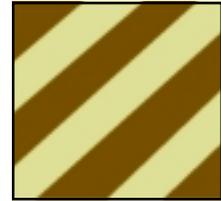


FRONTLINE

Forward



Vol. 1 No. 14

Serving the Forward elements of the 3rd ID (M)

March 5, 2003

Raise it high



Spc. Jacob Boyer

Spc. Steven Curry, an HHC 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) soldier from Gainesville, Ga., raises the American flag atop his vehicle during his down time Feb. 23.

3-15 Warrior Squad trains in trenches

Spc. Mason T. Lowery
50th PAD

The Warrior Squad made the most of a Saturday afternoon Feb. 22 to train in the trench systems on Camp New York.

As the days add up, or maybe the day draws near, these A Company, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry soldiers realized the importance of staying ready.

"We're sharpening our skills to stay proficient in acquiring and eliminating threats," explained Cpl. Jayson Levinsky, the A Team leader, Warrior Squad, 2nd Platoon, from Red Lion, Pa.

Soldiers train in squad-size elements on the camps in Kuwait before heading to the numerous surrounding ranges to train on bigger scales as platoons, companies, battalions

See TRENCH, Page 8

Four killed, one injured in separate incidents

Staff reports

Four soldiers were killed and one injured in separate incidents while training in Kuwait.

Spc. Rodrigo Gonzalez-Garza, 26, of Texas; Chief Warrant Officer Timothy W. Moehling, 35, of Florida; Chief Warrant Officer John D. Smith, 32, of Nevada and Spc. William J. Tracy, 27, of N.H. were killed Feb. 24 when their UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter crashed in the vicinity of Camp New Jersey.

The aircraft, one of two from V Corps conducting night training, crashed at approximately 1 a.m. local time.

The crewmembers were the only personnel on board the aircraft.

Gonzalez-Garza and Moehling were assigned to A Company, 5-158th Aviation, Giebelstadt Army Air Field, Germany. Smith and Tracy were assigned to B Co. 5-158th Avn., Aviano Air Base, Italy.

Pfc. Christopher Mathias, a soldier with Service Battery, 1-9 Field Artillery

was shot at Camp Virginia Feb. 23. He suffered a gunshot wound from an M16A2 rifle to his right shoulder.

Mathias, 23, was treated at the scene and was air evacuated to the 86th Combat Support Hospital at Camp Udairi in stable condition.

He was further evacuated to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany where he remains in stable condition.

Both incidents are under investigation.

Perspectives

As my young brother awaits deployment overseas, I sit nervously reading of the many men and women already there. I pray each and every day, every moment that they are safe from harms way. I am proud of my brother, as I am of the thousands who go before him and after. He comes from a long line of military men who have honored our family and our country. Pvt. 2 Craig A. Wilson – your big sister is so very proud of you and your platoon! God bless and God speed little brother. Protect your country, your flag, your soldiers and

yourself. Our nation and your family stand humble in your shadow. All my love to the military service men and women.

D. Wilson, Washington

I think everyday of all your safety. And you my son, you know who you are; you are thought of more often than you will ever know. All of you please come home safely. All my prayers.

D. Barela, Nebraska

We cut the picture from the paper on

Jan. 25th of Sgt. Dove and the other soldiers during their recent deployment. We have placed them on our wall to remind us to pray for them while they are defending the freedoms we each enjoy everyday here in America. God go with each of our brave soldiers and let them know they are continually in our hearts and our prayers.

Barbara

Give them hell.

J. Jenson, Former member of 4-64 Task Force Tusker

Forward Voices

What is the most memorable thing you've experienced so far during this deployment?



"For me, the opportunity to be command sergeant major -- I just took over in January."

Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Howard
1st Bn., 15th Inf. Regt.
Jacksonville, Fla.



"Nothing much. So far it's been pretty uneventful."

Spc. Tanya Powell
B Co., 203rd FSB
Skiatook, Okla.



"I'm excited about being part of an engineer/reconnaissance team. It's a new experience working with the scouts."

Spc. Javier Tarazona
B Co., 317th Eng.
New York City



"Before he PCSed, we tied up our LT with zip cords, dragged him into the command post and presented him to the commander."

Pfc. John James Bloom
HHC, 3ID
West Palm Beach, Fla.

FRONTLINE Forward

This Army-funded newspaper is an unofficial publication for members of the U.S. military serving in Kuwait. Contents of the *Frontline Forward* are not necessarily official views of, nor endorsed by the U.S. government, Department of Defense or the Army.

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Photos by Spc. Katherine Robinson

SKY WARRIOR ... An A Co., 1-3 Avn., Apache helicopter sits on the flight line at Camp Udairi awaiting maintenance.

Crew chiefs keep standards high

Spc. Katherine Robinson
50th PAD

Defending the skies is a major part of securing a victory in the event of war.

Keeping the warriors of the sky up and running is an important, and sometimes stressful job.

When it comes to maintaining an Apache Longbow AH-64D, efficiency is crucial. If the aircraft isn't functioning properly when it leaves the ground, lives could be lost. That's where the crew chiefs of 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment come in.

"You can't miss anything," said Spc. Marilyn Ortega, an A Company, 1-3 Avn. crew chief from Virginia Beach, Va. "Everything has to be perfect."

Sgt. Samuel Bingham, an A Co. crew chief supervisor from Citra, Fla., said the mechanics have the lives of two officers in their hands every time an Apache flies.

"Every day, every mission that we have has a lot to do with two pilots coming home," he said.

In order to ensure the pilots' safety, the mechanics have inspections at different frequency of hours and by several levels of people, according to Bingham.

"Before a pilot takes off, if there's any maintenance, we do it, then a supervisor checks it, then we have a technical inspector who has to check it," he explained.



Spc. Adam Steve, an A Co. crew chief from Lake Mills, Iowa, checks the stock number on a Hellfire missile.

The mechanics conduct scheduled and unscheduled maintenance before an aircraft takes off, and they use the time when the birds are in the air to sharpen their soldier skills, Bingham said. They also make sure all their ground vehicles are in a proper state of maintenance and take care of the helicopters that are still on the ground.

Despite all the work, Bingham said the mechanics like their jobs. "Every job has it's pros and cons," he said. "The

See APACHE, Page 9

For God and country

Division UMTs gather to pray for leaders

Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke
Editor

As the U.S. grows closer to engaging in hostile actions here in the Persian Gulf, soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) continue to train in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

However, soldiers of the division's unit ministry teams engaged in another operation Feb. 20 at Camp New Jersey – a spiritual one.

“What we wanted to do is have all of the division chaplains and assistants get together and have a time of dedication for themselves, their soldiers, their commanders and for the leadership of the nation as we begin to deploy and possibly go into hostile actions,” explained Chaplain (Col.) Doug Carver, V Corps chaplain.

Carver was the featured speaker at the dedication service, which was a historical moment in itself, he said.

“Last year we had a brigade in Bosnia, a brigade in Kosovo and we've had brigades rotating through (the National Training Center), so this is actually the first time that we've had all three maneuver brigades plus the supporting elements...together at one time to have this kind of gathering for prayer. So it's a historical moment for us,” Heath explained.

Carver's message to the UMTs focused on three specific areas that he stressed were needed to accomplish the mission – whether on or off the battlefield.

“First is that they walk with the power of God. Second that they also walk with purpose – they have a specific purpose in the battlefield, and that's to provide religious support for soldiers and authorized civilians,” he said. “And third, perhaps probably my key point, is that they don't do this alone.”

“They walk with the presence of the Lord with them. The promise from God in the scripture is that they will not do anything by themselves, that God is with them, whether they're at Fort Stewart, Kuwait or anywhere in the world.”

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Roger Heath, 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) chaplain, further explained that a similar service was held during

See PRAYER, Page 9



Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke

Division Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Roger Heath, V Corps Chaplain (Col.) Doug Carver and V Corps Chaplain Command Sgt. Maj. Marion Lemon, pray for individuals during the Unit Ministry Team dedication service, held Feb. 20 at Camp New Jersey.

Words of wisdom



Spc. Jacob Boyer

Brig. Gen. Bill Weber, assistant division commander (Support), talks to soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment Feb. 20. He addressed soldiers' concerns about a possible conflict with Iraq. See the March 12 issue of the Frontline Forward for more on his visit with the soldiers.

It's that time again

Tax tips for soldiers

Q How will deployed 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) soldiers do their taxes? Will there be a tax center provided to soldiers of the 3ID?

A Soldiers have several ways of doing their taxes. First, on a limited basis, soldiers can get help from the brigade legal counsel or Judge Advocates in the Division Rear legal office.

Soldiers will be able to have judge advocate assistance only for the 1040EZ forms.

1040A forms are available if the soldiers want to file that form on their own. Soldiers must obtain their W-2 on My Pay prior to coming to D-Rear Legal for assistance. Judge Advocates will not download W-2s from My Pay for soldiers.

Second, as discussed below, a spouse can file taxes state-side for the soldier.

Finally, a soldier may electronically file taxes for free or at

most, a nominal fee. These options are discussed below.

Q What happens if I'm deployed past April 15, 2003? Will my taxes be late?

A No. Military members deployed to Kuwait are allowed special extensions of time to file their taxes. Soldiers have at least 180 days after they redeploy to file taxes.

No penalty or interest will accrue during this period, so if a soldier owes taxes, it may be to the soldier's benefit to delay filing. A soldier also gets an additional day to file for every day deployed during the 2003 tax-filing season (Jan. 1, 2004 to April 15, 2004).

For example, if a soldier was deployed on Jan. 1 for 180 days, he or she would have 285 days (105 days for tax season plus the 180-day delay) to file taxes without any kind of penalty or interest.

See TAXES, Page 9



Spc. Adam Nuelken

Pfc. Brian Luza, chemical operations specialist for B Btry. 1-10 FA, from Phoenix, Ariz., shows soldiers how to help a partner remove their Mission Oriented Protective Posture suit during the MOPP exchange Feb. 12.

DIVARTY decons during livefire

Spc. Adam Nuelken
31D (M) PAO

As part of a live-fire training exercise at the Udairi Range Complex, the redlegs took time Feb. 12 to do some crucial nuclear, biological and chemical training – decontaminating their vehicles in a field environment.

“We’re doing an operational decon for our units that got contaminated during the simulated battle,” said Staff Sgt. Dameon Walker, B Battery, 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery, NBC noncommissioned officer. “Out here we do at least one operational decon per field exercise.”

The artillerymen from B Btry. and Service Battery, 1-10 FA performed the training. Each vehicle was washed down for about three minutes, which took the batteries almost two hours each to be decontaminated.

After the vehicles were washed, the crews went through a Mission Oriented Protective Posture gear exchange.

“The vehicle wash down is to remove any contamination that might be built up on the vehicles. It helps with the weathering effect that happens naturally through the sun and the wind,” Walker, a Tampa, Fla. native, added.

“The MOPP gear exchange is basically temporary relief from MOPP gear where they can get a new suit on, and some fresh air, before they continue on with the mission.”

The training was not only critical for the artillery soldiers, but the NBC specialists as well.

“It really gives them an opportunity to see what’s sup-

posed to be happening on the ground,” Walker explained. “We’ve got a lot of books, but once you see it for yourself, you notice what the books are trying to tell you.”

Decontamination training helps the soldiers gain added faith in their equipment and more understanding for performing their missions in a contaminated area.

“For (the soldiers), they get used to wearing the MOPP gear and working in it,” Walker added.

“They get used to the extreme heat that is going to be caused by putting it on, and they also get more confidence that they can survive in a chemical environment.

“They also now they can get the stuff off of them,” he explained.

While back at Kelly Hill on Fort Benning, the redlegs receive training on decontamination during every field problem, but many of them feel they could use more.

“You can never have enough training. But we go through it quite a bit, so I feel confident in what we have and who we are with,” said Pfc. Chad Pennington, B Btry., 1-10 FA, field artillery ammunition supply vehicle driver, from Delta, Ohio.

Sgt. John Parker, B Btry., 1-10 FA, ammo team chief, from Macon, Ga., agreed.

“We must practice on it each and every time we get a chance. It shows them we already have the equipment for chemical war and chemicals will not hurt us.”

After the decontamination exercise, the units returned to the gun line, ready for combat, and awaited the next fire mission.

Dust storms blow through camps

Spc. Jacob Boyer
3ID (M) PAO

Soldiers found themselves cleaning their gear after the third dust storm in as many weeks left a coat of sand covering the camps in northern Kuwait Feb. 25.

"I couldn't see five feet in front of me," said Spc. Jose Loya, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) fueler from El Paso, Texas. "But you've just got to suck it up and drive on."

Gusts of up to 29 knots made seeing difficult as virtual walls of sand swept through living areas.

"The biggest factor (in the storms) is the gusty winds," said Maj. Dave Coxwell, 15th Air Support Operations Squadron weather flight commander. "It's very dependent on the seasons. In this season, you can see high winds every day, and a storm like this maybe once every 10 days."

There are many problems associated with the storms, but one of the biggest is eye protection, said Coxwell, a Savannah, Ga., native.

"If you can't see, you can't fight," he said. "Right now the big issue is visibility. It negatively impacts all kinds of operations, particularly flight."

"When the dust rolls in, you've got to put your goggles on and find whatever breathing protection you've

got," said Spc. Austin Boone, HHC, 123rd Signal Battalion information systems technician.

Technical equipment, such as computers, is very vulnerable in a dust storm, said Boone, who is from Alexandria, Va. Many soldiers wrap their gear in clear plastic bags so work can continue without ruining the equipment.

"Sand gets into everything," Coxwell said. "It's either laptops failing or just everything getting covered in it."

Recent storms have also damaged tents around the camps. One of the dining facilities at Camp New York has had one of its walls collapse twice, and other tents have completely collapsed.

Once the storms pass, cleanup begins.

"Our office has an air compressor," Boone said. "We go around and clean everybody's computers and tables. You've got to get the dust out as quickly as you can."

Boone, who was in Kuwait last summer during 3rd Brigade's rotation, said the recent storms are only the beginning.

"We haven't even seen the real dust storms yet," he said. "We'll see them in a few months. You can't see anything."

The gusts in Kuwait in March average about 34 knots, Coxwell said.

Dust storms can affect a soldier's day in other ways beyond the impact on

equipment.

"These dust storms are kind of like a rainy day back in the States," Boone said. "You know the day's going to be sluggish, you don't want to go outside, and you don't want to do any work."



Photos by Spc. Jacob Boyer

A soldier searches for the dining facility on Camp New York during a dust storm that swept across the desert.



HMMWVs move cautiously during a dust storm. Gusts of up to 29 knots stirred up sand and decreased visibility.

Military tanker overturns near Kuwaiti airport

CFLCC Press Release

A U.S. military tanker laden with fuel overturned near the entrance of the Kuwait City International Airport Feb. 28 at approximately 7 a.m.

Kuwaiti Fire Department and U.S. Army personnel responded immediately to the scene, contained a small fuel

leak, and cleared the roadway.

Traffic was not affected by the accident, and U.S. Army quartermaster personnel are working to recover the vehicle.

The driver of the tanker, an Army specialist, was taken to Farwaniyah Air Force Base hospital for treatment of minor injuries. The accident is under investigation by Kuwaiti and U.S. officials.

TRENCH, from page 1

and brigades. Soldiers can simulate obstacles with engineer tape and lines in the sand on the camps, or they can head to the trenches like the A Company soldiers did.

“You get more of a feel for what it will be like. There won’t be engineer tape across the berm,” said Pvt. 2 Marc Moyer, a Wallingford, Vt. native.

Levinsky and Spc. Derek Watson, the Warrior Squad’s B Team leader from Washington, N.C., started the training by leading their soldiers through reflexive fire drills. They took turns calling orders and demonstrating techniques over and over until their soldiers got it right. “Whoa, wait a minute, listen up,” Levinsky called when he saw mistakes. Then he or Watson showed the soldiers how to do the move correctly.

“It’s one of the best ways to learn –

to physically see and do what you are supposed to do,” Levinsky said.

Pfc. Robert Dougherty, from Nashville, Tenn., understood the training and explained its usefulness. “For one, it gives us a good stance in case we run into the enemy. Two, it gets us looking, so we can distinguish between civilians and the enemy. And three, it gives us practice shooting standing up.”

Once the soldiers mastered the reflexive fire drills, Levinsky and Watson had them move on to modern operations in urban terrain, and trench training.

According to Watson, “You can flip flop techniques from MOUT and trench – a trench is just a long hallway. Why not clear a corner in a trench the same way as in a building? ... There are more variables in MOUT – windows, stories,

civilians – civilians are the main thing in battle; we try not to kill them. Trenches are better – when you come up on a trench, you know it’s more than likely the enemy.”

Levinsky drew a large square in the sand to simulate a building. He had his soldiers practice entering and clearing the room and explained the importance of staying away from the walls to avoid bullet ricochets.

They went through malfunction drills next. If a soldier’s weapon malfunctions when he enters a room, he drops to his knees and the soldier behind him scans or shoots over him, according to Pfc. Jake McLaughlin, from North Hollywood, Calif.

The soldiers laughed and joked between drills, just like any other teenagers and twenty-somethings. They used rocks to simulate grenades and bet double and triple-or-nothing for sub sandwiches on who could get one into the trench. But when the drills started again, their faces changed instantly. The smiles turned into seriousness as they snapped back into soldiers, ready to train more, or ready to go to war.

Trench training ended the day’s tasks for the Warrior Squad. Moyer and Spc. Gregory West, from Williamston, N.C., crept cautiously up to the edge of the trench, laid on their backs feet to feet, and waited. They simulated pulling pins from grenades, threw them into the trench, and rolled away. After the blast that would have happened, they jumped into the trench and the rest of the squad followed. They used what they’d gone over earlier in the day to clear corners and bunkers while Levinsky and Watson looked on.



Spc. Mason T. Lowery

Pfc. Jake McLaughlin, A Co., 3-15, from N. Hollywood, Calif., and the Warrior Squad go through reflexive fire drill rehearsals Feb. 22 on Camp New York.

APACHE, from page 3

pros may outweigh the cons.”

The battalion just returned from Kuwait earlier in 2002, and “(being out here) gets a little stressful,” Ortega said.

But the mechanic teams are like a family, she added, and she trusts them all 100 percent.

“I have complete confidence in the aircraft, because I have total confidence in the crew chiefs,” Bingham agreed.

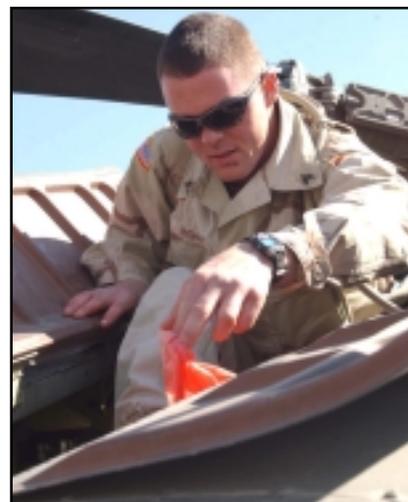
The pilots are included in that family, Ortega explained. “I’ve seen other units and other line companies, and we have the best ... as far as pilots and enlisted, I’d say we have a very close

relationship.”

The pilots try to be around for the maintenance as much as possible, Bingham said. “It’s a pretty good bond. If we needed their help for anything, they would have no problem coming out here.”

As far as having the lives of the pilots depend on her and her team, Ortega said, “If they leave, I want to make sure they come back.”

(Right) Sgt. Samuel Bingham, an A Co. crew chief supervisor, cleans up rags drenched in hydraulic fluid during hydraulic system maintenance.



Spc. Katherine Robinson

PRAYER, from page 4

Operation Desert Shield before the air and ground wars started.

“We gathered together and had our senior chaplain at that time to come and (hold a service). Out of that, I don’t think we lost a single chaplain’s assistant and our casualties during Desert Storm were so few,” he said. “We are hoping that the spirit of the Lord will be among us again, and the same thing will happen.

The chaplain prayed that God would bless our Army and bless the Iraqi army too by having few casualties on their side.

“We’re not out to harm them, we’re out to end the corrupt regime,” he said.

Spc. Darian Wilder, a chaplain’s assistant with Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery, said the dedication was a good opportunity for all of the UMTs to get their minds and spirits right for the mission that lay ahead.

“The service today was good training – it was the first time that all the chaplains and chaplain assistants of the division were together in one place at one time.

“The training that we’ve done over here has been excellent, and it’s prepared me mentally and physically to accomplish whatever mission that’s put before us,” the Atlanta native said.

TAXES, from page 5

Q Does my spouse get the same extension of time to file?

A Yes, the extension applies to all spouses of military members deployed to Kuwait.

Q Do I have to take any special action to get the time extension to file?

A You DO NOT have to file a Form 4868 for an extension. But when you file your taxes upon return home, attach a statement to your return explaining what situation qualifies you for the extension, in this case serving in a combat zone, the Persian Gulf.

You have to write “Operation Desert Storm Combat Zone” on all correspon-

dence to the IRS, including your 1040 tax form. The reason you use “Desert Storm” is because that authorization was approved for Kuwait in 1991 and has never been closed.

Q What if I want to file now so I can get a refund?

A If your spouse is at Fort Stewart/Hunter, he or she can file for you (or sign for you if it’s a joint return) with a power of attorney.

The tax center at Fort Stewart is also available for your spouse to use. If you have given your spouse a general power of attorney, it will suffice, but the IRS Form 2848 also works for that purpose.

You can get this form from the legal section, or online at www.irs.gov/formspubs.

[formspubs](http://www.irs.gov/formspubs).

Q Are there ways to file my taxes online?

A Yes. There is free filing online through the IRS e-file system if your adjusted gross income (AGI) is less than \$28,000. The website is www.free1040taxreturn.com. If you AGI is greater than \$28,000 the filing costs \$9.95.

Q Where can I get additional information about my taxes?

A Contact your nearest JAG if you have other questions.

Worship Schedule

Camp New York

Sun. - 9 a.m. Catholic Mass
 10 a.m. Protestant
 Worship Service
 1 p.m. Latter Day
 Saints Service
 3 p.m. Gospel Service
Tues. - 7:30 p.m. Latter Day
 Saints Institutes
Wed. - 7 p.m. Bible Study.
Fri. - 7 p.m. Officer's
 Christian Fellowship

Camp Pennsylvania

Sun. - 9 a.m. Catholic Mass
 10:30 a.m. Protestant
 Collective Service
 12 p.m. Gospel Service
 3 p.m. Latter Day
 Saints Service
 7 p.m. Protestant
 Collective Service
Fri. - 12 p.m. Muslim Prayer
 Service

Camp Udairi

Sun. - 9 a.m. Protestant
 Worship Service
 11 a.m. Catholic Mass

Camp Virginia

Sat. - 4 p.m. Catholic Mass
Sun. - 9 a.m. Protestant
 Worship Service
 11 a.m. Gospel Service
 2 p.m. Latter Day
 Saints Service

Camp New Jersey

Sun. - 9:30 a.m. Holy
 Communion Service
 11 a.m. Protestant
 Worship Service
 1 p.m. Gospel service
 3 p.m. Catholic Mass
 7 p.m. Contemporary
 Christian service

Spiritual Fitness

A fresh start for 2003

Chaplain (Capt.) Ron Cooper
 TF 1-64 AR

If you had 2002 to live over again would you do at least one thing different? Since none of us are perfect, most of us would say yes, but...

God is very interested in our future.

Isaiah 40:3 *"The Lord says, 'Forget about what has happened before. Do not think about the past. Instead, look at the new things I'm going to do.'"* Forget about what's happened before, don't think about the past, it's over.

World class Do-Overs:

There was a guy, a general, who lost two-thirds of all the battles he fought in the American Revolution – George Washington. He won the war.

There was another guy who graduated 42nd out of a class of 43. Then he went out and conquered Europe – Napoleon.

There's a guy who lost almost every election he ran for – 10 or 12 – until finally he was elected President – Abraham Lincoln. He lost more than he won.

Edison tried over 200 different elements

before he figured out what was the right element to use in the light bulb. Over 200 failures before he had a success.

In 21 years, Babe Ruth hit 714 home runs, but he struck out 1330 times. He struck out nearly twice as often as he hit a home run. He once said, "Never let the fear of striking out keep you from taking a swing."

A famous novelist in England, John Creasy, got 753 rejection slips from publishers before he published his first book. He went on to publish 564 books. Can you imagine the persistence of the man putting up with over 700 rejections before his first book got published and then went on in his lifetime to publish 500 more?

R.P. Macy failed seven times as an entrepreneur in retailing and then he started Macy's department store.

It's always too soon to quit.

Trust God, don't give up; those things we value and invest in usually get done.

Zechariah 4:6 *"You will not succeed by your own strength or power but by My Spirit, says the Lord."*

God is far more interested in your future than He is in your past.

'Bless the Lord, Oh my soul'

Soldiers take time out to unwind and praise the Lord during a gospel service at Camp New York.



Spc. Adam Nuelken

GLOBAL NEWS



International

Security panel talks on Iraq end bitterly

UNITED NATIONS (AP) – A Security Council meeting on Iraq ended in bitter disagreement Thursday with council members unable to agree on basic issues such as a timetable for weapons inspectors to report next to the council.

Diplomats described a terrible atmosphere within the council, which met behind closed doors for four hours Thursday.

The council is split between those who

are supporting the Bush administration's calls for the use of force to disarm Saddam Hussein, and others, led by the French, who want to continue weapons inspections.

At the end of the session, French Ambassador Jean-Marc de La Sabliere said the majority of the council still opposed a U.S.-backed draft resolution and he pushed the French proposal for additional time for inspections. Still, ambassadors who spoke on condition of anonymity said the Americans seemed unwilling to compromise in order to achieve council unity on Iraq.

"This was one of the most depressing meetings I've seen," said one ambassador.

Another described the atmosphere as "bitter and unpleasant."



National

Probe launched in R.I. club fire

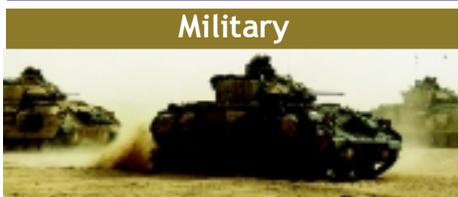
PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) – A new federal team formed to look into building safety announced Thursday it was launching a formal probe into the nightclub fire that killed 97 people last week.

The National Construction Safety Team, formed in October as part of the Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology, will look into the location of windows and doors at The Station nightclub, the number of patrons there the night of the deadly fire and the type of construc-

tion materials that existed there.

The team, created to study building disasters the way the National Transportation Safety Board looks into air crashes, will also examine whether lives could have been saved if the club had an automatic sprinkler system. The team would likely use its findings to make recommendations to fire safety groups for improvements in building codes, said spokesman Michael Newman.

Two officials from the team had already visited the burned ruins of the nightclub over the weekend. Fire rapidly engulfed the West Warwick nightclub last Thursday night after the heavy metal band Great White set off a pyrotechnic display. After sifting through the conflicting versions of what happened, the grand jury will decide whether anyone should be held responsible.



Military

Army limits re-up options

WASHINGTON (ARNEWS) – Re-enlistment options are being limited to prevent the Army from exceeding end-strength numbers authorized by Congress, said a personnel official.

"We're taking away incentives and making it harder for soldiers who are flagged (to regain eligibility) to re-enlist," said Sgt. Maj.

James Vales, the G-1 personnel retention sergeant major. The Army is authorized 480,000 troops, and Congress has mandated that the Army stay within one percent of that number, Vales said. Projections show that for fiscal year 2003, personnel strength will exceed the mandate.

Korea is the only option mid-term soldiers serving on a second or subsequent enlistment period will have if they want to re-enlist for an overseas assignment.

Another incentive that has been cut is the Selective Reenlistment Bonuses – monetary incentives given to soldiers in jobs that are short and have inadequate retention levels.

What's happenin'

Camp New York

DFAC - 6:30-9:30 a.m. breakfast
5-7 p.m. dinner
7-10 p.m. grab n' go

Snack Bar - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

PX - 10:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Barber Shop - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Alterations - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

MWR/Gym - 24 hours

DSN/ATT/Internet - 24 hrs.

Camp Pennsylvania

DFAC - 7-9 a.m. breakfast
5-7 p.m. dinner
7-10 p.m. grab n' go

PX - 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Barber Shop - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MWR - 9 a.m. - midnight

Gym - 7 a.m. - midnight

DSN/ATT/Internet -

Coming soon

Camp Udairi

PX - 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Gym - 24 hrs.

DSN - 6 p.m. - 9 a.m.

Camp Virginia

DFAC - 7-9 a.m. breakfast
5-7 p.m. dinner

PX - 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Barber Shop - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Snack Shop - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MWR - 24 hours

Gym - 24 hours

DSN/ATT/Internet - 24 hrs.

Camp New Jersey

DFAC - 6-9 a.m. breakfast
5-7 p.m. dinner

8-10 p.m. - grab n' go

PX - 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Barber Shop - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

MWR - 24 hours

Gym - 24 hours

DSN/ATT/Internet - 24 hrs.

Marne Scoreboard

NCAA Basketball

Women ESPN/USA Today Top 25

Feb. 24

- (2) Duke **97**, Maryland **55**
- (7) UNC **80**, Coastal Carolina **48**

Feb. 25

No games scheduled

Feb. 26

- (1) UConn **97**, Georgetown **57**
- (5) Kansas State **80**, Kansas **57**
- (8) Texas Tech **50**, Nebraska **35**
- (10) Texas **79**, Baylor **57**
- (17) Villanova **65**, (21) B.C. **62**
- (19) UCSB **85**, L.B. State **70**
- (23) Rutgers **67**, Va. Tech **43**

Thursday

- (2) Duke **70**, Florida State **49**
- (3) Tennessee **91**, (18) Vanderbilt **71**
- (4) LSU **70**, (19) Arkansas **57**
- (6) La. Tech **108**, UTEP **54**
- (7) UNC **94**, Maryland **77**
- (24) Arizona **79**, (9) Stanford **64**
- (11) Miss. St. **76**, (16) Georgia **71**
- (12) Purdue **74**, Indiana **48**
- (13) S. Carolina **97**, Kentucky **51**
- (14) Minnesota **76**, Wisconsin **53**
- (22) Wisc. Green Bay **80**, Butler **48**

Men

ESPN/USA Today Top 25

Feb. 24

- (24) UConn **87**, (10) Notre Dame **79**
- Texas Tech **62**, (17) Okla. St. **57**

Feb. 25

- (4) Florida **96**, South Carolina **63**
- (14) Maryland **91**, Clemson **52**
- (16) Illinois **80**, Indiana **54**

(23) Utah **71**, BYU **64**

Feb. 26

- (2) Kentucky **80**, Tennessee **68**
- (3) Oklahoma **67**, (22) Missouri **52**
- (5) Duke **77**, Georgia Tech **58**
- (6) Texas **82**, Baylor **64**
- (7) Kansas **85**, Texas A&M **45**
- (8) Pitt **75**, Virginia Tech **62**
- (12) Wake Forest **60**, Florida St. **56**
- (13) Xavier **80**, Duquesne **78**
- (15) Syracuse **89**, W. Virginia **51**
- (18) Creighton **63**, SMS **58**
- (20) Miss. St. **59**, Alabama **55**
- (22) Georgia **89**, Mississippi **82**
- (25) Dayton **82**, Rhode Island **70**

Thursday

- (1) Arizona **88**, (21) Cal **75**
- (11) Marquette **78**, (9) Louisville **73**
- (19) Stanford **88**, Arizona State **77**

NHL

Feb. 24

- Washington **4**, Montreal **1**
- Detroit **5**, Los Angeles **4**
- Buffalo **2**, Florida **2**
- San Jose **5**, Calgary **2**

Feb. 25

- Dallas **5**, Boston **5**
- Minnesota **3**, Ottawa **0**
- Tampa Bay **2**, Anaheim **0**
- NY Rangers **3**, New Jersey **3**
- Los Angeles **5**, Pittsburgh **3**
- Toronto **5**, NY Islanders **2**
- Nashville **5**, Columbus **0**
- Philadelphia **2**, Chicago **0**
- Colorado **4**, Edmonton **2**
- Vancouver **8**, Atlanta **0**

Feb. 26

- Washington **3**, Buffalo **2**
- Anaheim **2**, Florida **1**
- Phoenix **4**, Carolina **2**

Thursday

- New Jersey **3**, NY Islanders **3**
- Ottawa **3**, Dallas **2** (OT)
- Tampa Bay **3**, Florida **1**
- Columbus **3**, Los Angeles **1**
- Detroit **7**, Toronto **2**
- Minnesota **6**, Montreal **3**
- NY Rangers **4**, Boston **1**
- Philadelphia **5**, Chicago **2**
- St. Louis **4**, Edmonton **1**
- Nashville **6**, Pittsburgh **0**
- Atlanta **4**, Colorado **3**
- San Jose **3**, Vancouver **2**

NBA

Feb. 24

- Houston **101**, Boston **95**
- Minnesota **117**, Milwaukee **114**
- Memphis **103**, Utah **92**
- Chicago **90**, Phoenix **87**
- Golden State **94**, Denver **89**

Feb. 25

- Cleveland **93**, New Jersey **90**
- Washington **83**, Indiana **78**
- Orlando **98**, Dallas **93**
- New York **102**, Houston **95**
- San Antonio **84**, Miami **69**
- Portland **89**, Atlanta **86**
- Sacramento **81**, Detroit **75**
- LA Lakers **109**, LA Clippers **98**

Feb. 26

- Boston **71**, Indiana **69**
- Philadelphia **111**, Memphis **107**
- New Jersey **105**, New York **76**
- Phoenix **118**, Milwaukee **112**
- Minnesota **92**, Utah **85**
- New Orleans **91**, Miami **82**
- Chicago **103**, Toronto **95**
- Portland **94**, Denver **84**
- Seattle **93**, Atlanta **76**
- Golden State **108**, LA Clippers **94**

Thursday

- Washington **100**, Houston **98**
- Dallas **121**, Sacramento **120**
- LA Laker **93**, Detroit **81**

Winston Cup

Feb. 23

Subway 400 North Carolina Speedway Rockingham, N.C.

Official Results

1. Dale Jarrett
2. Kurt Busch
3. Matt Kenseth
4. Ricky Craven
5. Jamie McMurray

Series Standings

Driver	Points
1. Kurt Busch	345
2. Dale Jarrett	314
3. Jimmie Johnson	312
4. Mark Martin	306
5. Michael Waltrip	291

PGA

Feb. 20-23

Nissan Open Riviera Country Club Pacific Palisades, Calif.

Official Results

Par 284

1. Mike Weir* **-9**
2. Charles Howell III **-9**
3. Fred Funk **-7**
- Nick Price **-7**
5. K.J. Choi **-6**
- Tiger Woods **-6**

* Won on second playoff hole.

Union: wait for ephedra ban

Baseball took its first move toward banning ephedra by prohibiting players with minor league contracts from taking the substance, which was linked to the death of Baltimore Orioles pitcher Steve Bechler.

The commissioner's office is powerless to extend the ban to major leaguers, who are covered by the collective bargaining agreement.

Canadian Hall rejects Rose

Pete Rose missed out on making the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame, falling short of the necessary 75 percent vote from the selection committee. Rose played part of the 1984 season with Montreal.

Cowboys release Smith

Emmitt Smith, the leading rusher in NFL history, was released Thursday after 13 seasons with the Dallas Cowboys.

Smith's release is the first major roster shakeup since Bill Parcells took over as coach, although Jones has made it clear it was his decision.

Smith said he will not retire.

Burk seeks protest permit

Martha Burk will seek a permit to demonstrate at the Masters about Augusta National's all-male membership, and she won't rule out an illegal protest if the site isn't close enough.

Burk said Tuesday she expects her permit request this week to be turned down by officials in Augusta, Ga.

Tyson wins in 49 seconds

In Mike Tyson's first fight since losing to heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis, the former champ took 49 seconds to knock out Clifford Etienne.

But Tyson said one devastating right hand doesn't mean he has any chance in a rematch with Lennox Lewis.

"I'm not going to lie to myself and lie to the public," Tyson said. "I need more fights. I'm not interested in getting beat up again."

Terror at America's Cup

Anti-terror police issued a public warning about a security threat to the America's Cup on Tuesday after letters containing cyanide crystals and white powder were seized by postal workers.