UXO],” Samet said. “If it’s a rocket, you don’t want to approach it directly from the rear because the rocket end might go off and present a hazard. So we take a look at UXOs with binoculars and approach it the way that is appropriate.”

The EOD team then photographs the UXO, returns to their response truck and after identifying the ordnance, is given a specific course of action by their response system.

“The safest course of action is always to blow it up where it is,” Samet says.

However, occasion-

ally ordnance is found in densely populated areas and blowing it up is not possible. Then EOD must collect the UXO.

The Talon is one of the more innovative tools available for UXO collection and disposal.

“There are a number of different robots that are based on this platform,” Samet said. “One can carry a SAW, an M-240 or a .50 cal. It has four cameras. It’s job is to get blown up so that we don’t have to.”

Samet’s team then puts the ordnance in a safe storage area until it is blown up on the range during one of his team’s regularly scheduled demolition days.

Samet’s schedule keeps him too busy to think about the inherent dangers of his work.

“Usually you’re too busy to think about it,” Samet said. “Occasionally afterward, you look at something you did and say ‘oh, that was something’, but most of the time it’s just like any other job.”

Samet warned others not to collect UXOs as trophies or handle UXOs in any way.

“I’ve been lucky enough that I’ve never seen anyone get hurt by it, but we have pics of — all kinds of unpleasant things.”

Residents of Camp Arifjan who encounter UXOs may contact the 53rd EOC at 430-7707 for guidance.

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Job well Done



Photo by Cpl. Ryan Hohman

Vice Adm. Alan S. Thompson, director of the Defense Logistics Agency, spoke with the employees of the Defense Reutilization Management Office on Camp Arifjan, Kuwait and congratulated them for their hard work Aug. 10. The DRMO ensures Third Army's ability to Sustain the Fight by taking retrograde equipment from the Responsible Drawdown of Iraq and shipping it back to the United States.

Careless disposal of smoking materials can start major fires

Story by
Charles A. Coffman
Battalion Chief of Fire Prevention

Due to the extreme temperatures here in Kuwait, many things can contribute to increased fire hazards, but none are as preventable as the proper disposal of smoking material. Improper disposal can have disastrous consequences to our work and living areas. Specific rules are in place to ensure that smoking materials are properly disposed of.

The Third Army/ United States Army Central Soldiers' Standards Book- 4 May 2009, section 33 states, "Smoking or using tobacco products is only authorized in designated areas. Smoking or smokeless tobacco, by military or civilian personnel is not permitted within 50 feet of any entrance to any building occupied by U.S. Forces or while operating military or U.S. Government owned or leased motor vehicles or equipment (forklifts, generators, etc). Military personnel are also prohibited from smoking, while walking in uniform."

Having a designated area with the proper smoking material receptacle is the key. Ensure that your smokers have a designated area, know where that area is and use that area only. It only takes one errant cigarette to start

Smoking Rules

A. Smoking is only authorized in designated areas which are specifically used for that purpose.

B. Smoking is not authorized in any indoor spaces, to include buildings, trailers and tents.

C. Smoking is not authorized in areas which do not have a proper smoking material receptacle such as a butt can.

D. Smokers will not discard cigarettes on the ground, road, walkway, dumpsters, garbage cans, or any other place other than the receptacle designated within the smoking area.

E. Maintain the 50 ft. rule when establishing your designated smoking area. Ensure butt cans are not moved away from the designated area for any reason.

a fire and all fires have the potential to be a serious safety hazard to our well-being, the mission and the property we are entrusted to safe guard, whether it be ours or the governments.

Let's keep all of us safe. Only use designated smoking areas with the proper smoking disposal receptacles.

RAMADAN

11 Aug – 9 Sep 2010

From Sunrise to Sunset:
Be Considerate when off post.

Don't Eat

Don't Drink

Don't Chew

Don't Smoke

* To include when
you are in a vehicle

* Ramadan is the ninth month of the Muslim calendar during which the Holy Quran was revealed.

* The sick, elderly, travelers, pregnant or nursing women can break fast and make up the days later in the year.

* By cutting oneself off from worldly comforts, even for a short time, a fasting person gains sympathy with those who go hungry and grows in one's spiritual life.

* When the fast ends it is celebrated for three days in a holiday called Eid Al-Fitr. Gifts are exchanged. People gather to pray in congregation and for large meals. In some cities fairs are held to celebrate the end of the Fast of Ramadan.

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Safety



Stay strong in the HEAT

Story by
U.S. Army Combat
Readiness/Safety Center

Summer 2009, a young Soldier died after suffering a heat injury during a road march.

Given these overwhelming statistics, it is especially important for Soldiers to protect themselves, their battle buddies and their Families from heat injuries. Early recognition of potential illness is critical to preventing progression to a more serious condition or death, said Col. Manuel Valentin, U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center command surgeon.

Minor illnesses such as heat cramps are typically the first sign of heat injury, but without medical intervention, these conditions can progress to heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Persons with any of the following symptoms should seek immediate medical attention.

Heat cramps are painful muscle spasms that occur in the abdomen, arms or legs. Individuals who sweat profusely in the heat and drink large quantities of water but fail to adequately replace the body's salt loss are most at risk of heat cramps.

Heat exhaustion is the most common heat injury. A person suffering from heat exhaustion still sweats but experiences extreme weakness or fatigue, nausea or headache. Other primary symptoms include clammy and moist skin, a pale or flushed complexion and a normal or slightly elevated body temperature. Additional warning signs include heavy sweating, an unsteady walk, dizziness, giddiness, rapid pulse and shortness of breath.

Heat stroke is the most serious heat injury. It occurs when the body's temperature regulation system fails and

sweating becomes inadequate to cool the body. A heat stroke victim's skin is hot, usually dry with no sweating, red or spotted and their body temperature typically reaches 104 degrees F or higher. Other warning signs include a rapid, strong pulse, mental confusion, throbbing headache, dizziness and nausea. Symptoms can quickly progress to loss of consciousness, coma or seizure. Heat stroke is a medical emergency and can lead to death.

There are several things Soldiers can do to mitigate their risk of heat injury. The National Institute for Safety and Occupational Health recommends scheduling outdoor jobs during the cooler parts of the day, taking frequent rest and water breaks in cool, shaded areas, and avoiding sugary, caffeinated and alcoholic drinks when working or playing outside.

While generally far less critical than heat injuries, physical training and sports injuries can seriously hinder even the most focused of fitness enthusiasts. According to the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, Army survey data shows that more than 50,000 sports injuries requiring medical care occur every year. It is also important to remember that Soldiers performing PT or playing sports in the hot summer months are susceptible to heat injury.

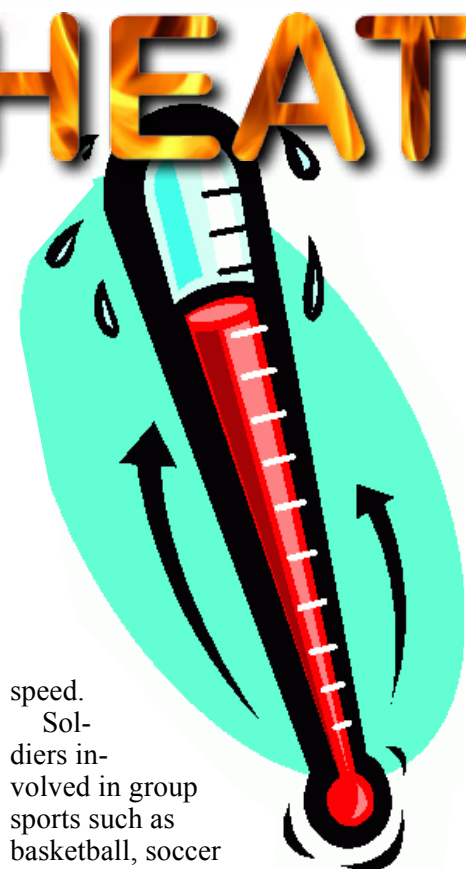
To mitigate the risks associated with sports and PT, USACHPPM recommends structuring exercise programs around individual fitness levels. For example, Soldiers just beginning or restarting a running program should follow a systematic progression of difficulty, concentrating on low mileage and intensity at first while gradually adding miles and

speed.

Soldiers involved in group sports such as basketball, soccer or ultimate Frisbee are especially susceptible to facial or ankle injuries. USACHPPM recommends that Soldiers participating in these activities wear two key pieces of equipment: mouth guards, which have been shown to significantly reduce the incidence of dental injuries in contact sports, and semi-rigid ankle braces, especially when an individual has a history of previous ankle injuries.

For more information on sports and PT injuries and how to prevent them, visit the USACHPPM Web site at <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/>.

Additional information and valuable heat injury prevention resources such as posters, videos and pocket guides are available on the USACR/Safety Center Web site at <https://safety.army.mil>, the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine Web site at <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/> and the NIOSH Web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/>.



Chaplain's Corner



Where Should I be?

Story by
Col. David Colwell, Chaplain
USARCENT Command Chaplain

Ever ask the question above? Ever ask yourself why am I here? In fact, this is one of the most common questions human beings entertain. Also ever notice that when we ask ourselves this question it is almost always because we are in a place or situation we would rather not be. No one asks themselves the most human of questions at Six Flags, well almost no one. As a short introduction, I am 54 years old and have reached some conclusions about the good and not so good places in the world. It goes like this. It is great to be in the nice places, either geographically or emotionally. It is the hard places where we have the most to gain. The great places make few demands. The hard places make continual demands. The great places are where we long to be because there are no demands, or the demands are of a desired type. The

Trust in the Lord and lean not to thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and he shall direct thy path. -Proverbs 3:6

hard places are a result of someone else's doing – the Army, the spouse, the economy, etc., or so we believe. But here is the kicker from a spiritual perspective. Wherever we are we are in the place we are supposed to be. This does not mean that if you are in the Hanoi Hilton (a prison North Vietnamese used to hold U.S. captives) you need to stay. It means that wherever you are physically, emotionally, spiritually, the angel of the Lord, or the presence of God is prepared to meet you right now. Whatever experience seems like a failure, a rejection or a threat is a step along the path of grace. Ev-

ery, I mean every Biblical character had his or her back against the wall multiple times. Nearly all of them felt like failures at some point. All of them made significant mistakes in judgment and fell short. Nevertheless, every experience, especially the ones that hurt the most, served as important steps in their life journey. This insight is easier for me to admit at this point in life. It was probably impossible earlier on. Do not give up hope. Proverbs 3:6 "Trust in the Lord and lean not to thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and he shall direct thy path."

Sunday School

GENESIS

Would you be willing to sacrifice that which you treasured most in this world to prove your faithfulness to God?

Chaplain Langdon will be discussing Abraham and his son this **Sunday at 1000** in the **Zone 6 Chapel Annex** located across from the basketball courts.

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Chef brings over 20 years knowledge, experience to dining facility

Story and Photos by
Pfc. Dan Rangel
Third Army Public Affairs

Patrons of Camp Arifjan's Zone 2 Dining Facility know they're in for a good meal and a great overall dining experience when they walk in the door.

Those patrons can thank Sgt. 1st Class Tommie Magazu, DFAC non-commissioned officer-in-charge and civilian chef with over 20 years experience, who serves with the Massachusetts National Guard.

Magazu noted the challenges that come with the job.

"It's challenging sometimes because you have to juggle the training, with management, with production in the kitchen," Magazu said.

Currently the father of one child, with another on the way, Magazu served on active duty for four years after leaving his hometown of Norwell, Mass. Since completing his active duty contract, he has served in the National Guard for over 20 years.

When not serving as a Soldier, Magazu works as the chef de jour for a chain of restaurants in the northeastern U.S. He attributes a lot of his professionalism to the wealth of knowledge he has gained over the years.

An avid reader, Magazu's academic



Sgt. 1st Class Tommie Magazu, DFAC non-commissioned officer-in-charge and civilian chef of over 20 years experience, who serves with the Massachusetts National Guard, inspects or 'audits' local contractors as they serve food to his patrons at the Zone 2 DFAC Aug. 13. Third Army runs on its stomach. In order to sustain the fight, Sgt. 1st. Class Magazu sees to it that his DFAC is run with a professional touch.

interests include studying history and Urban Archaeology.

"When I was attending the (University of Massachusetts), Boston I was studying as a history major. Part of my interest in history is the untold history that wasn't written," Magazu said. "The literate and the victors wrote the history, but I was always interested in the untold history of the silent majority."

As a young man, Magazu intended to pursue the life of a scholar, but as it does for many — life happened.

"My girlfriend had a child, I had these responsibilities and even though I probably could have kept going to school and finished what I wanted to do — I kind of gave up on those aspirations," Magazu said.

He had a bit of advice for those interested in going back to school or achieving goals.

"A lot of times we realize later on in life that the hurdle wasn't that high really and that we just kind of gave up too soon. I lament that a little bit. I would like to go back to school," Magazu said. "Learning never ends. It's part of what makes life interesting. You would be surprised what you can learn from somebody when you really don't expect anything from them if you keep your eyes and ears open."

With his knowledge and experience, Magazu keeps smiles on Zone 2 DFAC patron's faces.

"I try to set a good example," Magazu says. "I try to keep a good, positive outlook and viewpoint and I try to infect others with it."

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O.N.E.



By Staff Sgt. Mark Bennett

Emergency Numbers

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Arifjan Cell 6682-2120

Camp Buerhing

DSN 438-3224 / PMO 438- 3325

Buehring Cell 9720-5396

Camp Virginia Emergency DSN 832-9111

Camp Virginia DSN 832-2559

Virginia Cell 6705-9470

LSA DSN 442-0189

LSA Cell 6682-2467

K-Crossing DSN 823-1327

K-Crossing Cell 682-0095

KCIA/APOD Cell 6706-0165

SPOD DSN 825-1314

SPOD Cell 9720-5982

KNB DSN 839-1334

Just one Question?

What have you learned while working with other services?



"I learned to work with other services and how to keep up with all those Army acronyms."

**Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class
Donna M. Stevens
Defense Logistics Agency**



"I've learned that there's a lot to do, but if anyone can do it we can do it."

**Maj. Antonio V.A. Pressley
U.S. Army Central Command**



"I've learned the wide range of tasks and roles that AR-CENT performs for a large number of countries."

**British Army Lt. Col.
George Stanford
U.S. Army Central Command**



"It's helped me see the rest of the Army and what's important to higher headquarters and people in the Army at higher levels, which helps me to be more effective."

**Maj. David Demartelaere
Theater Army Air and Missile
Defense Coordination Cell**



"There's a large focus on fiscal management and contract oversight,"

**Capt. Mark Milhiser
U.S. Army Central Command**

**READY TONIGHT
SUSTAIN THE FIGHT
SHAPE THE FUTURE**

