

VOL. 3, ISSUE 2

BASRAH, IRAQ

# View From the Top

great man once said, "We must learn to live Atogether as brothers, or we will perish together as fools."

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. spoke these words during his years of activism before he was assassinated on April 4, 1968. This Monday we honor the birth of a man dedicated to freedom and equality for all individuals, regardless of race, religion or status.

It is only fitting that we remember these words as we celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. King here in Iraq, for our mission as U.S. Division - South has brought many new faces into our lives. Not only do we have a wide variety of Texans among us, but a number of others from across the nation and other units as well.

We have airmen, sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, civilian contractors, State Department personnel and foreign nationals from Iraq, Uganda, India, Turkey, Great Britain and countries from all over the world. We are all colors, all races, all religions, male and female.

If there is one thing Dr. King strove to teach us, it is that we are all one race, one family. Dr. King was a passionate Baptist minister; it was his faith in God that gave him the strength and courage to stand up for what he believed was right – the belief that our Creator does not see our differences; all He sees are His children, and all of His children are precious.

We can give speeches about equality to honor the great things Dr. King accomplished. We can hold events, like our 5k Fun Run, to spread the word about his message of hope, redemption and brotherhood for all.

Or, we can go out and live that message. Take the time to get to know our brothers and sisters from



around our nation and around the world for the people they are, instead of just silently walking by. We Texans are the friendliest people in the world, so I challenge you to prove that by reaching out to those who share this world and our small piece of it.

Let us live here together as one family, for none of us are, or would like to be, fools.



Jose M. Martinez Sergeant Major 36th Inf. Div. CSM Acting



BASRAH, Iraq - Service members and Defense Department civilian personnel participate in a 5-kilometer run in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Jan. 16 on Contingency Operating Base Basra. King was one of America's principal leaders for the civil rights movement in the mid 20th century. (Photo by Sgt. Raymond T. Quintanilla)

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# Jett, Pickler rock out with USD-S Soldiers

Story and Photos by Sgt. Jeremy Spires 36th Inf. Div., USD-S Public Affairs

 $T_{\rm your}^{\rm o}$  some, packing your bags, putting your life on hold and boarding a plane bound for Iraq may seem like something only a service member would do.

For country music star and American Idol contestant, Kellie Pickler, it is just a small sacrifice to show her appreciation for the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces.

"You all are here for most of the year, and some are here for 18 months at a time," said Pickler. "I am here for just a small part of the year, a week or two at the most. It's the least I can do to bring a little home to you guys."

The Albemarle, N.C., native performed a number of songs including her latest singles, "Makin' Me Fall in Love Again" and "Best Days of Your Life," which was cowritten with Taylor Swift.

"(The performers) were awesome. Especially when you can tell that they are real," said 2nd Lt. Joshua Mixon, Programs Officer in Charge for United States Division-South, Human Relations and MWR Support. "They were not doing (the concert) because of their management contract or anything like that. They were doing it because they wanted to have a good time, and wanted us to have a good time."

"I have always had a great deal of respect for what you all do," said Pickler.



Kellie Pickler, country music star and American Idol contestant, performs during a USOsponsored event Jan. 12 at the Resiliency Center on Contingency Operating Base Basra. She performed a number of her famous hits, including "Best Days of Your Life" and "Makin' Me Fall in Love Again."

"Having been here and having seen with my own eyes what you do, what you really do, and what you really stand for... I have an even greater respect. I have such a greater appreciation and understanding and I value so much what you all do, the sacrifices you make."

Pickler has been participating at events with the USO since 2007 and this marks her forth tour in Iraq. She shared the stage with the legendary rock star Joan Jett, another veteran of numerous USO Tour's for the night's event.

Over the past 20 years, Jett has participated in more than 60 events for the military; some working alongside the USO and others by simply asking the commanding officer of an installation if she could perform and give something back to the service members. (Cont'd on Pg. 4)



**Paparazzi, Texas-style!** Service members and Defense Department employees came together at the Resiliency Center on Contingency Operating Base Basra to watch Kellie Pickler and Joan Jett perform a number of their musical hits. The concert was hosted by the USO and concluded with a meet-and-greet with the performers and service members.

(From Pg. 3)

"I didn't start out with the USO," said Jett. "I did (performances) all sorts of ways, (sometimes) directly with the CO of a base where we were, and if we were close we would just call up and see if we could say hi."

From there she formed relationships with Armed Forces Network and finally the USO, she added.

Jett stated that she enjoys playing for service members because they are very respectful and a great Rock n' Roll audience, not to mention the fact that they "just get it."

She admitted that at one time in her life she was contemplating joining the military, and it's from that time she feels such a strong connection to the men and women in uniform.

"I think it's a combination of several things; my almost joining, meeting so many wonderful people and seeing their dedication. It is something to really respect and I do, and that's why I love to do these trips," she said.

While on stage at Contingency Operating Base Basra, Jett performed a number of her trademark songs for the audience of men and women, including "I Love Rock and Roll" and "Crimson and Clover."

The concert concluded with both performers coming on stage and being presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the command staff and service members of USD-S.

"I just want to thank them," said Mixon. "Thanks for allowing us to have a seminormal night."





Above - Legendary Rock Star Joan Jett performs for Defense Department personnel and service members during a USO tour on Jan. 12. Jett performed a number of her hits, including "I Love Rock and Roll" and "Crimson and Clover." Left - Joan Jett and Kellie Pickler received Certificates of Appreciation for their performance at the Resiliency Center on Contingency Operating Base Basra.

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## 36th Infantry Division Judge Advocate General Your Legal Assistance Team

Having family issues and need to seek legal advice? Need a will or a power of attorney? The Legal Assistance office is here to help you with any legal concerns you have. Be worry free knowing you are protected with attorney/client confidentiality. "A legal assistance attorney is the SOLDIER'S attorney; we represent YOU, not your command!"



Hours of operation & office location: Monday-Saturday, 0800-1700 \*Closed Mondays 1030-1300 Bldg #26G03 COB Basrah, Iraq

#### <u>Paralegal Specialist</u> Spc. Genevie Plaza

Contact Spc. Genevie Plaza to schedule an appointment! 858.4098 (VOIP) 768.0213 (S-VOIP) genevie.plaza@iraq.centcom.mil

## 36th Infantry Division Equal Opportunity Advisors Cell



Sgt. 1st Class Joe Lawton

joseph.lawton@iraq.centcom.mil

## COB Basrah Resiliency Campus 858-4672

"Contact us if you are the victim of an Equal Opportunity or Sexual Harassment Complaint."



Capt. Lisa Ann Lerma

Anonymous Tip Hotline on NIPR https://msc.forces.iraq.centcom.mil/usds/default.aspx

lisa.lerma@iraq.centcom.mil



# "Dude, where's my photo?!?!"

Looking for that really cool photo or video you just *know* Public Affairs took of you? Here's how you can find it!

On NIPR computers; click on the "Start" button, and then on "run." Type in: \\10.65.20.61 and click "okay."

Double-click on pao\_photos; click on the folder of the year, then on the folder of the month, the photo was taken. Each event that month will have its own folder with two sub-folders in it. One sub-folder will contain the package we submit, and the other will have all the raw photos. Video packages are coming soon to the same place, so keep checking!

Sometimes it takes a few days to get all the photos and video completed, so be patient. Our broadcast and print journalists load everything onto the shared drive once it is approved! Want your family and friends to see just how awesome you look in full gear? They can find you on the internet!



www.facebook.com/pages/36th-Infantry-Division



www.youtube.com/user/36IDArrowheadNetwork



pao36id.smugmug.com

# **Just For Fun!**

Across **1 Frozen treats** 5 "... baked in \_\_\_" 9 Foil's kin **13 Proficiency** 16 Paraphernalia **17 Not pertinent 18 Dinner scraps 19 Turkish governor 20 Chamber piece** 22 Word of reproach 23 A bit 25 Add **27 Diplomatic doings 30 Choice of neckline** 32 Craggy peak **33 Sanction 34 Moon-landing vehicle 35 Melon variety** 38 Card game cry **39 Pernicious 41 Heavy measure** 42 Duke of York 44 Make a mistake 45 Introduce to solid food 46 Vegas opener 47 Angelico 48 Core group 49 Message container, maybe **51 Resting atop 53 Mythical monster** 54 Bargain hunter's delight 56 German-born Surrealist 59 Capital of Azerbaijan 61 Abused

64 Binary digits 65 Clavicle 66 Icelandic poetry 13 14 collection 17 **67 Guitar part** 68 Lighten 19 20 <u>Down</u> 23 26 24 1 Here, in France 2 Free ticket 28 29 27 30 31 **3 Jane Austen classic 4 Former chess champ Boris** 00 **5 Elite squad** 6 For each 38 40 39 7 "What's for me?" 42 40 44 8 Monte Carlo game 9 Freudian factor 46 10 Pierced 11 Dine at home 49 50 51 **12 Celtic tongue 14 Community spirit** 53 54 55 **15 Film director Kazan** 21 Pertaining to eight 59 00 01 02 24 Balanced 64 65 26 Boxing wins 27 Draped garment 66 67 28 Analagous 29 Cut off from the sea **31 Mideast ruler** 45 Aspirer 34 Jurisprudence 47 Attacked 35 Kennel club reject 48 Kitchen gadget **36 Tusked beast 49 Rancher's mark** 37 One of the Brontes **50 Not clerical 39 Defeats** 52 Malaysian state 40 Mrs in Munich 53 Double-reed instrument 43 Cagney epithet 55 Stylish magazine

56 58 57 03 68 **57 Ancient portico** 58 Sawbucks 60 Dos Passos trilogy 62 Gentle handling, initially 63 It makes ma mad?

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\*Look for the answers in next week's issue!

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Administration Got an Idea? Arrowhead Austin Basrah Division Effects Headquarters Infantry Lieutenant Logistics NewDawn Operation Private Sergeant Supply ThirtySixth







**2nd Lt. Joshua Mixon** – The programs officer-in-charge with the 36th Infantry Division was put on active orders less than two weeks after being commissioned in August 2009.

A graduate from the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Mixon majored in public relations with a minor in leadership and was a cadet in the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps.

The Knoxville, Tenn., native enlisted in the Army National Guard in March 2006 and enjoys perusing novels for fun and is currently doubling-up his reading time with "The Prince of the Marshes" and "Unbroken." Additionally, the Kappa Sigma fraternity brother feels the need for speed. With an average run time under five and half minutes per mile, he intends to run his first marathon while in Basrah.

Mixon is on his first deployment and said he is incredibly excited to deploy so soon after being commissioned. He hopes to gain an excellent knowledge base to further his career.

**Sgt. 1st Class Jin Simonton** – The executive administrator for the U.S. Division-South and 36th Infantry Division commander, Maj. Gen. Eddy M. Spurgin, is a native of Austin, Texas, who spent more than 17 years as an active guard reserve in the Air National Guard.

Simonton decided to cross branches into the Army National Guard in June 2008. She left the Air Force as a master sergeant and entered the Army for better opportunities in leadership development.

"The difference between the Army and Air Force is the Army relies heavily on their (noncommissioned officers) to do the job, puts them on the lead-position," Simonton said. "The NCO has a major impact on the mission, on the day-to-day business."



Simonton enjoys exercising in her spare time and bakes as a stress

reliever. Although the opportunity to bake in Basra is near to nil, she said her experience in the command group has been great so far and looks forward to learning new things while in theater.



**Spc. Melissa Morris** – This Spring Branch, Texas native is an information management officer and driver for the 36th Inf. Div. Joint Visitors Bureau.

When not wearing her Army combat uniform, she can be found behind the steering wheel of an 18-wheeler truck hauling cargo to any of the 48 states and Canada, a job she has been doing for nine years. Rolling solo across the nation, Morris delivers anything from tires to perishable goods and spends an average of 70 hours a week on the road, returning home once a month for weekend drill.

Although Morris is on familiar ground when it comes to working long and odd hours for JVB, she finds her new environment unique.

"Here, I am trying to learn to do my job in the JVB; it's all new to me." Morris said. "Every day is different, depending on the events. (I'm doing) things I've never done and I'm learning as I go."

# Correct Crossfit With 2nd Lt. Bau Phan

The "Burpee" is an exercise used to measure agility and coordination. It's also known to make you want to puke.

It is one of the most simple, time and space efficient body-weight exercises known, and it works the chest, arms, front deltoids, thighs, hamstrings and abs.

This exercise is free and portable and needs no fancy machines, classes or memberships. You can do the burpee anywhere, including your cubicle, parking lot or your "CHU."



1.

Begin at the position of "attention."



Drop into a squat with your hands on the ground, slightly forward and on the outside of your feet.



Kick your feet back while lowering yourself into a push-up position.



Perform a push-up with chest hitting the ground and a full arm extension at the top.

Bring feet back to the squat position.

Push vigorously off heels, extend hips and "hop" 6 - 12 inches into the air while clapping hands together above head.

Repeat from step one as many times as you think necessary!



You may remain anonymous. To complain without fear of reprisal is the right of any Soldier, Civilian or Family Member seeking IG help.

> <u>COB Basrah</u> Bldg. 26G13 (Behind Green Bean Coffee next to Division HQ) 858-4597/858-4547

<u>COB Adder</u> Bldg. 327 (Across the street from the House of Pain) 833-1710/833-6550

usds-ig@iraq.centcom.mil





## DINING FACILITY HOURS

Arrowhead Dining Facility and Mountaineer Cafe

> **Midnight** 0000 - 0130

Breakfast 0530 - 0830

Lunch 1130 - 1400

Dinner 1700 - 2000

## 36th Infantry Division Mail Call

Hours of Operations: 1000 - 2000 Out bound certified/offical mail: 1000 - 2000 Mail pick up hours:

Mail Handlers: 1000 - 1200 1400 - 1600 Individual pick up: 1000 - 2000 If your address doesn't look like this, it could take a while to get your mail! Last Name, First Name \_\_\_\_Co., 36th ID Unit # 124 APO AE 09374 Don't use your rank!

Please coordinate with your company orderlies to pick up your mail



# **Chaplain Programs and Religious Services**

#### Holy Joe's Coffee

(Coffee Bar and Fellowship) Monday - Saturday 0600 - 2200 william.culver@iraq.centcom.mil

#### Ladies of the Rosary

Tuesday at 2000 COB Basrah Chapel barbara.reilly@iraq.centcom.mil

#### Mid-Week Prayer with Chaplain Mays

Wednesday at 1200 COB Basrah Chapel wayne.mays@iraq.centcom.mil

#### **Basrah Chapel Bible Studies**

Thurdsay 1900 - New Believers Bible Study 2000 - Bible Study Classes

#### Protestant Services Sunday - COB Basrah Chapel

1000 - Contemporary Service
1130 - Traditional Service
1400 - Gospel Service
1700 - Liturgical Protestant

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) Sunday - Old PX Building

0900 - Sacrament Service

#### Roman Catholic Saturday - COB Basrah Chapel

2000 - Rosary/Vigil Service

Sunday - COB Basrah Chapel

0830 - Catholic Service

## "When you hear the alert ... Hit the dirt!"

### Don't be a 'hero' and stay alive!

Get flat on the ground and make yourself a small target. The higher you are, the greater your chance of injury from shrapnel!

Move to a bunker or other hardened area when you are told. Not before! Your "CHU" is <u>not</u> a hardened structure.

Be accountable for yourself and your Soldiers. Always make sure you have everyone!



## Morale, Welfare and Recreation LSA Normandy

FREE Internet!
FREE Snacks!
FREE DVD Loans!
TWO Volleyball Courts!
TWO Movie Theaters!
X-Box, Games and More!

Interested in Archery? Get certified to use the equipment on the archery range every Sunday at 1700! Want to set up an X-Box or volleyball tournament? Or maybe

reserve a movie theater for you and your friends?

Give us a call, or send us an e-mail. We'd be happy to help you out!

Staff Sgt. Willie Diles MWR Manager willie.diles@iraq.centcom.mil

Sgt. Michael Breito MWR Asst. Manager il michael.breito@iraq.centcom.mil 858-4413

## Arrowhead Safety Bulletin Sports & PT Safety

**Conduct safety briefings prior to organized sporting events discussing:** 

- Conduct of game (rules)
- Hazards in the area
- · Playing within your personal limits & abilities
- · Responsibility for your own personal safety
- Unsportsmanlike conduct not tolerated
- 1. Provide referees/coaches to observe & control organized sports to prevent injuries (Senior leaders)
- 2. Senior personal present will monitor events ensuring aggressive behavior doesn't get out of hand.
- 3. Provide time for & require stretching / warm+ups before events to prevent pulled muscles and strains
- 4. Conduct pre-game inspection of fields, courts & areas to remove hazards or mark them "off limits"
- 5. Ensure adequate lighting is available at night
- 6. Wear proper clothing & gear for your sport and conditions (i.e. court shoes, gloves, eye protection, reflective vests)
- 7. Ensure anyone injured gets medical treatment right away & report injuries to the your Chain of Command & unit Safety Officer/NCO

# Photo of the Week!



This photo is of Kellie Pickler in her "battle-rattle" as she prepares to depart Contingency Operating Base Basra Jan. 13, 2011. Thanks to Spc. Melissa Morris of the Joint Visitor Bureau for the photo! Granted, this week's winner was an easy pick; Morris is the only one who sent us a photo. You can't compete if you're not running the race!

Think your photos are good enough to be Public Affairs material? Send them in! Every week, we'll choose the best of your photos to publish in the T-Patch newsletter. Just e-mail us your photo in a high-quality format, along with your full name and rank and a description of what your photo is about and when it was taken. Include full name, rank and job title of each person in your photo. We look forward to seeing what you can do!

# Send your photos to: 36IDPAO@gmail.com