

Bush to visit the Marne family

Staff Reports

President George W. Bush is scheduled to visit 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) and soldiers stationed at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Friday.

The public is invited to the ceremony at Trent Field.

Bush is coming to welcome soldiers home, to thank them for doing a fantastic job during Operation Iraqi Freedom, and to thank the families who supported soldiers from Fort Stewart, said Sgt. Maj. Julian M. Kellman, 3rd Inf. Div. command sergeant major.

"The visit is important because it shows support for the American soldiers," he said.

By coming to Fort Stewart, Bush is also honoring those soldiers who lost their lives defending America and promoting its policies, Kellman said.

Every soldier in 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.), Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield should feel honored to receive a visit from the president of the United States, according to the 3rd Inf. Div. command sergeant major.

"It's a very important visit," said Command Sgt. Maj. Julian M. Kellman. "I'm delighted that he's coming. I'm delighted and I'm hon-

ored."

It's important that division soldiers represent the 3rd Inf. Div. well during the visit, he added.

"I want to show the president support from the soldiers and appreciation for his taking time out to visit us," Kellman said. "The way we can do that is to have everyone that's present for

duty out on Trent field, looking like dogfaced soldiers. When the president steps on stage (we should) welcome him with a loud and thunderous, 'hooah,' to show him we are a motivated division."

See PRESIDENT, Page 5A

Gate and road Closures for Sept. 12

The following gates and roads will be closed starting at 6 p.m. on Sept. 11.

- Gate 1
- Gulick Ave. (McNeely to Gate 1)
- E. Bultman (Gate 1 to Pony Soldier)
- Utility St. (between Wilson and Gulick)
- Hays Rd. (between Bultman and McNeely)

The following roads will be shut down to accommodate a motorcade from Hunter

Army Airfield.

- Hwy 144 (between I-95 and Georgia 47)
- Georgia 47 (between 144 and Gate 4)
- Hero (between Austin and McNeely)
- Austin (between Gate 4 and Hero)

Gate 2 (Troupe Ave.) and Gate 8 (Frank Cochran) will be open 24 hours until 8 p.m. Sept. 12.

Gate 7 (15th St.) and Gate 5 (Gulick Ave.) will be open normal hours.

3rd Inf. Div. goes Hollywood



Pfc. Emily Danial

Actor Gary Sinise checks out the ins and outs of an Apache Longbow AH-64D at a 4th Bde. aircraft hangar Hunter Army Airfield Monday. Sinise visited 3rd Inf. Div. troops at Fort Stewart the following day, signing autographs, and talking with soldiers.

Gary Sinise visits Stewart, Hunter

Spc. Jonathan M. Stack and Pfc. Emily Danial

Associate Editor and Staff writer

We've seen all kinds of volunteers come and go here at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield since Operation Iraqi Freedom began, but none who are as famous as Gary Sinise, who made his appearance at Hunter Monday afternoon and Stewart Tuesday.

Sinise, the critically acclaimed

actor and director of such classic films as 1992's "Of Mice and Men" and 1994's "Forrest Gump," descended upon Stewart/Hunter on the arm of the United Services Organization to sign autographs, talk with soldiers and just kind of check out their daily work.

Although Sinise introduced himself around post as simply "Gary," many soldiers couldn't help but refer to and greet him as "Lt. Dan," the "Forrest Gump" role that won

him an Oscar nomination. The actor took it all in stride with a nod and smile.

Sinise was welcomed by Lt. Col. Daniel Williams of the 1st Bn., 3rd Aviation Regt. and Command Sgt. Maj. Carlos Cueto of 4th Brigade and went on a short tour of two of 4th Brigade's hangars, where he was given an up-close look at a UH-60L Blackhawk and an AH-640 Apache helicopter used by the unit in Iraq. He then headed over

to the rigger facility, where he was given a parachute-packing demonstration by Spc. Shannon Dirks and Sgt. David Chevront.

Sinise took time at each unit he visited to take pictures with soldiers and sign autographs. He even posed with the infant son of one of the riggers, at which point the comment, "Hey, it's just like 'Ransom!'" (a reference to the 1996

See SINISE, Page 2A

Billions needed to finish War on Terror; Wolfowitz asks for Congress' support

WASHINGTON — Explaining why the Pentagon will need billions of dollars to fight and win the war on terrorism, Deputy Defense Secretary Paul D. Wolfowitz told the Senate Armed Services Committee Tuesday that "we don't start a job that we can't finish. And when we do start a job, we give it our best. That's the American way."

The deputy secretary's committee testimony came two days after the president said in a nationwide address that he will ask Congress for an additional \$87 billion to fund the war on terrorism.

Wolfowitz told lawmakers the Pentagon needs resources for its military, and "we also need resources to win that second battle front, both in Afghanistan and Iraq,

to help those people build new and free countries that will remain free of instability and terrorism — and to send a message to the world, especially enemies, that we have the staying power to finish the job."

The deputy secretary, who was joined by Joint Chiefs Chairman Air Force Gen. Richard Myers,

See BILLIONS, Page 5A



Paul Wolfowitz

Inside The Frontline

News



293rd MPs return from Afghanistan 3A

Viper mechanics keep aircraft flying 6A

Sports



512th edges out 603rd, 30-22, in Hunter championship 1B

Army of one driver returns to Richmond 1B

Life & Times

New housing plans a step away 1C



Legacy of victory showcased at museum.... 2C

Guide

Voices and Viewpoints	4A
Winn articles	10A
3ID In Brief.	14A
Police Blotters.	15A
Worship schedule	3B
Pet of the Week.	3B
Score Board	4B
Volunteer Spotlight	5B
Movie listing	5B
Birth announcements	5B

Weather Forecast

FRI		
High		Low
83°		66°
SAT		
High		Low
84°		68°
SUN		
High		Low
89°		69°



Photos by Spc. Jonathan M. Stack

Gary Sinise, actor in such movies as "Ransom" and "Apollo 13," does a push-up during a PT session Tuesday morning. He participated in PT with A Co., Hq Cmd.

SINISE

from page 1A

film in which Sinise played a policeman who kidnapped a young boy) was met by a knowing smile and a jokingly response, "That's not right!"

During an autograph signing session at Hunter's post exchange, Sinise was approached by a Ranger from the 1st Bn., 75th Ranger Regt., who asked Sinise to come over to his company and see off a group of Rangers who were heading out to the field. Sinise was happy to oblige, and the detour was willingly made.

"It's really cool that he took the time to do all this," said Pfc. Alton Praytor, a rigger at Hunter. "He's already so busy but he still made room in his schedule for us."

But why do all this? Sinise said when he, with performer Kid Rock and others, did an overseas tour, much of the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) was already on its way back to the United States.

"I called up (the division) and told them, 'I want to be at Fort Stewart when they come home,'" he said. "I feel great doing this. It's one of the best things I do."

Along for the ride was Sinise's brother-in-law Jack Treese, a Vietnam veteran. He was stationed in the 24th Inf. Div. at Stewart from 1976 to 1982. If he hadn't been stationed here he would have never met his wife and wouldn't be Sinise's brother-in-law, Treese said. Sinise brought him on the USO tour so he could revisit Stewart and see some of the places he use to work.

While at Stewart Sinise and his entourage conducted physical fitness with A Company, Headquarters Command. They did push-ups, overhead-arm claps and the turn and bounce. They also experienced an army run with the joy of singing cadence.

Sinise ate breakfast and lunch in dining facilities, which offered an opportunity for soldiers to talk with him. The staff of the DFACs also had an opportunity to interact with him as he went through the

line to get his food.

He also visited the hospital where he greeted patients and the staff and also went to Soldier Family Health Clinics one and three.

Sinise took the chance to talk to Maj. Gen. Buford C. Blount, 3rd Inf. Div., Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield commanding general commander.

To end his visit at Stewart there was an autograph session where soldiers and family members took pictures and had different items signed by Sinise.

Sinise said that there have been many instances throughout his interactions with the military that have had a significant impact on him emotionally.

"I went to Iraq ... and spent a lot of time talking to one lieutenant who told me about a time there when American soldiers were going past some houses where children were playing. A small boy was scared and ran to his mother for protection, and the mother threw her arms around one of the soldiers, crying 'Thank you! Thank you!'"

"I also met a girl who had lost one leg to a land mine," he said, "and she told me that (the character) Lt. Dan (who lost both legs in Vietnam) was a real encouragement to her as she struggled with her own situation and injuries. That was all very moving to me."

Sinise, an honorary member of the Vietnam Veterans of America, said he was glad to be able to do what he could for the soldiers, and noted the difference between the reception being given to the returning troops now as opposed to that for those who fought in Vietnam in the late 1960s and 70s.

"Those soldiers had to come back to such a bad time," he said. "I'm happy things are different for our soldiers now, that they don't have to go through all that."

Because of the support of Sinise, the USO and countless other volunteers, that statement becomes truer every day.

Sinise added, "I hope to visit every base on the planet in the next five years."



Sinise pours himself a bowl of chicken noodle soup. He received a taste of Army food at the DIVARTY DFAC, where he ate lunch and talked to soldiers and the staff.



Photos by Pfc. Emily Danial

(Above) Sinise and Staci Wolfe, his manager, watch as Spc. Shannon Dirks demonstrate how to pack a parachute. (Left) Sinise signs autographs for some of his fans at Hunter.



Sinise talks to Maj. Gen. Buford C. Blount III, 3rd Inf. Div., Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield commanding general.

From D.C. to desert ...

293rd MPs fight terrorism

Spc. Katherine Robinson

Staff Writer

While the World Trade Centers still smoldered, and America still held its collective breath in the days that followed the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the 293rd Military Police Company deployed out of Fort Stewart on barely 24 hours notice. Their mission: to guard the Pentagon against further threats, while the country tried to recover.

Nearly two years later, the company returned from a second deployment. This time their mission was to capture and guard the people responsible for those and other terrorist actions.

The 293rd served in Afghanistan from Feb. 28 to Sept. 3, in support of the 82nd Airborne Division, and later the 10th Mountain Division.

The company had three basic missions, according to Capt. John A. Fivian, company commander. "Our primary one was running the Bagram short-term holding facility,

which is where we controlled over one hundred (persons under U.S. control)," he said.

The MPs were responsible for the daily handling, care, feeding and administration of punishment for detainees at the facility. They were also responsible for sending approximately 90 PUCs to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for permanent housing, Fivian added.

The secondary mission was access control of the airfield's four entry points. The soldiers searched more than 5,000 international locals daily, to allow them access to the base for work purposes, he explained. They also discovered several improvised explosive devices in vehicles, and provided perimeter security for the base.

The third mission included route reconnaissance. Fivian said there are only two main supply routes connecting Bagram with the city of Kabul. The MPs worked jointly with explosive ordnance disposal units, patrolling the two routes and searching for unexploded ordnance and IEDs.

Each platoon in the company also got the chance to conduct combat operations with the 82nd, Fivian said. With names like, "Dragon Fury," and "Operation Unified Resolve," the missions varied from pulling security to searching for terrorists.

"The mission (of Dragon Fury) was to go into towns and clear them and detain personnel who may have been involved in terrorist activities," said Sgt. Meara Smith, a 1st platoon team leader. The MPs worked with 2nd Battalion, 505th Infantry Regiment for that and other missions.

Spc. James Kelly, a driver with 3rd Platoon, said his platoon traveled about ten hours in a ground assault convoy, assisting in convoy security, and worked out of a fire-base – a hasty area of operations – assisting with detainee-type missions.

A portion of 2nd Platoon accompanied a Special Forces unit for three weeks, providing security while SF soldiers used signal intelligence to locate and capture PUCs, Fivian said.

All these missions were somewhat unique to the combat MP job, Fivian said, but the company was prepared. The soldiers spent several months prior to the deployment fine-tuning their skills during training.

"We did individual-level training and squad lanes," Fivian said. "Not just (enemy prisoner of war) but traditional combat MP



Courtesy photos by 293rd MP Co.

Capt. John A. Fivian, 293rd MP Co. commander, looks out at the hills of Afghanistan, where his company supported the 82nd Airborne Division and 10th Mountain division. The company returned Sept. 3.

training." The company conducted two exercises out of Camp Oliver, a training ground on Fort Stewart, he explained.

One consisted of regular mission training, and the other focused on tasks more specific to the Central Command theatre.

The MPs worked on unarmed self-defense, forced cell entry, riot-control and other tactics.

"We'd been training really hard in the field, so when we left here and got there we knew there was nothing they could throw at us we couldn't handle," Smith said. "We were pretty confident."

"When I came in (to the 293rd on Jan. 14,) I got a really good impression of the company," Smith added. "They looked like they were squared away and ready to deploy, so that helped ease a lot of questions and concerns."

The company's readiness only improved, along with unit cohesion, during the six months overseas, the soldiers said.

"I definitely came out of it feeling better off," Smith said. "I learned a lot about how a

deployment works, and what really goes on out there. I wouldn't have given it up for anything. I'm so glad I deployed."

The deployment also helped Smith, who was new as a team leader, develop a sense of teamwork with her soldiers. "(Being deployed) forces everyone to be together and depend on each other," she said.

"Living with the same people for six months definitely brings you closer. You learn to get along one way or another," Kelly said.

Fivian said he has had full confidence in his company throughout his 25-month tour as its commander.

"There is no doubt in my mind, the 293rd can conduct any mission," he said. "It's been proven twice since I've been here, that on short notice we can deploy and conduct the mission well beyond standards."

"Having been to the Pentagon while it was still on fire," he added, "... to go to Afghanistan and be responsible for the capture and warehousing of the same (individuals) was very cool."



293rd MP Co.

The 293rd MP Co. sit in full battle rattle on the way to Afghanistan in February. The company returned Sept. 3.

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Sept. 11: A day to remind us of heroes

Two years have passed since the terrorist agents of hatred and fear committed their attack on America on Sept. 11th, 2001.

On this second anniversary of that day, we pause to remember and honor the innocent men, women, and children who perished in those senseless acts of terrorism in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania.

Our observances on September 11 also serve as a reminder of the heroes — soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines — who have lost their lives in operations in the war against terrorism. We will not forget, and will long honor, their devotion to this country and the principles we hold dear.

Soldiers are fighting today on behalf of our Nation — they are a critical component of the Joint Team, prosecuting the war on terrorism.

In 120 countries around the globe, our Soldiers are serving bravely on the frontiers of freedom, and they and their families set the standard every day for selfless service.

For more than 228 years, the Army

has never failed the American people, and it never will.

We can all be justifiably proud of the Army's achievements in fighting terror and bringing liberty to the oppressed.

The Taliban and al Qaeda are no longer terrorizing the citizens of Afghanistan. The brutal regime of Saddam Hussein has been forcibly removed. Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom are vital parts of this Nation's unyielding campaign to destroy international terrorism and to restore global stability.

We pause today to honor those lost two years ago, those lost in the long days since September 11th, and all of their families.

The war on terrorism has demonstrated that our Nation and our Army are up to the task thrust upon us. We acknowledge the enduring contributions of the Army during the past two years, and our commitment remains constant. When the Nation calls, we will fight and win decisively.

We are proud of you, our Army

family-Soldiers, civilians, retirees, veterans, and your families, and you are always foremost in our prayers and in our actions.

Thank you for your service, for your sacrifices, and for your steadfast devotion to duty. Your courage, dedication to duty, and selfless service to the Nation are the hallmarks of the United States Army.

God bless each and every one of you and your families, God bless our magnificent Army, and God bless America.



Gen. Peter J. Schoemaker
Army Chief of Staff



Les Brownlee
Acting Secretary of the Army



9-11 widow reflects on visit to troops

Christy Ferer

Special to American Forces Press Service

Editor's Note: The author has updated this commentary from a previous version that was widely distributed. It is her account of a trip to Iraq June 2003 to visit U.S. forces there. Used by permission.

When I told friends I was making a pilgrimage to Iraq to thank the U.S. troops, their reactions were underwhelming at best.

Some were blunt: "Why are YOU going there?" They couldn't understand why it was important for me, a 9-11 widow, to express my support for the men and women stationed today in the Persian Gulf.

The reason seemed clear, as far as I was concerned. I was going not to embrace the war, but rather to embrace the warriors.

I didn't intend to use the emotional capital generated by my connection to Sept. 11, 2001, to defend the U.S. presence in Iraq, and I am certainly aware there is no proof yet that Saddam Hussein was linked to 9-11. But I wanted to go there because I am the daughter of a World War II veteran who was decorated with a Purple Heart, and because I am the widow of a man who lost his life in what some feel was the opening salvo of World War III.

I wanted, needed, to honor my father and my husband, their service and sacrifice, by standing before those who were now making sacrifices and serving our country.

Some 150,000 troops were sent halfway around the world by our government, and therefore in all of our names, to depose Saddam Hussein. Saddam's despotic regime fueled volatile anti-American sentiment that many feel is connected to terrorist attacks like the one that took place on Sept. 11, 2001.

But my friends' reactions were so politely negative that I began to doubt my role in the first USO/Tribeca Institute tour into newly occupied Iraq. Besides, with Robert De Niro, Wayne Newton, and Rebecca and John Stamos, who needed me? I'm hardly a celebrity.

Did U.S. soldiers really want to hear about my husband, Neil Levin, who went to work as director of the Port Authority of New York on Sept. 11 and never came home?

How would they relate to the two other bereaved people traveling with me — Ginny Bauer, a New Jersey homemaker and mother of three who lost her husband, David; and former Marine Jon Vigiano, who lost his only sons: Jon, a firefighter, and Joe, a policeman?

As we were choppered over the bleached deserts, I wondered if I'd feel like a street hawker, passing out Port Authority pins and baseball caps as I said "Thank you" to the troops. Would a hug from me compare to hugs from a Victoria's Secret model, or the Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders?

The first "meet and greet" made me weep. I knew I had made the right decision, to do anything I could to support these new warriors. My own daughters are old enough to be soldiers. Here were their peers — 18-year-olds, armed with M-16s and saddlebags of water in the 120-degree heat. The soldiers swarmed around the stars for photos and autographs. Then it was announced that a trio of 9-11 family members was also in the tent.

It was as if an emotional dam had burst.

Some wanted to touch us, as if they needed a physical connection to our sorrow, and living proof of one reason they

were there. One mother of two from Montana told me she'd signed up because of 9-11, and dozens of others said the same. One young man showed me his metal bracelet engraved with the name of a victim he'd never known and that awful date none of us will ever forget.

At every encounter with the troops, there was a surge of Reservists — firefighters and cops, including many who had worked in the rubble of Ground Zero — who had come to exchange a hometown hug. Their glassy eyes still didn't allow anyone to penetrate to the place where their trauma is lodged, the trauma that comes with devastation unimaginable to those who didn't witness it. It's there in me, too. I forced my way downtown on that terrible morning, convinced I could find Neil beneath the rubble.

I was not prepared for the soldiers who showed us the World Trade Center memorabilia they'd carried with them into the streets of Baghdad. Others had been holding in stories of personal 9-11 tragedies that had made them enlist.

To those men and women, it didn't seem to matter that Saddam Hussein's regime had not produced the murderers of Sept. 11. Despotic rulers like Saddam fuel the volatile anti-American sentiment that breeds such terrorism, they felt: to stabilize the Gulf region was to protect U.S. soil.

At Saddam Hussein International Airport, where Kid Rock gave an impromptu concert in a steamy hangar, Capt. Jorge Vargas from the Bronx tapped me on the back. He'd enlisted in the Army after some of his wife's best friends were lost at the World Trade Center. When he saw the piece of recovered metal from the Towers that I had been showing to a group of soldiers, he grasped for it as if it were a grail.

Then he handed it to Kid Rock, who passed the precious metal through the 5,000 troops in the audience. They lunged at the opportunity to touch the steel that symbolized what so many of them felt was the purpose of their mission. Looking into that sea of khaki gave me chills, even in the blistering heat.

To me, those troops were there to send a message not to just one country, but to an entire region that breeds the brand of terrorism that murdered my husband and some 3,000 others.

When I got to the microphone, I told the soldiers we hadn't made the journey to hear condolences, but to thank them and to say that the families of 9-11 think of them every day. The crowd interrupted me with chants of "U.S.A.! U.S.A.! U.S.A.!" Many cried.

What happened next left me with no doubt why I had come. There I was onstage, quaking before thousands of troops because I was to present a small piece of the World Trade Center steel to Gen. Tommy Franks. As I handed him the icy gray block, his eyes welled up.

I was stunned when the proud four-star general was unable to hold back the tears, which streamed down his face as he stood at center stage before his troops. The men and women in khaki fell silent. As he turned from the spotlight to regain his composure, I put my arms around him and tried to comfort both of us with an embrace.

(Christy Ferer was appointed in June 2003 to the Family Advisory Board of the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, the agency responsible for rebuilding and revitalizing Lower Manhattan, by New York Gov. George E. Pataki. She also serves as a special assistant to New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg as a liaison to families affected by the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.)

Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

Do you feel the US has made progress in the War on Terror since 9/11?

"By ousting Saddam Hussein, we accomplished an important part, but this war doesn't just end."

Staff Sgt.
Kenneth Horlbeck
366th Chemical Co.

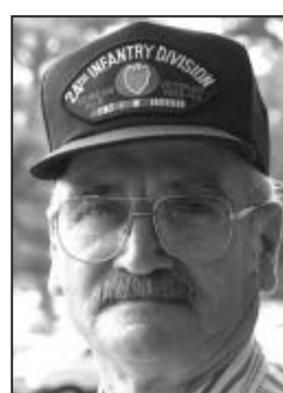


"We've made progress because people feel safer."

Staff Sgt.
Willie Johnson
HQ, USAG

"People are more alert and have better security now, but we'll never be able to completely prevent terrorism."

Christian Lavoie
AAFES Vendor



"They are doing the best they can under the circumstances. I support Bush and the troops 100 percent."

James Green
Retired Army Veteran

"I think we should have pulled out of Iraq earlier. The war achieved great things at the start but now we are at a loss for an exit strategy."

Spc. Heather Makin
28th MP Co.



"We made great progress in Afghanistan, and Saddam's regime has fallen. It'll take time to finish — it's still hectic over there."

Pfc. Josh Riddle
B Co., 10th Engineers

Correction

In the Aug. 21 issue of the Frontline, Scott Piersol was referred to as an Air Force veteran. It should have read his wife Karen is an Air Force disabled veteran. The Frontline apologizes for the error.

Voice your
opinion!
Write a letter to
the editor!

Send to:

Public Affairs Office
Attn: The Frontline, Editor
101 W. Bultman Ave.
Suite 101

Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314-4941

THE FRONTLINE

MILITARY NEWS: 767-3440
ADVERTISING: (912) 368-0526
Volume 19, Number 12
Publisher

3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) Commander —
Maj. Gen. Buford C. Blount III
Consolidated Public Affairs Office
Director — Lt. Col. Clifford J. Kent

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the Frontline are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or U.S. Forces Command. It is published weekly using offset printing by the Public Affairs Office, Fort Stewart, Georgia

Deputy Director — Richard Olson
PAO Supervisor — Master Sgt. Kenneth Russ
Command Information Manager — Jim Jeffcoat

Editorial Staff

Managing Editor — Jim Jeffcoat
Editor — Sgt. Raymond Piper
Associate Editor — Spc. Jonathan M. Stack
Staff Writer — Sgt. Craig Zentkovich
Staff Writer — Spc. Jacob Boyer
Staff Writer — Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.
Staff Writer — Spc. Mason T. Lowery
Staff Writer — Spc. Adam Nuelken

31314-5000. Phone number: 912-767-3440 or 767-8072
Printed circulation up to 22,000. All editorial content of the Frontline newspaper is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Public Affairs Office of Fort Stewart, Georgia and the 3d Infantry Division (Mechanized) and is printed by Morris Newspaper Corporation of Hinesville, Inc. a private firm

Staff Writer — Spc. Katherine Robinson
Staff Writer — Pfc. Benjamin Brody
Hunter Public Affairs Office

Chief — Steven Hart
Deputy Chief — 1st Lt. Amy Phillips
NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Brian Sipp
Public Affairs NCO — Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke
Staff Writer — Pfc. Emily Danial

Advertising Staff

Advertising Manager — Maryann Wilson
Frontline Production Manager — Juanita Vandenbosch

in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with Fort Stewart, Georgia. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising. Subscription rates are \$9 for three months, \$16 for six months and \$30 for 12 months. Rates are for third class mail, inside the continental U.S.

Deployed troops get break on school loans

K.L. Vantran

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Military personnel who have been deployed or mobilized are not required to make student loan payments during their absences.

Federal regulations require lenders to postpone the student loan program payments of active duty military personnel. This applies to members of the National Guard and Ready Reserves who have been called to active duty, as well as to active duty personnel whose duty station has been changed as a result of a military mobilization.

"Many of the brave men and women serving our nation right now have put their per-

"Our soldiers should not have to worry about their student loan obligations."

Rod Paige
U.S. Education Secretary

sonal lives on hold to answer the nation's call to duty," said U.S. Education Secretary Rod Paige in a news release earlier this year. "As they defend the freedoms we cherish, our soldiers should not have to worry about their student loan obligations and resuming their studies."

He encouraged the higher education and lending communities to be flexible and provide assistance to service members, so they

can "easily resume their studies and financial obligations after they complete their tours."

The regulations apply to student loans made under the Federal Family Education Loan, William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan and Federal Perkins Loan programs.

The law also requires that active duty military people who have not begun the repayment period on their loans continue to receive a grace period (generally six months) before

repaying their loans. Students who were in school at the time of mobilization must also be given a reasonable period to resume school before lenders request payments.

Colleges will not be required to collect financial aid funds that now-active duty students were given to pay for books and living expenses. Also Education Department officials encourage colleges and universities to either fully refund tuition and other institutional charges or give comparable credit against future charges to students forced to withdraw from school to fulfill military obligations.

For more information, call 1-800-433-3243.

(Information obtained from an Education Department news release.)

PRESIDENT

from page 1A

Kellman warned soldiers to plan ahead for Friday, realizing that there will be many security constraints.

"The fewer bags and metal objects people are carrying, the quicker they will move through the checkpoints," said Capt. Jennifer Reed, Fort Stewart Provost Marshal's Office operation's officer.

Many roads and gates will be closed for security purposes. "We are advising people to carpool and to make sure that adults are carrying government issued photo (identification) to make things run smoothly," Reed added. "Vehicles without decals are better off parking at the old Wal-Mart (Beale's Outlet), where shuttle buses will pick them up."

Vehicles with Department of Defense decals are advised to enter the installation through Gate 2 (Troupe Ave.) and Gate 3 (Harmon Ave.). Parking will be available at Donovan Field, across from Gate 3. Shuttles will operate to and from Donovan Field and Beale's Outlet locations from 6:30 a.m. to 9 a.m., and after the event.

Kellman also asked that soldiers be courteous of the guests on post, the Secret Service and any other organizations that will be here to ensure Bush has a safe visit.

"It's a great day to be a dogfaced soldier," he said. "Rock of the Marne, the Tigress and the Euphrates."

BILLIONS

from page 1A

urged lawmakers to support the Pentagon in three critical areas: Obtaining the resources and authority to train and equip foreign military forces; flexibility to reduce the stress on active duty end-strength by making it easier to convert military jobs to civilian jobs; and adequate resources to wage and win this war.

He said the bulk of the president's request, an estimated \$66 billion, will go toward ensuring U.S. forces have the resources they need to complete their missions. Another \$21 billion, he noted, would help build "safe, stable and self-governing" societies in Iraq and Afghanistan, conditions he said will help encourage economic investment.

Additional funding from Congress, he said, would help to increase the number of Iraqis being trained to help provide security for oil pipelines and borders. "There is no shortage of Iraqis willing to serve."

Wolfowitz said more than 55,000 Iraqis are already aiding U.S. and coalition forces, making them the "single largest member of the coalition after the United States."

"They are taking on the hard missions; they are fighting and taking casualties with us," he added.

The Pentagon plans to train 66,000 more Iraqi police and field three divisions of the new Iraqi army, he said, a process that could take place "more rapidly" with the resources the president is asking Congress to provide. "We should not find that we are held back by a shortage of money or authority to give those willing and able to fight on our side the proper training and equipment to get the job done," Wolfowitz said.

He told lawmakers military commanders have said repeatedly that more American troops are not needed in Iraq, but that commanders say they need more international troops to share the

burden of providing stability forces.

"But most of all, what (the commanders) want are more Iraqi troops because it is their country that we have liberated, and it is they who need to take over the main security tasks," he said.

Wolfowitz concluded to lawmakers that the cost is large, but the war on terrorism is a battle the United States "can win" and "must win."

"Victory in this battle will be a major victory in the war on terrorism, and a major defeat for the global terrorist networks," he said. "As large as these costs are, they are still small compared to just the economic price that the attacks on Sept. 11 inflicted, to say nothing of the terrible loss of human life."

Wolfowitz told the committee its support would send a message to the troops and to enemies of the United States that "America is behind her troops — that America has the staying power to fight this war on terrorism to victory."

More than 3,000 miles, due for an oil change ...

Viper mechanics keep aircraft flying

Staff Sgt. Brian Sipp

NCOIC Hunter Public Affairs Office

Ask any helicopter pilot about the preparations that go into every flight and what elements are needed to ensure a successful mission and you will invariably find a recurring theme. Maintenance equals victory. This simple statement was validated during Operation Iraqi Freedom and began anew as aircraft were shipped back to Hunter Army Airfield and preparations began for additional missions.

During the build up, actual combat, and post-conflict security missions, aviators from 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment logged a total of 850 hours of flight time. This included 10 combat missions in which more than 10,000 rounds of 30mm ammunition were expended and 200 Hellfire missiles were fired.

With hellish weather conditions and temperature extremes, the 25-million-dollar aircraft required the technical expertise, and often times American ingenuity, that is the trademark of aviation mechanics.

"The guys really worked hard, and the pilots would let us know if there were any little problems that could turn into big problems later," said Sgt. Keith Jenkins, D Co 1/3 Avn. aviation mechanic.

"The maintenance personnel are a very close knit family, and it's very important that things are done correctly. Teamwork, confidence and communications allow all of the aircraft to be available at all times," added Chief Warrant Officer 4 Brent Huntsman, 1/3 Avn.. A H-64 Longbow Apache pilot.

In many instances, quick fixes and the ability to "adjust fire" to compensate for the situation were called for.

"In one instance we switched grease in the weapons system which made them fire better," said Jenkins.

Several other lessons were learned from the unit's service in Operation Desert Spring and even from service during Operation Desert Storm.

"We learned to cut down on blade wear by taping the rotor blades," explained Chief Warrant Officer 4 Phillip Hill, 1/3 Avn. production control officer.

The tape, designed to cut down on sand erosion and is now available in a kit from the manufacturer, is applied in three layers and



Staff Sgt. Brian Sipp

Spc Philippe Wolff and Pfc Dennis Maes both electricians with D.Co. 1/3 Aviation inspect a 30 mm autocannon.

inspected after every flight.

Repairing battle-damage proved to be a challenge as well due to the complexity of electronics systems in the aircraft. Every bullet-hole needed to be drilled out and stress cracks from around them had to be removed with a Dremel tool, said Hill.

"Fortunately, the Apache has a lot of back-up systems and a lot of redundant systems that allow it to fly even when sustaining damage," added Hill.

As the Longbows slowly arrive via ocean transport, they are rotated out and currently receiving several upgrades, said Maj. David Rude, 1/3 Avn. executive officer.

The software upgrade will feature a moving map display and eventually allow the pilot to see icons on the ground, improving interoperability with ground units.

"It's nothing that is unscheduled; it's part of the natural 30-year progression of the aircraft," explained Rude.

Looking forward to a busy training cycle, Jenkins reflected on where the aircraft have been and where they are going.

"We believed the heat and sand would terrorize them, ... like holding your computer under a hair dryer and throwing in sand. All in all, though, I think they held up very well. It's not easy though, they've been on a boat for a month, and stuff needs to be evaluated. They aren't equipped to sit still, they're equipped to fly," he said with a grin.



Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.

Lt. Col. William E. Funk, commander for HHC, 3/7 Inf. renders a salute after awarding a soldier the Bronze Star Medal and a Purple Heart.

3/7 Inf. honors heroes

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.

Staff Writer

An awards ceremony for the 3rd Battalion 7th Infantry honoring the achievements of its redeployed and fallen soldiers was held Thursday at 10 a.m. at Caro gym.

A total of 638 awards were given to soldiers. The medals received were Silver Star Medals, Bronze Star Medals with Valor Devices, Bronze Star medals, Purple Hearts and Army Commendation Medals.

"You are some real life American heroes," said Col. William F. Grimsley, battalion commander of the 3/7 Inf. "It is my honor and privilege to be standing here as part of this formation to recognize the heroes here in front of us."

"It is a prestigious award," said Staff Sgt. Benito A. Rodriguez, a platoon sergeant from the 3/7 Inf. and recipient of a Bronze Star with Valor. "To be recognized for the Bronze star is an honor. It was supposed to be for valorous

actions during combat, but I was just doing what I was trained to do."

After realizing the severity of what they were getting into, the soldiers didn't take their situation for granted, Rodriguez said.

"We depended on each other to come back alive. Our main goal was to go 30 something strong and come back 30 something strong," he said.

During the campaign, the 3/7 Inf. suffered the loss of two soldiers, Pfc. Marlin T. Rockhold and Sgt. Michael T. Crockett. Crockett was new to the battalion and had volunteered to go to Iraq. They are honored along with 36 other fallen soldiers on Warrior's Walk, Fort Stewart's memorial to those who died during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"This was a great team effort of great American soldiers," said Grimsley. "You raised your right hands and put yourself in harm's way to defend our way of life and liberate people who have not known freedom for generations."

HMAC seeks contributions

Jim Jeffcoat

Managing Editor

The Hinesville Military Affairs Committee is prepping in anticipation of the full return of the brave men and women of the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), according to Hinesville Mayor Thomas J. Ratcliffe.

Presently the committee is hosting the construction of a monument in Marne Garden on Fort Stewart, which will honor those soldiers whose lives were lost and all who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In addition, the committee is planning a picnic for the Division soldiers and their families with intentions to feed more than 20,000 people.

"We are striving to make this 'Welcome Home' and the monument of a quality equal to the quality of the Division's performance on our behalf," Ratcliffe said in a letter to the community. "The committee has established a budget of \$100,000, about one half of which will be used for the memorial. We ask you (surrounding community/businesses) to join in helping to underwrite this celebration by making a monetary contribution."

The mayor is also inviting members of the community and businesses to consider other forms of donations such as providing tents and volunteers to see through the success of the "Welcome Home" projects.

The Hinesville Military Affairs committee is a group of volunteer citizens, led by Mayor Pro Tem David Anderson, which includes organizations and residents from throughout Liberty County.

Anyone who wants to contribute to the Military Affairs Committee efforts should address their gift to:

Hinesville Military Affairs Committee
at the City of Hinesville
115 East M.L. King, Jr. Dr
Hinesville, Ga 31313

Levels of contributions are: Platinum — \$5,000 and over; Gold — \$3,000-\$4,999; Silver — \$1,000-\$2,999; Bronze — \$100-\$999; and Patron — up to \$99.

Contributors should include their name or name of business, point of contact, address, phone number, email and fax number with their contribution folders.

Operation Iraqi Freedom Monument Fund	
Name _____	Amount _____
Organization/unit _____	
Mailing Address _____	
City _____	State _____ Zip _____
<input type="checkbox"/> I give the OIF Memorial Monument Committee and the Hinesville Military Affairs Coordinating Committee permission to publish my name in any print, broadcast or radio publication.	
<small>Make your tax deduction donation check or money order payable to: City of Hinesville Military Affairs Coordinating Committee Mail to: 115 East M.L. King Drive Hinesville, GA 31313</small>	

Domestic violence: *How to prevent, heal, stop the cycle of spousal abuse*

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.

Staff Writer

Editor's Note: *This story is the first in a four-part series on domestic violence.*

Domestic violence is a problem of epidemic proportion in the armed forces, according to the Department of Defense Task Force on Domestic Violence. More than 1 million incidents of non-lethal spouse and child abuse occur each year.

"Whenever I think about domestic violence I think about control," said Maj. Tim Sowers, the Fort Stewart family and life chaplain.

Power and control are at the core of an abusive relationship. In all but the most severe violent relationships, physical abuse may occur relatively infrequently and only serves to reinforce the other tactics the abuser is using to control the victim, said Sowers.

The DTFDV definition of domestic violence is the use, attempted or threatened use of physical force, violence, a deadly weapon, sexual assault or the intentional destruction of property. It is also defined as behavior that has the intent or impact of placing a victim in fear of physical injury or a pattern of behavior resulting in emotional or psychological abuse, economic control and/or interference with personal liberty.

The victims of domestic violence are defined as a current or former spouse, a person with whom the abuser shares a child in common or a current or former intimate partner and children. Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women, and in some cases the abuse leads to death of the victim.

"It is a learned behavior that usually starts in the victim's and the perpetrator's childhood home," said Sowers.

For males, witnessing domestic violence in the home is the risk factor most consistent with perpetration of abuse. Domestic violence is reinforced not only by exposure in the home, but also by society. The violence is repeated because it is understood by the abuser as the most effective way of gaining and sustaining control over a victim, Sowers said.

The dynamics of domestic violence occur in a three-phase cycle. The first phase, tension building, is the part of the cycle that a victim is more or less "walking on eggshells," trying not to make the same so-called "mistakes" that lead to the second phase of the cycle, the

explosion. Some victims try to learn their abusers signs and patterns of violence, knowing when to steer clear during the tension-building phase. Victims have even been known to provoke the abuser in order to reach the end of a tension-building phase, get the abuse over with, and move on to the honeymoon phase, where everything is temporarily perfect and seemingly trouble free.

"Domestic violence is more prevalent at Fort Stewart because of the amount of young people, particularly in their early to mid twenties who have recently married," said Maj. Joseph Bird, chief of social work services. "This group of individuals is most likely to commit domestic violence because of their lack of knowledge on how to properly deal with stress and marital tension."

Domestic violence is punishable under article 128 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

"Not all cases of domestic violence make it to my level. Many of these incidents are dealt with at a command level," said Major Robert F. Resnick, chief of military justice. "How a the case goes depends on many factors, such as the individual's history, if any, and whether or not the individuals are seeking counseling for their problem."

Counseling is available in many different places for the prevention of and dealing with domestic violence. Army Community Service, which offers a variety of classes on stress and anger management, chaplains and Social Work Services are some of the places where an individual can seek help.

"Chaplains are a good source of help because people can talk to their chaplains and not have to worry about incrimination," said Sowers. "We take an oath to protect confidentiality. It wouldn't be right for a chaplain to know about a problem and not do anything to correct it."

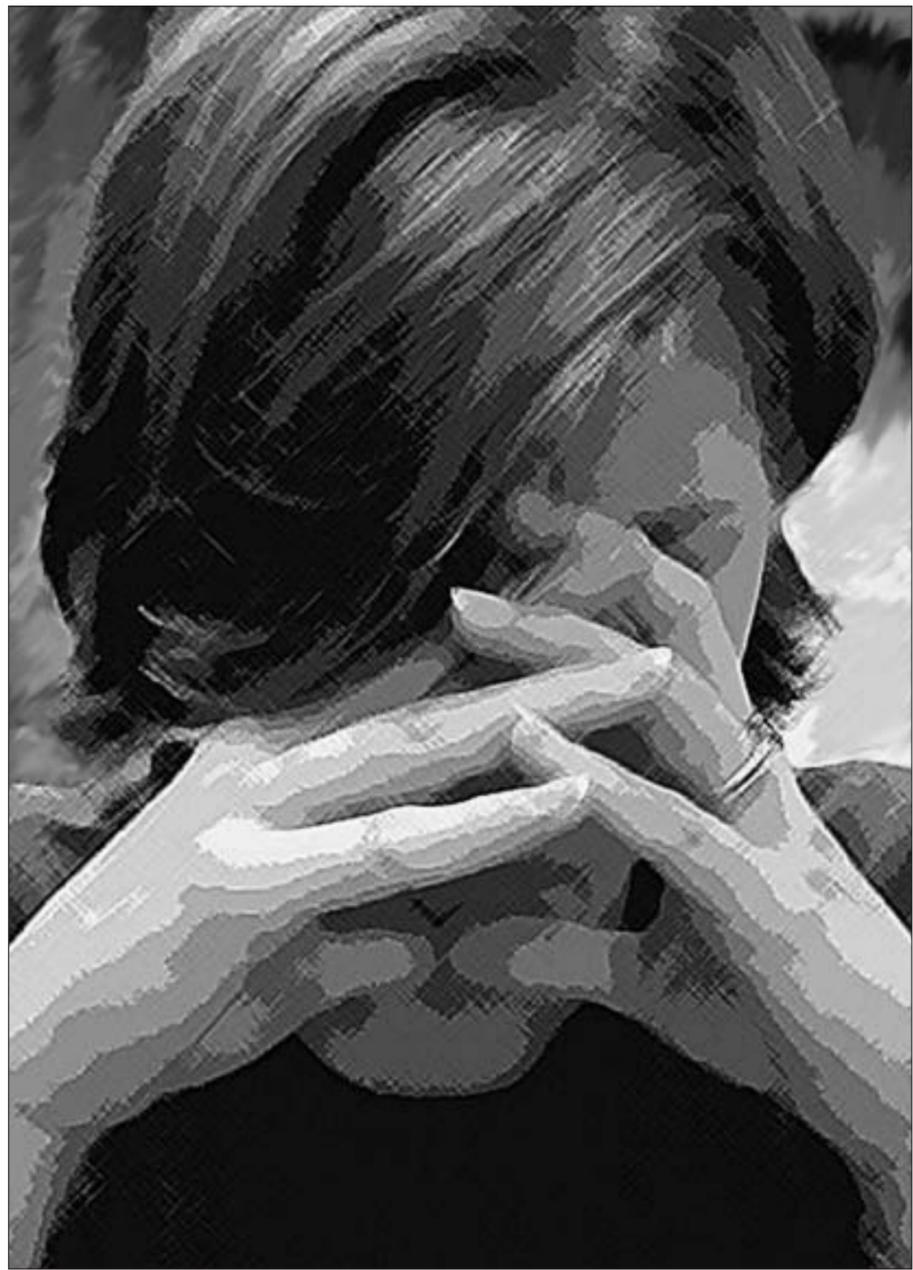
In extreme cases, the victim can seek ways to permanently leave the abuser. The armed forces offer programs to help victims separate from perpetrators. Fear of an abuser often allows the abuse to continue long after a problem is recognized. Once a victim has left the abuser, problems such as stalking and continuance of threats may occur.

Victims can protect themselves after separating from the abuser in a variety of ways. First it is important to have a safety plan. This may include varying routes when traveling to work and having friends stay with the victim. Most important is to report incidents of abuse to the proper authorities so that the perpetra-

tor's actions can be recorded in case of future incidents. Most often the authorities issue a protection order.

"There is help for people who are seeking it. When someone comes in to SWS looking

for counseling, we try to tailor a program to fit the needs of the individual," said Rose Mullice, chief of family advocacy. "These programs wouldn't be available if they weren't successful."



Identifying diabetes early prevents health risks

Britney Frazier
Madigan Army Medical Center

Diabetes mellitus causes elevated blood-sugar levels. There are two types of diabetes and both can occur in children.

Type 1 is caused by destruction of the insulin-producing cells in the pancreas. Insulin is a hormone that helps to move blood sugar from our blood into our body's fat and muscle cells for use. Without insulin, blood sugar levels can be high and cause damage to our bodies.

Type 2 diabetes is more complex, but basically it is due to the body's cells not responding to insulin. Both type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus can occur in children. Classically, type 1 diabetes occurred in childhood and type 2 in adults, but with the current epidemic of childhood obesity, there has been a parallel dramatic increase in type 2 diabetes in children.

Recognizing diabetes early

can help to prevent serious health problems. Type 1 diabetes typically has a more sudden onset. Children will have an increased frequency of urination, which may include a new onset of bedwetting. Because of the increased urination, they are extremely thirsty and tend to drink excessively.

In addition to increased thirst, children will often have increased appetite as well, but despite this they typically lose weight quickly. Children with type 1 diabetes may be tired, have episodes of vomiting, and report changes in vision with untreated diabetes.

On the other hand, children with type 2 diabetes mellitus often may not have any recognized symptoms, but parents should recognize if their children are in a high-risk group for type 2 diabetes. Approximately 85 percent of the children diagnosed with type 2 diabetes are over-

weight and many have a family history of diabetes. Certain ethnic groups, including African-Americans, Hispanics, Pacific Islanders, and American Indians, are at higher risk for developing type 2 diabetes. Children with high blood pressure and high cholesterol are also in the higher-risk group.

Children with symptoms of type 1 diabetes should seek medical care quickly. Untreated high blood-sugar levels in these children can lead to very serious illness. Children at risk for type 2 diabetes should have routine screening tests for diabetes performed by their doctors. Screening should begin at age 10 or puberty, whichever is earlier, and be done every two years for overweight children at risk for diabetes.

Children who are determined by testing to have diabetes require life-long treatment. Treatment of type 1 diabetes is with insulin injections and close

monitoring of blood sugar. Children with type 2 rarely require insulin shots, however; it is not usual for adults with type 2 to need insulin injections. Children with type 2 diabetes are typically managed with weight loss, exercise and occasionally oral medications.

Understanding diabetes mellitus and knowing the warning signs for type 1 diabetes can help parents to seek medical care for their children earlier and therefore help to prevent serious illness caused by very high blood sugars. If your child has increased thirst, urination and weight loss, you should seek medical care for the child quickly. Prevention of type 2 diabetes is best accomplished by knowledge.

Knowing about the risk factors for type 2 diabetes, especially obesity, can help all of us to encourage healthy lifestyles for children and help to promote healthy futures.

Redeploying soldiers receive antimalarial medications

Laurie Kemp
Winn PAO

The Middle East is considered to be one of the malaria-risk areas of the world. So, as 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) soldiers redeploy from the Middle East, each is given two antimalarial medications, just to make certain malaria won't be an issue the soldiers have to deal with.

Anyone bitten by a mosquito while in Iraq or Afghanistan is at risk of contracting malaria, and "people who don't take their medication could end up with malaria," said Dr. (Lt. Col.) Glen Tomkins, director of primary care at Winn Army Community Hospital. "The kind of malaria found in Iraq gets into the liver and bloodstream and no one medication can get them both," Tomkins said.

There is no good way to test for latent malaria, Tomkins said. While symptoms typically show up within two months, some may people may not exhibit symptoms for up to 30 years.

Doxycycline, an antibiotic, is used to kill the malarial parasites in the blood stream, while primaquine is used to kill the parasites in the liver.

The symptoms of malaria include fever, shaking chills, headache, muscle ache, tiredness and nausea.

Some people may experience side effects from the medications to include upset stomach, diarrhea, nausea, headache, sensitivity to light or loss of appetite.

Tomkins said having those type symptoms for the first few days is normal as it takes time to adjust to new medication. He recommends taking the medication with food to alleviate some of the symptoms.

However, if breathing difficulties, skin rashes, sore throat, rapid heart rate, hearing trouble or dark urine occur, the person should notify their healthcare provider.

"The medication doesn't work if soldiers don't take it - and they must take it all for the treatment to work," Tomkins said.

Marne TV

Marne TV can be found on Comcast Cable Channel 16 every day of the week. Tune in to the Marne Report seven times a day for the latest from Fort Stewart and Hunter AAF.

September 2003 Schedule

5:00am	Army Newswatch	1:30pm-4:00pm	Georgia's 3d Infantry Division (UPN special)
5:30am	MARNE REPORT		Army Newswatch
6:00am	Navy News	4:30pm	MARNE REPORT
6:30am-7:30am	Georgia's 3d Infantry Division (UPN special)	5:00pm	Navy News
		5:30pm	MARNE REPORT
7:30am	Army Newswatch	6:00pm	Army Newswatch
8:00am	MARNE REPORT	6:30pm	MARNE REPORT
8:30am	Navy News	7:00pm	Georgia's 3d Infantry Division (UPN special)
9:00am	Air Force News	7:30pm-10:00pm	MARNE REPORT
9:30am-11:30am	Georgia's 3d Infantry Division (UPN special)	10:00pm	Navy News
		10:30pm	Army Newswatch
11:30am	Army Newswatch	11:00pm	Georgia's 3d Infantry Division (UPN special)
Noon	MARNE REPORT	Midnight-5:00am	
12:30pm	Navy News		
1:30pm	Air Force News		

Rumsfeld, Karzai discuss terrorism, reconstruction

Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghan President Hamid Karzai welcomed Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld here today to discuss the continuing war on terrorism and the way ahead for Afghan reconstruction.

The men met at the presidential compound under threatening skies. Karzai said Rumsfeld had brought the rain with him to the drought-stricken country.

Security was tight at the outdoor press conference, as the Taliban have tried to kill Karzai many times. An American official said the assassination attempts are proof that the national government is becoming more effective. “(The Taliban) can’t stand to have this country succeed,” the official said.

Karzai said Rumsfeld’s visit reconfirms that the United States will continue its support to Afghanistan, and may actually increase that aid. Rumsfeld said President Bush’s address to the American people on Sunday night might cover aid to Afghanistan.

The men discussed the continuing fight against terrorism, the reconstruction of Afghanistan and the training of the Afghan National Army. They also spoke about reconstruction of the Afghan economy and rebuilding roads in the country. Karzai said road repair projects already are benefiting the Afghan people. The work done in the last two months has already cut down the time it takes to get from one city to the next, he said.

They discussed reports of the actions in the



Staff Sgt. Keith Thompson

U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld addresses reporters with Afghan President Hamid Karzai in Kabul.

eastern and southern parts of the country. Coalition forces, along with units of the Afghan National Army, have had the biggest week against anti-coalition forces in more than a year. Army Lt. Gen. John Vines, commander of Combined Joint Task Force 180,

said the coalition forces had killed between 150 and 200 Taliban during the week.

“We will be working together to fight terrorism to the very end and completely,” Karzai said during the press briefing following the meeting. “That is something we are

not going to be soft against, even for the fraction of a second.”

Rumsfeld said that each time he visits the area he sees improvements in the economy and in the security situation. “The efforts to build a modern, democratic government that is representative of the people of this country that is opposed to terrorism and terrorists is an important effort, and certainly the United States of America fully supports that effort,” he said.

Rumsfeld journeyed to Gardez, seat of Paktika province, and spoke with members of the Provincial Reconstruction Team. He said the teams have proven themselves. There are five teams now, with plans for eight. It is an international effort, including Britain and New Zealand, with Germany agreeing to join the team in northern province of Konduz in the near future.

Both men said they are concerned about the increased anti-coalition activity on the Afghan-Pakistani border. They said they will use the mechanisms of the Tripartite agreement — among the United States, Afghanistan and Pakistan — to crush terrorism on both sides of the border.

“This proves the point that the global war on terrorism is not a problem in one country or for one country,” Rumsfeld said. “It is a problem in that it crosses borders.”

Rumsfeld said the people of Afghanistan are the final judge of how successful things are in the country. “And people are voting with their feet,” he said. “More refugees are returning to Afghanistan every day.”

Rumsfeld: Iraqis need to ‘step up’ to help coalition provide security

Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld told reporters this weekend that help from the Iraqi people will be needed if the security situation in the country is ever to improve.

“This country belongs to the Iraqi people, and in the last analysis it’s the Iraqi people who will provide the security in this country,” he said. “Instead of pointing fingers, it seems to me, at the security forces of the coalition because there are acts of violence taking place against Iraqi people in this country, it’s important for the Iraqi people to step up and take responsibility for the security by providing information to General Sanchez and his people to a greater extent than they’re doing.”

The secretary has spent the past week in Iraq, meeting with

Ambassador L. Paul Bremer III, Coalition Provisional Authority administrator, and Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, commander of coalition ground forces there. He also met with members of U.S. and coalition forces.

Rumsfeld said 55,000 Iraqis have now been trained and are involved in helping coalition forces provide security by patrolling borders and guarding government buildings and holy sites.

“All of these (efforts) are being increased at a good rate, and I believe (they) will create a circumstance over a period of time where we can have high confidence that the responsibility for this security in this important country will be in the hands of the Iraqi people, rather than in the hands of coalition forces, which is a good thing,” Rumsfeld said.

Assessing the security situation in Iraq, Sanchez said that over a five-day period, attacks against his troops had averaged 15 per day. He said that 50 percent of those attacks were con-

ducted at a long range, outside of contact of the American and coalition forces.

“The enemy has made a decision to stay away and not engage us other than with improvised explosives that are being remotely controlled, or with mortars where they can escape readily,” he said. Sanchez added that the other 50 percent of attacks are being conducted with a combination of small arms, rocket-propelled grenades and improvised explosives.

However, Sanchez added, the attacks will not deter the U.S. led mission in Iraq.

“The only way that we will fail here in this country is if we choose to walk away from Iraq and make America the next battleground on the global war on terrorism,” Sanchez said. “That’s the only way we can lose. That’s the choice we have to make here. I don’t need additional forces, and the choice that we need to make is to stay right here and defeat the enemy.”

Army starts training new Iraqi civil defense force

Staff Sgt. Craig Pickett

Army News Servic

AL NASRIYAH, Iraq — New forces comprised of Iraqis are being organized by Army units to help guard coalition facilities around Iraq.

A unit of the 4th Infantry Division's Task Force Gunner, the 5th Engineer Battalion, started forming its second company of the new Iraq Civilian Defense Corps recently. The first company-sized element graduated Aug. 30 and started their one-year commitment, said division officials.

Maj. Christopher Splinter, with the 5th Eng. Bn. from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., said the ultimate goal is to have the corps assume responsibility for security around sensitive areas outside Taji Air Base, the task force's home while in Iraq.

Other defense units will be augmenting coalition forces and eventually taking over security outside the gates of many sites currently protected by coalition forces, said battalion officials.

The recruitment process in the Taji area began when local sheiks were given 200 applications to hand out, Splinter said.

Task force leaders said they felt the sheiks would be more effective in distributing the applications to the individuals who were responsible and deserving of a position in the corps.

A day to interview each applicant was organized when all the applications were turned in, said Splinter.

The day of their interviews, about a hundred Iraqis crowded around a street corner in Al Asriyah, smoking cigarettes and talking in small groups.

Small groups were searched, and then ushered into a school where they were interviewed by Army sergeants who asked questions regarding their identity and why they want to be part of the corps.

The interviewers are using this technique to "feel out" the applicants to see who wants to work and who does not, Splinter said.

Most applicants said they just want a job and an opportunity to provide for their families.

In the wake of war and the removal of the former regime, they have found themselves unable to bear the financial burdens of everyday life.

"I can't get any work," said Waleed Sa'ad, a prospect from Al Asriyah. "I've come here for a job to get money for my family."

Sa'ad, however, had crude tattoos on both forearms that raised suspicions with the inter-



Staff Sgt. Craig Pickett

A prospective member of the ICDC is searched prior to the interview process by Spc. Robert Struble, with A Company, 5th Engineer Battalion, as local children crowd around to be a part of the action.

viewer about his past and possible connections to the Fedayeen.

Crude tattoos, usually found on the web of the left hand, are commonly found on soldiers of the former Saddam Fedayeen.

The interviewer called in Splinter, who asked the applicant about the black, poorly done scorpions and other symbols on his hands and arms.

They are just tattoos, collected when he was a soldier, explained Sa'ad. Not a Fedayeen soldier, but a regular foot soldier in the Army of Saddam. His explanation satisfied Splinter.

Splinter said it was all part of the selection process. The interviewers make recommendations and get a gut feeling for the applicants. Then the applicants' are processed through a database for possible connections to subversive groups.

"I have not had any problems [with the applicants]; most are receptive and straight forward," said Staff Sgt. Justin Barry, an interviewer with Company C, 5th Eng Bn.

Each interview took about 20 minutes and

included a range of questions. Some are easy; others take thought and are meant to test a person's speaking ability. The sergeants have leeway to improvise and flesh out details they think pertinent.

Often, after being questioned, the candidate will ask his own questions. Most deal with money and rarely relate to the actual job. Many of the applicants have military experience and understand the requirements of the corps.

The applicants will then have to make it through the database screening, then 10 days of intense training. Ten sergeants in the battalion will train them in true basic training fashion.

"It will be very rigid," said Sgt. 1st Class Bruce Barnes, who will lead the training. "They want us to come off as true drill sergeants the first day to see if these guys really want to be here."

Bruce, a former drill sergeant, said training the will include checkpoint operations, basic first aid, fixed security and identification of improved explosive devices and rules

of engagement. He said the training will mold the candidates into a sharp military outfit.

Splinter said this was part of the checks and balances of the program. Even if someone did slip past the initial screenings, the training and close contact with soldiers would ultimately show true intentions. Also, they will be under the watchful eye of soldiers during the beginning stages of joint guard duty.

The hope is for the unit to develop cohesion and camaraderie as Iraqis learn to help themselves and prepare to take over when coalition troops depart. By recruiting from nearby towns, the military has given the corps a vested interest in the security and safety of the area.

"I think it is a good thing for the Iraqi people," said Barry. "Hopefully, we can work them into taking care of themselves and help alleviate the work load of our soldiers."

Editor's note: Staff Sgt. Craig Pickett is journalist with the 350th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment in Iraq.

CENTCOM News

3rd COSCOM soldier killed, one wounded in IED attack

BAGHDAD, Iraq — One 3rd Corps Support Command soldier was killed and one was wounded in an improvised explosive device attack on their military vehicle along a major supply route northeast of Baghdad at approximately 5 p.m. on Sep. 9.

The wounded soldier was evacuated to the 28th Combat Support Hospital for treatment. The soldiers' names are being withheld pending notification of next-of-kin.

The incident is under investigation.

4ID captures former regime loyalist

BA'QUBAH, Iraq — The 4th Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade Combat Team, also known as "Warhorse Brigade", captured a former regime loyalist suspected of carrying out attacks against Coalition forces at a children's hospital.

Acting on information provided by a local source, the 1/67 Armor Battalion conducted a raid in Ba'qubah to capture the individual, suspected of conducting a grenade attack at the Ba'qubah Children's hospital in August that killed three soldiers Sep 6. The raid resulted in ten detainees in all.

The "Warhorse" soldiers also confiscated one rocket-propelled grenade launcher, hand grenades, blasting caps and a detonation cord used to make improvised explosive devices.

The detainees are being held for questioning at the Warhorse holding facility in Ba'qubah.

The division's 2nd Brigade Combat Team is responsible for the Diyala Province, which begins in the Ba'qubah area and extends northeast to the Iranian border.

Iraqi workers, coalition soldiers restore Mosul's zoo

MOSUL, Iraq — Quartermaster soldiers assigned to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) along with 42 Iraqis have taken on the mission of restoring the Mosul City Zoo.

Although the unit's primary mission is to issue bulk fuel to the 101st Airborne Division, the soldiers of the 102nd Quartermaster Company, with the help of Iraqi citizens have cleaned up the grounds in and around the zoo.

The project gives the Iraqi workers, many of whom are former soldiers, a way to support their families while empowering them to get involved with rebuilding their community. As the Iraqis and 101st soldiers work together to clean the grounds and cages they share their experiences, allowing the opportunity for cultural exchange.

The Mosul Zoo had fallen into severe neglect with more than half of its animals dying due to lack of food, water and care. The primary water source for the zoo is an antiquated well, which became contaminated when the remains of a horse fell into it. Undergrowth surrounded the cages, which became littered with dead animals, dirt and debris. Weather, neglect and looters caused degradation to the electrical wiring and lighting fixtures leaving the overall facility's condition in shambles.

Now that the grounds are cleaned, major repairs are underway.

These include cleaning and sanitizing the old well, digging a new well and installing a new water distribution system. Wiring and lighting will be next and then the buildings

will receive a fresh coat of paint.

Weapons cache found in 3rd Bde. area

MOSUL, Iraq — The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) is making significant progress to find and destroy weapons caches in the 3rd Brigade area of operations.

Local sources led 2nd Battalion soldiers to an enemy weapons cache south of Bajar. The cache consisted of a rocket-propelled grenade launcher, four AK47s, one 9mm pistol, one assault rifle, 38 RPG booster rockets, 500 rounds of machinegun ammunition, 21 loaded AK 47 magazines, and 12 boxes of 12 gage shotgun shells.

People in and around the 3rd Bde. area of operations continue to come forward and inform soldiers of weapons cache locations.

The division's 3rd Bde., known as "The Rakassans" are responsible for the area west of Mosul extending to the Syrian border.

3rd ACR patrols net big weapons haul

AL FALLUJAH, Iraq — In recent weeks, 2nd Squadron (Sabre), 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment soldiers conducted raids of possible safe houses and dwellings of suspected former regime loyalists and other subversive elements in Al Fallujah and in surrounding areas.

Together with patrols and sweeps, these raids have netted over ten thousand artillery and mortar rounds, mines, other ammunition, small arms and hand grenades as well as nearly two dozen missiles.

These operations represent a proactive effort to root out elements that are sabotaging Coalition Force's reconstruction effort.

The Regiment has been concentrating efforts on rooting out these former regime loyalists and eliminating stockpiles of weapons and munitions.

Confiscated weapons included (1,080) 122mm artillery rounds, 928 mortar rounds, 8,991 rounds of 23mm, 28 AK-47s, two pistols, 10 anti-tank missiles, 45 anti-tank mines, eight surface-to-air missiles, four kegs of gunpowder, 300 rounds of 130mm high explosive ammunition, three boxes of hand grenades, 20 high explosive anti-tank munitions, (125) 100mm tank rounds, 134 rocket-propelled grenade rounds, two sniper rifles, 30 rounds of 37mm anti-aircraft ammunition, one improvised explosive device and one SA-7 system.

Coalition confiscates, destroys weapons

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Coalition forces continued efforts to prevent possible attacks by finding, confiscating and destroying caches of weapons Sept. 4.

In an area northeast of Ba'qubah, Task Force Iron Horse soldiers detained a taxi driver who was acting in a suspicious manner. A search of the taxi resulted in the confiscation of one rocket-propelled grenade launcher, 12 RPG rounds, one AK-47 and one MP-5 sub-machine gun. Fourth Infantry Division soldiers discovered a large cache of weapons in an area northwest of Tikrit. The cache consisted of one RPG, three 82mm mortar rounds, three 60mm mortar rounds, 88 fuses for 60mm mortar rounds, and one 82mm mortar tube. An explosive ordnance disposal team was called to destroy the weapons. In 24 hours, coalition forces conducted 20 raids, 715 day patrols and 483 night patrols. The units also conducted 198 day patrols and 174 night patrols with Iraqi police.



Sgt. Robert Woodward

A soldier of Co. B., 2nd Bn., 327th Inf. Regt., 101st Abn. Div., stands atop a building monitoring the streets below at an objective where terrorists were suspected to live Aug. 30. No soldiers were injured in the operation.

Air assault shows 101st operational reach in Iraq desert

Army News Service

MOSUL, IRAQ — The 101st Airborne Division demonstrated its operational reach Aug. 30 when it conducted raids in the western Iraqi desert, more than 450 kilometers southwest of the division's bases in northern Iraq.

"It was an impressive endeavor," said Maj. Gen David H. Petraeus, commander of the 101st Airborne. "Our soldiers did a wonderful job once again and demonstrated the Division's unique ability to rapidly project combat power over substantial distances to attack a time-sensitive target."

Intended to disrupt terrorist activities in west-central Iraq, the operation launched before dawn.

Four infantry companies and elements of an anti-tank company were air assaulted to five different locations to cordon and search several villages in an area centered about 50 kilometers

north of Iraq's border with Saudi Arabia.

More than 1,000 soldiers of the division's 1st Brigade Combat Team participated in the operation, which also involved 98 of the division's attack, scout, assault, medevac, and heavy lift helicopters.

Though the operation did not result in the capture of the operation's primary targets, it did result in the detention of several individuals and the discovery and destruction of four substantial weapons caches.

The caches included 12 SA-7 surface-to-air missiles, 100 rocket propelled grenades, three mortar systems, more than 10,000 rounds of small arms and mortar ammunition, more than 100 anti-tank rockets and a variety of other arms and ammunition.

Editor's note: A press release from the 101st Airborne Division's Public Affairs Office contributed to this story.

Whatever it is...



sell it in the classifieds.

Call

368-0526

to place your ad today!

Welcome Home 3rd ID

3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

Welcome Home Soldiers

There will be a welcome home celebration Saturday, Oct. 4. There will be three different events.

A free picnic will be held at Donovan Field, 1 to 5 p.m. sponsored by the Hinesville Military Affairs Committee and MWR.

Free fair rides for military ID cardholders at Walker Field, 1 to 5 p.m. Trolley cars will provide free transportation between Donovan and Walker Field.

Free MWR Concert at Donovan Field at 7 p.m. Performers will be announced in Frontline in Sept.

School absences conditional

Fort Stewart Schools (Diamond and Brittin) will support recently deployed soldiers, within reason and within available resources, when requesting a student absence.

Students will be considered excused during block leave. Parents are encouraged to coordinate with the student's teacher on missed homework/class assignments. Time away from school should be kept at a minimal.

Liberty County Schools will grant up to five days of unexcused absence during block leave for children of deployed soldiers.

Soldiers are required to provide a written request to the school principal which states the reason for the absence and projected dates that the student will be out of school.

Students will be allowed to make up missed homework/assignments. Teachers will work with students to ensure that they do not fall behind in the classroom. Since Liberty County schools are required to follow the No-Child-Left-Behind mandate and are grade by attendance, students will be required to be re-enrolled in school if an absence exceeds five days.

Ladies Bowling Leagues

The 2003-2004 women's bowling season is about to start at Marne and Stewart Lanes. Women must have a WIBC sanction card which are usually purchased on the first night of bowling and are good for one year.

For more information or to sign up visit either facility.

Main Gate

Gate 1 has only one accessible inbound lane and one accessible out bound lane.

All inbound traffic entering through Main Gate is routed to a new four-way stop located where General Stewart Way intersects with Memorial Drive and proceeds to General Screven Way.

Construction will be on-going during this period. To alleviate the traffic flow 4th Street Gate (Gate 2/Troupe Gate) is open.

Family Assistance Center

Army Community Service at Fort Stewart scaled back its Family Assistance Center hours of operation. New hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. Weekends will be handled with an on call roster and phones forwarded to EOC.

Education Center hours

The Main Education Center, Building 130, will continue with expanded hours due to the high demand for service. The 1st Brigade/Divarty Learning Center will return to regular business hours.

Computer access is available during the week at the Main Learning Center, Building 130, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

Hire a teen

Teens need jobs! Hire them to help you with your daily tasks, such as - pet care, window cleaning, car washing, babysitting, assisting with parties and many other chores or duties.

Community Fair

This event will be held Oct. 1 through 5 at Walker Field. Free admission and rides priced individually.

Hours of operation are Wednesday through Friday, 5 p.m. until midnight, Saturday, noon until midnight, and Sunday 1 p.m. until midnight.

Tickets will sold at the Fair Fates.

Hunter

Veterans Appreciation Day

American Legion Post 135 will be having a veterans' appreciation day Sept. 20, starting at 6 p.m.

There will be refreshments, finger foods and music. The event will be held at the American Legion Post 135 at 1108 Bull Street, Savannah. The event is free and all veterans and their guests are invited to attend.

For more information call John Williford at 233-9277.

Hunter Community Meeting

There will be a community meeting Sept. 23 at 7 p.m. at the Hunter ACS building, located across from the PX. A lot of new things are happening, so everyone is encouraged to attend and be heard.

Topics of discussion will include, but are not limited to, the new RCI housing plan at Hunter, gate construction and traffic developments. The meeting is an open forum to address all issues in the Hunter community.

Middle School and teens

Registration is now underway for free after school program for 6th through 8th graders. Hours will be 2:30 to 6 p.m.

"Come to the living water"

The Protestant Women of the Chapel present their Fall them at the Post Chapel 11 a.m., Sunday, Sept. 21. They will preview other Bible studies and get acquainted with other members.

Weekly meetings at 9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. every Thursday starting Sept. 25.

Free childcare and homeschool program. Please call Julie Kelly, 353-9717 or Lamuir Baze at 961-0895.

Morning road closure

North Perimeter Road from the 117th Tactical Control Squadron to the Stephen Douglas Street intersection will be closed to vehicular traffic from 6-7:30 a.m., Monday through Friday to support unit physical fitness programs.

Ask your unit first sergeant or contact the Hunter Safety Office for Hunter's physical training policies, by calling 352-5814.

Hunter Community Picnic

The Hunter post chapel will sponsor a community picnic at the chapel Sept. 14 beginning at 12:15 p.m. The food and drinks are free and everyone is encouraged to attend.

Burger King

Burger King at Hunter PX will be closed for renovations and will re-open Sept. 20.

During this time Burger King will continue to operate from a portable grill in front of the PX.

Skeet Range

The skeet range is open 4-9 p.m. Thursdays and 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

Fort Stewart and Hunter Hunting and Fishing Permits, Georgia State Hunting and Fishing licenses are also sold in Bldg. 8250.

An education course is required for an on-post hunting permit. For more information, call 352-5916

Bible study

A weekly Bible study will be held in the building adjacent to the post chapel Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m.

Officer's Spouse's Club

Come join us for our Fall Kick-Off Luncheon 11 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 16. It will be held at the Southern Image Restaurant; great eats and treats! Select from the menu or daily special.

For more information or reservations call Linda Hammil at 920-9790, no later than Sept. 12.

Youth Services

School Age Services (SAS) opens 6 to 9 a.m. and 3 to 6 p.m. during school. Also, before and after school programs for 1st through 5th graders. Enjoy fun and leisure activities, educational, tutoring, computer lab, sports, fitness and more.

Join 4-H community club, photography and technology groups. Check with your school for transportation.

For more information call 352-5708 or 352-6705.

Boaters Safety Course

Free course held at 10 a.m., Saturdays. Call 352-5722.

Winn Army Community Hospital

TRICARE Authorization

Soldiers or family members who receive emergent or urgent medical care outside the area must have TRICARE authorization within 24 hours of receiving care.

Winn

Active-duty soldiers should call daytime at (912) 767-7035 and evening at (912) 370-6965. Family members can call 1-800-333-4040 24 hours a day, seven days a week or (912) 370-6965.

Tuttle

Active-duty soldiers should call daytime 1-800-652-9221 and evening at (912) 370-6965. Family members can call 1-800-333-4040 24 hours a day, seven days a week or 1-800-652-9221 and evenings at (912) 370-6965.

Exceptional Program

The next Exceptional Family Member Program enrollment orientation will be 1:30 to 3 p.m. Oct. 23 at Winn. Meet other families and learn about other community support services. For more information, call 370-6505.

Winn Seeks Volunteers

Winn is looking for adult volunteers to help out in a wide range of areas from administrative specialists to chaperones to certified or licensed nurses. For more information, call 370-6903.

Expectant Siblings Class

The next Expectant Siblings class will be 5 p.m. Sept. 24. This class helps prepare children ages 4 to 12 for the arrival of a new brother or sister. To register, call 370-6017/6670.

Intervention Services

Families with children up to 3-years-old who may be at risk for developmental delays can call Educational and Developmental Intervention Services for a free screening. Services include home visits, occupational therapy, special instruction, physical therapy, speech and language therapy, vision and hearing screenings, family training, developmental screenings and assessments. For more information, call 370-6349.

"Take Care of Yourself"

The next "Take Care of

Yourself" classes at Winn will be 2 to 3 p.m. Sept. 10 and 11 a.m. to noon Sept. 24. Tuttle's class will be held 10 to 11 a.m. Sept. 24. The class gives an overview of how to use the "Take Care of Yourself" book. Upon completing the class, you will receive a card that allows you to get over-the-counter medications from Winn or Tuttle.

To register for Sept. 10, call 370-5071; to register for Winn's Sept. 24 class, call 368-3048 and for Tuttle's class, call 1-800-652-9221.

Tobacco Cessation classes

The next Tobacco Cessation class at Winn will begin 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. or 6 to 8 p.m. Sept. 18. Tuttle's class will begin Oct. 1. The classes are held one day a week for four consecutive weeks. To register at Winn, call 370-5071. To register at Tuttle, call 1-800-652-9221.

Family Reunion Support

Family reunion support is available for families having difficulty adjusting after a deployment. Support is available by appointment or on a walk-in basis. For more information, call 370-6100 or 370-6111.

Physical Exam Clinic

The clinic has been relocated to Soldier Family Health Clinic #2, Building 612, 767-7750.

Family Reunion Support

Family reunion support is available for families having difficulty adjusting after a deployment. Support is available by appointment or on a walk-in basis. For more information, call 370-6100 or 370-6111.

Tuttle TRICARE enrollment

TRICARE enrollment briefings for Tuttle are held by appointment from 9 to 11 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday. To schedule an appointment, call 767-6633 or 1-800-652-9221.

Family Health Clinics reopen

Soldier Family Health Clinic #2 will be open for sick call beginning Sept. 15. SFHC #1 and #3 are currently open for sick call.

If you accidentally discover an archaeological site on Fort Stewart:

1. Cease what you are doing immediately.
2. Notify Range Control at 767-8777.
3. Do not attempt to unearth the object or remove it.



Look Before You Leap...

Observe swimming safety, year round!



POLICE REPORTS

- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 24th Support Group
- **Charges:** Fighting in public place
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Family member, 33-year-old female
- **Charges:** Harassing phone calls
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Specialist, 29-year-old male, 24th Support Group
- **Charges:** Communicating a threat by telephone, cruelty to children, vulgar language in presence of children
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old female, Headquarters Command
- **Charges:** Improper backing
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Following too closely
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Family member, 25-year-old male
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, speeding 67/55
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 36-year-old male, 2nd Brigade
- **Charges:** Careless or reckless driving
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 2, 23-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private, 20-year-old male, Division Artillery
- **Charges:** Larceny of government funds
- **Location:** Baghdad

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 21-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Improper backing
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 23-year-old female, Headquarters Command
- **Charges:** Failure to judge proper clearance
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Civilian, 49-year-old female

- **Charges:** Too fast for conditions
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 30-year-old male, Division Artillery
- **Charges:** Failure to yield right of way
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old female, 24th Support Group
- **Charges:** Following too closely
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Staff Sergeant, 35-year-old male, 24th Support Group
- **Charges:** Failure to yield right of way
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 25-year-old male, separate battalion

- **Charges:** Improper backing
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private, 19-year-old male, Division Support Command
- **Charges:** Deposit account fraud
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 24-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Simple assault, failure to obey lawful regulation and/or order
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 32-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Sergeant Major, 47-year-old male, 24th Support Group
- **Charges:** Following too closely, no insurance
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 2, 24-year-old male, 24th Support Group
- **Charges:** Trespassing, unlawful entry into a military installation
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old male, 24th Support Group
- **Charges:** Criminal trespass
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, Division Artillery
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, less safe (alcohol)
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Civilians; 53-year-old female, 25-year-old male, 36-year-old-male, and 27-year-old female
- **Charges:** Conspiracy, possession of cocaine with intent to distribute, wrongful distribution of cocaine
- **Location:** Hinesville

Back To School Safety

Special to The Frontline

Parents, another school year has begun and you are sending your children off into the care of others. You are probably a bit nervous, especially if your children are going to school for the first time. You probably have asked "How do I ensure my child's safety?" One way is to discuss some simple rules with your children.

Before Leaving Home

1. Teach your child your home phone number, address, and any important information on how to contact you in an emergency.

2. Instruct your child to never leave or get into a car with a stranger under any circumstance. Teach them to report any such instances immediately.
3. Inform your child who the police are and how they can help in an emergency.
4. Teach your child the route to and from home and school.

School Bus Rules

1. Leave home early, never wait until just before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
2. Wait at the bus stop, not in the road or street. Be alert for any traffic.
3. Never horseplay or run and jump while

waiting for the bus.

4. Once the bus arrives wait until it comes to a complete stop and is ready for boarding.
5. Board in a single-file, orderly fashion, never pushing or shoving. Be courteous.
6. Take a seat and stay in the seat the entire trip. Avoid standing.
7. Keep hands and arms inside the bus. Do not throw any item from the bus.
8. Practice these rules with your children.

Walking

1. Practice the route to and from school with your child.
2. Use sidewalks and cross the street only at

marked crossings or intersections.

Biking

1. Wear an approved helmet - no matter how short the trip!
2. Ensure that your child knows and obeys traffic rules and laws.

Educating your children about general safety rules can greatly add to their physical and mental well being. As parents we are the most important resource in our child's educational process. Never take safety lightly. Our children are our most precious assets and demand our best efforts to keep them safe.



Soldiers hold 'back to school' celebration

Spc. Ryan Smith
372nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq — U.S. Army engineers are builders. Some build bridges, some build living quarters for troops, but one particular group of engineers is working to build a better future for Iraq's children.

Soldiers from C Company, 16th Engineer Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, have been working to renovate and restore schools in their area of operations to get children back into classrooms.

The Az Elarab School in north Baghdad, one of the schools the engineers have helped to restore, held a back-to-school party to celebrate the reopening of the school Aug. 28. The guests of honor were the soldiers from C Company.

The engineers first found the school in bad shape, said 1st Lt. Edwin Clarke, C Company executive officer. It had been used by Iraqi troops during the war as a defensive fighting position, and the

school was damaged by combat.

C Company soldiers hired and worked with a local contractor, Saaddoun Hashim al Saraji. He and the engineers repaired the damage throughout the school.

The contractor replaced the plumbing fixtures — the toilets and sinks, some of which had been destroyed or taken by looters.

Al Saraji installed fans and blackboards in the classrooms, as well.

Workers also built a wall around the school to keep children away from the traffic on the busy street that runs right by the school, Clarke said. Soldiers from 1st Platoon, C Company, painted the wall.

Al Saraji said he was happy to work to fix the school for the children in his neighborhood.

"My neighbors came to me to ask for help because they like me and trust me," he said. Al Saraji also said that he was happy to be able to work in cooperation with the U.S. Army and coalition forces.

To celebrate returning to school, the soldiers and children, along with school and community leaders, met together at Az Elarab for a party. Al Saraji and his family provided local dishes for the guests to eat and soft drinks for the party.

Approximately 250 excited kids from the newly restored school greeted the soldiers, who brought school supplies to give to the school for the new school year.

The school supplies, which included pencils, paper, crayons and other supplies, were donated by the Turlock, Calif., Rotary Club, Clarke said.

"The real future of Iraq is its kids," said Lt. Col. John Kem, commander, 16th Engineer Battalion.

"This is a great day. These kids are excited to be starting school next week," he said. "In Iraq, just like other places, kids are excited about going back to school."

There are hundreds of schools in Baghdad, he said. "I hope that this scene will be repeated everywhere."



Spc. Ryan Smith

(Above) Pfc. Ray Steigerwalt, light wheeled-vehicle mechanic, carries school supplies to be used by students at the Az Elarab School.

(Below) Children meet with 16th Eng. Bn. soldiers in their classroom.



Kids from the Az Elarab School receive school supplies delivered by soldiers from the 16th Eng. Bn. on the school's grounds in Baghdad, Aug. 28. The 16th Eng. Bn. is a part of the 1st Armored Division's 1st Brigade Combat team.



Adopt-A-Manatee

You can't take one home, but you can get to know your new manatee friend through the photo, biography and membership handbook Save the Manatee Club sends to you. You can also read updates on your manatee in the Club newsletter. Your contribution funds programs that are working to protect endangered manatees and their habitat. Contact:



Save the Manatee Club
500 N. Maitland Ave.
Maitland, FL 32751
www.objectlinks.com/manatee

1-800-432-JOIN (5646)

Look Before You Leap...

Observe swimming safety, year-round!



Catamaran hauls equipment double-time

Staff Sgt. Nate Orme

3rd Personnel Command Public Affairs

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait, — Sliding out of port on the Army's experimental heavy-lift catamaran, the U.S. Army Vessel Spearhead, peering out the window is almost the only way to get a sense of motion.

Hardly the sail-driven skateboard-on-water of popular imagination, this diesel-engine catamaran always keeps both keels in the water while hauling heavy payloads of equipment, personnel and vehicles.

The Spearhead, hull number TSV-1X, which stands for "Theater Support Vessel - 1st Experimental, still bears a few reminders of its nine-year civilian past as a high-speed ferry between the Australian mainland and Tasmania. Most notably, there's the blue-and-rainbow-speckled carpet and passenger seating in the main-deck cabin. The large blue sunroof doesn't exactly shout "military" either. But standing in front of the docked craft, one could hardly mistake it for a civilian cruise ship.

The vessel's exterior is a glimmering silver, its aluminum skin left unpainted to save 9 tons of weight in paint. In fact, nearly the entire frame is aluminum, a material chosen over steel for its lightweight and rust resistance. The vessel's military-civilian hybrid appearance is a result of remodeling that was put on hold because the craft was needed in the Persian Gulf in preparation for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Spearhead is the latest catamaran with which the military has been experimenting for the last two years after seeing similar craft operated by the Australian navy during the East Timor crisis in 1999 and 2000.

The high-speed vessel HSV-X1 Joint Venture, built by Incat Ltd. in Australia — as was the Spearhead — is being leased from the company by the Navy and Army in a joint venture. Until recently, U.S. Central Command also used it in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Incat recently finished building another catamaran for the Navy, the HSV-X2, which will be stationed in Ingleside, Texas. Future catamarans for the military are planned to be built by Bollinger-Incat USA in New Orleans. The Army plans to deploy up to 17 TSVs around the world by 2011.

The Spearhead is an all-Army endeavor, operated by the 469th Transportation Detachment, Fort Eustis, Va. Last fall, a crew of Army sailors went to Hobart, Tasmania, to train on the vessel before sailing it to the Persian Gulf. One initial training crew member was Sgt. Victor Rondon III, a watercraft engineer.

"We took safety classes and an engine-room class to familiarize us with the engineering equipment, Rondon said "And we christened the ship 'Hobart.' The navigators went to high-speed navigation school at the Maritime College in Tasmania."

Rondon said Army engineers have to be versatile. Unlike the Navy, which has a specialist for nearly every task aboard a ship, Army "sailors" must multitask, since the crew size — about half that of a comparable Navy vessel — is small, and operational doctrine still is being written for the TSV, he explained.

"We maintain the engine, hydraulics, electrical system — whatever it is, you name it, we fix it. It keeps us busy. It's a lot of work, but we learn a lot," Rondon said. "We even make our own water, using reverse osmosis. We can make about 15 gallons per minute converting sea water to fresh water," he added.

The four-engine, 98-meter TSV has significantly more advanced engines and generators compared to the HSV, said Anthony Dasig, a TSV engineer. Dasig said the TSV is faster and holds more cargo than the HSV.

Compared to the longtime Army workhorse vessel — the LSV, or Logistical Support Vessel, the TSV is four times faster at over 40 knots and can carry a more voluminous, though less heavy load, Dasig said.

After training in Hobart, the 31-member crew sailed the vessel to the Persian Gulf in December. Except for one month for maintenance, it has been in continuous service, logging more

than 50,000 nautical miles (57,500 statute miles).

TSV missions have included hauling two Patriot missile battalions from Qatar to the Kuwaiti naval base in a joint effort with the LSVs in theater.

The TSV also moved the 101st Airborne Division military police from Djibouti to Kuwait, making the 2,000-mile trip in two and a half days. The LSV would have needed 10 days to make the voyage and could only hold equipment, requiring the troops to fly separately, said Chief Warrant Officer Bill Slusher, the TSV navigation officer. The TSV also carried 500 tons of ammunition from Jordan's Aqaba Port to Kuwait.

"The primary mission for the TSV is to lift soldiers with their equipment together, along with food, water and fuel," Slusher said.

Since the vessel is experimental, the Army wants to know how it has performed in theater. Both enlisted and officer crew members meet regularly to conduct after-action reviews of the vessel's performance.

"We're basically the crew to say whether to keep it or scrap it," said Rondon. "We get together with the officers and come up with solutions instead of just saying something doesn't work."

Slusher said, "Operationally, the boat the Army ultimately wants will be bigger. The goal is to carry two Stryker units. This one (the Spearhead) carries only one."

The Stryker is a new eight-wheeled, 20-ton armored troop carrier designed to replace older tracked vehicles.

Slusher said minor modifications would be made to the TSV crew berthing. And, of course, the rainbow carpet would have to go.

The TSV is more like an aircraft than an LSV when calculating for cargo, said Chief Warrant Officer Patrick May, the TSV commander, known as the vessel master. "When we carry more fuel for longer distances, we have to carry less cargo. With an LSV, it's not necessary to take that into account."

Another difference from the LSV is docking. With a shallow draft of 3.4 meters, the TSV can get into ports an LSV cannot. It also can unload its cargo from directly astern or at up to a 45-degree angle off its rear corner if necessary.

May, who skippered an LSV for much of his 19-year military career, explained how the TSV is docked compared to an LSV.

"On an LSV, when docking and undocking, a sailor yells commands to the helmsman. With the TSV, we lose sight of the pier within 25 meters, so we have docking cameras and spotters on the stern and bow. I use a joystick to dock the vessel. It is a very maneuverable craft, once you get used to it."

The vessel has cameras in the engine rooms, as well as 900 sensors continuously monitoring the vessel's systems. The TSV has about twice as many sensors as an LSV, yet with the same size crew.

Shifts on the TSV are four hours on, eight off, said 1st Sgt. Michael Kelly, a senior navigator with the 469th. Since the ship was originally designed for fairly short trips in a much cooler climate than Kuwait, where summer temperatures often are in the 120s, maintenance has been high, according to Kelly.

"There is always a roving engineer on duty down below deck. We have an alarm about every other day. Usually it's a sensor tripped because of the heat, but we're required to check it out," Kelly said. "Heat has taken its toll here, especially on the air-conditioning system and refrigerators."

Kelly explained the 469th is a self-contained unit, as is the crew of the TSV. "All the administration functions a regular unit would have, we do as well," he said. "We have e-mail, fax and phone capabilities onboard."

Kelly, with 21 years as an Army sailor, has nearly completed traveling around the world in Army watercraft. He will complete the last leg of his circumnavigation when the TSV returns to Hobart in November for further modifications.



Sgt. Nate Orme

The Theater Support Vessel Spearhead, docked at the Kuwaiti naval base.

'Warpigs' clean up the 'Pigpen' in Baghdad

Spc. Chad D. Wilkerson

372nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Soldiers at checkpoints and on patrols in Baghdad apprehended suspected thieves and looters on a daily basis, and sometimes even murderers, but what happens to the suspects after the U.S. Army captures them?

Soldiers from A Company, 70th Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Division, have taken on the responsibility of guarding prisoners who have been detained by soldiers in the Baghdad area.

The A Co. "Warpigs" hold these prisoners or detainees in a facility they call the "Pigpen." It is a jail that was used by the former regime and is currently being renovated and updated.

The engineers are working on the facilities in order to provide a humane environment where they can detain and interrogate prisoners, until the detainees are transported to a prisoner holding area, such as one at Baghdad International Airport, or released.

"Our prison started out as a roll of con-

certina wire and three or five prisoners," said Sgt. Justin Parrish, a combat engineer and acting warden of the Pigpen. "We will eventually be able to hold about 500 prisoners, and this will no longer be a holding area, but a full prison."

The detainees are currently held at the facility for a week and interrogated by a military intelligence team, said Parrish. If they have been charged with a serious crime, they are sent to the airport for further questioning, and then trial by Iraqi authorities.

However, the Pigpen holds all kinds of lawbreakers. Even parking and curfew violators are held for 24 hours before being released, said Parrish. But each detainee is treated with the same kind of fairness and presumption of innocence one would expect in the United States.

"We hear all kinds of horror stories about the previous regime's treatment of prisoners," said Parrish. "Some people were given no food, no water, no air circulation; but we try to make things as comfortable and humane as possible for these people."



Spc. Chad D. Wilkerson

Capt. Eric R. Swenson, commander of A Co., 70th Eng. Bn., 1st Armor Div., visually examines the progress during renovations at the "Pigpen," the U.S. Army's criminal holding facility in Baghdad. The facilities are being updated and partially rebuilt in order to provide a more humane standard of living for detainees.