

T-PATCH

United States Division-South Weekly Newsletter



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Contingency Operating Base Basra, Iraq

May 9, 2011

By Sgt. David Bryant
36th Inf. Div., USD-S PAO

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE BASRA, Iraq – Two 36th Infantry Division Band Soldiers were recently chosen to receive prestigious awards from the School of Music, the military occupational skill school for band members of all branches of service.

Staff Sgt. Maurice Kelley, electric and upright bass player, was chosen as the Army Reserve Component Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year for 2010, and Sgt. Charles Fricker, percussionist, was one of 12 military band members chosen for the first Col. Finley R. Hamilton Military Outstanding Musician Award, which acknowledges enlisted musicians from each branch of service in the U.S. military who show exceptional qualities in military leadership and music.

"I'm very thrilled and humbled to receive the award," said Fricker, a 32-year-old native of Philadelphia, Pa., who works as a percussion instructor for grades six through 12 for the Angleton Independent School District in Angleton, Texas. "The process for the award started during pre-mobilization at (Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.), and the recipients were announced while we were here in Iraq."

"I feel I've grown as a Soldier, especially after being a reserve-component and National Guard Soldier for so many years," added Fricker, a 14-year veteran who is on his first deployment. "Being an active-duty Soldier, especially deployed, has allowed me to grow as a leader, as a non-commissioned officer. It's been a great experience."

Kelley, a 10-year veteran who also began his service in the Army Reserve, said he agreed that receiving a prestigious award was an honor.

"I've been fortunate to drill with many



Staff Sgt. Maurice Kelley, a bassist with the 36th Infantry Division Band and a 40-year-old native of Sedalia, Mo., and Sgt. Charles Fricker, a percussionist and a 39-year-old native of Philadelphia, Pa., were recently notified they had been chosen to receive prestigious awards from the School of Music, the military occupational skill school for band members of all branches of service band members.

Photo illustration by Sgt. David Bryant

bands, and I know there are a lot of really good NCOs out there," said Kelley, a 40-year-old native of Sedalia, Mo., who holds a doctorate in music from the University of Nebraska. "People may say, 'Well, but you have your doctorate.' There are really a lot of NCOs with doctorates in the bands, at least on the reserve component side. So it is pretty humbling, because I know the competition is pretty stiff."

"These are two Soldier-musicians who have distinguished themselves through their continued every-day commitment to

the 36th Infantry Division Band, the Texas Army National Guard and the United States Army," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jeffrey Lightsey, band commander. "Through our pre-mobilization training at Fort Lewis to our current assignment in Basrah, Iraq, they have distinguished themselves in every facet of mission performance. I can think of no two Soldiers who better represent the Army Values and the NCO Corps. I am extremely proud of them and their selection above their peers throughout the military band field. They are truly deserving." 🇺🇸



Policemen from the Iraqi Police Emergency Response Unit in Maysan Province, Iraq, stand in formation during riot-control training

Photo by Capt. Hans G. Valverde

RIOT

Maysan Province Iraqi Police conduct riot-control training

By Capt. Hand G. Valverde

3rd Bn., 8th Cav. Regt., 3rd AAB, 1st Cav. Div.

CONTINGENCY OPERATING STATION GARRY OWEN, Iraq - More than 50 members of the Iraqi Police (IP) Emergency Response Unit in Maysan Province are now better prepared to react to riots and organized protests after receiving riot-control training by the "Warhorse" troopers of 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division.

The Riot-Control Training Course is focused toward enhancing the Iraq Police and Emergency Response Unit basics of civil disorder management as it pertains to frontline personnel.

Its emphasis is geared toward hands-on defensive tactics, group arrests, and team movements with riot-control gear. The Maysan Provincial Chief of Police, Gen. Ishmael, wanted to enhance his unit's ability to control civil disorder.

The riot-control training, organized by "Warhorse" Battalion's Bulldog Company Civilian Police Tactical Trainers, focuses on various techniques on how to disarm an opponent, arrest an aggressive person, and neutralize the leader/instigator by removing him from the group. The Iraqi Police also learn and rehearse movement formations designed to safely approach a disorderly crowd and enforce order.

This training was a first for many of the Iraqi Police.

"I really enjoy working with and training the local police. They

are interested in all the training they receive. Very focused," said 1st Lt. Greg Lee, Bulldog Company's Military Police platoon leader.

"This is great training," said Capt. Talib, one of the officers in charge of the IPs at the training. "This gives my policemen a chance to work with the U.S., to make the Iraqi Police even stronger."

After mastering basic baton skills, they begin to practice working as a single unit, much like a riot control officer would.

"It's essential to know this non-lethal skill," said 1st Lt. Muhammad, one of the IP officers conducting the training. "IPs are supposed to know how to non-lethally control and manage a hostile crowd such as a riot or organized protest."

They then practice stacking formations and wielding batons so as not to hit the Shurta (policeman) next to them. This team-building practical exercise helps them transition easily into the next phase of training with riot shields. Dressed in riot-control equipment, members of the military police platoon show the IPs ways to divert and stop a crowd using their shields. "My favorite part of the training was using the shields," said Talib.

Each class ends with a culminating practical exercise demonstration of how to use the techniques and commands they have trained on against a resistance. MPs played the role of a hostile crowd, dashing at the wall of shields, trying to break through the Iraqi Police formation.

"Everything I learned in this course was new and extremely necessary," said Muhammed. "I've never received any of this training before and now I am very proud to be part of this group." ▼



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JUST BREATHE

Blacksmiths focus on HAZMAT

By Spc. Junie Escarment

Medical Co., 215th BSB, 3rd AAB, 1st Cav. Div.

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE ADDER, Iraq – Charlie Medical Company (CMC), 215th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, scheduled the month of April to focus on preventing injury and illness by educating Soldiers on hazardous materials (HAZMAT) used in day-to-day operations.

Spc. Wei Ni of Preventive Medicine, CMC, 215th Bde. Support Bn., who calls Lancaster, S.C. home, completed the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) training. The HAZWOPER course is a national certification class that teaches individuals like Ni, 3rd AAB's only Preventive Medicine Specialist, the rules and regulations of dealing with HAZMAT waste and how to respond in an emergency situation.

The course encompasses five different areas dealing with HAZMAT to include emergency response to spills, clean-up operations required once a spill has occurred, and corrective actions to prevent a future spill from occurring.

It is important for individuals to know that materials used in day to day operations must be labeled as hazardous.

"The greatest (environmental) concern in our brigade in which we must continue to focus on is the motor pool fluids," said Ni. A simple spill of a fluid used to keep vehicles in working condition can equate to a bigger problem if the proper steps are not taken to keep the spill under control.

Another important area of focus on Contingency Operating Base Adder is the water plant, where chlorine is used to purify the drinking water supply. The in-ground water and sewage system can potentially become a threat due to the confined space workers are put into when going underground to correct problems. The levels of hazardous materials can be fairly high depending on the problem being repaired.

Understanding the potential risk these materials may cause, and taking precaution to use them properly, is the most important step to preventing unnecessary HAZMAT-related injuries. ♡



Spc. Wei Ni of Charlie Medical Company, 215th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, clears his protective mask at HAZWOPER training.

Photo by Capt. Mehall Lyssa

Hometown cops play key role in Iraq

By 2nd Lt. Christopher Molaro

2nd Bn., 82nd FA Regt., 3rd AAB, 1st Cav. Div.

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE ADDER, Iraq – Back in High Ridge, Mo., a suburb of St. Louis, David Curtis is a hero, a local police officer who has given 28 years to the force.

Here in Iraq, fifty-two year old Curtis plays an integral part in Operation New Dawn, and he is not alone. A member of an elite community, law enforcement professionals, better known as LEPs in Iraq, are police officers from the United States recruited by private companies to advise and work with U.S. Forces while training the Iraqi Police and Army.

Curtis and other law enforcement professionals come from many different police backgrounds. Their experiences range in everything from narcotics divisions, Fugitive Apprehension Strike Teams (FAST) and detective units. Because of their diverse backgrounds, they bring a wide array of knowledge and experience.

While they may or may not be military veterans, LEPs like Curtis have shown they are not hesitant to go on patrols and help out where they are needed. Their eagerness to interact with the Iraqi population is instrumental in molding Iraqi police officers into a professional force.

Curtis played professional baseball for a short stint when he was younger and regrets that he missed his chance to serve in the Armed Forces. “Doing this, being here in Iraq, working with America’s heroes has given me the opportunity to directly serve

my country,” Curtis said. “I am an old man, working with these great young warriors who are dedicated to a cause greater than themselves. It has inspired me to make a difference as well.”

Curtis is the father of three children, Casey, Matthew and Elizabeth. Casey is a Staff Sgt. in the Army and currently deployed to Afghanistan while Elizabeth is about to begin her first year at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Attached to Task Force 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, Curtis has been helping investigate recent improvised explosive device attacks. He tags along with patrols on the International Highway to gauge the attitude and security status for U.S. Forces and Iraq citizens. Curtis occasionally rides on missions with Capt. Grady Dacus, from Denton, Texas, a platoon leader for Headquarters Battery, Task Force 2nd Bn., 82nd FA Regt. Dacus said “He [Curtis] is a valuable asset for key leader engagements and in building relationships,” said Dacus. “His demeanor and appearance demands respect in the Iraqi culture which helps us gather important intelligence which we might have never been able to receive.”

Operation New Dawn presents new and interesting challenges. Our hometown heroes dressed in blue are important to the success of a country with an unsure future. From Afghanistan to Iraq, all the way to small town U.S.A., law enforcement professionals like Curtis are a small but necessary piece of a stable, sovereign, and self-reliant Iraq. ♡



Law enforcement professional David Curtis from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department in High Ridge, Mo. speaks with an interpreter and a commanding officer for an Iraqi Police unit in southern Iraq.

U.S. Army photo

"We are the Soldiers of the 36th..."

CPT JAMES JOHNSON

Operations Research/
Systems Analyst



Name: Johnson, James
Primary Military Specialty: Infantry Officer
Secondary Military Specialty: Cook
Hometown: Dallas, TX

Grade: O-3

Initially joining the Texas Guard in 1999 as a cook, then-Pfc. Johnson had the hunger for the battlefield. He transferred to the Georgia National Guard upon receiving his commission in 2001 and became a platoon leader in Georgia's Long Range Surveillance, 121st Infantry. Deployed in 2003 and 2006-07 to Kuwait and Baghdad to engage the insurgents.

With 12 years in service and three tours, Johnson appears to have no signs of battle fatigue. Considers his three tours his most memorable time in the Army, having experienced all three phases of the conflict. "I love the Army, I love what I do," Johnson said. "It doesn't feel like a job because I love what I'm doing."

SSG KEITH PARKER

Air Defense Tactical Operations
Center-Enhanced Operator



Name: Parker, Keith
Primary Military Specialty: Automated Logistics Specialist
Secondary Military Specialty: Avenger Crewmember
Hometown: Fort Worth, TX

Grade: E-6

Parker enlisted in 1998 as an avenger crewmember and transitioned directly into the Texas National Guard in 2002. Now on his second deployment with the Air Missile Defense section. Earned a bachelors in Human Resources Management at Colorado Technical University and has started his Masters in Business Administration.

Parker considers the day he returned from his first deployment in 2006-07 in Ballad, Iraq with the 36th Combat Aviation Brigade the most memorable time in his career. "That was like the happiest day of my life," Parker said. "My kids, my whole family came down to Killeen (Texas) and when I found them in the crowd, it was just incredible."

SPC JOHNNY CARTER

Help Desk Administrator



Name: Carter, Johnny
Primary Military Specialty: Signal Support Specialist
Secondary Military Specialty: Information Support Specialist
Hometown: Terrell, TX

Grade: E-4

Carter joined the Texas National Guard in Dec. 2006 and has already stacked two military occupational specialties. He has one year of college courses under his belt through Ashford University, Clinton, Iowa. He is currently studying to be certified as a Cisco Networking associate and plans to pursue his bachelors in Information Technology.

Carter holds dear the day he stood in formation with his brother while his family watched during a Family Readiness event. "It's just being there with my brother, feeling like I've accomplished something, getting through basic, AIT and my family watching," Carter said. "It was great."

CHOW

Midnight • 0000 - 0130

Breakfast • 0530 - 0830

Lunch • 1130 - 1400

Dinner • 1700 - 2000

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to save your battle
buddy's life.**

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Call Monday to Saturday for a
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Walk-ins welcome!

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"Give blood, and give the gift of life."

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 Basra Chapel

barbara.reilly@iraq.centcom.mil

Mid-Week Prayer with Chaplain Mays

Wednesday at 1200

COB Basra Chapel

wayne.mays@iraq.centcom.mil

Basra Chapel Bible Studies

Thursday

1900 - New Believers Bible Study

2000 - Bible Study Classes

Protestant Services

Sunday

COB Basra 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 Basra Chapel

2000 - Rosary/Vigil Service

Sunday

COB Basra Chapel

0830 - Catholic Service

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Having family issues
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advice? Need a will or a
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COB Basra, Iraq

*"A legal
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attorney; we
represent
YOU, not your
command!"*



Spc. Genevieve Plaza

Paralegal Specialist

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768.0213 (S-VOIP)

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Need
**Public
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support?



Go to the home page on the
SIPR computer web portal.
Click "Effects" on the drop-down
menu, and scroll down to Public
Affairs. Then click on the PAO
Asset Request button! Follow the
directions and submit your request.

MAIL CALL!

Outbound certified/official mail:

1000 - 2000

Mail pick up hours:

Mail handlers:

1000 - 2000

1400 - 1600

Individual pick up:

1000 - 2000

36th Infantry Division Equal Opportunity Advisors Cell

Sgt. 1st Class
Joe Lawton



"Contact us if you are the victim
of an Equal Opportunity or Sexual
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**COB Basra
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858-4672**

joseph.lawton@iraq.centcom.mil

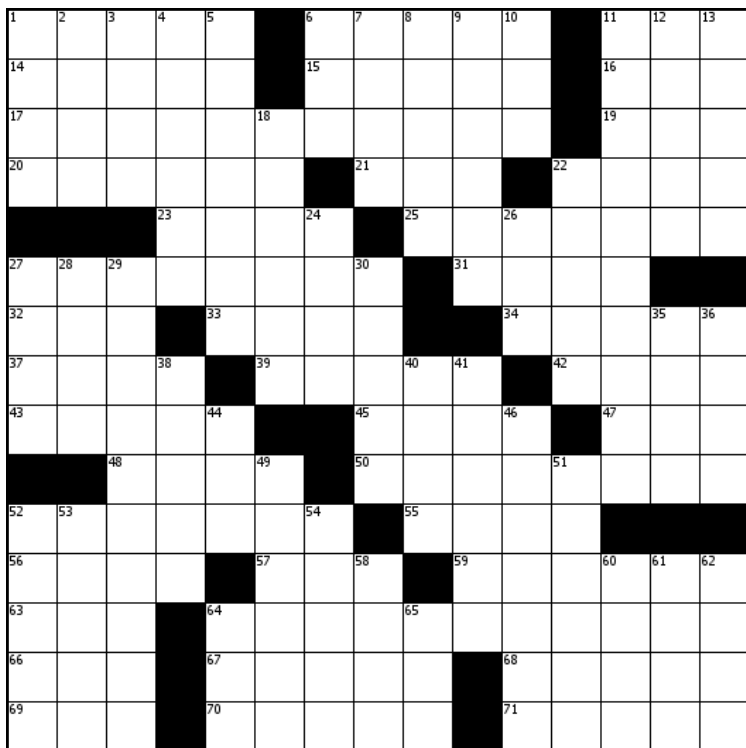
lisa.lerma@iraq.centcom.mil

Anonymous Tip Hotline on NIPR

<https://msc.forces.iraq.centcom.mil/usds/default.aspx>

Capt.
Lisa Ann Lerma





Across

1. Appliance maker
6. Provoke
11. Second Amendment rights org.
14. North Dakota city
15. Mock
16. "Dig in!"
17. It's used in dimly lit conditions
19. Tokyo, formerly
20. Country singer Kathy
21. Word with honey or spelling
22. Norse god
23. Mortgage consideration
25. Actress Wood
27. Circus impresario
31. Perform high-tech surgery
32. Communal word
33. Storied plantation?
34. Blink of an eye
37. Stuffed shirt
39. First word follower of 17, 64-Across and 11, 29-Down
42. Father
43. Two-masted vessels
45. Within earshot
47. D.C. VIP
48. Get but good
50. Tangles
52. Beehive and bouffant
55. Overhang
56. It has a blunt end
57. Shaggy beast
59. Bequeaths
63. LP speed
64. Woodworking technique
66. 551, in stone
67. Doo-wop favorite, e.g.
68. Fiji neighbor
69. Application check box
70. Ralph of "The Waltons"
71. Sound like a bull

Down

1. Radio designation
2. "___ 18" (Leon Uris novel)
3. Med school subj.
4. Cosa ___ (crime syndicate)
5. Deep down
6. K-12 group
7. Poetic foot
8. Chess piece
9. Imaginary
10. Greek letter
11. Gar
12. Spokes
13. Send a note of apology, e.g.
18. Snooze
22. Desert refuge
24. Mark successor
26. Muslim cap
27. Floral arrangement
28. Salad type
29. Betty Crocker product
30. Neighbor of Quebec
35. Complimentary
36. Longings
38. Strident sound
40. Hawaiian goose
41. Tex-Mex snack
44. Caesar's first name
46. Goes back
49. Chicago university
51. Add flavor to
52. Zebra groups
53. Jobs site?
54. Mecca resident
58. Make a sweater
60. Chianti, e.g.
61. MIT grad, maybe
62. Bridge relative
64. Container of fresh milk
65. Ball prop

Sudoku

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



UNITED STATES DIVISION-SOUTH INSPECTOR GENERAL

You may remain anonymous

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

COB Basra
Bldg. 26G13
858-4597/858-4547

COB Adder
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usds-ig@iraq.centcom.mil



Photo of the Week



Photo by Spc. Ashley Vera

Members of the Stability Transition Team, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, visit the construction site for the Al Hussein Iraqi Police Station, one of the newest in the area. The team developed a system for their Iraqi counterparts to review their goals, strengths, weaknesses and accomplishments in order to make task accomplishment more efficient.

Think your photos are good enough for the Photo of the Week? Send them in! 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. Remember to 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

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



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