

Serving the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities

Gate renovations to alter Stewart traffic

Spc. Jacob Boyer
Staff Writer

Traffic patterns at Fort Stewart will undergo more changes when Gate 5 at the intersection of Gulick Avenue, Highway 144 and Highway 119, closes Monday as part of a project that will renovate it and two other gates here.

With Gate 5 closing, the adjacent gate on Murray Avenue, Gate 6, will be open to incoming traffic only, said James Thomas, Department of Public Works engineering project manager. Traffic entering the garrison from Highways 144 and 119 will be allowed to enter that gate and access Gulick via 18th Street. Those who need to exit the garrison via 119 and 144 can use Gate 3 on Harmon Avenue and follow the road out to 144.

"The traffic flow will probably be better (after the changes)" he said. "We got the Georgia Department of Transportation to re-time the light at the intersection of 119 and 144, so for those coming from Richmond Hill, it should be faster."

Gate 5 will be closed for the duration of the project, which is projected to take one year, Thomas said. Gate 3 on Harmon Avenue and Gate 8 on Frank Cochran Drive, which will also undergo renovations, may experience temporary lane closures, but Thomas said he expects them to

stay predominantly open.

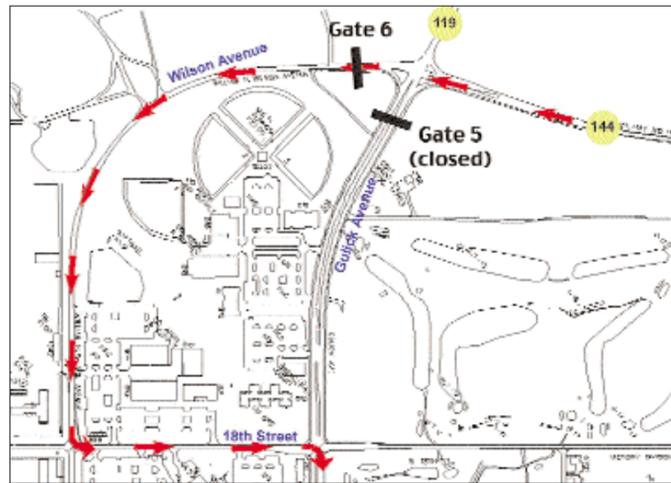
The gates are being renovated to bring them into accordance with new Army guidelines for post access that came in the wake of the terrorist attacks Sept. 11, 2001, he said. A gate house will be constructed at each gate in addition to incoming, outgoing and inspection lanes.

Thomas said all of the improvements will aid the Fort Stewart staff in monitoring traffic flow and tracking who comes into the garrison. "The purpose of this project is primarily security," he continued. "It will allow us to better control the access to Fort Stewart."

Another phase in improving the garrison's security will be completed Friday, he said. The canopy and roadway at the Main Gate are scheduled to be completed then, and the gate's three lanes are expected to be open mid-week after it is inspected. The Welcome Center at the gate will not be completed until some time in 2004. When it is completed, visitors will be registered there.

In addition to renovations to the gates, it is possible that Gate 2 at 4th Street and Gate 4 at Diamond Head Avenue could begin undergoing improvements within the next four months if funds become available, Thomas said.

"When this is all done, I think traffic here will flow a lot smoother," he said. "We won't slow people down as much while ensuring the post is secure. This is all geared toward creating a smoother, more efficient flow of traffic."



DPW

Starting Monday, incoming traffic from Highways 119 and 144 will be diverted to Gate 6 while Gate 5 is closed for renovations. Outgoing traffic will not be allowed through. The improvements will take one year.



Camping ... Marne style

Spc. Jonathan Stack

Spc. Christopher Hoodon, 148th Eng. Det., helps set up a tent Monday at Wright Army Airfield, as part of the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) command post exercise, which ended today.

3ID, Air Force train lighter more deployable force

Pfc. Emily J. Danial
Staff Writer, Hunter Public Affairs

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld has plans to transition the Army as a whole into a lighter, more deployable force.

The 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), and specifically Hunter Army Airfield units, have recently been putting some strong actions behind that idea.

Maj. Gen. William G. Webster, 3rd Inf. Div. commanding general, said he has a vision for the 3rd Inf. Div. that coincides with that of the modern Army.

According to Air Force Maj. Ed Black, 3rd Inf. Div. air mobility liaison officer, that vision is "an extremely deployable, lethal initial entry package that has the capability to communicate with any headquarters or agency in any environment, be able to have reach-back capability for intelligence, and in addition to our organic firepower, be able to request and control joint fires.

"(Webster) said, 'I want to know the best way to maximize a single aircraft,'" Black said. "He said, 'I want the most troops on the ground, the most firepower, and the ability to receive intelligence.'"

Soldiers from the 103rd Military Intelligence Battalion and the 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, as well as Air Force personnel based at Fort Stewart, Hunter and in Charleston, S.C., joined forces Nov. 18 to make the first ever attempt to transport a package capable of what Webster envisions in a single C-17.

Black's role in the mission, he said, is to advise the Army about the capabilities of a C-17.

"I coordinated with Charleston Air Force Base to bring a C-17 to Hunter to validate this plan," he said. "This has truly been a joint effort ... we're Air Force people in a foreign land, here, and this creates an



Pfc. Emily J. Danial

One of two M2A2 Bradley fighting vehicles is loaded onto a C-17 as part of the Immediate Readiness exercise at Hunter Army Airfield Nov. 18.

See IRC, Page 9A

Fort Stewart to be declared the first Department of Defense certified member of Keep America Beautiful. See the Dec. 11 issue of The Frontline for more coverage.

Weather Forecast

FRI	High 66°	Low 35°
SAT	High 51°	Low 32°
SUN	High 52°	Low 27°

News

DUI education and training 2A

Sports

BattleKings win division crown 1B

Life & Times

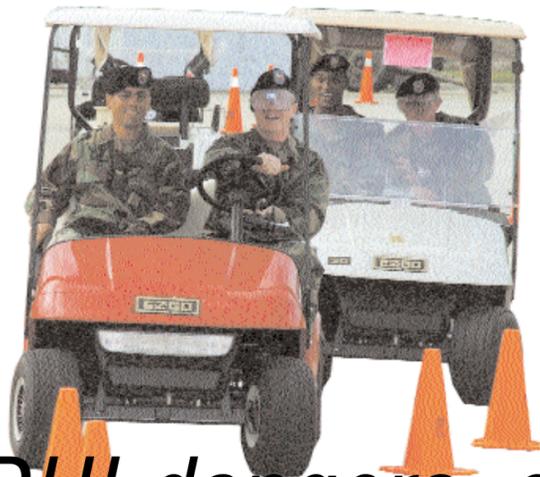
3ID Band plays for Thanksgiving 1C

Guide

- Voices and Viewpoints 4A
- Marne Six sends 4A
- Ask the Judge 12A
- 3ID In Brief. 13A
- Marne Scoreboard 3B
- Worship schedule 4C
- Chaplain's Corner 4C
- Volunteer Spotlight 5C
- Movie listing 5C
- Birth announcements 5C

Knowing is half the battle

MPs educate Soldiers on DUI dangers, effects



Spc. Robert Adams

Staff Writer

Soldiers participated in Driving Under the Influence awareness training Nov. 26 at the 1st Battalion, 9th Regiment Field Artillery Regiment motor pool.

Soldiers of 1/9 FA and 11th Engineer Battalion rotated through six stations learning about the physical effects alcohol has on the body while driving and the consequences that can occur.

The training acted as a safety briefing for the Soldiers before the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

"The training is hands on which is more effective than just hearing about it in the classroom," said Jeff Willis, installation safety specialist.

"If this helps one Soldier make the right decision, then this training has been successful," said Lt. Col. Steve Merkel, 1/9 FA battalion commander.

The stations were set up by Lt. Luther Hires of the Jesup Police department and coastal area traffic enforcement network.

"We are out here to teach Soldiers to slow down, not drink and drive and most importantly to buckle up, and how it can save lives," Hires said.

One of the stations featured a rollover simulator, and with the use of dummies showed Soldiers why they should not ride in the back of a pickup truck.

"Soldiers can see what happens in a rollover crash and the results of not being buckled up," Hires said.

Other stations involved Soldiers driving golf carts around a course of cones while wearing goggles that impaired their vision and balance. Soldiers had trouble maneuvering through the "fatal vision" and the "slalom" courses without hitting cones.

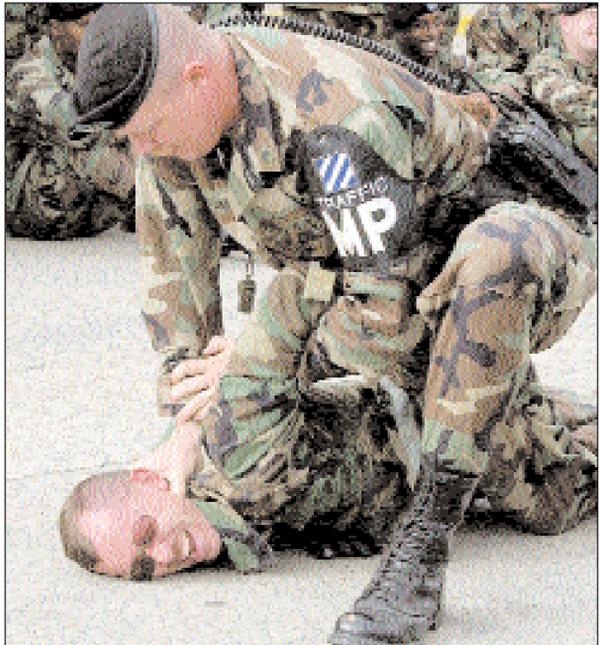
"The goggles simulated the effect drugs and alcohol have on one's vision while driving," Willis said.

Another station showed Soldiers the effects alcohol can have on their depth perception and reaction time. Soldiers wearing "drunk" goggles would try, usually unsuccessfully, to throw a ball to each other.

Soldiers also got the opportunity to participate in a DUI stop. They tried to execute various sobriety tests conducted by military police. They were also informed of the consequences of being arrested for a DUI.

"Everything that was put into this was worth it a hundred times over," Merkel said. "If we have to do this every month to keep our Soldiers safe we will."

Unit commanders can request DUI training for their units by calling the military police traffic section at 767-9595. The point of contact is Sgt. 1st Class Robert Cintron, Fort Stewart traffic noncommissioned officer in charge.



Roxburgh drops Sgt. Larry Curtis, 11th Eng. Bn., as part of the DUI traffic stop demonstration.

Photos by Spc. Robert Adams

Spc. Ryan Malcolm, 11th Eng. Bn., gets sobriety-tested by 1st. Lt. David Adams, also 11th Eng. Bn. (far right), and Sgt. Harold Roxburgh 179th MP Det., during a mock DUI stop Nov. 26 at the 1/9 FA motorpool.



Soldiers view the rollover simulator during DUI-awareness training Nov. 26.



Sgt. Graydon Vest and Sgt. Hugo Vazquez, 1/9 FA, hit a cone driving through the "fatal vision" course in "drunk" goggles, which simulate inebriation.

2/7 Inf. honors fallen Soldier

Spc. Katherine Robinson

Editor

Comrades and family members of a fallen Soldier gathered to honor him and mourn his loss at Victory Chapel Nov. 26.

Sgt. John W. Celske, a Soldier with C Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, was killed in a motorcycle accident in Hinesville Nov. 21.

During his time with 2/7 Inf., Celske served as an Infantry team leader, and later as the company commander's gunner. During Operation Iraqi Freedom, he served as the 1st Brigade commander's gunner as well.

Prior to joining the Army, Celske was already a warrior, having served in the United States Marine Corps.

Celske's leaders and fellow Soldiers described him as a capable Soldier and good leader.

"He was a guy with a joke when things were tough and a guy who could be counted on in a crunch," said Lt. Col. Todd Wood, the battalion commander.

"He showed his ability many times as the gunner for the brigade commander during (OIF)," Wood added. "He was a good (Noncommissioned officer) and his ability to train undoubtedly saved Soldiers' lives."

Wood also described Celske as "big-hearted." "He'd give you the shirt off his back, or the last dollar in his pocket."

Capt. Scott Knight, C Co. commander, said Celske was a Soldier's Soldier. "He earned the respect of those around him by his indomitable spirit," he said. "He loved Soldiering and was content leading rugged men to victory, no matter what the circumstances."

Celske's subordinates remembered his warmth and courage no less fondly than his superiors.

"Sergeant Celske was a friend, and a man who put his Soldiers' needs before his own," said Spc. Anthony Ramos, another C Co. Soldier. "During OIF, he displayed courage and the type of motivation that would inspire any Soldier."

1st Bde. Chaplain, Maj. Mark Nordstrom, said he knew Celske as a

Soldier. "But many of you knew him as a friend and grieved deeply at his loss," he told the 2/7 Soldiers. "Remember him as a friend and as a Soldier ... Give him honor for his service, which we had the honor to share."

"Turn your grief to gratefulness that you knew him. Let his legend be your lives, lived for each other and in service to our great nation."

Celske's awards and decorations include the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Presidential Unit Citation, the Army Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal with one Bronze Star, the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, the Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon, the Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon, and the Navy Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

Nordstrom closed his remarks with a benediction, which was followed by the last roll call, by 1st Sgt. Rito Arredondo, a 21-gun salute and the playing of Taps to honor a Soldier and comrade.



Spc. Katherine Robinson

Friends and family bow their heads during the invocation at a memorial service for Sgt. John W. Celske, C Co., 2/7 Inf., Nov. 26 at Victory Chapel. Celske was killed Nov. 21 in a motorcycle accident.

Stewart Soldier becomes first Webster graduate

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.

Staff Writer

After 24 years of service to the Army, Master Sgt. Lula J. Brownlee recently completed her Master's degree in computer information management from the Webster University campus here on Fort Stewart.

Brownlee was the first person to graduate from Webster since the university opened its Fort Stewart campus a little over a year ago, said Marsha Sands, assistant director for the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield satellite campuses.

Brownlee was born in McCormick, S. C. She joined the Army when she was 18.

"There were ten brothers and sisters in my family, so I had to make something of myself, because I had so many siblings looking up to me and I wanted to be a role model for them," Brownlee said.

Brownlee said she was never discouraged from reaching her educational goals in during her time in the service.

"I took my first class at Fort Hood in 1979, and I have been working towards my degree ever since," she said.

"She came to us with a handful of credits from different places and we helped her mold them into a degree here," Sands said.

Webster offers only graduate courses at most of its satellite campuses, she

explained.

"The Department of Defense came and looked at the school's format in the early seventies," said Daniel Duggan, director of Webster's satellite campuses at Stewart and Hunter. "They decided that the curriculum coincided with what the military needed for officers to round out their education and advance in their careers. Webster was invited by the government to open a second campus at Fort Sheridan, Ill., in 1974."

"We are continuing to expand our cooperative master's degree program with Department of Defense schools," Sands said.

For example, if a Soldier attends the offi-

cer's artillery school in Fort Sill, Okla., it counts as 15 credit hours at Webster.

Brownlee doesn't plan on stopping her education now that she has her master's.

"I want to get another master's degree in human resource management. I enjoy going to school, and for any Soldier it's very easy to get educated," she said. "There is no excuse for not getting educated in the military. I hear many people say it's not affordable, but the money is there."

"Education helps a Soldier in two ways. It gives promotion points for advancement plus it gives someone a good start in civilian life," Brownlee said. "Education is never wasted."

Holiday season not so cheesy

Pfc. Emily J. Danial
Staff writer, Hunter Public Affairs

With Thanksgiving in the not-so-distant past and Christmas peeking its oh-so-jolly head around the corner, I felt it was about time to get into the holiday spirit, and not just by hurling snowballs joyfully into oncoming traffic.

No, there are no snowballs to hurl down here in the South, so I decided to express my festive mood in a bit more of an internal, legal way — by taking the time to reflect on life's little pleasures.

I think we all have those moments when something happens — something that may impact nobody but ourselves at that particular instant — and it causes our day to become just a tad bit brighter, maybe kicks off a miniature fiesta inside our heads.

Some critics will tell you that these little instances of momentary happiness are "trivial."

They only say this because they are too busy being annoyed by little things to be pleased by them.

Ignore those critics and say a resounding "No!" to that terrible drug they're pushing called "bitterness."

Because, you see, 'tis the season to

Commentary

indulge, and in accordance with the season, maybe you can do just that by taking a minute to appreciate some of the small pleasures that have helped to make the past year just a little more enjoyable for non-bitter people everywhere.

Have you ever ...
... put a quarter into a gumball machine, and gotten two gumballs instead of one? I did this recently — like a colleague of mine quite aptly put it, "It's like winning a tiny lottery."

... been the last person to turn left in traffic before the light makes that magical switch from yellow to red? Even if you're having the worst day in the world, being able to glance into your rear-view mirror and think, "Ha, ha!" is always a bit of a pick-me-up. Don't try to deny it; I can see you smiling.

... seen someone wearing an outfit exactly like one that you personally own, and know it looks better on you? I don't care what gender, race, creed or



sexual preference you claim, that feeling alone has the power to justify whatever amount of money you spent on those clothes.

... popped bubble wrap? Say what you will, anyone who's ever done this knows it needs no further explanation.

... peeled an orange and ended up with one huge piece of orange rind in your hand, instead of thousands of bits of sticky rind-crumbs? No matter how many times I do this, it feels like a world-class accomplishment. Same goes with apples.

... opened a bag of microwave popcorn to discover not only that it is not burned, but that almost every kernel has popped? I still aspire to accomplish this feat, but from what I hear, it almost makes the popcorn taste better.

... spent a decent amount of time writing a commentary, and finished before you thought you would? Well, maybe you haven't, but I just did, and now I have to savor the moment.

So go, continue living your life, and when the line at the grocery store grows longer behind you than it was when you got in, don't feel bad because of how good you feel — embrace that feeling, and smack the heck out of the piñata at your inner fiesta.

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

What is the best gift for the holidays?

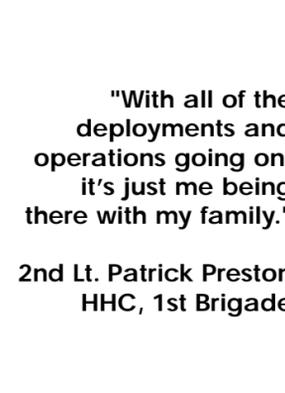
"That people would understand the true meaning of the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ."

Cedric Rice
Gifts Galore manager



"Getting to go home and see my family."

Spc. Robyn Doby
HHC, 105th Eng. Bn.



"With all of the deployments and operations going on, it's just me being there with my family."

2nd Lt. Patrick Preston
HHC, 1st Brigade



"Our husbands being home."

Michelle Vanormer
Spouse



"Spending time with family and friends is the best gift to me."

Darryl Stewart
Urban Wear manager



"To be home for Christmas."

Spc. Shane DeGrout
D Co., 123rd Sig. Bn.



Christmas in Korea 1951

Retired Sgt. Maj. Gary G. Beylickjian

Korea H-Co. 7th Inf. Regt., 3rd Inf. Div. (1951,52,53)

I miss his chats. Many years have passed since the last one. I suspect he has become one of those statistics we now hear often: veterans of World War II and Korea dying daily in large numbers. I myself am on the waiting list.

"Remember the Christmas of '51 in Korea?" That was one of his repeated remarks. "I guess I have to remember," I'd respond, "You keep bringing it up!" He'd talk about the cold days and even colder winter nights in the trenches when we'd awaken fully clothed in combat gear, yet just as cold as when we hit the sack the night before.

Then he'd mention Christmas day on the front and how he missed my not being there to help with his letter writing, reading and chats about the Latin. I wasn't on the front that Christmas of 1951.

I was in the Swedish Hospital in Pusan, South Korea, recovering from wounds I suffered during Thanksgiving week in November.

As he'd talk — he could go non-stop — my memory would flash back to the weeks before Christmas and my journey from a shallow trench on Hill 355 (Little Gibraltar) near Yongchon, North Korea, to a warm hospital bed in Pusan, at the southern tip of South Korea. My first Christmas in Korea actually began on a cold day November 1951.

A day or two before Thanksgiving, we were mercifully attacked by what some said later were two heavily reinforced Chinese divisions. We were just a mere regiment. I can still see the enemy coming from everywhere. The tales about the charging enemy blowing bugles during an attack were true. The sound was eerie as it echoed across the valley and bounced against the nearby hill sides.

We were shelled heavily before the enemy foot soldiers rushed toward us. My friend, Lyle, manned the machinegun, and I fed it. All we needed to do was traverse the gun left-to-right and back, and everything that stood upright or even crawled or took a breathe, now lay flat, motionless and breathless on the ground, destroyed by our machinegun fire.

Not long into the fighting, I felt a loud ringing in my ears and what felt like a punch on my back, a warm sticky liquid splashed on the right side of my face and a burning sensation pierced my right side just below my ribs; for a moment it felt as though one of the guys had pressed a lit cigar into me. Unknowingly for perhaps 15 seconds, I had become a Wounded in Action statistic.

And in less than fifteen minutes, Lyle, also would become a different statistic: Killed In Action.

When I asked about Lyle, the Soldier who dragged me from the open trench into the dugout murmured, "He's sitting by the right hand of God now." Lyle, my best friend in Korea was dead.

The 7th Inf. Regt. held the CCF (Chinese Communist Forces) back despite their overwhelming number and our many casualties; the regiment refused to give ground despite the heavy fighting, shelling and bloodshed. We learned months later our unit had been awarded the Presidential Unit Citation from President Harry S Truman for action on Hill 355.

A medic tended to my wound and tagged me for evacuation. I was carried out of the trench to an assembly area about half a mile from the front. There, ambulance jeeps carried the wounded to a nearby MASH (Mobile Army Surgical Hospital). There, I and many, many others were packed in a warm tent waiting for an exam by a doctor, who, after checking each Soldier, placed a priority notation of our tags. The seriously wounded got immediate attention, of course; others waited in line on stretchers for their turn in the Operating Room.

About 15 minutes in line, I was told by two nurses my turn would be coming up soon and I had to be readied.

As nurses covered me, fully clothed, with a sheet, and with a pair of surgical scissors, another nurse de-clothed me. Field

jacket, field trousers, belt, long johns, boots, everything I wore was cut off my body in seconds. One nurse asked if I could raise my body slightly, and with one quick yank, pulled my clothes off. I was under a white sheet, on a stretcher, in a tent jammed with medics and wounded men, and I was "naked as a bird" under a sheet of white. My wallet and other personal belongings went into a bag and were placed on the stretcher beside me.

Soon, another nurse checked my wound, and with ball of gauze, covered it with an orange-brown liquid similar to iodine.

In seconds, I was carried into the operating room, taken off the stretcher and placed on a table. One of the Army surgeons said he would give me an injection to knock me out, and if I could count down from 100 to at least 90, I'd get a carton of my favorite smokes (cigars in my case). No problem, I said, proudly; I was, after all, a combat Infantryman.

Well, a problem: I made it to only 96, and I was sleeping on a cloud. Someone told me later, I had been injected with "truth serum," which caused me some concern. Did I talk much while sedated? If so, just what did I reveal? No problem. I was clean!

Whatever the doctor put in my vein, I felt no pain but plenty of joy. I did recall hearing the sound like a coin dropping into a metal cup, and that's about all I remembered. I was asked later if I wanted the hunk of shell fragment made in China; I declined. But, I didn't leave behind all the metal the enemy threw at me. I still have fragments in my left thumb and left index finger from that battle.

After a day in a recovery tent, most wounded Soldiers were evacuated by rail to various hospitals farther south for additional recovery. I was sent to the Swedish Hospital in Pusan. The other stops would have been a hospital in Tokyo, Japan, or on the hospital ship. Either meant a possible trip home with that so-called million-dollar wound, the results of which far exceeded the value placed on it.

I was treated by Swedish doctors and nurses. I was in heaven, not in a hospital. Talk about caring; the Swedes must hold the pattern.

Most of those recuperating were fed in bed, with food that tasted out of this world. Those who could walk got the same food — and also seconds — in the mess hall.

We walked about the hospital rooms, chatted with the wounded from other U.N. countries, ate plenty of snacks, chatted with Red Cross workers, wrote home, read books, smoked all we wanted (they had my cigars) and watched movies. What a life!

Then Christmas Eve! And a lesson on how the Swedes celebrate that holiday. In the middle of the night, in near darkness, Swedish nurses, doctors and others showed up in our room, holding lit candles, some dressed in their native costumes, sang

Christmas carols. I was in a deep slumber, and awoke into a dream!

Small groups walked from room to room, personally wishing every wounded Soldier in every ward a Merry Christmas and a call for peace. I can only describe that truly emotional scene in the vernacular: it was awesome!

A few days later and recovered, I received my "marching" orders. I was to report back to my unit: H Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division. It was December 27.

I was back with my unit on Hill 355, Yongchon, North Korea, with a bandage still on my wound. I was on the very same hill we had fought the enemy onslaught, the hill on which many Soldiers died and many wounded and all did their job well.

I hated to leave the Swedes and that great chow and warm hospitality, but I was much happier being back with my buddies in the Heavy Machinegun Platoon on the frontlines of Korea. It was family.

And it was Christmas I will never forget.

Peace!

THE FRONTLINE

MILITARY NEWS: 767-3440
ADVERTISING: (912) 368-0526
Volume 19, Number 12
Publisher
3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) Commander —
Maj. Gen. William G. Webster Jr.
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
Deputy PAO — Maj. Darryl L. Wright
PAO Supervisor — Master Sgt. Emma Krouser
Command Information Manager — Jim Jeffcoat
Editorial Staff
Managing Editor — Jim Jeffcoat
Editor — Spc. Katherine Robinson
Associate Editor — Spc. Jonathan M. Stack
Staff Writer — Sgt. Mason T. Lowery
Staff Writer — Sgt. R. James Piper
Staff Writer — Spc. Jacob Boyer

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. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.
Staff Writer — Spc. Robert Adams
Staff Writer — Pfc. Benjamin Brody
Hunter Public Affairs Office
Chief — Steven Hart
NCOIC — Sgt. Craig Zentkovich
Staff Writer — Pfc. Emily Danial
Advertising Manager
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.

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

President surprises troops, world with Thanksgiving dinner at Baghdad airport

Gene Harper

American Forces Press Release

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27 — About 600 troops gathered for Thanksgiving Day dinner in Baghdad had a surprise guest: their commander in chief, President George W. Bush.

Under the security of darkness and tight-lipped staff secrecy, the president arrived in Baghdad Thanksgiving Day at Baghdad International Airport for a reported two-and-a-half-hour visit.

Army Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, Combined Joint Task Force 7 commander, and coalition administrator L. Paul Bremer were just finishing remarks to Soldiers of the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment and the 1st Armored and 82nd Airborne divisions and other guests at the start of what was supposed to be a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

"It says here that I'm supposed to read the president's Thanksgiving proclamation," Bremer said. "But I thought the deal was for the most senior person to read it. Is that you, sir?" Bremer asked, turning to Sanchez. "Let's see if we've got anybody more senior here who can read the president's Thanksgiving speech. Is there anybody back there more senior than us?"

On cue, Bush walked into the area and up to the podium before a stunned crowd of Soldiers. They immediately jumped to their feet and hailed him with sustained, thunderous applause and shouts of "hooah." The president's watery eyes showed his reaction.

"I was just looking for a warm meal somewhere. Thanks for inviting me," Bush said.

He acknowledged Iraqi Governing Council members on hand. "We're pleased you're joining us for one of our nation's great holidays, a chance to give thanks to the Almighty for the many blessings we've received." Then to the gathered service members he said, "I can't think of a finer group of folks to have Thanksgiving dinner with than you all.

"Today Americans are gathering with their loved ones to give thanks for the many blessings in our lives. And this year we're especially thankful for the courage and the sacrifice of those who defend us, the men and women of the United States military," the president said. "I bring a message on behalf of America: We thank you for your service. We're proud of you, and America stands solidly behind you.

"Together you and I have taken an oath

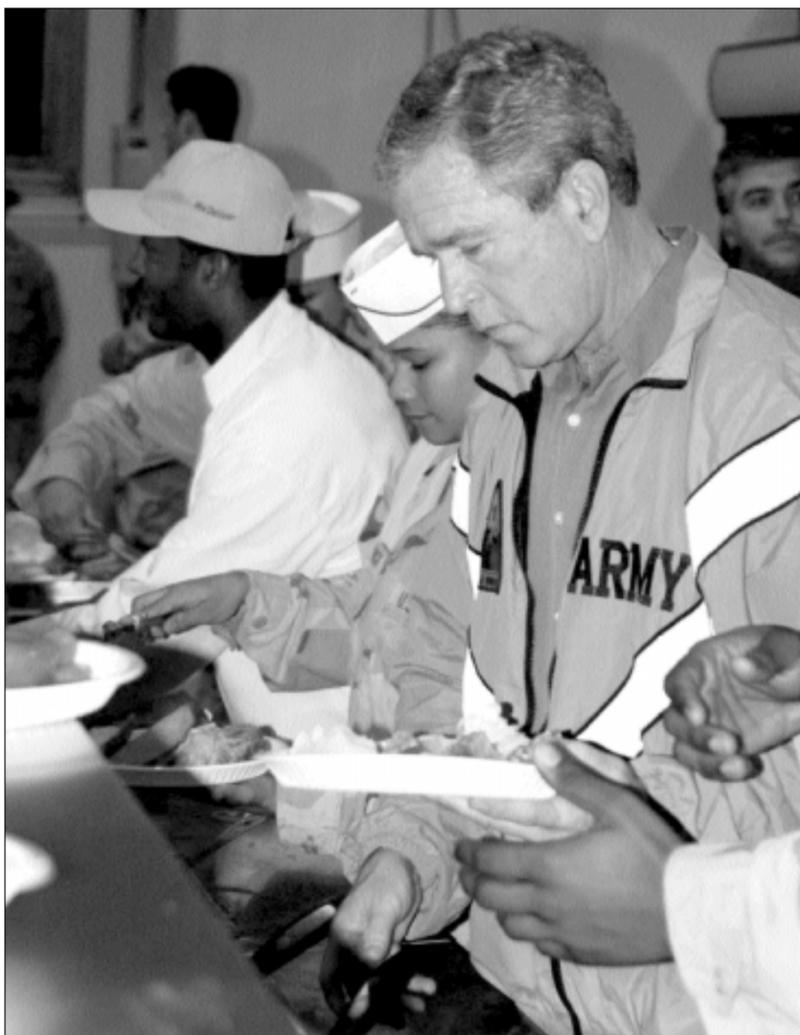


Photo by Gene Harper

President George W. Bush took a moment to serve Thanksgiving dinner to 1st Armored Division soldiers at the Bob Hope Dining Facility in Baghdad, Iraq.

to defend our country," the commander in chief told the troops. "You're honoring that oath. The United States military is doing a fantastic job."

He said that U.S. troops were on duty in Iraq "so that we don't have to face them in our own country."

"You're defeating Saddam's henchmen so that the people of Iraq can live in peace and freedom. By helping the Iraqi people become free, you're helping change a troubled and violent part of the world. By helping to build a peaceful and democratic country in the heart of the Middle East, you are defending the American

people from danger, and we are grateful." He recognized that the troops' engagement in a difficult mission. "Those who attack our coalition forces and kill innocent Iraqis are testing our will," Bush said.

"They hope we will run. We did not charge hundreds of miles into the heart of Iraq, pay a bitter cost in casualties, defeat a brutal dictator and liberate 25 million people only to retreat before a band of thugs and assassins," he said to raucous, sustained whoops of approval from the

See BUSH, Page 9A

MOAA to present 'second career' seminar

The Military Officers Association of America will present its "Marketing Yourself for a Second Career" lecture Monday, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Liberty Room at Club Stewart, in support of the Fort Stewart Army Career and Alumni Program.

Retired Col. Jerry Crews will present the lecture on behalf of MOAA. The lecture is now provided at over 160 military bases, according to Crews, and focuses on the challenges facing officers, senior enlisted personnel and their spouses as they prepare to depart from the armed forces and seek civilian employment.

It also provides addi-

tional transitioning skills and reinforces the ones already taught at ACAP, he explained. Although the lecture is designed for officers and senior enlisted personnel, any service-member, civilian or spouse may attend.

The lecture contains a strong pitch on the realities of employment in the civilian world and it recommends those in the military stay in as long as they are happy and their respective services are happy with them, Crews said.

Every lecture attendee will receive three transition-related publications and an opportunity to receive the MOAA monthly transition e-mail newsletter.

MOAA'S 2004 scholarship season opens

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — During the 2004 to 2005 school year, 50 dependents of active duty personnel nationwide will have the opportunity to win a \$1,000 grant through the Military Officers Association of America's Base/Post Scholarship program that opened Nov. 1.

To be eligible for the scholarship, a student must be the dependent child of an active duty member or a drilling Reserve or National Guard member, officer or enlisted, of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, United States Public Health Service, or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The student must also be a high school senior or college student, working on his or her first undergraduate degree, and be under the age of 24.

MOAA membership is not required to apply, and no essays, grade point averages or Scholastic Aptitude Test scores are

needed for the Base/Post application.

Grant recipients will be randomly selected from applicants within each of the seven services.

Semi-finalists will be notified by e-mail and the self-check on the MOAA Web site by mid-March, and winners will be notified in May.

Applications can only be made online, via the MOAA Web site: <http://www.moaa.org>. Click on the "Educational Aid" on the left side of the opening page and follow the instructions for the multi-purpose Scholarship Application. The deadline for submission is no later than noon, eastern standard time, March 1.

MOAA is the nation's leading association for military officers, with nearly 380,000 members. Membership is open to active duty officers and warrant officers, Reserve and National Guard, former or retired officers and warrant officers, and surviving spouses.

Audie Murphy: The epitome of leadership

Staff Sgt. Demetrius Johnson

Special to The Frontline

Audie Leon Murphy was a legend in his own time. War hero, movie actor, writer of country and western songs and a poet. These are the first two sentences of the biography that describes a legend in American History and the United States Army.

Audie is the epitome of a hero. During World War II he was assigned to B Company, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division. He was credited with killing over 241 enemy Soldiers, never leaving his troops side. There are countless recollections of his actions best defined by the seven Army Values that we live by today.

Audie's illustrious life came to a tragic end on May 28, 1971 in a plane crash near Roanoke, Va. The life of this great American hero lives on in countless movies, songs, memorials, and non-profit research organizations. The

one that is significant to Soldiers is the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club.

The SAMC was an idea conceived in 1986. Its humble beginnings were as a local program for the noncommissioned officers of Fort Hood, Texas. There were countless officers, enlisted Soldiers, civil service and local area civilians who were instrumental in getting the program off the ground. The main effort of the SAMC's birth was Lt. Gen. Crosby Saint and Command Sgt. Maj. George Horvath who were the III Armored Corps commander and command sergeant major.

The club was expanded to include all units that fell under the command of III Armored Corps. Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Cayton succeeded Horvath and carried on the legacy of Audie Murphy and the new found organization. Cayton moved on to become the Forces Command Command Sergeant Major and adopted the SAMC for all FORSCOM units. In 1994 the program was recognized at the



Courtesy photos

Maj. Gen. John "Iron Mike" O'Daniel, former 3rd Inf. Div. commanding general, presents 1st Lt. Audie Murphy the Distinguished Service Cross and Silver Star on March 5, 1945 in Nancy, France.

Sergeant Major of Army Conference and was adopted Army-wide and evolved into what we know today.

Membership in the SAMC is based on the truest of the U.S. Army ideals and NCO leadership styles of Audie Murphy who earned each of his promotions on the rugged battlefields of World War II. The club is constructed in a manner so that it recognizes

the NCOs who exemplify standards, leadership, excellence, and professionalism.

To be inducted into the club is an honor and feeling that is hard to translate into words. I recall when I was a young Soldier watching NCOs prepare and focus on getting ready to appear before the SAMC board. It seemed to be

See SAMC, Page 9A



CSA: 'Warrior ethos' initiative to guide Army

Compiled by Pfc. Benjamin Brody

Staff Writer

Outlining his plans for the Army's future, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker stated that his primary concern is to instill the "Warrior Ethos" in every Soldier. Borrowing from a venerated Marine Corps motto, this means that every Soldier must be "a rifleman first."

The four tenets of "Warrior Ethos" are: the mission is first, don't quit, never accept defeat and never leave a fallen comrade, according to Schoomaker. "Every Soldier is a Soldier first, regardless of whether they're a truck driver or a typist, a maintainer or an infantryman."

While technology has helped the Army become more lethal and effective, individual Soldiers still do the fighting, Schoomaker said. "This great technology has to enhance the

human dimension. Warfare fundamentally is a human endeavor. It's a test of wills. It's a test of things deep within us."

The "Warrior Ethos" program was formally authorized in May by Schoomaker's predecessor, Gen. Eric Shinseki. The Army expects the program to be established in its institutions and doctrinal materials, from basic training units to the Army War College, by January.

"We've got dismounted artillerymen in Iraq, and we've got them performing ground functions — infantry functions, military police functions," Schoomaker said. "Everybody's got to be able to do that. Everybody's a rifleman first."

According to a recent Army press release, the Warrior Ethos came about because Army leaders realized that the battlefields of the Global War on Terrorism are asymmetrical: violent, unpredictable and multidimensional.

This complex operational environment offers no relief or respite from the lowest end of the spectrum of conflict to the highest. Soldiers are under great stress no matter what their rank, specialty or location on the battlefield. Given this reality, all Soldiers must be prepared to close with and destroy the enemy — all Soldiers must be warriors first.

Responding to concerns from senior Army leaders that the Army's focus on technical skills has resulted in a general neglect of basic combat skills, mandatory training will be made more frequent and thorough.

"In our well-intentioned direction of trying to develop very technically competent Soldiers in branches of the service, perhaps we lost some of the edge associated with being a Soldier," Combined Arms Center commander Lt. Gen. William Wallace told reporters Oct. 6.

The upcoming changes in mandatory train-

ing include:

- Every Soldier will be required to qualify on his or her individual weapon twice a year. The current Army standard requires Soldiers to qualify only once a year, although some commanders have their troops qualify more frequently.

- New recruits will qualify on their individual weapons in basic training and again in advanced individual training. Until now, Soldiers only qualified on weapons during basic training.

- Every Soldier will conduct at least one live-fire combat drill a year. For higher headquarters rear-echelon units, it might include reacting to an ambush.

Editor's note: Information for this article was compiled using information from Army press releases, Chuck Crumbo of *The State* and Sean D. Naylor of *Army Times*.

396th gets new commander in Iraq

Special to The Frontline

CAMP ANACONDA, IRAQ — The commander of one of Fort Stewart's only units still deployed to Iraq, turned the 396th Transportation Company over to a new commander in a change of command ceremony at logistics base Anaconda Nov. 12.

After 24 months in command, Capt. Brian Matthews relinquished the guidon to Capt. Nadine Terese. A Fort Stewart unit attached to 87th Corps Support Battalion under 24th Corps Support Group, the 396th deployed to Kuwait in February of 2003 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom. The 396th has been in Iraq for nine months.

After supporting the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) and V Corps units during the combat phase of OIF, the 396th was unexpectedly retained in theater for a one year rotation due to its critical Palletized Loading System truck capabilities. The company has safely accumulated over two million miles transporting supplies for 3rd Inf. Div., 4th Inf. Div. and 3rd Corps Support Command. Through their dedicated support,

they have earned the respect of the units they support.

Prior to its deployment, the 396th fulfilled its home station mission of "pushing out" other Fort Stewart units. Along with daily transportation support requirements, the 396th had a post support role in the movement of unit equipment for deployment. It provided support for marshalling operations, rail operations, line haul to the port, bus drivers, and baggage transport capabilities. They accomplished this mission while busy in preparation for their own deployment.

The Soldiers of the 396th anticipated redeployment along with 3rd Inf. Div. and the other deployed units of the 24th CSG, but it became clear in September that the 396th would stay a full year. Despite this unforeseen change of plans, the Soldiers of the 396th have remained strong and dedicated to getting the job done. They are motivated and very much looking forward to finishing the mission in Iraq and going home. The idea of being apart from their families for the holidays is a difficult one, but the Soldiers all say that it means a lot to know that everyone back at Fort Stewart is thinking of them.



Capt. Brian Matthews relinquishes the guidon to Capt. Nadine Terese Nov. 12 during a change of command ceremony conducted by the 396th Trans. Co. at Camp Anaconda, Iraq. Courtesy photo

Time to stick with healthy resolutions for coming year

Special to The Frontline

With every New Year, we make resolutions to eat healthier foods, to begin an exercise program or to shed some unwanted weight. Every year many of these resolutions are broken before spring arrives. With each broken resolution, health risks increase.

In the United States, approximately 300,000 deaths a year are associated with overweight and obesity. While there has been dramatic progress in the treatment of conditions such as heart disease and cancer, the statistics for some of the major underlying causes, including excessive weight and obesity, have steadily moved in the wrong direction.

In 1999, approximately 61 percent of adults were overweight or obese and 13 percent of children were overweight. (The percentage of overweight children is nearly twice as high today as it was in 1980.) These numbers reflect a serious problem with serious risks. If you are overweight or obese, your risks for heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and cancer increase significantly.

So what do you do now? The first thing to do is evaluate your weight. To determine your Body Mass Index you may want to refer to the online brochure, "Nutrition and Your Health: Dietary Guidelines for Americans," a joint publication of the Departments of Health and Human Services and Agriculture which can be found at www.health.gov/dietaryguidelines/dga2000/document/aim.htm. BMI evaluates your weight in relation to your height to determine if you are at a healthy weight, overweight, or obese. After you have identified your BMI, set realistic goals for yourself to get to or stay at your healthy weight.

Start eating healthier foods and choose sensible portion sizes. Eat a lot of vegetables, fruits, and grains with little added fat or sugar. Most fruits and vegetables are naturally low in fat, rich in many nutrients, and are very filling. Before you buy something, check the product label for the nutrition facts. Look for the % Daily Value column to see if the food is high or low in nutrients and how many calories and fat grams it contains. It is important to check the serving size on the label as well.

Another important step in reaching your healthy weight is increasing your physical activity. You should aim to get at least 30 minutes of physical activity a day most days of the week, preferably daily. Some examples of physical activities are:

- Walking, jogging, or bicycling (drive less)
- Washing and waxing a car
- Raking leaves
- Washing windows or floors
- Playing actively with children
- Playing basketball, volleyball, golf, or dancing
- Gardening or mowing the lawn
- Swimming or water aerobics

Regular physical activity not only helps you obtain your goal of a healthy weight, but also helps you control blood pressure, reduce feelings of depression and anxiety, and lowers the risk factors for cardiovascular disease, colon cancer, and type 2 diabetes.

So with that in mind, let's make 2004 the year we stick with those resolutions to get in shape and stay in shape.

Tashree clinic playground is a happening place

Spc. Chad D. Wilkerson

372nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Every day, Soldiers in Baghdad travel down the city streets, through neighborhoods and markets. They travel with their weapons loaded, watching people, buildings and vehicles for the source of the next possible threat.

The job that many of these Soldiers have taken on, however, is not simply defending themselves against insurgents, or even to find and apprehend those that pose a threat to Coalition forces.

No, these Soldiers have made it their mission to provide a better life to the Iraqi people that they came to the country to defend.

Capt. Richard Graves, commander of C Company, Task Force 1st Battalion, 35th Armored Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, has gone the extra mile and beyond in order to make life better for the residents of one central Baghdad community.

Graves and his Soldiers are tasked with providing security for three neighborhood districts located on the Coalition's "green zone," but that is just the beginning.

"I am just a facilitator," Graves said. "I listen to the problems of the residents here and then I do everything I can to find a solution."

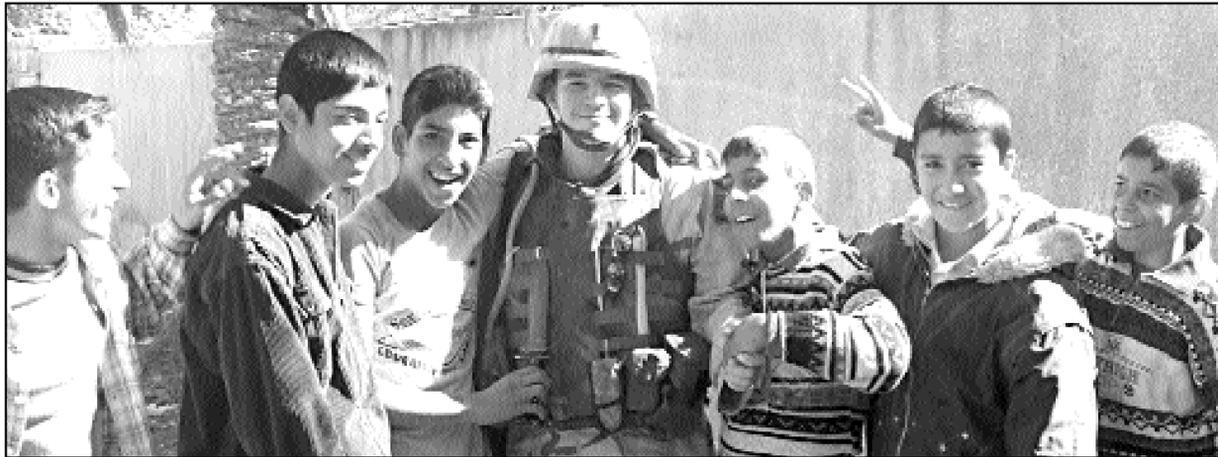
Graves' humility is easy to distinguish when you look at all that he has been able to accomplish in the Al Tashree neighborhood.

"The playground here is part of the community center," said Graves. "There were people in need of medical care, and we come into the neighborhood every other day to talk with the Iraqis about their problems and concerns. I had the idea back in May that we needed a place that would be one-stop shopping for the residents here."

The solution, according to Graves, was a community center for Al Tashree that would act as a meeting hall for the Neighborhood Advisory Council, as well as a medical clinic for those in need of minor care and a fun place where neighborhood children could play.

Today, the community center is a happening place where people can come and socialize, those in need can find medical attention and medication, and children can take advantage of the brightly-colored playground facilities outside.

"It is difficult for the people here to get medical treatment because of their location, and the U.S. Army will not treat Iraqis unless it is a 'life or limb' case," Graves said. "I was able to track



Spc. Chad D. Wilkerson

2nd Lt. Luke Sparks, fire support and information operations officer of C Co., TF - 1/35 Armor, 2nd BCT, 1st AD, gets caught in a group hug by some neighborhood children at the Tashree community center playground in central Baghdad Nov. 17. Sparks said that the Soldiers' interaction with local children has improved the U.S. Army's relationship with the community.

down some people from 'Red Crescent' and asked them if they would be willing to open a clinic here, and they were happy to."

One of the unique qualities of the assistance that C Co. has provided to Al Tashree is that everything has been cost free to the U.S. and Iraqi governments. All the facets of this community center have been privately funded and sponsored by the Red Crescent, were services donated by Graves and his Soldiers or are a result of Graves' bargaining with locals.

"I spoke to a local man who wanted to be able to salvage all the scrap metal from buildings in the area that were destroyed during the conflict," Graves said. "I told him that I wanted a playground for the community center, and I just got lucky. He had an entire playground that he and some workers disassembled, brought over here and welded together in the yard."

Second Lt. Luke Sparks, fire support and information operations officer for C Co., said he sees the community center, playground and clinic as the perfect way for Coalition personnel to make contact with the public and hear the problems people have that need to be solved.

With the lack of communication capabilities in Baghdad, the

center also serves as a forum for Graves and his men to get information out to the public, as well as giving them a chance to interact and have fun with the children.

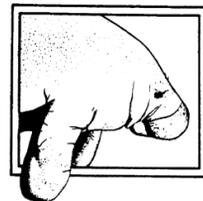
"The playground out here is great," Sparks said. "It is good for the community to see us out here listening to their problems, helping with what we can and playing with their kids."

But according to Sparks, the work for this community is far from over, and the goal on this small scale mirrors that of the Coalition's goal for the rest of the nation: a free and sovereign Iraq.

"I would like to see us be able to leave and this community (would) be able to stand on its own two feet and do well," Sparks said. "With what we have been able to accomplish, we are giving them the confidence to do that. I think we are doing a good job for Tashree."

As far as solving problems in the community, Graves said there is always someone on duty at the center to listen to and record the issues and suggestions brought up by community members, and frequent weekly visits keep him informed of progress and new issues.

Are you looking for a rare gift this holiday season?



Adopt-A-Manatee® today and help protect them for tomorrow.



Save the Manatee Club
1-800-432-JOIN (5646)
500 N. Maitland Ave.,
Maitland, FL 32751
www.savethemanatee.org

**Stop Overpopulation,
Spray or Neuter Your Pet Today!!**

IRC

from page 1A

outstanding opportunity to work together with other services."

The crew's task for the day was to load up the aircraft with equipment equivalent to that which would be taken by a unit in the event of an actual deployment, take off, practice mid-air refueling and tactical landing, then fly back to Hunter to unload.

"Our goal is to validate the load plan of the first aircraft of this modular package," Black said.

Maj. Nick Snelson is in charge of all division air operations, and took part in the day's training.

"This is great for the Army," he said. "The crew has gotten training on submitting load plans, preparing vehicles and doing necessary paperwork such as hazardous cargo declarations, and the infantry load team learned how to tie down vehicles properly.

"Everything goes through the same process, everything we do for one aircraft is applicable to all the others," Snelson said.

Snelson said the idea of a single C-17 acting independently is a new one for the Marne Division.

"Before, it was, 'Here's a plane, now fill it,'" he said. "Now, it's 'Here's the number of troops you need, etc., now make it fit.'"

The idea, he said, is to transport a "reinforced, augmented infantry platoon" along with any equipment — including vehicles — they might need in a way that would allow that unit to be fully effective in war the moment it was unloaded.

"This has never been done before," said Black, gesturing at the equipment inside the aircraft as its crew prepared for take-off. "The forces represented (in the exercise) will be the same as would go to war."

Air Force Lt. Col. Steve Janeczko, the senior air mobility liaison officer, said, "Generally aircraft are very light. This aircraft is fully mechanized, yet is small enough to be airliftable rapidly."

Along with carrying Soldiers and their weapons and equipment, the C-17 will also carry two M2A2 Bradley fighting vehicles — not exactly a light load.

Spc. Jeff Grounds, C Co. 3/7 Inf., commented on that very factor. "This seems kind of risky," he said. "This plane seems kind of small for two Bradleys, but I think it's a good idea, to be first response on the ground."

Spc. Kent Renk, also of C Co., 3/7 Inf., echoed Grounds' sentiments. "I didn't think they could get this much heavy equipment on one plane," he said. "It's smart to try to do different things, though, for anything we might have to be ready for."

That, according to Black, is exactly the point — Webster's "vision" is something "different," but something that will allow the 3rd Inf. Div. to prepare for "anything we might have to be ready for."

Bush

from page 5A

servicemembers.

"We will prevail," Bush promised. "We will win because our cause is just. We will win because we will stay on the offensive. And we will win because you're part of the finest military ever assembled. And we will prevail because the Iraqis want their freedom."

Bush, in a first-ever U.S. presidential visit to Iraq, also brought a message to the Iraqi people. "You have an opportunity to seize the moment and rebuild your great country, based on human dignity and freedom. The regime of Saddam Hussein is gone forever," he declared.

He said the United States and its coalition partners would continue helping the Iraqi people build a peaceful country for a bright future for its children. "We'll help you find and bring to justice the people who terrorized you for years and are still killing innocent Iraqis. We will stay until the job is done," Bush said, again to long, thunderous approval from the troops. "I'm confident we will succeed, because you, the Iraqi people, will show the world that you're not only courageous, but that you can govern yourself wisely and justly."

Turning back to the troops, the president said the nation remembered its military on Thanksgiving Day, especially those "who paid the ultimate price for our security and freedom. We ask for God's blessings on their families, their loved ones and their friends, and we pray for your safety and your strength, as you continue to defend America and to spread freedom."

Bush said each service member had

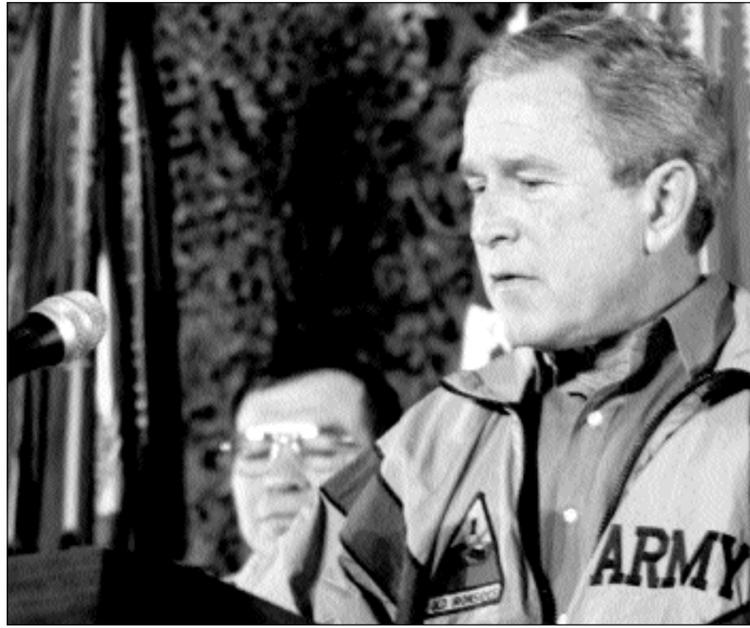


Photo by Gene Harper

President George W. Bush speaks at the 1st Armored Division Thanksgiving Day celebration at the Bob Hope Dining Facility in Baghdad, Iraq, as Lt. Gen. Ricardo S. Sanchez, commander of Coalition Joint Task Force 7, listens intently.

answered "a great call, participating in an historic moment in world history. You live by a code of honor, of service to your nation, with the safety and the security of your fellow citizens. Our military is full of the finest people on the face of the earth.

"I'm proud to be your commander in chief," Bush concluded. "I bring greetings from America. May God bless

you all."

The president then made his way through the crowd of delighted service members, shaking hands, and talking and posing for photos with several them. He reportedly served food to the troops and ate. He boarded Air Force One and was wheels up 8 p.m. Baghdad time for the trip back to the States.

SAMC

from page 6A

such an amazing feat that only the best of the best attempted. None of us claim to be perfect in everything that we do, but from the experience of going before the board, we can all take a closer look at how our goals compare with the needs of those young men and women placed in our care. Becoming a member of the Audie Murphy Club should not be thought of as another feather in the hat. It is a golden opportunity to look into the career and life of one of America's true heroes and how his actions compare to the Army Values

that we live by. In my time of study for the board, I learned a great deal about what it takes to go that extra mile and earn the trust, respect, and confidence of those who are looking to me for leadership. The preparation process for the board is rather unique. The board should not trigger a method of study that leads to memorizing a bunch of information to achieve the status of Sergeant Audie Murphy Inductee. It should in turn be a mechanism of validating what you should already know as a noncommissioned Officer

who has gained the trust of the leader and the led. Having recently appeared before the Audie Murphy board myself, I can testify to the feeling of accomplishment after being told that I had successfully made it through the selection process. I remember calling my dad and telling him that I had made it. At the time he did not realize what I had told him until the next time we talked. When I called him again he asked to reconfirm what I had told him the last time we talked. Once he did realize what I did tell him, he was so excited,

he could barely speak. His sense of pride in what had accomplished was the best reward of all.

Our number one duty is to train our Soldiers to fight our nations wars and win in defense of its interests. Induction into the coveted Sergeant Audie Murphy Club will not necessarily reward you with the success of easily fulfilling your leadership responsibilities, but will act as a constant reminder shouldered by NCOs when it comes to leading and caring for Soldiers.

10 Things You Can Do to Help the Environment



1. Use water-based paints.
2. Recycle your house- hold trash.
3. Compost yardwaste.
4. Plant trees.
5. Conserve energy.
6. Buy non-aerosol products.
7. Carpool.
8. Keep your car engine tuned.
9. Recycle used motor oil.
10. Choose less packaging.



Holiday food safety

Eating guide for the party animal

Herb Greene

Special to The Frontline

FORT LEE, Va. — Of all the wonderful things you plan to do during the holidays, I'll bet that being seriously ill with food poisoning is definitely not one of them. Yet, this holiday season, an awful lot of folks will have their holidays ruined because they failed to take some common-sense precautions with their eating and drinking at parties and get-togethers.

As you have guessed by now, this is a food safety story, but it is not about how to cook a turkey or how long to keep tofu left-overs. It is about how to protect yourself from food-borne illness as you hit the party circuit. Here are some food safety tips to keep you, the party animal, rocking:

Wash your hands

The first and best thing you can do to protect yourself is to just wash your hands. No, you are not a dirty person, but you will come into contact with objects that less sanitary folks than you have touched. Most communicable illnesses invade your body by way of your hands. You either touch an ill person or touch something they have handled and then transfer those harmful bacteria into your body when your fingers touch your mouth or nose. It's all downhill from there as the harmful bacteria that have been transferred to your body have a field day challenging your immune system. But what if food is being served where you can't wash your hands? One possible solution might be to use a hand sanitizing lotion or antibacterial wipe to clean your hands. It's that easy.

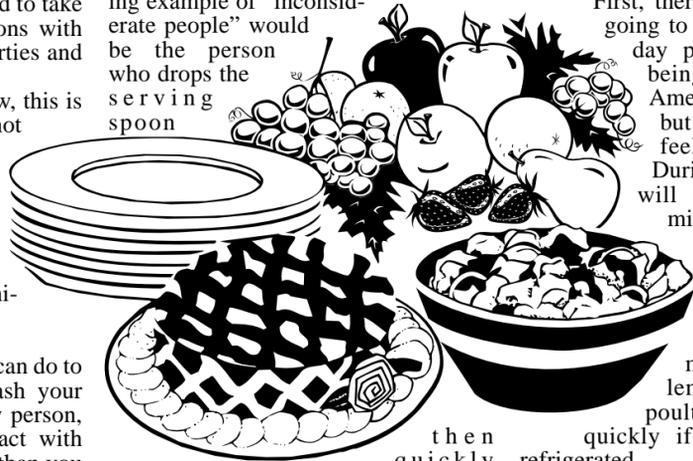
Eat early

During the average four hours of a holiday party, bacteria can go from a few lonely souls to virtually gazillions. "If your host has placed all the party food out on the table at the beginning and it just sits there at room temperature, be sure to eat early," said Chris Wicker, a health and sanitation specialist with the Defense Commissary Agency. "The longer food sits out unrefrigerated, the less safe it is to eat."

Avoid people with inconsiderate eating habits

The "double dipper" is the worst of this lot. This is the person who takes a

chip, piece of celery, cauliflower, carrot, or other similar item and scoops it into the dip, takes a bite, then returns the half-eaten, germ-contaminated portion back into the bowl for a second dip. The entire bowl of dip now becomes a potential illness waiting to happen. And what if the double dipper has a cold or bad cough? Another shining example of "inconsiderate people" would be the person who drops the serving spoon



then quickly replaces the spoon back into the serving dish when no one is looking. If you know of such people, protect yourself by not following behind them in the food line!

Watch for dangerous grilling techniques and improper food handling

Before you eat any meat your host is grilling on the barbecue, observe how the meat is handled. Do not eat cooked meat that has been grilled and then placed back on the same platter, dish or container used to hold raw meat. If you do, you open yourself up to the risk of salmonella, listeria, Norwalk virus, staphylococcus, clostridium perfringens, campylobacter jejuni, or worse — E. coli 0157:H7 bacteria. If this happens and if you have a high-mileage immune system, this could be your last holiday party season. Also watch how any of your food is handled.

"Check to determine if food handlers are wearing disposable plastic or rubber gloves," says Jack Moye, a food safety and quality assurance specialist also with DeCA. "Gloves are recommended to prevent contamination of your food by the bacteria present on the food handlers' hands, not to keep their hands clean."

Avoid certain high-risk foods

Avoid food and beverages made with raw eggs like nonpasteurized eggnog. They are breeding grounds for bacteria. Politely decline to eat any wild game caught and cooked by your host. There is a lot that can go wrong by eating the trophies of the mighty hunter, but we won't go there in this story.

Know your turkey wrangler

First, there is no way you are going to get through the holiday party season without being offered turkey. Americans love this bird, but understandably the feeling is not mutual. During the holidays, we will consume nearly 70 million turkeys and during the year, each of us will eat nearly 18 pounds of this delicious bird. The problem with turkey meat is the same problem common to all poultry: It can go bad quickly if it is not properly refrigerated.

"If you leave the turkey at room temperature on the dinner or buffet table longer than two hours, there is a chance the small numbers of bacteria will grow into millions," says Eleanor Schlenker of Virginia Cooperative Extension at Virginia Tech. "If you want the left-overs to be safe when you serve them the next day, you need to get them into the refrigerator within two hours."

Common sense rules

You can't go wrong applying common sense to your party eating. If the food looks old and discolored, don't eat it. If you arrive late to the party, just smile, talk and consume only items you know to be safe, like prepackaged individual servings of candy and drinks that you either see made or open yourself. Even then, check the expiration dates on the packages just to be sure.

Also, watch for the host that holds a glass with bare hands and scoops it into the ice chest. That ice has most likely been contaminated. Even worse would be the person who takes the glass he or she has drunk from and uses it to scoop up ice.

For the holiday party season, choose conservative and safe over bold and stupid. Be sane; eat safe; enjoy! Happy Holidays!

Fort Stewart Military Family Member Scholarship Fund

The Fort Stewart Military Family Member Scholarship Fund Committee (under the auspices of the Officer's Spouses Club, a non-profit organization) is seeking contributions for the 2004 - 2005 academic year scholarships. With support from local businesses, we have been able to give almost a quarter of a million dollars in scholarships to over 385 members of our military families in the past 16 years.

We are asking for your support and contributions, which will make a positive impact for next year's recipients. The merit scholarships are awarded to children and spouses of active duty, retired or deceased members of the Armed Forces of the United States who reside in the Fort Stewart area.

Scholarship applications are available at local high schools, the education center at Stewart and at the First Command office in Hinesville.

Your tax deductible donation can be made payable to "The Fort Stewart Military Family Member Scholarship Fund", and sent to the same title in care of OSC, P. O. Box 3119, Fort Stewart, GA 31315. For more information, please call Karen Grady (Committee Chair) at 369-5578 or Jackie Kinnear (Treasurer) at 369-4985.

Marne TV

November 2003 Schedule

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 Stewart and Hunter.

5 a.m.
5:30 a.m.
6 a.m.
7:30 a.m.
8 a.m.
8:30 a.m.
9 a.m.
11:30 a.m.
Noon
12:30 p.m.
1:30 p.m.
4:30 p.m.
5 p.m.
5:30 p.m.
6 p.m.
6:30 p.m.
7 p.m.
10 p.m.
10:30 p.m.
11 p.m.

Army Newswatch
MARNE REPORT
Navy News
Army Newswatch
MARNE REPORT
Navy News
Air Force News
Army Newswatch
MARNE REPORT
Navy News
Air Force News
Army Newswatch
MARNE REPORT
Navy News
MARNE REPORT
Army Newswatch
MARNE REPORT
Navy News
Army Newswatch

Military Police address gate concerns

Provost Marshal's Office

Special to The Frontline

We would like to express our gratitude to our Soldiers, family members, civilian employees and local communities for your patience and support at the installation access control points (gates) in an effort to keep traffic flowing smoothly.

The Provost Marshal Office would like to solicit your continued support as the construction projects move forward over the next several months. Listed below are the latest details we have in regard to current and future construction:

- Currently, the new outbound lanes at Gate 1 (Main Gate) are open for traffic. We

are expecting the inbound lanes to be completed by the middle of December. The inbound lanes that come into Fort Stewart from Memorial Ave will be closed once the new lanes open, in order to begin construction of the Visitor's Center. Access from Memorial and Georgia 38 will be rerouted down New General Stewart in order to come in Gate 1.

- Construction on Gate 2 (4th Street) is still pending. The gate hours will remain 5 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week. During the week-day, the gate will be inbound only from 5:15 a.m. to 7 a.m. to accommodate PT traffic.

- Construction on Gate 3 (Harmon Ave / Georgia 47) will begin Monday. Traffic should not be impeded by this construction.

Please be aware of the workers, however, and approach the gate with caution. As the construction develops, there will be changes made to the traffic pattern in order to accommodate the new structure.

- Gate 5 (Gulick Avenue) will close on 5 December 2003. All traffic will be diverted to Gate 6 (Wilson Avenue). Gate 6 will remain open 24 hours until construction on Gate 5 is completed. Once again, please take extra care when approaching these gates for the safety of the workers.

- The work done on Gate 7 (15th Street) has been completed and the gate is open for inbound and outbound traffic. Hours are 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. During the weekday, the gate will be inbound only from 5 a.m. to 6:30

a.m. for PT traffic. From 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. the gate will be closed for the safety of the units conducting PT.

- Gate 8 (Frank Cochran) will begin construction Monday. It will remain open from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. As with Gate 3, there will be changes made to the traffic pattern in order to accommodate construction.

Construction may cause temporary gate or lane closures as the work progresses. We will publicize these closures via the Public Affairs Office, email and the Frontline. Please stay tuned for future announcements on gate development. We appreciate your continued patience. Further questions may be directed to the Fort Stewart Military Police Desk at 767-4895.

Medical Officer earns Soldier's Medal

Spc. Lorie Jewell

Special to The Frontline

WASHINGTON — Capt. John Chovanes ditched a fishing trip after terrorists flew two commercial airplanes into the New York City World Trade Center the morning of Sept. 11, 2001.

Hearing pleas for medical help over the radio, he grabbed his rescue gear and redirected his car from Philadelphia to New York City.

At Ground Zero, rescuers led the Army Medical Corps reservist on his stomach through an unstable makeshift path in the rubble to a trapped port authority officer. Chovanes, 39, stayed by officer John McLaughlin's side throughout the night, treating his wounds and keeping him alive until rescuers were able to free him the next morning.

Chief of the Army Reserve Lt. Gen. James Helmly pinned Chovanes with the Soldier's Medal for his deeds that fateful September day during a Pentagon ceremony Dec. 1.

"Once again, we see heroes rise to the occasion," Helmly said, explaining the meaning of the medal to 22 family members who came to watch the ceremony. It's the highest award a Soldier can get for putting his life on the line to save someone else in a non-combat situation, he said.

"That's what John did, he placed his life at risk to stay with his patient.

I tell you, this speaks volumes of the courage and steadfastness of the Army Medical Corps," Helmly said.

Chovanes said he doesn't see himself a hero. That distinction, he believes, belongs to the rescue workers, police and firemen who worked nonstop to save as many people as possible.

"Once again, we see heroes rise to the occasion."

Lt. Gen. James Helmly
Chief, Army Reserve

"Those are the guys who hung in there, relentlessly, they kept going back in to dig more people out," Chovanes said. "I just did what I was supposed to do. As a surgeon, I have no greater desire than to take care of those who are hurt."

Still, the medal, his first Army award since his July 2000 enlistment, means a lot to Chovanes. The symbolism of getting it in the Pentagon, another terrorist target, isn't lost, either.

"It's stunning, really," Chovanes said, blinking back tears. "It hits you in the heart, for sure, to hear all of this brought up again. It's pretty poignant."

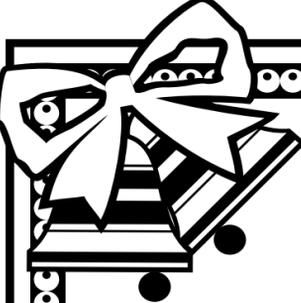
Chovanes works as a resident trauma surgeon at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Prior to his pursuit of a medical degree, he was a paramedic and emergency room nurse.

He said Ground Zero elevated him to a whole new level of rendering aid under pressure, though. He admitted being scared throughout the rescue effort. The trek to get to McLaughlin was treacherous, with rescuers leading him on a hike into the underbelly of the collapsed towers. Chovanes had to crawl on his stomach through a tight hole to reach McLaughlin, squeezing oxygen bottles between his legs to get them to the injured officer.

Since only one body could fit in the cramped space at a time, Chovanes had to maneuver back out of the hole after treating McLaughlin to allow a rescue worker in to work on freeing him. They took turns in the hole throughout the night, always in danger of overhead debris caving in on them.

"There was a girder down there we used to rest on and we had a fire hose they used to keep the fire away from us," Chovanes said.

Talking about the experience, especially with others who went through it, has helped Chovanes deal with the intense emotional and mental aftermath. Seeing McLaughlin alive and well also helps, he said.



**Fort Stewart
holiday parade
gate closure**

The Main Gate will be closed from 4:50 p.m. to 8 p.m. Dec. 6 for the Hinesville Christmas Parade. Recommended exits from the installation at this time are Gate 2 on 4th Street and Gate 7 on Frank Cochran Drive. Traffic will be restricted along the parade route, which is General Screven Way to West Hendry Street to South Main Street to Memorial Drive.



**Stop Overpopulation,
Spay or Neuter Your Pet Today!!**

ASK THE JUDGE

Using the Internet to research and buy a new car

Maj. Kathy Giraitis

Special to The Frontline

Q: Can I really buy a new car through the internet? Why would I do this?

A: Yes, it is becoming more and more common to buy your new car through the Internet. It is legitimate, fast, safe, and painless. Why should you consider it? First, it will probably save you money — lots of it. Further, not only will you get a great price on your new car, but you will not have to deal with aggressive sales tactics or aggressive salesmen. When you go through an Internet car buying service, you will ultimately be dealing with the fleet sales manager at the dealership, who is a salaried employee not working on commission, who will treat you honestly and fairly. There are no gimmicks or tricks. Also, by using the Internet Web sites, you will also be able to research all aspects about the cars you are interested in without even leaving your chair. Once you have done the preliminary steps of your purchase on the Internet, your entire time at the dealership will likely be only half an hour.

Q: What are the advantages of using an Internet car buying service?

A: Saving money — you really get a good price quote on a new vehicle.

- Free competing quotes from car dealers for the vehicle of your choice.
- You can research all the vehicles you are interested in, and compare vehicles.
- You bypass salespeople working on commission and deal with a fleet manager.
- You still get any manufacturer's rebates available on your vehicle.
- You can still trade in your old vehicle.
- You can still take your new car to any dealer for warranty service.
- There is no extra fee for using the Internet service.
- Saving time — at the dealership, you just "sign and drive."

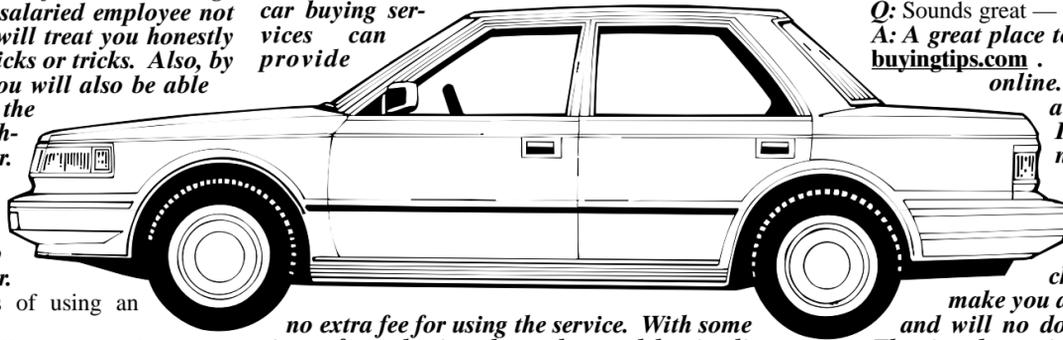
Q: This sounds too good to be true!

A: All of the Internet car buying websites allow free research on the new vehicles you are considering. The information is very thorough, including every automobile manufacturer, and every model. The websites list all information on the vehicle — standard features, available options, available colors, safety features, performance specifications, professional reviews or the vehicles, etc. Most sites also allow

side-by-side comparisons between two or more vehicles, if you are considering several. The sites also give you the manufacturer's suggested retail price and the "invoice" price of the vehicle. Some sites also list a "target" price of what most buyers in your area (by zip code) are paying for the particular vehicle you are considering. All of the prices for different trim lines and options are also listed. Using this information, you will have a very good idea of what the "true" price of your vehicle will be before you ever walk into the dealership. Being an informed consumer will often save you thousands of dollars.

Q: OK, how does this work?

A: The Internet car buying services can provide



no extra fee for using the service. With some sites, after selecting the make, model, trim line, and options (even color) for your vehicle, you can actually "lock in" a price for your new vehicle, then you will be referred to a dealer in your area, and will set up a time for you to pick up your vehicle. The price is guaranteed! With other sites, you select the make, model, trim line, and options, then the Internet service will get you several price quotes from dealers in your area. If you like the price, you can go to that dealer and complete the deal. There is no fee for any of this! And, there is no obligation to buy until you actually cement the deal. Easy as pie! Even if you decide not to buy the vehicle through the Internet buying service, you can still use the sites to do your research, then use the information and prices you receive to negotiate a better price with whatever dealer you decide to purchase the car from.

Q: What about a car loan? Is that where they'll "gouge" me?

A: No, you will not be "gouged." You do not have to go through these sites — or the dealer — for financing. You can arrange your own financing through whatever bank or credit union you prefer. However, the Web sites often do have links to financing websites that will give you a rate quote for your new car loan.

Basically, you can "shop" for the best loan rate too.

Q: I want to trade in my old vehicle — can I do this with the Internet car purchase?

Yes. Although you will always get a better price by selling your old vehicle yourself, many people do not want the hassle of going through that process and prefer to trade the vehicle in. You can involve a trade-in with the Internet new car purchase. This will be done at the dealership the Internet service sets you up with. Many of the Web sites list the "trade in" (wholesale) and retail price of used vehicles, so you will be able to get an idea of how much your car is worth. This will ensure you do not get "gouged" on the trade-in.

Q: Sounds great — where can I find these Web sites?

A: A great place to start is a Web site at www.car-buyingtips.com. This site is just about a book online. It gives great information about discount car buying on the Internet, and also provides numerous "warnings" about various scams attempted by unscrupulous car dealers. It tells you how to avoid unnecessary dealer fees. Reading the chapters on this Web site will

make you a much more educated consumer, and will no doubt save you money and grief. The site also reviews all of the major Internet car buying services (below) and provides links to them. Here are the major Internet car buying services:

- www.carsdirect.com — This site lists your purchase price online instantly; CarsDirect will sell the car to you directly — price guaranteed — and will set you up for delivery of the vehicle at a local dealer.
- www.autoweb.com — Referral site with network of 5000 dealers for price quotes.
- www.autobytel.com — Referral site with network of 5000 dealers for price quotes.
- www.autovantage.com — Referral site which e-mails you a low price before you see dealer.
- www.invoicedealers.com — Referral site lists dealers willing to sell you a new car at or near invoice price.
- www.stoneage.com — Referral site gets you free price quotes from best-priced local dealers.
- www.vehiclesonline.com — Referral site with 2800 dealers for free price quotes.

NOTE: The Legal Assistance Office does not endorse any of these Web sites. We simply provide this information to you, for your own use and research. These Web sites have been consumer tried-and-tested, and they all ensure the safety of your information.

3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

Winter Special Olympics

Event will be held at Marne Lanes 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Friday. Approximately 40 to 50 volunteers are needed. What a difference your hugs and cheers can make to these outstanding athletes!

If you cannot stay the entire day, you can come for a portion of the day and be a cheerleader for all of the athletes. For units or large groups call 767-3195 and we will fax you a group registration sheet.

Christmas tree-lighting

A Christmas tree-lighting ceremony will take place Dec. 11 in front of Trent Field at 5p.m.

MOAA Seminar

On Monday, the Military Officers Association of America will be at Stewart to conduct an informative seminar entitled, "Marketing Yourself for a Second Career". The guest speaker will be Col. Jerry Crews, retired. Several of the topics that he will discuss include the following:

- Your competition for finding a job
- Perceptions civilian employers have of military personnel
- A plan for your job search
- Resumes
- How employers read your resume

- Networking and penetrating the hidden job market
- Preparing for and conducting a successful interview
- Salary negotiations and benefits packages
- Rejection

The Seminar is open to officers, noncommissioned officers and their spouses who are planning on leaving active duty in the next one to five years.

ACAP will be hosting this event at Club Stewart in the Liberty Room from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. As seating is limited, we ask that you please call 767-8677/2234 to reserve your space.

Fort Stewart Museum

The Fort Stewart Museum will be closed during visitor hours for renovations from now to March 2.

Regular office hours will be maintained, and other museum services will be available.

Child and Youth Services

The Central Registration office located in Bldg. 443 has changed operational hours. The new hours will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday.

The office will not be closed from 1 to 2 p.m. as previously scheduled.

Hunter

Christmas tree lighting

There will be a Christmass tree lighting ceremony at 6:45 p.m., Dec. 12 at Garrison headquarters.

Holiday concert

A community holiday concert featuring the 3rd ID band will be held at 7 p.m., Dec. 10 at the Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort and Spa grand ballroom. RSVP by calling 201-2041/2018.

Thrift Shop

The Hunter Thrift Shop is open on Wednesday, Friday and the first Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with consignments accepted from military identification card holders from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

It has a great assortment of bargains from baby clothes to furniture. All proceeds are returned to the Hunter Community in scholarships, grants to units, and through other military organizations. Donations are accepted and volunteers are always welcome. For more information contact the Hunter Thrift Shop at 352-0376.

Youth Services

School Age Services is open 6 to 9 a.m. and 3 to 6 p.m. during school. There are before and after school programs for 1st through 5th graders. Enjoy fun and leisure activ-

ities, educational, tutoring, computer lab, sports, fitness and more. Join the 4-H community club, photography and technology groups. Check with your school for transportation. For more information, call 352-5708/6705.

Toys for Tots

The drive has already begun and boxes were placed in the community this weekend. A box for people to donate new toys will be at the PX, the Commissary, ACS Bldg., Stewart and Hunter Credit Union and at the Hunter Chapel.

These boxes are in place now until Sunday, Dec. 14.

Library

The grand opening of the Hunter Library is projected in early January. The new facility will include features of the Stewart Library, including DVDs, talking books and more.

Community Meeting

A community meeting is scheduled at ACS, 7 p.m., Dec. 9.

Auto Craft

Cars and some light trucks can get oil changed for \$19. Buy tires and get them mounted and balanced FREE. For more information call 352-6244.

Winn Army Community Hospital

Tuttle Information Desk

Tuttle Army Health Clinic's new Information Desk phone number is 352-6500.

Flu Shots

Flu shots are available for all ages at Winn's immunization clinic 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 370-6878.

Satellite Refill Pharmacy

The satellite refill pharmacy located at the PX is open for business. Hours of operation are 9 to 11 a.m. and noon to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Prescriptions can be refilled by calling 767-6633 or online at www.winn.amedd.army.mil.

Physical Exam Section

The physical exams section is now located with the allergy/immunization clinic at Winn. The clinic will be open 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, call 370-6619.

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.

Additional Parking

An additional parking lot on Harmon Ave., adjacent to Winn and next to the sports complex, is open for patient parking.

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. The next mandatory orientation will be held 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Dec. 5. For more information, call 370-6903.

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.

POLICE REPORTS

- **Subject:** 1st Lieutenant, 27-year-old male, Division Support Command
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 32-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Disorderly conduct
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Family member, 24-year-old female
- **Charges:** Assault consummated by battery
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, speeding 60/45, failure to appear
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 37-year-old male, 24th Support Group
- **Charges:** Following too closely
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Staff Sergeant, 35-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Deposit account fraud
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Private 2, 25-year-old male, 2nd Brigade
- **Charges:** Failure to appear
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Carrying a concealed weapon, traffic violations, no seat belt, driving under the influence
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Specialist, 37-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Conspiracy, larceny of AAFES property (shoplifting), contributing to the delinquency of a minor, soliciting another to commit an offense
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 25-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, speeding
- **Location:** Garden City

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, 2nd Brigade
- **Charges:** Possession of alcohol by a minor
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Specialist, 19-year-old male, Division Artillery
- **Charges:** Underage drinking, driving with suspended or revoked

- license
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 22-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 26-year-old female, Division Support Command
- **Charges:** Driving left of center
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Private 2, 20-year-old male, 2nd Brigade
- **Charges:** Failure to exercise due care, too fast for conditions, drunken driving, failure to obey general order (under age drinking)
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 23-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Speeding, open container violation, driving without license on person
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 25-year-old male, Division Artillery
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence
- **Location:** Savannah

A POWERFUL FORCE FOR POSITIVE CHANGE.



1.800.899.0089

www.voa.org

a CFC participant

Rumsfeld: vast majority of Iraq stable

John D. Banusiewicz

American Forces Press Service

BRUSSELS, Belgium, — Though sporadic violence continues in Iraq, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said Dec. 1 that “the vast majority of the country” is relatively stable and not in conflict.

Rumsfeld, along with Marine Gen. Peter Pace, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, met with reporters at NATO headquarters here, where the alliance’s defense ministers were engaged in a two-day conference.

“There’s no question but that there are periodic incidents where people have been killed or wounded — we know that,” Rumsfeld said. “We also know that the schools are open, the hospitals are open, the clinics are open, that people are engaged in economic activity throughout the country, and that the vast majority of the country is not in conflict. It is in a relatively stable circumstance.”

The secretary said a limited number of people in Iraq are determined to kill both innocent people involved with the Coalition and innocent Iraqis. “Those people are also being rounded up, captured, killed, wounded and interrogated,” he said.

Pace, who said he had just visited Iraq, agreed with the secretary’s assessment. “You have those who are bent on preventing the Iraqi people from experiencing freedom — those who look and see what tremendous progress has been made and are afraid that their ‘thuggery,’ their way of intimidation, is in fact being overpowered” by the Coalition and the will of the Iraqi people, Pace said.

The vice chairman said it’s hard to tell on the basis of one attack whether the Dec. 1 firefight in Samarra, Iraq, that left dozens of insurgents dead means they’ve changed their tactics or have access to coordinated intelligence. “The fact is that in this particular case, about 50 or so of the enemy did collect together for whatever reason they thought was appropriate,” he said. “They attacked, and they were killed. So I think it would be instructive to them for future analysis when they’re thinking about what they’re going to do next.”



DoD photo by Tech. Sgt. Andy Dunaway, U.S. Air Force

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld responds to a reporter's question during a press conference at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, Dec. 1. Rumsfeld and Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Peter Pace, U.S. Marine Corps, gave reporters an update on the progress of the NATO meetings. Rumsfeld was at NATO headquarters for a two-day meeting of allied defense ministers to discuss expanding NATO's mission.

CENTCOM NEWS

One soldier killed in mortar attack

MOSUL, Iraq — A 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Soldier was killed just after 11 a.m. Friday in Mosul during a mortar attack on the division headquarters here.

The name and unit of the Soldier involved in the incident are being withheld pending next of kin notification.

The incident is under investigation.

Associates of Izzat Ibrahim-Duri captured during raid

SAMARRA, Iraq — 4th Infantry Division Soldiers, also known as “Task Force Ironhorse” received information indicating that the wife and supporters of Izzat Ibrahim-Duri, a senior official in Saddam Hussein’s former regime, was hiding in the city of Samarra. Ibrahim-Duri is currently #6 on the Defense Intelligence Agency Blacklist.

At approximately 11 a.m., Nov. 25, Soldiers raided a building in Samarra and detained three people including Ibrahim-Duri’s wife. Ibrahim-Duri’s daughter and his physician’s son were also detained. There is no indication that Ibrahim-Duri was in the vicinity.

The detained individuals are being held for questioning at this time.

82nd Abn. Div. captures former Saddam Hussein bodyguard

AR RAMADI, Iraq — Elements of the 82nd Airborne Division successfully raided a house north of Ar Ramadi as part of ongoing operations in the area to capture individuals involved in anti-coalition activities.

Elements of the 1st Battalion, 16th Mechanized Infantry Regiment, conducted a raid on a house north of Ar Ramadi suspected of insurgent activity. At approximately 3 a.m., the unit established a cordon of the area and entered the house, capturing four Iraqi personnel. Brig. Gen. Khalid Arak Hatimy, a former bodyguard of Saddam Hussein, was one of the men captured.

Task Force “All American” will continue to hunt and find former regime loyalists who threaten the safety of Iraqis and coalition forces.

Soldier dies from non-hostile gunshot wound

MOSUL, Iraq — A Soldier, attached to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), died from a non-combat related gunshot wound Nov. 26.

The name and unit of the deceased is being withheld pending notification of next-of-kin.

The incident is under investigation.