THE FRONTLINE

September 4, 2003

Serving the *Army of One*

PRSRT STD U.S. Postage Paid, permit no. 43, Hinesville, Ga. 31314

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

Inside The Frontline

News

The fight to keep sturgeon alive 2A

3/15 Inf. recognizes Iraqi Freedom heroes 3A

Sports

3ID team prepares for 10-miler 1B

Woman wins national rifle championship 2B

Life & Times

Bethesda celebrates Labor Day 1C

3ID brings colors, band to Vidalia 2C

Guide

Voices and Viewpoints 4A
Police Blotters..... 13A
3ID in Brief..... 14A
Score Board 2B
Worship schedule 4C
Pet of the Week..... 4C
Volunteer Spotlight 5C
Movie listing 5C
Birth announcements 5C

Weather Forecast

	High	Low
FRI	89°	69°
SAT	80°	66°
SUN	82°	66°

Raider brigade commander, colors return to Stewart

Sgt. Sam Hoffman

Sgt. 1st Class John Lewis, A Co. 123rd Sig. Bn., greets his wife, Diana, Aug. 26 at Cottrell Field on return from Operation Iraqi Freedom with the 1st BCT..

1st BCT among last of 3rd ID troops to arrive home

Staff Sgt. Brian Sipp
Hunter Public Affairs Office

Setting the stage for the remaining 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) soldiers to come home from Iraq, Col. William Grimsley, 1st Brigade Combat Team commander, brought the unit's colors with him when his airplane landed at Hunter Army Airfield at 9:30 p.m. Aug. 26.

The return of 1st Brigade's colors to the United States is symbolic as the last of the division's combat brigades returns from Operation Iraqi Freedom.

During the conflict, 1st BCT distinguished itself during combat operations in the Karbala Gap and by securing a bridge over the Euphrates River, which paved the way for the liberation of Baghdad.

Notoriety came, however, when images of 1st Brigade soldiers capturing Saddam International Airport were beamed across news stations worldwide.

"The airport was important for two reasons," explained Grimsley.

"First, it represented an icon for the former regime, and second, it fulfilled a huge requirement to get an FOB (forward operating base) up for the assault on Baghdad."

Acknowledging that it was great to be back home in Georgia, Grimsley's thoughts were clearly with his soldiers, both those who have already come back, and those who were scheduled to arrive in the next few days.

"These are great young men that do this for often little gratitude or little pay," he noted with light chagrin.

Deflecting praise in trademark fashion, Grimsley credited the training of

See 1ST BCT, Page 9A

3/15 Inf. recognizes Iraqi Freedom heroes

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.
Staff Writer

The Task Force 3-15 held an awards ceremony honoring its fallen and redeployed soldiers at Marne Garden Aug. 18.

"The soldiers and leaders here today are directly responsible for the success the United States Army and the 3rd Infantry Division enjoyed during Operation Iraqi Freedom," said Col. Robert J. Caslen Jr., assistant division commander (maneuver). Their actions reflected the attitude of the United States and the words of the commander-in-chief, 'We will not falter, we will not fail, we will not waiver until victory is complete.'"

Task force performed with honor, valor and distinction most notably during the seizure of three of the most heavily defended objectives within the city of Baghdad, objectives Moe, Larry and Curly, Caslen said.

Combat actions at these objectives will define this great task force for years to come.At these objectives the Task Force fought at close quarters against attacking infantry, armed technical vehicles and suicide truck bombs. During the attack Task Force inflicted approximately 2,000 enemy casualties, Caslen said.

"It was here that we lost two of our own, Staff Sgt. Robert A Stever and Sgt. 1st Class John W. Marshall, whom we will honor and remember forever," Caslen said.

The widows of Stever and

See HEROES, Page 6A

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.

Stephanie Lee, wife of Spc. Jason Lee, pins a Combat Infantry Badge on his uniform.

U.S. will not stop in fight against terrorists

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Recent bombings in Iraq prove the country is another front in the global war on terrorism, the administrator of the Coalition Provisional Authority said in Baghdad Tuesday.

During a news conference, Ambassador L. Paul Bremer said the bombings at the Jordanian mission to Iraq, the U.N. headquarters in Baghdad and the Shiia holy site in Najaf show the terrorists will stop at nothing in the pursuit of their aims. "But they shall be stopped; we will stop them. We shall combat them, and we shall overcome them," Bremer said.

The attack in Najaf Aug. 29 killed Shiite leader Ayatollah Muhammad Bakr al-Hakim and 95 others. Hundreds of Iraqis were wounded in what Bremer called a heinous act that targeted innocents. Coalition officials are working with Shiia leaders to improve security at Shiia holy sites, and they are helping to provide medical care to those wounded in the attacks.

> **"(The Iraqi Governing Council) took another step on the path to Iraqi sovereignty."**
>
> **Paul Bremer**
> administrator of the Coalition Provisional Authority

Bremer said he could not understand why the terrorists targeted one of the holiest sites in Islam. He said he won't know why until the perpetrators are brought to justice.

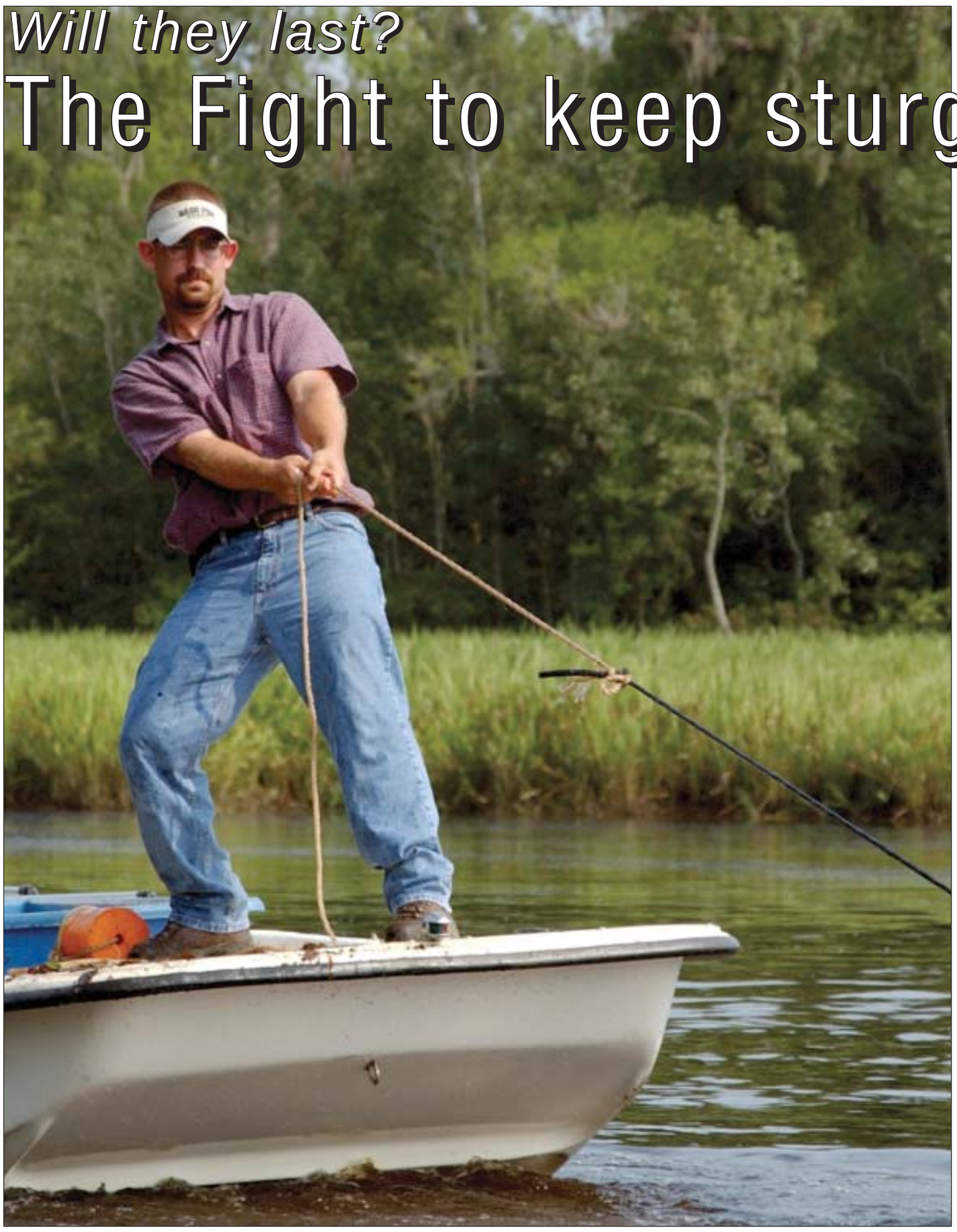
But the attacks cannot stop the drive toward democratic government, the administrator said. On Sept. 1, the Iraqi Governing Council "took another step on the path to Iraqi sovereignty," Bremer noted. "They appointed new ministers who serve at the pleasure of the Governing Council. They will run ministries. The day-to-day business of government is in their hands."

The ministers form a cabinet and will develop the 2004 budget for their ministries, and will operate the ministries in accordance with the budget and the wishes of the council. "It is our intention to keep authority and responsibility

See BOMBING, Page 6A

Will they last?

The Fight to keep sturgeon alive



Photos by Spc. Jonathan M. Stack

Josh Pacut, fisheries biologist for the Fish and Wildlife Branch Environmental and Natural Division, works to drag a net apart. This is the final step in the sturgeon catching process. Afterwards, the net sits for 30 minutes and then is checked to see if any sturgeon were caught.

Spc. Jonathan M. Stack
Associate Editor

Fort stewart is home to five endangered species, and the Fish and Wildlife Branch Environmental and Natural Division is in charge of protecting them.

One of the species is the shortnose sturgeon, a fish that has been on the endangered species list since 1967, said Thomas Bryce, supervisory fisheries biologist.

The Fish and Wildlife Branch here has been doing studies on the sturgeon since the 1990s, Bryce said. They were probably the only agency in Georgia doing any work on the shortnose sturgeon in the 1990s.

"The sturgeon is a very unique looking fish," Bryce said.

It has a short snout and it's body is covered with bony plates with a shark-like tail. The dorsal and rear fins are opposite from each other and situated far back on their body. The fish can grow up to three feet in length and spends most of its life in freshwater.

"You can find the sturgeon in the Ogeechee River (Fort Stewart's eastern boundary) and the Canoochee River (flows diagonally through the installation,) Bryce said.

The sturgeon has become endangered due to degraded water quality, over fishing, pollution and dams, he said.

According to the fish and wildlife website, the Fort Stewart fisheries biologists are currently studying this fish to learn more about it's population status, habitat preference, movements, age structure and growth rate in an attempt to better protect it and enhance the at-risk population.

"Because they are endangered, we are required to protect, conserve and enhance them," he added. "We do this by monitoring the fish. We collect, tag, weigh them and then put them back in the water. Sometimes (we track the fish) with a radio tag, to see how far they move up and down the river. We also evaluate the water quality to see how that affects the fish."

In order to perform tests on the sturgeon the biologist must obtain the fish. To do this, they go out on to the rivers and toss nets out. The biologist then spreads the net to allow the fish to swim in the net and be caught. There are weights connected to the nets to allow them to sink to the bottom of the river, since sturgeon are bottom feeders. The nets sit for thirty minutes to allow time for the fish to be caught. The biologist then gathers up the net and repeats the process till they catch a sturgeon.

"Fort Stewart has demonstrated sound stewardship by striving to protect and enhance this fish," said Bryce. "The installation has led the way in Georgia through its excellent monitoring program and proactive management. As a result of the installation's hard work and dedicated efforts, Fort Stewart and the Army are highly recognized by many state and federal resource conservation agencies as a major contributor to the scientific knowledge of this species. More specifically, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the National Marine fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have commended the installation for its shortnose sturgeon conservation program."

Courtesy Photo

A shortnose sturgeon is caught and tagged. The shortnose is a fresh water fish.

A group of biologists travel by boat to an area of the Ogeechee River that shortnose sturgeon are know to inhabit.

Pacut releases the net into the river, spreading it apart to allow the sturgeon to swim into the net.

Tom D. Bryce, supervisory fisheries biologist, sits in the boat as it is being loaded into the Ogeechee River.

Memorial remembers soldier's life, service

1st. Lt. Amy Phillips
Hunter Deputy PAO

A memorial service was held at Hunter Army Airfield Aug. 28 for Cpl. Annisha W. Sutton of B Company, 603rd Aviation Support Battalion, and it was attended by hundreds of family, friends and soldiers.

Sutton, along with two-year-old son Shaun Jr., were found dead at her Savannah residence Aug. 22. The incident is under investigation by the Savannah Police Department. Police have identified her husband and father of their two children, 25 year-old Shaun Sutton, as the suspect in their death.

Sutton was 24 years old and is survived by her parents and daughter.

The memorial service at the post theater began with the playing of the national anthem and an invocation. The 603d ASB commander, Lt. Col. Richard Knapp, then read Psalm 23 from the Bible.

Knapp said he chose to read this psalm because he hoped it would give everyone the strength "to do what the nation has asked us to do" and help guide everyone to continue on.

Sutton was born on Sept. 24, 1978 in Alabama and enlisted in the Army in 1997 after graduating from Billingsley High School. She was assigned to the company April 4, 1998, as an Automated Logistal Specialist.

Sutton "handled and issued everything except ammo," said Sgt. 1st Class Kyle Montgomery, who was her platoon sergeant from 1999 to 2002.

During his eulogy, Montgomery shared memories he and other soldiers had of Sutton. She is remembered to have weathered rough times in her personal life yet always remaining committed to her unit and soldiers. She is remembered as a leader that truly cared and went out of her way for her soldiers.

Recalling his first day at B Company on June 18, 1999, Montgomery said, "I remember her staring at me really hard, as if she was trying to see what I was made of and then said, 'Hey.' That would prove to be the only time that she had so little to say to me."

Sutton redeployed July 15 after serving approximately 200 days in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. She is remembered for her high standards and esprit de corps. While based in Baghdad International Airport, Sutton and her unit provided 4th Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) with food and supplies like

See MEMORIAL, Page 6A

Courtesy Photo

Cpl. Annisha Sutton (far left) with soldiers from her unit. Sutton was found dead in her Savannah home Aug. 22.

Hometown News Release available online

Staff Brief

In an effort to make the Hometown News Release program more effective and user-friendly, the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield website is offering a new solution.

Unit commanders and soldiers may now download the DD Form 2266 from the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield home page. Commanders and soldiers must have a valid Army Knowledge Online account to use this online form.

When submitting DD Form 2266, Hometown News Release, associated with soldiers redeploying from Iraq and Operation Iraqi Freedom and their awards, please use the following statement in Block 4B, Comments, on the form: "(soldier's name) returned to the United States from Iraq where he/she served in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom during the time period (dates)".

A copy of the award citation must be attached to releases associated with OIF awards.

The Hometown News Release Program link can be found at **www.stewart.army.mil** underneath the Iraqi Freedom section.

Fort Stewart units should turn in their releases to:

Susie Phillips
Consolidated Public Affairs Office
Bldg 1191
Fort Stewart
Phone: 767-5457

Hunter AAF units should turn in their releases to:

Steve Hart
Hunter Consolidated Public Affairs Office
Bldg 1201
Hunter Army Airfield
Phone: 303-3739

POWs to be remembered

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.
Staff Writer

The Liberty County Chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America will be sponsoring the Sixth annual POW/MIA Observance Ceremony at 7 p.m. on Sept. 19 at the Fort Stewart museum.

"We use this day to assure that one generation of soldiers will never forget another," said Paul W. Spence president of the VVA Chapter 789 of Liberty County. "These are our brothers, and they will always be our brothers. We will never forget them until all of them have been accounted for.

"There are currently 36 POW/MIAs from Georgia still unaccounted for," Spence said

We have these ceremonies to insure that everyone remembers we still have people over there. Even though to this day we have teams looking for them, few have returned to the states."

During the ceremony 18 VVA members will read two names until all of the 36 names of the missing from Georgia have been mentioned. As each name is read, a candle will be lit for that individual in remembrance, Spence said.

Brig. Gen. Jose D. Riojas will be the guest speaker and a reception will follow the ceremony.

"I just want to stress that the prime reason for this event is that we just don't want folks to forget those who went over there for their country and never came back," said Spence.

"For our brothers who are still missing, please folks, just remember, remember, remember."

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Overcoming cycle of addiction

Army News Service

Editor's note: *This article was submitted by an Army Public Affairs Office. The names of the installation and author are being withheld because of the sensitive nature of the topic.*

WASHINGTON — I am an addict. A better way to term it is: I am a recovering addict. I am sharing this revelation in the belief that I can bring hope to others who are fighting addictions. I want them to know that it can be done. You can change your life.

My 12-year battle with addiction influences my view of the world and my relationship with my wife and family. In the past, it affected my church standing, my finances and my work performance, as well as other aspects of my life. At one point, my addiction had control of my life, and I was miserable.

Addiction, whether it's gambling, smoking, alcoholism, obsessive overeating, or any number of ailments, is destructive and invades the life of the addict. An addiction is defined as being so dependent upon something that separation from it causes trauma. You become devoted to it. It takes over your life. You feel you need it just to remain calm and be who you are. Whatever form the addiction takes, it takes away from the truly important things in life. It makes you lose sight of hope and see only misery.

It was that misery that made me want to change. I was able to see the destruction that was coming my way if I didn't change my life.

It was then that I admitted that I had a problem. That first step was the one that started me on the path to recovery. It wasn't until I hit the bottom that I could admit my addiction.

My wife was upset and nearly left me. My boss was upset, and I was almost kicked out of the Army. I was upset, and more than once considered suicide.

In essence, I had hurt many people around me because of my selfish desires. However, even though they were hurt, I found that when I tried to change, the people who cared the most about me wanted to help me become a better person. They loved me enough to help me fight my desires. Having that strong support system plays a vital role in recovering and overcoming addiction.

I was rock climbing once at a place called Lisa Falls. The rock there is slick granite and not easy to climb. I was leading the climb, and a trusted friend was on belay. I was about 25 to 30 feet in the air reaching for the next anchor to lock into, when my foot slipped. I began falling. My friend did his job and began pulling in the slack on the rope. I passed the anchor below me and was about six feet from the ground when my friend stopped my fall.

In the same way that my friend stopped my descent when I slipped while climbing, friends and family can help keep an addict from falling.

By trusting in my family and friends, and being accountable to them, I am able to resist my addiction. That constant reminder that my wife, boss or friend is going to ask how I'm doing today, is a help in overcoming my addiction.

The biggest support I have is God. Turning my problems over to a higher power allows me to be truly introspective.

It helps me to know that I am not doing it alone. It is easier for me to turn my problems over to Him. I believe He helps me through the recovery process when I ask Him.

Of course there are always people who are more than willing to cause you to go the opposite direction. It is important while you are working through an addiction to avoid people and circumstances that could lead you into a relapse.

Another beneficial support I have is therapy. By sharing my problems, worries, and fears with the therapist, I am better able to deal with them. My ability to function in life without turning to my addiction increases as we discuss life and better ways to cope with it.

Other types of professional help are available as well. There are 12-step programs for almost any addiction, as well as support groups and medications that can help. The more I desire to change, the more options I am willing to try to overcome the addiction. Where I used to do anything I could to get my "fix," I am now doing everything I can to find my way out of it.

Although I am in recovery, I still attend therapy sessions. I still rely upon God, family and friends to help me through each day without a relapse. The weak days are fewer and farther between, but they are still there, and I still need to keep my guard up. I am on the road to healing, though.

The results of working through my addiction are wonderful.

I see my wife and family in a different light; we are closer than we have ever been.

I am using my time in better pursuits, such as exercise, studying and taking my son swimming.

I feel in control, rather than out of control. I am truly happy.

I wish I could share with you what I feel in my heart now that I have my priorities in order again.

I hope this will help someone to see that there is a way out of addiction. It is not hopeless. You can find help. It is there; just reach out and take it.

Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

What are some good ways to plan financially for the future?

"Go to USPA or ACS. They both have good programs for E-4 and below seeking financial stability."
Sgt. 1st Class Requitha M. Williams
HHC DISCOM

"My husband and I invest in IRAs and stocks."

Anekka Brady
Spouse

"Get with an advisor or counselor and plan your future."

Pfc. Michael A. Antunes
2/7 Inf.

"Open up a savings account and invest in CDs."

1st Lt. Michael E. Jones
3/69 Armor

"Don't spend more than you make."

Staff Sgt. Kevin L. Hoover
11th Engineers

"Start your plan early and be determined to stay with it."

Roy Cain
Retired Air Force

Did you know?

Dog Tags

I.D. Tags were first used during the Civil War on an individual basis, but it wasn't until 1913 that it was made mandatory for all U.S. soldiers. Once someone saw the resemblance between the Army tag and the tags bought for pets, the name "dog tag" became an inevitable addition to the lingo

Fort Stewart TMC openings

TMC #1 is currently open for sick call
TMC #2 will open Sept. 15 for sick call
TMC #3 will open Sept. 8 for sick call

Voice your opinion!
Write a letter to the editor!

Send to:
Public Affairs Office
Attn: The Frontline, Editor
101 W. Bultman Ave.
Suite 101
Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314-4941

THE FRONTLINE

MILITARY NEWS: 767-3440
ADVERTISING: (912) 368-0526
Volume 19, Number 12
Publisher
3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) Commander — Maj. Gen. Buford C. Blount III
Consolidated Public Affairs Office
Director — Lt. Col. Clifford J. Kent
Deputy Director — Richard Olson
PAO Supervisor — Master Sgt. Kenneth Russ
Command Information Manager — Jim Jeffcoat

Editorial Staff
Managing Editor — Jim Jeffcoat
Editor — Sgt. Raymond Piper
Associate Editor — Spc. Jonathan M. Stack
Staff Writer — Sgt. Sam Hoffman
Staff Writer — Sgt. Craig Zentkovich
Staff Writer — Spc. Jacob Boyer
Staff Writer — Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.
Staff Writer — Spc. Mason T. Lowery
Staff Writer — Spc. Adam Nuelken
Staff Writer — Spc. Katherine Robinson
Hunter Public Affairs Office
Chief — Steven Hart
Deputy Chief — 1st Lt. Amy Phillips
NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Brian Sipp
Public Affairs NCO — Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke
Staff Writer — Pfc. Emily Danial
Advertising Staff
Advertising Manager — Maryann Wilson
Frontline Production Manager — Juanita Vandenbosch

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 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 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.

Money Matters: What every redeployed soldier should know

Sgt. Craig Zentkovich
Staff Writer

Next time you're out and about on Fort Stewart, look around.

There are considerably more new cars on the installation now than there were two months ago.

Take a closer look at the soldiers operating those vehicles, and you'll see a majority of them are wearing DCUs or have a 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) shoulder sleeve insignia on their right arms.

Coincidence? Definitely not, according to Jeannie Relaford, Army Community Service Financial Readiness Center program manager.

"Most of the new cars you see around post were purchased by soldiers who've recently redeployed and have a large sum of money in the bank," Relaford said. "Most of those purchases are from soldiers with the mindset of, 'I've been deprived for so many months; It's time to be good to myself.'"

Relaford continued by saying large ticket item purchases are something that need to be thought out and planned.

Purchasing a car? Take into consideration the monthly payments, insurance costs and maintenance costs. Thinking of buying a house? Consider how long you'll be in the area and how much you can expect to gain or lose when it comes time to sell it.

"Our main goal at the Financial Readiness Center is to assist people in managing personal finances," Relaford said. "Any soldier or family member who is thinking of buying a house or car should come speak to one of our counselors first."

Aside from offering advice for large purchases, the FRC counsels soldiers on budgeting, planning and saving — a preventive approach to finances. They also educate servicemembers and their families on investing — letting your money work for you. For those in a financial bind, the FRC offers debt management assistance at no charge.

"There are two types of (redeployed) soldiers – those who were forced to save and those who have saved and will continue to save through discipline," Relaford said. "The soldiers need to sit down and prioritize their needs versus their wants and, after careful consideration, decide what would be the best thing to do with their money."

Develop a budget

The mountain of deployment cash will not be in your account forever (if it isn't already gone). Now is the time to plan and budget for the upcoming months and years – needs vs. wants. Plan for the future.

Establish a savings account

A savings account is not an investment tool, it's an emergency fund, according to Relaford. "You never know when your car is going to break down or you simply won't be able to meet your basic needs for a month or two," Relaford said. "I can't stress enough the importance of a savings account."

Local banks and credit unions offer a wide variety of savings accounts with varying yields and, in some cases, are free of charge as long as a minimum balance is maintained.

Investments

For soldiers looking to have their money grow, the Army offers two main avenues of investment — U.S. Savings Bonds and the Thrift Savings Plan.

U.S. Savings Bonds are separated into EE series and I series. Both are low risk, low yield products.

EE series bonds cost half of the face value of the bond ($200 EE series bond is purchased for $100). The bond will earn interest monthly at a market-based rate, which means it fluctuates.

I series bonds are purchased at face value ($100 I series bond is purchased for $100), and begin earning interest monthly at a fixed rate, adjusted semiannually for inflation.

Both bonds require a 12-month minimum term of ownership, and carry an early redemption penalty. They can earn interest for up to thirty years.

See MONEY, Page 6A

TSP offers opportunity for catch-up contributions

Special to The Frontline

WASHINGTON — Personnel enrolled in the Thrift Savings Plan who reach the age of 50 or older during this calendar year can make up to $2,000 in "catch-up" contributions to their accounts.

These catch-up contributions are supplemental tax-deferred contributions and are made in addition to regular contributions. Eligible participants must be currently contributing the maximum amount allowable into the funds.

Because these contributions are supplemental, they do not count against either the regular TSP contribution (percentage) limits or the IRS elective deferral limit. However, the combination of regular and catch-up TSP contributions cannot exceed the total elective deferral limit.

For example, for 2003, contributions cannot exceed $14,000 (i.e., the $12,000 elective deferral limit on regular TSP contributions, plus the $2,000 catch-up contribution limit).

The catch-up contribution amount increases to $3,000 in 2004, $4,000 in 2005 and $5,000 in 2006.

Catch up contributions can come only from basic pay, not from any bonus, special or incentive pays. But contributions can be made immediately. You don't have to wait for a TSP open season. Elections will be effective the first pay period after Defense Finance and Accounting Service receives your request.

To designate contribution amounts, civilians should use Form TSP-1-C, Catch-Up Contribution Election, and Sailors should use Form TSP-U-1-C.

For more information, see the fact sheet, Catch-Up Contributions at **www.tsp.gov**.

TSP Information

- The next TSP open season runs from Oct. 15 – Dec 31.
- New enrollees can contribute up to eight percent of their base pay.
- There are five investment funds to choose from.
- Visit the Thrift Savings Plan website at **www.tsp.gov**.

Find it in the Classifieds
368-0526

1ST BCT

from page 1A

soldiers and discipline to the Brigade's success.

"We can draw a straight line back from our home station training, to our NTC (National Training Center) rotation last November, into the deployment training,...the soldiers fought as they trained," he said.

Suppressing a smile, Grimsley could not contain his pride as he reflected on the last eight months.

"These soldiers fought for 21 days of sustained combat operations. They liberated a country from 40 years of oppression and established the conditions for a country to rejoin the family of nations in the correct way. Twenty years from now we'll be able to look back... and know that we did it right," said Grimsley.

His job isn't finished though, Grimsley added "I've still got 500 guys I've got to get home ... but they'll be on the next two flights."

1st Lt. Amy Phillips

Col. William Grimsley, 1st BCT commander, and the brigade color bearer are greeted after exiting the aircraft Aug. 26 at Hunter Army Airfield.

HEROES

from page 1A

Marshall, Cyndi Stever and Denise Marshall, were honored by receiving Silver Star Medals during the ceremony in recognition of their late husbands.

More than 480 awards were given out, including four Silver Star Medals, 17 Bronze Star Medals with Valor, 41 Purple Hearts, 41 Bronze Star Medals, two Meritorious Service Medals and close to 400 Combat Infantry Badges.

"The TF 3-15 conducted offensive operations that traversed over 750 kilometers before culminating in the destruction of the Medina Division, the Special Republican Guard and the Saddam Fedeyheen Freedom Fighters," said Caslen. "Task Force 3-15 will long be remembered for its superb performance, audacity and valor in offensive operations to defeat or destroy Iraqi conventional and non-conventional forces."

Caslen concluded by summarizing why the soldiers were deserving of the awards and recognition they've received.

"We recognize superior individual performance for valor and heroism in the face of hostile fire," he said. "These individual accomplishments are indicative of an organization that possesses extraordinary people – people with purpose, commitment and values that reflect proudly on our nation."

BOMBING

from page 1A

closely linked," Bremer said. "And therefore, as the ministers settle into their positions, the advisers from the coalition will not only yield authority, we will thrust authority on the new ministers.

Bremer said the appointment of ministers is another step toward Iraqi self- government.

Last month the council appointed a preparatory committee that will determine how Iraqis will write a new constitution.

The path ahead is "clear and visible," he said.

First comes a constitutional convention to write a new permanent constitution for Iraq.

Second, Iraqis will vote to accept or reject the constitution. Third, Iraqis will hold elections to produce a fully sovereign Iraqi government. "Working with the Governing Council and the cabinet, I pledged the coalition's close support and assistance as we move together down this path," he said.

Bremer said the coalition will continue its work to train Iraqi police, the Iraqi Civil Defense Force, the new Iraqi army and border guards to combat the security problem in the country.

He said the coalition hopes, for example, to have 65,000 to 75,000 fully trained Iraqi police on the beat by the end of 2004. The first battalion of the Iraqi army is being trained now, as are members of the Civil Defense Force.

Bremer said he sees no place in Iraq for private militias.

He said the coalition welcomes individual militia members to enlist in the security forces, but sees no role for such groups as the Badr Brigade.

Iran supports the Badr Brigades, which were made up of anti-Saddam Iraqis.

The ambassador said the coalition is getting good intelligence from the Iraqi people to help combat the lawlessness that criminal elements and terrorists are attempting to impose.

He pointed out that coalition law enforcement officials, including U.S. FBI representatives, are working with Iraq police to solve the terrorist bombings.

MONEY

from page 5A

The Thrift Savings Plan is a Federal Government-sponsored retirement savings and investment plan. During the next open season (Oct. 15 – Dec. 31), soldiers looking for long-term investments can enroll online at the TSP website, **www.tsp.gov**, or through MyPay. Servicemembers can initially contribute up to eight percent of their base pay each month into any or all of the five TSP investment funds.

"(The TSP) is an excellent investment opportunity for soldiers looking toward their retirement," Relaford said. "(Soldiers) can control what percentage of their money goes into which fund – without having to pay a broker."

Overall, there are many options every soldier has when it comes to managing their finances. Whether it's to manage debt, establish a savings account, or begin investing for the future, the FRC provides soldiers with the tools necessary to get them on the right track.

For more information, contact Jeannie Relaford at the Army Community Service Financial Readiness Center at 767-5058 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Operation Iraqi Freedom

Photo by Private 2 Daniel D. Meacham

A (UH 60) Blackhawk with a sling load of food and water packed by soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) for the Jump Assault Command Post in Mosul, Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom Aug. 29.

CENTCOM News

Two soldiers killed, one wounded in attack

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Two 220th Military Police Brigade soldiers were killed and one was wounded approximately 3:19 p.m. Sept. 1 when their High-Mobility Multi-Wheeled Vehicle struck an improvised explosive device along a main supply route south of Baghdad.

The wounded soldier was evacuated to the 28th Combat Support Hospital for treatment.

The names of the soldiers are being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Vehicle falls in canal, 1 soldier drowns, 2 injured

TIKRIT, Iraq — One Task Force Ironhorse, 4th Infantry Division soldier drowned and two were wounded when the military vehicle they were riding in, while on routine patrol, fell into a canal in the Tikrit area at approximately 6:15 p.m. Aug. 29.

The two injured soldiers where evacuated to the 21st Combat Support Hospital where they were treated and returned to duty.

The names of the soldiers are being withheld pending notification of next-of-kin.

The accident is under investigation.

Coalition offers help with water, jobs, public safety

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Life gets a little better in Iraqi towns due to Coalition assistance. Coalition forces are helping Iraqis by installing a generator at a water lift station, by providing jobs for Iraqis who have technical and mechanical skills and by providing a local law enforcement agency with hand-held radios.

Navy Seabees helped install a 1.3-megawatt generator at the Kish Water Lift Station that provides water to about 50,000 hectares of farmland in south central Iraq. The station was supposed to be reworked three years ago but the parts ordered didn't fit. As a result, the project was abandoned.

The new generator, which is so large it had to be moved into place with a crane, was refurbished in Kuwait this summer and transported to the city of Ad Diwaniyah to await installation at the plant.

In Umm Qasr, a port town in southern Iraq, many townspeople are employed by the British Army and enjoy working alongside their military counterparts. The Iraqi employees who work with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers proved their mechanical skills by completing two days of practical tests. The role requires mechanics to complete major vehicle repairs, such as engine and gearbox changes.

In Mosul, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) recently purchased 49 hand-held radios for the Mosul Police Department. The radios will be used to help the newly trained police force communicate throughout the Ninevah Province.

Additionally, the 101st is helping the Iraqi Public Safety Office draft a contract for $10 million in communications assets to go to ambulance services, fire departments and the Ministry of Civil Defense, as well as other police officers.

The communications systems will help the Iraqi public safety organizations rebuild their infrastructure and will allow them to play a larger role in providing a safe and secure environment in Iraq.

2 soldiers die following battle near Shkin, Afghanistan

Two soldiers died of wounds received during the initial contact with enemy fighters northwest of Shkin, in Paktika province this morning.

The third soldier is in stable condition, pending medical evacuation to Bagram Air Base from a treatment facility at Salerno north of Shkin.

The three coalition soldiers were wounded when their element came in contact with enemy fighters at 1 a.m. EST today approximately 5 miles northeast of Shkin in Paktika province.

The U.S. forces were conducting a combat mission in the vicinity of a firebase near Shkin when the engagement occurred. All three soldiers were evacuated by helicopter to medical facilities. A quick reaction force responded from Shkin firebase and close air support was requested. Two A-10 Thunderbolt II jets launched from Bagram airbase, however, no ordnance was expended. During the engagement four of the enemy fighters were killed. Coalition forces broke contact with the enemy about one and one-half hours after first contact. Total size of the enemy force is not known.

The names of the deceased soldiers are being withheld pending notification of next of kin. The name of the wounded soldier is being withheld for privacy.

Coalition brings Ar Ramadi schools back to life

AR RAMADI, Iraq — Soldiers from the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment and a team from 490th Civil Affairs Detachment inspected on August 24 three schools currently under renovation in the neighborhood of Sofia.

Soldiers from 3rd ACR sponsor the renovation of the schools and arrange and pay local contractors to renovate and repair them. The schools have fallen into disrepair due to neglect and lack of maintenance. Coalition forces are repairing the schools in order to draw students back and encourage them to further their education.

Contractors are finishing the renovation of Tawheed Primary School. Reconstruction of Atamatu Secondary School is also underway. In addition to improved classrooms, renovations at Atamatu include a brand new lavatory facility. The reconstruction has been in progress for approximately one week and will be completed within the next two weeks.

The Risala Secondary School was in poor condition from years of neglect and poor materials used in its original construction. Renovation already in progress shows vast improvements. The local citizens informed Coalition forces that it was the first time in the school's history that anybody had done any repairs or renovation to the school.

1 4ID soldier killed, three wounded in attack

BAGHDAD,Iraq — One 4th Infantry Division soldier was killed and three were wounded in a rocket-propelled grenade and small arms fire attack 1 km north of As Suaydat.

The wounded soldiers were taken to the 21st Combat Support Hospital for treatment.

The soldiers' names are being withheld pending notification of next-of-kin.

MAC seeking contributions for monument

Jim Jeffcoat
Managing Editor

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Operation Iraqi Freedom Monument Fund

Name _____ Amount _____

Organization/unit _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

☐ I give the OIF Memorial Monument Committee and the Hinesville Military Affairs Coordinating Committee permission to publish my name in any print, broadcast or online publication.

Make your tax deductible donation check or money order payable to:
City of Hinesville
Military Affairs Coordinating Committee
Mail to:
115 East ML King Drive
Hinesville, GA 31313

Marne TV

September 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 Fort Stewart and Hunter AAF.

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

Stop Overpopulation, Spay or Neuter Your Pet Today!!

Pets as susceptible to heat injuries as humans

Special to The Frontline

Summer may officially be over, but the warm temperatures aren't. Everyone knows how important it is to drink water and limit exercise to prevent heat injury. But did you know that pets are susceptible to heat stroke?

Heat stroke is a potentially deadly injury that is easy to prevent. Here is some information to determine if your pet is at risk and how to prevent it.

What is heat stroke?

Heat stroke occurs when an animal's core body temperature reaches 104.9 to 109.4 degrees Fahrenheit after exposure to ambient temperatures. (Normal body temperature is 101.5 to 103.5 degrees Fahrenheit.) This occurs most commonly when an animal is confined in an overheated automobile or kept outdoors on hot, sunny days without adequate shelter. Exercising or overexertion in hot, humid weather can also lead to heat stroke.

Animals will seek shelter and assume body postures to facilitate cooling. Unlike people, animals lack significant sweat production for evaporative cooling and rely upon panting for heat loss.

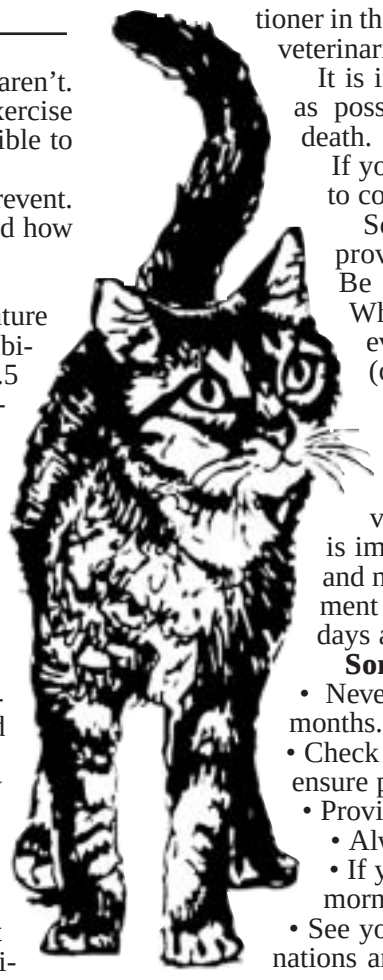
How do you know if your pet has heat stroke?

Initially, you may notice rapid panting, a fast heartbeat, confusion and dry, red mucous membranes (look at tongue and gums).

Later, as symptoms worsen, you may see depression, gray mucous membranes, vomiting and diarrhea. Eventually, there may be seizures, coma and even death.

What do you do if you think your pet has overheated and is in danger of heat stroke?

First, move the animal out of the sun and heat. Bring the pet to the veterinarian immediately. If available, use the air conditioner in the car to help cool the animal on the way to the veterinarian.



It is important to start treating the animal as soon as possible to prevent further organ damage and death.

If you can't get to the vet immediately, take steps to cool the pet.

Soaking the pet's coat with cool water and providing a fan maximizes evaporative cooling. Be careful not to cool the animal too much. While cooling, take the animal's temperature every five minutes to prevent hypothermia (overcooling).

When the temperature reaches 103 degrees Fahrenheit, stop the cooling process.

As soon as possible, bring the pet to the vet for further evaluation and treatment. This is important because your pet may be dehydrated and need intravenous fluids or other medical treatment for organ injury. This can occur up to several days after the event.

Some tips to prevent heat stroke:

- Never confine your pet in a car during warm months.
- Check outdoor storage areas before closing them to ensure pets aren't locked inside.
- Provide outdoor shade.
- Always have fresh, clean water available.
- If you exercise with your pet, do so during early morning or late evening hours.
- See your veterinarian regularly for physical examinations and vaccinations, since an underlying disease

MEMORIAL

from page 1A

fuel, repair parts, and toilet paper.

Sutton is remembered for working tirelessly without complaining in weather that almost always exceeded 100 degrees. She is remembered for "telling it like it was" during crucial times and keeping her leadership on their toes so all could survive and work as a team. Sutton is known to strive for the best for herself, her soldiers, her family, and her friends.

"She was very outspoken but never complained ... Throughout the war, she lead from the front. If there was a problem, she always tried to solve it," said 1st. Sgt. Paul Goldsmith of B Co.

"She was not afraid of work. She attacked all her assignments with the ferocity of a pitbull. Corporal Sutton touched the lives of many people. A soldier, a mother, a daughter and a friend. She was truly a soldier that did make difference," said Montgomery. "Although she had strong love and concern to her soldiers and friends, her heart belonged to her family."

Sutton was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for her service in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Although the mood was somber, attendees laughed and rejoiced in some of the memories of Sutton. At the playing of "Taps" however, sniffles were heard throughout the theater.

"Today's Army standard describes Corporal Sutton perfectly, one soldier can and does make a difference," said Capt. Brian Kuhn, B Co. commander. "Her tragic death is a reminder of the frailty and brevity of life ... she was true warrior and leader in every sense."

Stop Overpopulation
Spay or Neuter Your Pet Today!!

NOW SHOWING!

THE FRONTLINE Classifieds.
A tradition of excellence.
Call
(912) 876-0156

First 'bionic soldier' takes one step at a time

Michael E. Dukes
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Changes in body armor have reduced the number of American service members dying on the battlefield for about a decade — although it still happens, a majority of combat wounds military doctors treat involve the extremities.

While participating in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan last year, Staff Sgt. Michael McNaughton, took a step that would change his life forever.

While walking through an area at Bagram Air Base believed to be cleared and safe, McNaughton, a 31-year-old National Guardsman from the Louisiana's 769th Engineer Battalion, stepped on a land mine.

The blast took off his right foot, tore into his right leg in several places, took a chunk out of his left calf and blew off a couple of fingers on his right hand.

With extensive damage to his right leg and significant debris in the wounds, doctors had to amputate the combat engineer's destroyed limb just above his knee.

After he spent several months in a hospital bed at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington McNaughton's doctors believed it was ready to take the healing process to the next level and fit him with a conventional prosthetic leg.

McNaughton worked with physical therapy specialists for several hours each day.

"I pretty much had to learn how to walk again," he said. He spent most of his therapy time learning to put weight on the prosthetic and walking.

"I thought I would put the leg on and go. But there is a lot more to it" he said.

He knew he needed the therapy, but at times it seemed like he was fighting a losing battle.

"The first time I tried to walk with a cane it felt like I could just walk, but unfortunately you can't do that. It's definitely frustrating. I just wanted to pick the leg up and throw it."

A few months later, Walter Reed prosthetist Joseph Miller offered McNaughton an option that would make walking and returning to a normal life much easier — a microprocessor controlled knee called a C-Leg.

Unlike a traditional prosthetic leg requiring an amputee to swing it with each step, the C-Leg has hydraulic pneumatic controls enabling amputee the closest possible approximation to their natural walk, Miller said.

The $43,000 bionic leg, complete with microprocessor knee and force-sensing pylon — metal support rod between the knee and the prosthetic foot — reads feedback data 50 times per second and evaluates it to determine the appropriate movement for the computer aided leg.

The C-Leg takes much less energy when McNaughton walks.

"Sometimes it's hard to explain, because you have to be an amputee to know the difference. But (the C-Leg) is so much smoother. It tries to imitate exactly what the left leg is doing," McNaughton said. "I can take more natural steps. With this one you can go down ramps a lot easier. With the (conventional prosthetic) you have to go down sideways."

Michael E. Dukes

Staff Sgt. Michael McNaughton, 769th Eng. Bn., Louisiana National Guard, practices mobility with his new "bionic leg."

McNaughton feels that while it is true he faces challenges in the road ahead, he is no less of a person since the amputation.

He said he has the same hopes and dreams as anybody else and he looks forward to returning to a normal life – something he believes will be much easier with the C-Leg.

Editor's note: *Michael E. Dukes is a staff writer for the Walter Reed Army Medical Center Stripe.*

Study adds new perspective to ...

Why soldiers fight

Beau Whittington
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A study released in July adds new perspective to the age-old question of why soldiers fight.

Dr. Leonard Wong, associate research professor at the U.S. Army War College's Strategic Studies Institute said the paper "Why They Fight: Combat Motivation in Iraq" validated the popular belief that unit cohesion is a key issue in motivating soldiers to fight. But, the paper also produced some surprising information on soldiers' patriotism.

Originally, the question rose from Samuel Stouffer's "The American Soldier" study released in 1949 chronicled the World War II soldier's attitudes about facing battle.

Combat infantrymen returning from the war most often said they kept fighting to "get the war over so that they could go home. The second most common response and the primary combat motivation; however, referred to the strong group ties that developed during combat," Stouffer reported.

Stouffer's conclusions supported historian S. L. A. Marshall's "Men Against Fire" released in 1942.

"I hold it to be of the simplest truths of war that the thing which enables an infantry soldier to keep going with his weapons is the near presence or the presumed presence of a comrade. He is sustained by his fellows primarily and by his weapons secondarily."

Another noted research paper by Edward A. Shils and Morris Janowitz surprisingly showed similar results among Germany's Wehrmacht soldiers who fought on even as Berlin fell.

Since these papers, the desire of "not letting your buddy down" has been the conventional wisdom as to why soldiers fight.

"Recent studies have questioned this traditional wisdom," Wong said.

Shortly after major combat operations ended in Iraq May 1, Wong and a team researchers from the War College headed to Iraq to find out firsthand if the traditional wisdom remains valid.

The team went to the battlefield for the interviews because they wanted to speak with the soldiers while events were still fresh in their minds.

The team asked the soldiers the same question Stouffer asked soldiers in his 1949 study — "Generally, in your combat experience, what was most important to you in making you want to keep going and do as well as you did?"

"I hold it to be of the simplest truths of war that the thing which enables an infantry soldier to keep going ... is the near presence or the presumed presence of a comrade."

S. L. A. Marshall
Author, "Men Against Fire"

American soldiers in Iraq responded similarly to their ancestors about wanting to return home, but the most frequent response given for combat motivation was "fighting for my buddies," Wong's report said.

The report uncovered two roles for social cohesion in combat.

One role is that each soldier is responsible for group success and protecting the unit from harm. As one soldier put it, "That person means more to you than anybody. You will die if he dies. That is why I think that we protect each other in any situation. I know that if he dies, and it was my fault, it would be worse than death to me."

The other role is it provides the confidence and assurance that someone is watching their back. In one infantryman's words, "You have got to trust them more than your mother, your father, or girlfriend, or your wife, or anybody. It becomes almost like your guardian angel."

Once soldiers are convinced their personal safety will be assured by others, they are empowered to do their job without worry, the study stated. It noted that soldiers understood totally entrusting their safety could be viewed as irrational. One soldier shared his parents' reaction — "My whole family thinks that I am a nut. They think, 'How can you put your life in someone's hands like that? You are still going to be shot.'"

Despite the occasional skepticism of outsiders, the report concluded, soldiers greatly valued being free of the distracting concerns of personnel safety.

While Wong's study showed Stouffer's concept on the value of soldier cohesion remains valid, it had a different view of patriotism's value.

Stouffer argued that ideology, patriotism, or fighting for the cause were not major factors in combat motivation.

"Surprisingly, many soldiers in Iraq were motivated by patriotic ideals," Wong said.

Liberating the people and bringing freedom were common themes in describing combat motivation, the report stated.

Wong credits today's volunteer Army having "more politically savvy" soldiers as the reason for the change. He said today's more educated soldiers have a better understanding of the overall mission and provide a "truly professional army."

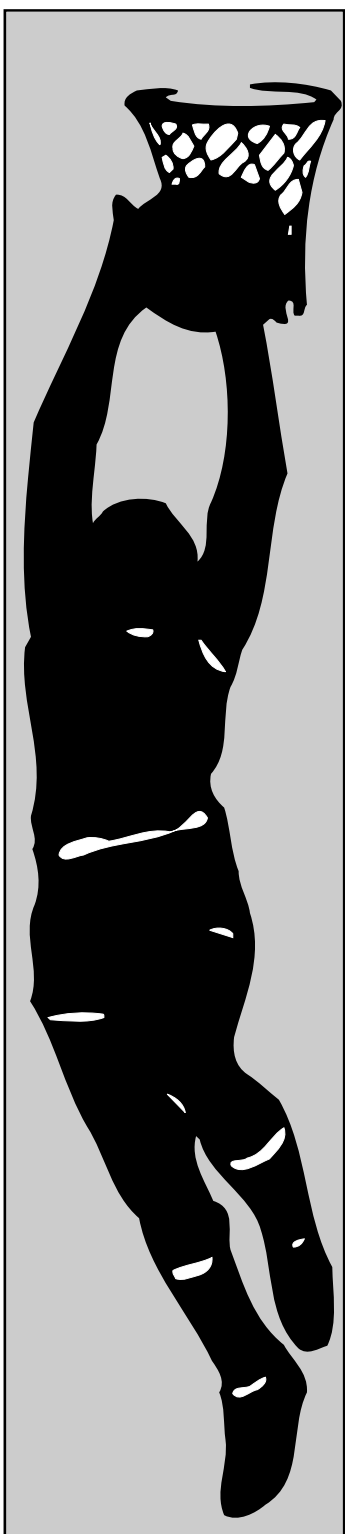
"While the U.S. Army certainly has the best equipment and training," the report said, "A human dimension is often overlooked. ... Its soldiers also have an unmatched level of trust.

"They trust each other because of the close interpersonal bonds between soldiers. They trust their leaders because their leaders have competently trained their units. And, they trust the Army because, since the end of the draft, the Army has had to attract its members rather than conscripting them."

Wong said the trust his report shows is high, but warns, "Time tests trust." He said uncertainty can unravel trust and today's environment of open-ended deployments and talks of downsizing could reduce the trust if not carefully managed. A copy of the report can be found on the institute's Web site at **www.carlisle.army.mil/ssi/**.

File photo

3/7 Infantry soldiers train in Kuwait.



Win with the Frontline.

To place an ad, call 876-0156

Ridge pledges: 'time is up' for terrorists

Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Outlining a series of initiatives implemented to make the country more secure, Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge declared Sept. 2 that the United States is at the "highest level of protection this nation has ever known."

Speaking at an event marking the 60th anniversary of the American Enterprise Institute, Ridge told the audience, "We can never guarantee that we are free from the possibility of terrorist attack, but we can say this: We are more secure and better prepared than we were two years ago," he said. "Each and every single day we rise to a new level of readiness and response."

Ridge said the department has instituted several measures to thwart terrorist efforts, beginning with the new Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Unit. Ridge said the unit focuses exclusively on threats to the United States by researching ways to reduce vulnerability to attack while strengthening critical infrastructures, both "cyber and physical."

He also said his department is working to share critical intelligence with key people at the state and local level, and beefing up security at the nation's borders, stating that cooperation between Mexico and Canada to patrol borders to the United States has "improved significantly."

In addition, his department has hired and trained new inspectors and border patrol agents. The secretary added that by the end of 2003, his department will have launched U.S. Visits, a virtual border that will use biometrics to confirm the identity and status of travelers both to and from the United States.

Other improved security measures that he called "layered defenses from the curb to the cockpit" have been implemented around airports. Those include hardened cockpit doors and measures to arm pilots, as well as allowing more air marshals to accompany travelers on flights. He said thousands of passengers and baggage screeners are better trained to do their jobs, and federal security officers have been hired to oversee airports.

In addition, Ridge said that under federal law all air carriers now must provide advanced passenger information on international flights, "This enables us to identify high-risk passengers attempting to enter or leave the United States," he said.

> **"This effort encompasses strategies to stop the proliferation of these weapons (shoulder fired missiles that could be used against commercial aircraft)"**
>
> Tom Ridge
> Secretary of Homeland Security

He also said the United States is seeking ways to stop the threat of shoulder- fired missiles that could attack commercial aircraft taking off and landing. "This effort encompasses strategies to stop the proliferation of these weapons, work with state and local officials to improve perimeter security at our busiest airports, and develop new technologies that can counter this threat."

Ridge said progress has been made to protect U.S. ports and waterways as well.

"That's why we work so very hard to extend our zone of security outward," he said. "So that our borders are the last line of defense, not our first line of defense. And that's why we built security measures that begin thousands of miles away, long before a container is first loaded on a ship."

Ridge credited President Bush during his speech for having "no tolerance" for hatred and "no patience" with terrorists he called "cold-blooded killers." He stated that under the president's leadership, the United States and its allies have "exacted a war unknown to terrorists in decades before — a global war on terrorism, distinct from any battle, any conflict, any world war ever waged."

"From Beirut to Lockerbie (Scotland) to the U.S.S Cole, we can see that terrorists are not deterred by time. But as our country has made clear, their time is up."

Ridge said the reason terrorists have lashed out in Iraq and elsewhere is not because the United States is failing in its efforts to defeat terrorism, but because it is succeeding.

"These successes remind us why we fight," he said. "because every single victory in a faraway land makes us safer here at home."

Baghdad mother becomes first woman to wear IP uniform

Sgt. 1st Class Bill Sutherland
Army News Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq — While many Iraqi women are hoping for a way to improve life in Baghdad, one found it. Ask 28-year-old Baghdad mother and resident Zahra Hadi about how her life has changed and she'll tell you about her new job.

She is the first female to wear the uniform of an Iraqi corrections guard — the only female to wear any kind of police uniform.

Hadi completed a one-week corrections course at the Iraqi Public Service Academy Aug. 14 and entered two weeks of on the job training with 33 other graduates.

"Not even Baghdad's police department has a female working with them, so this is a bit of history in the making," said Gary De Land, senior adviser to the Iraqi Corrections Service.

The training classes were held by Iraq's Coalition Provisional Authority Department of Prisons. Instructors from the 800th Military Police Brigade provided guidance in the training and curriculum, and assisted in the selection process.

Hadi was a mother and housekeeper living in Baghdad. Her day consisted of house cleaning, caring for her 7-month-old son and preparing meals for her husband. She used to work part time selling tropical fish and setting flower arrangements for weddings.

Zahra Hadi

But when the Department of Prisons ran an ad looking for new prison guards, Hadi knew it was time for her dream of equality to come true.

"I've wanted to do this all my life. I always wanted equality with men. I like competing in a man's world," said Hani. "I think I'm just as smart, and I can do most of those things men can do."

And now, she said smiling, "I can work as a corrections guard, and I know I will practice what I learned on how to be a professional and be treated with respect."

The high school graduate now wants to study languages at the nearby Baghdad University. Her dream of one day going to a university is closer then before.

"I would love to learn how to work as a translator and learn French or English," Hadi said.

Her instructor at the academy was Master Sgt. Don Bowen.

"The students learn the code of conduct, human rights, how to respect others and self-protection. Hadi is very enthusiastic about her work, and I truly feel she wants a change for her country," he said.

Candidates receive four uniforms and a salary of 100,000 dinars per month, or about 70 U.S. dollars.

"The pay for Iraqi workers is a good wage, since most earn half that much per month," Hadi said.

Army Reserve members who work as civilian correctional guards, bringing with them valuable information and experience, teach the core curriculum.

The group started training Aug. 8 at the Iraqi Public Service Academy in Baghdad.

The Iraqi Public Service Academy's goal is to hire enough corrections guards to schedule a class for every three weeks. A new class started Aug. 16.

POLICE REPORTS

• **Subject:** Staff Sergeant, 24-year-old male, 1st Brigade
• **Charges:** Simple battery
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 26-year-old male, 1st Brigade
• **Charges:** Disorderly conduct, cruelty to children
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 23-year-old male, 1st Brigade
• **Charges:** Theft by receiving stolen property
• **Location:** Allenhurst

• **Subject:** Civilian, 32-year-old male
• **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, open container
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Failure to maintain lane
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 23-year-old male, 1st Brigade
• **Charges:** Failure to yield right of way
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 22-year-old female, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Improper backing
• **Location:** Richmond Hill

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 25-year-old male, Headquarters Command
• **Charges:** Failure to yield right of way
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Family member, 24-year-old male
• **Charges:** Assault, cruelty to children in the second degree
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Improper backing, driving while license suspended
• **Location:** Hunter

• **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Felony obstruction of justice – officer, simple battery – DVA, simple battery – officer, possession of alcohol by a minor, disorderly conduct, drunk in public
• **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Captain, 29-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Simple assault
• **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Specialist, 27-year-old female, 24th Support Group
• **Charges:** Forgery, larceny of private funds
• **Location:** Fort Stewart/Hinesville

• **Subject:** Private 2, 20-year-old male, Headquarters Command
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private 2, 25-year-old male, Division Support Battalion
• **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old female, 24th Support Group
• **Charges:** Failure to yield right of way
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old male, Division Support Command
• **Charges:** Driving while license suspended
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Civilian, 39-year-old female
• **Charges:** Driving under the influence
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 19-year-old male, Division Support Command
• **Charges:** Failure to exercise due care
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 24-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Improper backing
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Captain, 34-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Indecent assault
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 31-year-old male, Division Support Command
• **Charges:** Deposit account fraud
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 28-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Stalking
• **Location:** McRae

• **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old female, Division Support Command
• **Charges:** Deposit account fraud
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Private, 20-year-old male, 2nd Brigade
• **Charges:** Deposit account fraud
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Civilian, 52-year-old female
• **Charges:** Speeding 79/55
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old male, Division Support Command
• **Charges:** Attempted murder, unlawful possession of weapon, conspiracy, failure to register privately owned weapon
• **Location:** Walthourville

• **Subject:** Private 2, 22-year-old male, Division Support Command
• **Charges:** Accessory after the fact, conspiracy
• **Location:** Walthourville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, Division Support Command
• **Charges:** Accessory after the fact, conspiracy
• **Location:** Walthourville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old female, Division Support Command
• **Charges:** Deposit account fraud
• **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** 2nd Lieutenant, 33-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Larceny of NAF property
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Captain, 38-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Bribery, false official document, conduct unbecoming an officer
• **Location:** MacDill AFB

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 23-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Larceny of government munitions, larceny of government explosives, wrongful possession of explosives, misprision of a serious offense
• **Location:** Hunter

• **Subject:** Specialist, 25-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Theft by taking
• **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Staff Sergeant, 40-year-old male, Division Artillery
• **Charges:** Solicitation of sodomy
• **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 21-year-old male, 24th Support Group
• **Charges:** Disorderly conduct
• **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Private 2, 22-year-old male, 24th Support Group
• **Charges:** Disorderly conduct, criminal trespass
• **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Civilian, 53-year-old female
• **Charges:** Conspiracy, possession of cocaine with intent to distribute, wrongful distribution of cocaine
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Civilian, 25-year-old male
• **Charges:** Conspiracy, possession of cocaine with intent to distribute, wrongful distribution of cocaine
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Civilians, 36-year-old male
• **Charges:** Conspiracy, possession of cocaine with intent to distribute, wrongful distribution of cocaine
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Civilians, 27-year-old female
• **Charges:** Possession of cocaine with intent to distribute
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old male, Division Artillery
• **Charges:** Simple assault, disorderly conduct, unlawful detention
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

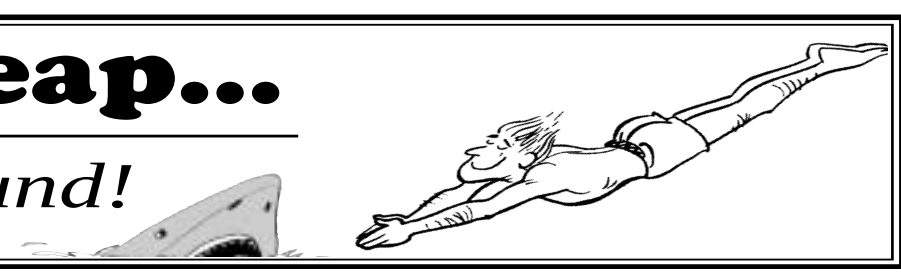
• **Subject:** Sergeant, 28-year-old male, separate battalion
• **Charges:** Driving under the influence, failure to maintain
• **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 22-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
• **Charges:** Speeding 112/45, reckless driving, racing
• **Location:** Fleming

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 27-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
• **Charges:** Driving under the influence, racing, reckless driving, violation of license restrictions, speeding 112/45
• **Location:** Fleming

Look Before You Leap...

Observe swimming safety, year-round!



Babies don t smoke.
So why do it when you re pregnant?

3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

School absences conditional

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

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

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

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

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

Ladies Bowling Leagues

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

For more information or to sign up visit either facility.

Main Gate

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

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

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

Army Family Action Plan

Youth AFAP conference Sept. 6 at 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Club Stewart. Delegate training Sept. 8, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Club Stewart. AFAP conference Sept. 9, 8:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Fort Stewart. Contact Vicki Wiginton or Stacy Thompson at 767-5058 for more info.

Family Assistance Center

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

Education Center hours

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

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

Hire a teen

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

Hunter

Couples Reunion Workshop

A workshop, designed to assist families dealing with the stresses of reintegration back into the family after deployment, will be held in the Hunter ACS ballroom from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Sept. 11.

Please call 352-6816 with the expected number of people attending and a date of the workshop attending. Free childcare will be provided.

Veterans Appreciation Day

American Legion Post 135 will be having a veterans' appreciation day Sept. 20, starting at 6 p.m. There will be refreshments, finger foods and music. The event will be held at the American Legion Post 135 at 1108 Bull Street, Savannah. The event is free and all veterans and their guests are invited to attend.

For more information call John Williford at 233-9277.

Veteran's Parade

The Montgomery Presbyterian Church will be holding a parade to honor the men and women of the armed forces. The procession starts at 10:30 a.m. Sept. 6 at the church, located at the corner of Ferguson and Shipyard streets in Savannah. Everyone is invited to attend, and military members who wish to participate are asked to call Billy Jackson at 213-0770. The event is free and food will be served.

Hunter Community Meeting

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

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

Morning road closure

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

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

Hunter Community Picnic

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

Burger King

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

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

Skeet Range

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

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

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

Bible study

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

Winn Army Community Hospital

TRICARE Authorization

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

Winn

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

Tuttle

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

Exceptional Program

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

Winn Seeks Volunteers

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

Expectant Siblings Class

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

Intervention Services

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

"Take Care of Yourself"

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

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

Tobacco Cessation classes

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

Family Reunion Support

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

Physical Exam Clinic

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

Keep America Beautiful DON'T LITTER!

TF 4-64 improves conditions at clinic

Sgt. Craig Zentkovich
Staff Writer

As Iraq's rebuilding continues, so do the daily missions of supply distribution throughout the country.

Hospitals and medical clinics, looted and ransacked during the war, are now operating with greater resources than they were before the fighting began.

In 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division's area of operation, greater Fallujah, the brigade aided medical facilities by delivering supplies and services from the brigade and its task forces on a daily basis while deployed.

A Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, contributed to the distribution effort at the Khaldiyah Medical Clinic.

A Co., 3-7 Inf., part of Task Force 4-64, delivered and installed five air conditioning units, shelving units, waiting room chairs, toilets and washbasins, a safe, and a refrigerator in the clinic.

This marked the fourth visit of the task force to the clinic. Previous visits included assessments, medical supply distribution and salary arrangements.

"Based on what the local residents have said, the clinic has never been as nice as it is now," said Maj. Mark R. Rasins, TF 4-64 executive officer. "A majority of the effort that has been put into the clinic is based on what the people have said they need."

And what they've needed, they've received.

"We were able to get (KMC) two dental examination rooms, complete with chairs, lights and all the fixtures that are necessary to make them fully operational," Rasins said. "(The clinic) hired local contractors and residents to assemble the rooms."

The clinic has also received ceiling fans, and 15 fluorescent lights and fixtures, as well as much needed medical and surgical supplies in previous weeks.

The reception they receive now is a far cry from that of the first two visits, according to TF 4-64 physician's assistant, 1st Lt. John Frasure.

"The first time we came here, we received some very unpleasant looks," he said. "And the second time, (residents) threw rocks at us."

Another area of initial resentment came from the doctors at the hospital.

"When we pulled up (for the first two visits), the patients mobbed us, wanting us to diagnose and treat them — the doctors just stood and watched this," Frasure said. "We were finally able to convince them that we couldn't provide any better treatment than the Iraqi doctors — the expertise doesn't vary."

As the amenities continue being delivered to KMC, and with a fully functional generator already in place, the clinic is well on its way to becoming an efficient medical facility, according to Rasins.

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Dunkleman, TF 4-64 intelligence analyst, has provided the "handyman" skills necessary to install the air conditioning units and new circuit breaker, as well as rewiring the electricity throughout the clinic.

"I enjoy getting out and doing this for the communities," he said. "Most of the time I get help from the staff and locals."

It is the increasing motivation of the local populace and their ever-warming reception to American soldiers that is making the TF 4-64 job easier to do.

"We've done a lot to win over the hearts and minds of Iraq," Rasins said. "And the soldiers deserve all the credit. It's phenomenal — they've gone from 'see it and shoot it' to handing out soccer balls with a smile. They've done an amazing job."

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Dunkleman, TF 4-64 intelligence analyst, carries a bench into the waiting room of the Khaldiyah Medical Clinic in Iraq.

Photos by Sgt. Craig Zentkovich

(Above) Spc. Dean Bryant, A Co., 3/7 Inf., helps lower a safe during TF 4-64's supply distribution in Khaldiyah, Iraq, in June. (Left) Dunkleman installs a switch for one of the many air conditioning units distributed to the Khaldiyah Medical Clinic.

Trains ease Iraqi fuel crunching

Staff Sgt. David Bennett
367th Public Affairs Detachment

AD DIWANIYAH, Iraq — Iraqi oil and rail officials have teamed with coalition forces trained on easing the fuel shortages in southern Iraq.

Planners are revamping a part of the city's rail depot, which has been inoperable for 15 years, so it can accept rail fuel cars coming from southern Iraq. The fuel will be distributed to various gas stations in and around Ad Diwaniyah.

Army Staff Sgt. Ryan J. Misero, noncommissioned officer in charge of the public facilities team, part of the 358th Civil Affairs Bde. of Norristown, Pa., has been working with the Iraqi Republic Railroad to reconstruct a railroad spur at the Ad Diwaniyah Depot that will enable rail cars to be offloaded into ready storage tanks at the rail yard. Fuel trucks, once filled, can travel to area service gas stations in Ad Diwaniyah and the neighboring city of Samawa, said Misero of Medina, Pa.

Work was completed Aug. 24.

Because of their larger capacity, the rail cars are able to move more fuel than convoys of trucks that had been transporting fuel periodically from a refinery in the southern city of Basra.

Lt. Col. Joe Smith, a civil supplies team leader for the 358th Civil Affairs Bn. of Norristown, Pa., said a rail fuel car has the capacity of at least 56,000 liters of diesel, compared to the 35,000 liters a typical tanker truck can carry. Ideally, the rail operation would augment the convoys that now take more than 10 hours to make the 200-mile trip, he said.

"It's a significant increase," said Smith, a native of Flower Mound, Texas. "If we can get the train and the trucks, then we'll be healthy on fuel."

Maj. Tim Keough, assistant planner for 304th Civil Affairs Brigade of Philadelphia, said the rail depot hasn't been used to transport fuel since 1988. However, because of a nominal amount of money and some procured materials such as railroad ties, the rail lines are back in operation.

"It took almost 10 days including the guard shack. The rail tracks were done and the download points were reconstructed," said Keough, a resident of Tin Falls, N.J.

Though the train operation will help relieve an existing fuel shortage, which is punctuated by long gas lines and black market fuel sales in several Iraqi cities, the optimal solution lies in a network of fuel pipelines that begin in Ad Diwaniyah and feed much of southern and central Iraq.

Located across the street from the rail depot, the city's fuel distribution center has main pipelines that connect to refineries in Baghdad and Basra. They combine into more pipelines capable of carrying diesel, benzene, and kerosene to several Iraqi cities. However, according to Sa'ad Nazzal, regional coordinator for the Iraq's Ministry of Oil, besides new generators the biggest problem the fuel distribution point is experiencing is fuel thieves who continue to slice and damage the pipelines to steal what is inside.

Keough said there is a plan to hire local security guards to protect the lines. Once that is done, the fuel problems of Ad Diwaniyah and other southern Iraqi towns should be solved for good.

101st Airborne Div. sponsored clinic opens in Zumar

Special to the Frontline

MOSUL, Iraq — With a traditional "snip" of a ribbon, the village of Zumar opened it's newly refurbished clinic Aug. 26.

Before its restoration, the Zumar Primary Health Clinic was in disrepair, according to 1st Lt. Michael Lefler, B. Battery, 3-320th Field Artillery, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) executive officer, and project officer for the clinic refurbishment.

"The clinic was falling a part," Lefler said. "The walls were cracked, the foundation was separating from the rest of the building, and there was very little workable space inside."

Lefler and the doctors who work in the clinic prioritized the clinic's needs. "My first priority was structural," Lefler said. "They needed electricity, they needed fully functional plumbing, and they needed hand washing stations in all of the treatment rooms. After that we were able to worry about furniture."

While the Army doesn't actually lay hands on the buildings, they determine the needs of the building, and then hire contractors to come in and do the necessary repairs.

The repairs for this clinic cost about $9,300. "There is no way you could get this amount of work done in the U.S. for this price," Lefler said.

Contractors also partitioned off portions of a wide-open foyer to create a reception area and a private consultation room, and added an outside building for storage.

The completion of the clinic benefits about 65,000 people, as the clinic is the largest in the area, according to Lefler.

"We see between 250 and 300 people a day," said Dr. Ahmed Ali Abdullah, director of health clinic at Zumar. "We only had to close for five days for this work, but we are very patient. We waited for ten years for this work to be done (under the former Iraqi regime) and then the Americans came in and did this in one month."

In the span of two weeks, six local clinics reopened after being completely refurbished by funds disbursed by the 101st Airborne Division.

"Most clinics were looted after the fall of the regime," said Lt. Col. Michael Place, Division Surgeon. "They took everything: light fixtures, chairs, medications, exam tables."

There are nearly 120 clinics and some 20 hospitals in the Neneveh Provence, and all of them have benefited from the disbursement of funds.

"Each had some work done, some were completely rebuilt," Place said.

According to Place, the repairs to the clinics leave a large impact on the individual communities, but are only part of the solution to a much larger problem.

"The rebuilding of the medical system is going to require the Iraqi people," Place said. "What we can give them is the tools to rebuild it. If you look at it realistically, a clinic is just a building. They have doctors who want to help people, and we are trying to give them a place where they can do that."

"This is a tool, just like the stethoscope is," Place said. "That is a tool I need to practice medicine, and the clinics are a tool they need to start building the system. We can give them that tool."

Courtesy Photo

Muhamad Saeed, Talifar Sector Chief of Public Health, discusses the needs of the newly-reopened Zumar Primary Health Clinic with 101st Airborne Div. Surgeon, Lt. Col. Michael Place and 2nd BCT Surgeon Maj. Don Sarmiento.