

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

Tuskers sharpen skills on range

Pvt. Dan Balda
Staff Writer

Members of 4th Battalion, 64th Armored Regiment underwent training as part of the Marne Marksmanship Program at Clifford small arms range July 8.

The Marne Marksmanship Program is designed to train individual warriors, lethal crews, squads and platoons, according to the Fort Stewart Web site.

The standards are to qualify every Soldier two times a year to include specified advanced rifle marksmanship tasks, qualify crews using the appropriate mechanized gunnery tables and Stewart convoy gunnery tables, according to the Stewart Web site.

Soldiers practiced firing M-16 rifles and M-4 carbines in preparation for deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III, said Staff Sgt. Erik Guidotti, a 4/64 range safety officer.

Soldiers zeroed their weapons then fired at pop-up targets in hopes of qualifying with their particular rifle. Participants were given 40 rounds of ammunition and had to hit at least 23 targets to qualify, Guidotti said.

Soldiers spent the previous week practicing for the qualification range.

"Hopefully with the last week of intensive training the Soldiers will shoot well and qualify quickly," Guidotti said.

"Every company trains their Soldiers before they come out to the range," said Capt. Kevin W. Siegrist, 4/64 executive officer. "But regardless of their (military occupational specialty), they are a Soldier first and we have to make sure they can shoot like one."

"A tank can't protect you everywhere," Siegrist said. "There has to be on-the-spot decisions by the leadership and they have to trust in the chain of command both above and below them."



Photos by Pvt. Dan Balda



Spc. Michael Stelly takes aim and prepares to fire at a 50 meter target while attempting to qualify at Clifford Range Friday.

Spc. James Crone attempts to qualify with his M-16 rifle while Spc. Kevin Arnold coaches him on the finer points of advanced rifle marksmanship.



Spc. Robert Adams

Gen. Dan McNeil, FORSCOM commander reenlists 4th Bde. Soldiers (left to right) Sgt. David Crawford, 4th Bde., Sgt. 1st Class Jamie Wells, 4/64 Armor, and Spc. Steven Smith, 4th Bde. at Red Cloud Golf July 7 during his 3rd Inf. Div. orientation visit.

FORSCOM Commander visits Stewart

Spc. Robert Adams
Staff Writer

Gen. Dan McNeil, Forces Command commander, visited Fort Stewart for a 3rd Infantry Division orientation of training July 7.

McNeil observed Soldiers training on multiple ranges, par-

ticipated in an officer's promotion ceremony, reenlisted three Soldiers, visited Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran Soldiers at Warriors Walk, and ate lunch with Soldiers during his visit.

McNeil and Command Sgt. Maj. Carl Christian, FORSCOM command sergeant major, first viewed 3rd Battalion, 7th

Infantry Regiment Soldiers perform combative training on Building One's front lawn.

Then after McNeil spoke to the leadership about OIF3 preparation and the Marne Marksmanship Program, he visited with veteran Soldiers of

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Warrant officer's 'change of insignia' ceremony aligns corps with services

Pfc. Ricardo Branch
Staff Writer

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield warrant officers received branch insignias upon their collar and a new rank designating chief warrant officer 5, during change of insignia ceremonies Friday at each installation.

"The change marks a milestone in the evolution of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Corps," said

Warrant Officer Steven Mielke, 30th Military Police Detachment, Criminal Investigation Division.

"I feel good about the change," said Chief Warrant Officer, Ray M. Noble, senior log maintenance officer, Headquarters Company Headquarters Command, Division Support Command. "It's aligning the warrant officer with the other services."

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Chief Warrant Officer Jose G. Negron Cruz, division property books officer, HHC, DISCOM gets pinned by Brig. Gen. Mark O'Neill, 3rd Inf. Div. Assistant Division Commander (Support).

Weather Forecast

FRI	High 93°	Low 74°
SAT	High 91°	Low 73°
SUN	High 91°	Low 73°

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Battlekings thank Soldiers, families



Tanay Stokes, 6, helps her little brother, 4-year-old Dajonte Stokes, onto rings at Holbrook Pond during the 1/9 FA family day Friday. Soldiers wore civilian clothes and brought their families to enjoy the day.

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.
Staff Writer

Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery Regiment spent the day with their families for family day at Holbrook Pond Friday.

"We looked at the calendar, and between gunnery and coming back off block leave, this was the only opportunity we had in this quarter to give something back to the families," said Maj. Terry Cook, 1/9 FA battalion executive officer. "It's just an opportunity for the Battle Kings to thank them for their support and everything they've done for the families over the last two years."

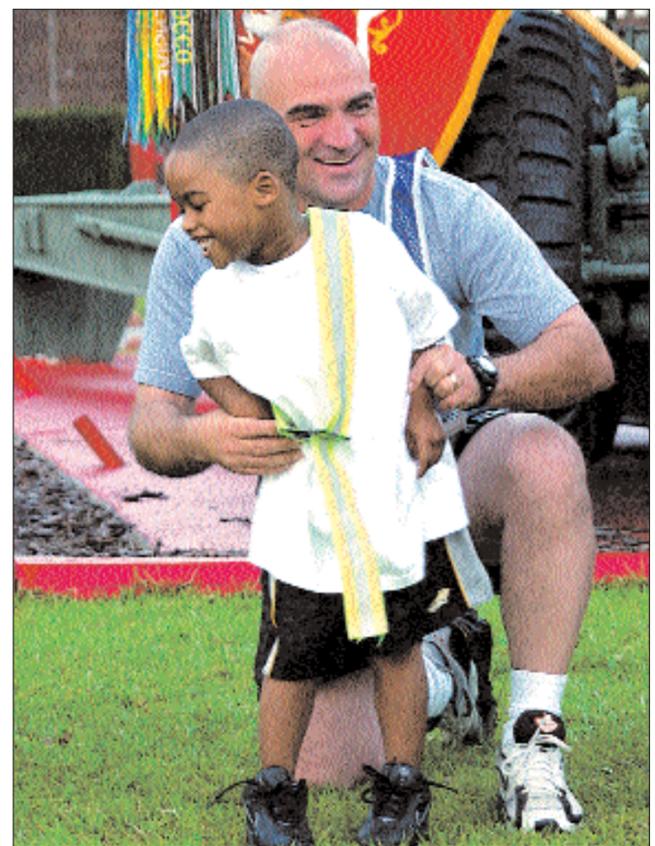
Family Day started with physical training in front of their battalion headquarters. Soldier's children led the battalion PT formation through stretches and rotational exer-

cises. Families then participated in a short run. Later in the morning Soldiers and their families met for activities at Holbrook Pond. Soldiers competed in boat races and tug of war. Senior leaders and wives cooked hamburgers and hot dogs for everyone in attendance. Children enjoyed activities such as pony rides. Families participated in a fishing rodeo to see who could catch the most fish.

"What we're trying to do today is team build," said Lt. Col. Steve Merkel, 1/9 FA battalion commander. "We recognize the fact that our team not only consists of the Soldiers but just as importantly the families, because we absolutely could not do what we do without their support. Today is a chance to come out and share in some camaraderie."

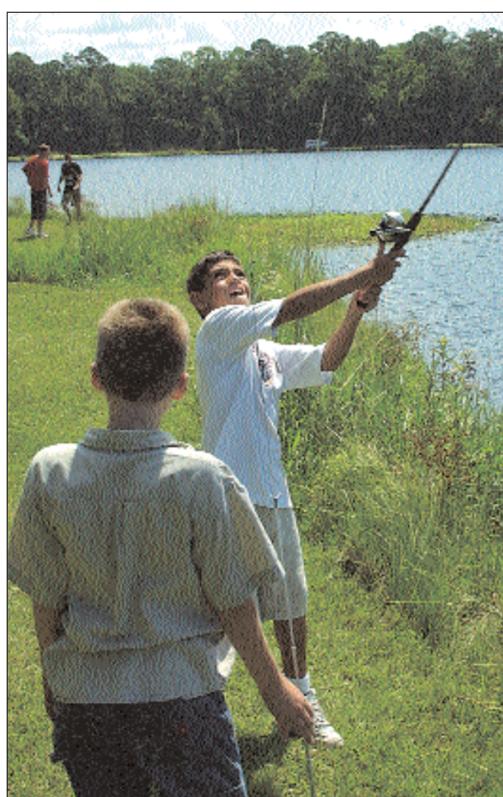


(from left to right) Sam Allen and Mike Follard drag their canoe and balloons back to shore after capsizing in the middle of Holbrook Pond during a boat race.



Matthew Samson Jr. leads the battalion in the hip rotation with a little help from Command Sgt. Maj. Tony Smith during PT at 1/9 FA battalion headquarters.

Devin Collazo casts his fishing pole in hopes of catching a big fish as his friend Austin Newharth watches during 1/9 FA Family Day at Holbrook Pond Friday.



Libby Smith, wife of Command Sgt. Maj. Tony Smith, prepares hot dogs and hamburgers for Soldiers and their families as part of the free lunch offered during the day's activities.

Photos by Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.

Stewart to begin using new MKTs

Pfc. Ricardo Branch

Staff Writer

Food service specialists from Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield were able to view the Army's new rebuilt mobile kitchen trailer (MKT99) in a presentation by Tank Automotive and Armaments Command June 9 at the central issue facility building on Stewart.

"Many of the MKTs are 29 years old and have age catching up to them, so they had to be rebuilt," said Rick Burleson, TACOM lead maintenance management specialist.

Rick Burleson said that MKTs were taken apart and rebuilt; therefore they needed to be checked for deficiencies.

"We have to set up the trailers to make sure they are all serviceable," said Sgt. Roy Dabero, Headquarters Company Headquarters Command, 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment.

"There was a list (with MKT parts) that had to be checked," Burleson said. "We just want to make sure everything is okay and give a quality insurance check for the Soldiers using equipment rebuilt by us."

With the rebuilding and refitting a few changes were added but the overall design remains the same.

"All of the new MKTs are desert colored and very durable," said Burleson. "They have lots of new features after being upgraded."

"New fabrics were added, lights, an exhaust system, ice chest and a new skirt and cover for the trailer to name a few," Burleson said.

"Initially 19 were done, 16 are at Stewart and three at Fort Benning with 112 in production scheduled to be completed by the end of the year," said Daniel Brady, MKT project officer.

Refitting and rebuilding means the Army will have modernized MKTs, which can bet-

ter serve the Soldiers.

"Better serviceable equipment that looks good instills pride in your work," said Sgt. 1st Class Sheryl Gordon, battalion food operations sergeant, Headquarters Company Headquarters Command, 92nd Engineer Battalion.

Burleson said that there are approximately 4,500 MKTs in the Army with about 75 percent due to be replaced.

"In the next 15 years we're (TACOM) going to bring in 3,400 MKTs to replace a few of the outdated MKTs," said Brady.

Just meeting their quota is not the only goal of TACOM, turning out something good for their Soldiers is what matters to them.

Brady said that they are going to get the job done quickly, but the Soldiers are their priority.

"Our main mission is to give the Soldiers the best product possible," Brady said.



Pfc. Ricardo Branch

Spc. Sandra Hamrick, an HQ Co. HQ Cmd., 92nd Eng. Bn. food service specialist, unpacks burners for the MKT99 Friday.

Residential fires can be prevented by using simple safety measures

Spc. Robert Adams

Staff Writer

A fire department in the United States responds to a fire every 16 seconds, there is a fire-related injury every 17 minutes and a death every two hours, according to National Safety Council statistics.

Making sure everyone in the household is educated on fire safety can prevent accidents from occurring and save lives, said Bill Walker, Fort Stewart safety technician.

There are many actions that can reduce the chance of a fire, and below are a few tips:

- Install smoke detectors and all-purpose fire extinguishers and have them checked regularly.
- Store, use, and dispose of flammable materials with care.

- Keep matches and lighters out of the reach of children.

- Never use water to extinguish an electrical fire.

- Choose space heaters that automatically shut off when knocked over.

If a fire does occur, have an escape plan.

Every member of the household should know at least two safe exits from each room in the house, according to the NSC. Also designate a meeting place outside the home where accountability of family members can take place.

Remove fire hazards and practice fire-safe behavior to prevent home fires in every room.

Beginning with the kitchen, look for potential fire hazards and safeguard them from children.

"The kitchen is the most dangerous area of the house for fires,"

Walker said.

Remembering these safety tips can reduce a fires chancing of starting in the kitchen.

- Never leave stoves unattended while cooking

- Keep your stovetop and oven clean

- Wear tight-fitting sleeves to avoid catching clothing on fire

- Don't hang curtains, towels, or potholders near burners or the oven

- Turn pot handles inward so the can't be bumped or pulled over

- If a small fire starts in a pan, carefully slide a lid over the pan to smother the flames, and turn off the burner

- Never pour water on a grease fire

- Use only those containers designed for microwave use

Another area in the house that

needs to be fire-proofed is the garage and outdoor areas where flammables are stored.

- When storing gasoline, keep it outside the home in a shed or detached garage.

- Always store paints and other flammable liquids in their original, labeled containers with tight fitting lids.

- Store all flammable liquids far away from appliances, heaters, pilot lights and any other source of heat and flame.

- Remove trash from the home regularly.

- Use outdoor cooking grills outside and off porches and away from vegetation and combustibles.

- Never store propane cylinders indoors.

The improper use and care of extension cords can lead to a spark forming a fire.

Electrical fires can be prevented by following some simple steps, according to the NSC.

- Don't overload circuits.

- Inspect all electrical cords for frays and broken wires.

- When working outdoors, use weather resistant, heavy-gauge extension cords.

- Use properly grounded equipment.

- Never use a metal ladder near electricity.

- Never run extension cords under carpeting.

- Check extension cords regularly for damage or deterioration.

For other safety tips, the Army Safety Center and National Safety Council web sites have valuable information. Also if any problems, concerns or questions arise, the safety office can be reached at 767-7880.

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Lane Down Range

True love is hard to come by

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.
Staff Writer

Commentary

There is nothing more beautiful in the world than true love. Each day after I finish my hard day's work there is nothing more pleasing to me than to walk into a dirty house and see my darling wife with her precious little paws dangling over the edge of the loveseat where she has no doubt been planted since she woke up at 3:30 p.m. Then and only then can I feel true love and a sense of commitment that I have never before experienced in my life.

My wife and I have a very good relationship. The day-to-day things that she does to anger me are truly out of context compared to the things that actually make our relationship function. I trust her, and when it comes down to the real nitty gritty she is there for me (for example, she fended off a group of 35 drunken, angry Sailors while I took refuge from them in the wood line, scared and lying on my yellow belly). Although I have to admit there is a sort of dark humor involved in our coping skills, I know there will never be another woman for me.

Loving someone isn't always perfect. The best way to explain marriage is to look at your family. If you are married that person is your family. I know that brothers and sisters probably fight worse than any other relation I know of, but in the end who wouldn't be will-

ing to scrap to the bitter end defending a sibling or family member?

I don't wake up every day deeply in love with my wife. But when it matters I know who I love. She is my best friend, and when I look in the mirror I can truly say she knows everything about me that matters (not counting how much money I spent at lunch the other day with my friends instead of going home and eating tuna salad sandwiches).

I have nothing to hide from her, and any deviation in that plan would cause a rift in my personality she would surely notice.

Before a person decides to get into a relationship, they need to be able to trust themselves. If you have something you can't be honest with yourself about, you will always be hiding that something from someone else. If you have to hide something from someone, you can't be yourself, and in the end, is someone falling in love with the real you?

I hear Soldiers every day saying they want someone to be with. Believe me, there is no end to the men and women

looking for love, so why shortchange yourself? When you finally do get together with someone, take it easy, let them know who you are. If they can't deal with you, figure out if it was them or you who needed to change. If you are happy with yourself, someone else is bound to be happy with you.

As for me and mine, some days I can't decide whether to choke her or kiss her. But she is mine, and I will defend her at her most embarrassing moment and then rag her about it when we are alone. I know we are secure with each other and ourselves.

Take time to screen who you are with. If you can't go to work and perform without worrying about what's happening at the house, you are wrong. A good relationship is not always perfect, but it shouldn't keep you from being you and accomplishing your mission. For the sake of your well being make sure that your significant other has all the qualities you want to pass on to your children. Once they come along, your mistakes become a reality for them too. Like anyone else in the world, children want to feel secure.

So secure yourself, secure your gear, secure your relationship and build a foundation for your children. Down Range you will find these decisions will have made you a better Soldier, parent and spouse.



Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE
Readers respond to the question:
Who is your hero, and why?

"My mom, because she made me who I am and I would be crazy without her."

Ronnette Joseph
Concessionaire



"My husband, because he takes care of me, he served in the Army for 21 years and made me and his country proud."

Joanne Cowart
Civilian



"Jesus Christ, because he saved the world."

Cpl. Brandon Sirolli
HHC, 2/7 Inf.



"My parents, because they raised me to have a good mind and sound judgment. They instilled qualities in me that I appreciate today."

Sgt. 1st Class
Gresham Collins
B Co., 703rd MSB

"My husband, because he is a good Soldier."

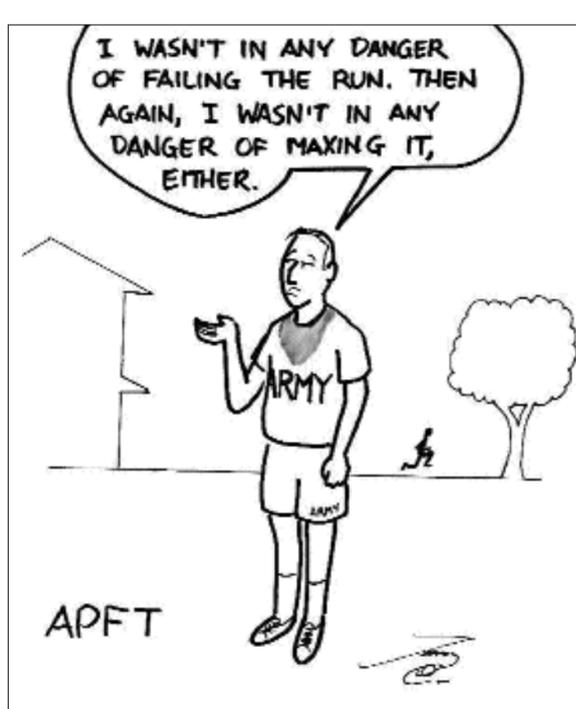
Anne-Marie Mitchell
Spouse



"My dad, because he supports his only daughter being in the Army."

Pfc. Susanne
Meadows
3rd Signal Co.

BUSTER'S BATTERY



We at the Public Affairs Office for The Frontline would like input as to topics, stories, editorials, outside entertainment, special features, etc. in order to provide an informative and quality newspaper to our readers. Please take a moment to fill out this form and fax to: Editor, The Frontline, at 767-4951.

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FORSCOM

from page 1A

OIF at Warriors Walk. McNeil got the chance to greet and thank each Soldier for their contribution to the War.

Their next stop was out at Red Cloud Hotel range to observe a stationary and mounted vehicle live fire gunnery being conducted by 3/7 Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment.

Soldiers were performing a base line fire at Table Six, which is four engagements, with varying troop and moving truck targets, said 2nd Lt. Paul Cutts, 3/7 Inf. platoon leader.

"I think it is good that a four-star general is coming out here to see what his troops on the ground are doing," said Pfc. Jacob Ives, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3/7 Inf. scout. "It gives him a good feel on how training is being performed."

Immediately following an after action review of the train-



Gen. Dan McNeil, FORSCOM commander pins a 1st Lieutenant bar onto Paul Cutts, 3/7 Inf. scout platoon leader during his visit to Red Cloud Hotel.

ing exercise, McNeil participated in the promotion of Cutts to first lieutenant.

"It's an honor to have a four-star general promote a lone lieutenant," Cutts said.

McNeil then visited Red Cloud Golf range to observe 1st Battalion, 76th Field Artillery Soldiers perform .50 caliber machine gun training.

This was the first range for the battalion which activated two weeks ago.

Soldiers qualified from 10-meter dismounted positions and then moved weapons into paladins and fired from the hatch at positions down range, said Lt. Col. Daniel Pinnell, 1/76 FA commander.

"It was an opportunity for Gen. McNeil to see where we were in our training process," Pinnell said.

After viewing the training, McNeil reenlisted three Soldiers: Spc. Steven Smith, A Co., Brigade Troop Battalion, 4th Brigade Unit of Action, Sgt. Davis Crawford, A Co., BTB, 4th Bde. UA and Sergeant 1st Class Jamie Wells, 4th Battalion 64th Armor

Regiment at the range.

"Gen. McNeil told us to keep up the good work and that he was glad we stayed in," Smith said.

McNeil and Christian then ate a Meal, Ready to Eat with 4th UA Soldiers and asked them what they could do to make life better for Soldiers. Christian also informed Soldiers on different ways to manage their money and to know their financial advisor. McNeil finished by informing Soldiers about to importance of not drinking and driving.

From there, McNeil visited training area B-22 to view 3/7 Inf. Soldiers perform a squad live fire exercise.

McNeil's last stop was at the Training Area C-3 Shoot House where he observed 3/7 Inf. Soldiers perform MOUT training before he concluded his visit and flew out from Wright Army Airfield.

RANK

from page 1A

The change was brought about when Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker issued an order for the branch insignia to be placed upon the collar of warrant officer.

Warrant Officer David Akers, 1st Battalion, 41st Field Artillery, said that the placing of the branch insignia on the collar is a good thing for the warrant officer corps.

"With the branch insignia on the collar other Soldiers will now know what military occupation speciality you have and can identify your job," Akers said.

Over 25,000 Soldiers compromising the warrant officer corps will have the eagle removed (which has

served as the insignia indicating a warrant officer) and replaced with the branch insignia.

The eagle rising insignia was originally adopted in 1921 and symbolized a time when warrant officers' technical skills and duties could be transferred between service arms easily with little formal training.

The removal of the eagle insignia doesn't mean it's gone for good however; warrant officers will still have the eagle upon their collar while attending Basic Warrant Officer School.

"Warrant officers who have not become branch certified will still have the eagle on their collar until they complete their initial

schooling and become branch certified," said Chief Warrant Officer Jose G. Negrón Cruz, division property books officer.

Along with the addition of having the branch warrant officers belong to put on their collar, a new redesigned chief warrant officer 5 rank was established.

The new chief warrant officer 5 rank is a silver bar with a single black stripe centered along the length of the bar.

Negrón said that the rank was redesigned in an effort to make it easier to identify the officers who have reached the pinnacle of their position and to be better recognizable with the other branches of the military.

"The change was done for the warrant officer rank so it was more compatible to the other sister services," Negrón said.

The change of insignia marks the first change since 1991 when the chief warrant officer rank was established to the warrant officer corps. With the change, branch officers and warrant officers now each have their respective branch insignias displayed upon their collars as officers.

"I worked hard to earn the distinction of the rising eagle and being a warrant officer," Noble said.

"It will take a bit to get used to (branch insignia) but it's for the best," Noble said. "Today is a great day for being a warrant officer."

TIPS TO MAKE YOUR HOME MORE COMFORTABLE

Provided by the GMH military housing office

1. Set your thermostat at a comfortable setting and leave it there. Turning the unit to the coolest temperature may result in the unit freezing up and eventually failing.
2. Keep doors, windows, blinds and curtains closed to prevent excessive sunlight from heating the interior of your home.
3. Keep unnecessary lights and appliances, which radiate heat, turned off.
4. Try to eliminate unnecessary entering and exiting the house by children and adults alike.
5. Last but not least, if you feel your air conditioner is not working properly, call the GMH Service Order desk during normal duty hours to schedule a check-up. This will help ensure your air conditioner does not fail completely and cause you discomfort.
6. Should your air conditioner stop working, call the GMH Service Order desk immediately at 408-2466. Air conditioning Service Requests are a priority during the summer months.

Diverse techniques to become a leader

Pvt. Dan Balda

Staff Writer

A leadership conference was held Friday at Club Stewart by the Medical Army Community at Fort Stewart.

The conference taught the participants how to work together as a team as well as different styles of leadership, said Col. Angelia E. Durrance, acting commander of Winn Army Community Hospital. The conference was open to anyone interested in new techniques they could apply to their lives.

"No one form of leadership works for everybody," Durrance said. The speakers showed the audience what they have learned in their years as leaders and left it up to the participants to decide what they could use in their work.

"I chose to attend the conference because when you work in a group all people involved have to be leaders for everybody else," said Malinda Johnson, a student practical nurse at Winn. "That way everybody can take something from their co-workers to better their own skills as a leader."

Command Sgt. Maj. Mittie A. Smith, Commandant of the Noncommissioned

Officer Academy at Fort Stewart, opened up the conference with her speech, "Shaping Tomorrow Today with Positive Leadership."

"My style of leadership is based on listening to people around me and using their advice and their mentoring," she said. "Great teachers are those that inspire others by explaining what they have planned and demonstrate leadership by example."

Smith's leadership belief is that all leaders should establish a philosophy to provide subordinates with a true direction and purpose.

"Smith taught me that rank can only go so far," Johnson said. "They should listen to those below them so they can really know those that they are working with on a daily basis."

Col. Edward Cardon, commander of 4th Brigade Unit of Action, drew on his experience garnered from 22 years of service in the Army.

"We all have weaknesses — if you're great at speaking in front of people, you can take classes," Cardon said. "But you have to be true to yourself and not be somebody you aren't."

Cardon said that when working with your subordinates you should choose

those that have strengths that complement your shortcomings.

"I like my sergeants major to have a different personality from my own so that they can fill in the gaps," Cardon said.

Being a good leader is easy when things are going well. Adversity brings out the mental toughness and shows the true measure of a leader, Cardon said.

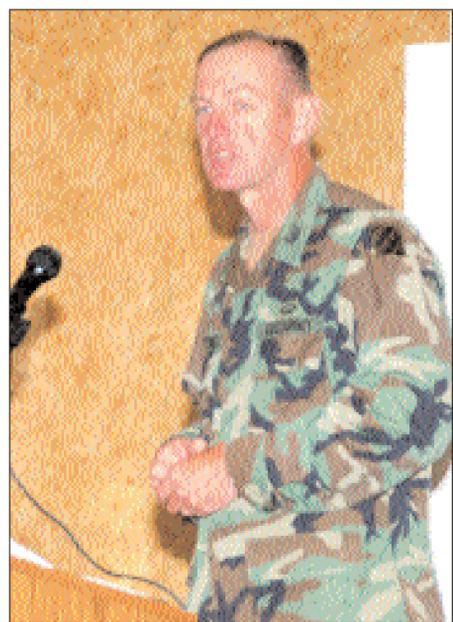
"You can't control what happens all the time, but you can control how you react and adapt after the fact," Cardon said.

Cardon spoke at length about how a leader can understand those that work above and below them.

Things look different from a subordinate position. If one takes the time to get to know those that work for them and understand the pressures their superiors face, then they are in better shape to make a tough call when the situation calls for it.

"If you have to make a tough call, stick with it," Cardon said. "Not all leaders can be great, but if you help them realize how and why they are not performing as well as they could, you can help them get better."

"Bad news isn't always bad," Cardon continued. "It causes you to be introspective and gives you the opportunity to make positive changes."



Pvt. Dan Balda

Col. Edward Cardon, 4th Bde. commander, shares his styles of leadership with the attendees at the leadership conference, July 9.

Emergency steps after a sexual assault

Lt. Col. Virginia Yates

Special to The Frontline

Sexual assault is one of the most traumatic incidents which can occur on an individual's life. What should you do if you have been sexually assaulted?

Emergency guidelines and support systems are in place to ensure that personnel respond appropriately and the assault victim receives the care needed.

Immediately report the incident to the police. Reporting the incident may prevent the attacker from victimizing others.

Go to the Emergency Room for a medical examination. A medical examination will permit evidence to be collected in case you later decide to pursue legal action. The successful prosecution of sexual assault rape cases often depends on the physical evidence collected as soon as possible after the assault. The Winn Army Community Hospital is staffed with specially trained Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners to treat sexual assault/rape victims with attention to collecting such evidence. The examination also involves testing for sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy prevention and testing. To assure the best chances for successful prosecution, do not clean your

person, change clothes, brush teeth, or go to the bathroom. This will ensure that evidence is preserved should you decide to press charges.

The Emergency Room staff immediately calls the Savannah Rape Crisis Intervention Team who provides a Victim Advocate. The Victim Advocate comes to the Emergency Room for the examination, follows the case to include going to trial, and ensures counseling is provided.

If a person is unable to use these options explained, the victim can call the Savannah Rape Intervention Hotline 912-233-7273(RAPE). The 24-hour confidential hotline provides counseling and guides victims on steps to take.

Army helps renovate Iraq universities

Spc. Bryan Kinkade

Special to the Frontline

BAGHDAD, Iraq (Army News Service, June 30, 2004) — Completed renovations on Baghdad University and al-Nahrain University were celebrated during ribbon-cutting ceremonies June 24 by the 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment.

The \$600,000 projects were completed by Iraqi contractors hired by the battalion's Company A, attached to an Arkansas National Guard unit, 1st Battalion, 153rd Infantry Regiment.

"It feels good," 2nd Lt. Robert Kotecki, the company's civil affairs and information operations officer, said. "It's a sense of accomplishment."

The Baghdad University renovations focused on the front entrance of the campus. They

included a parking lot for 80 buses, plumbing and gardening improvements, and new walkways and lighting.

Before the lot was constructed, buses would park on the side of the road, the head engineer for the Karada District, said. Traffic jams would occur frequently, so the university's president made a plan to fix it.

The fountains at the campus entrance were also fixed, after not working for 14 years.

Baghdad University is considered the most prestigious university in Iraq, with more than 70,000 students attending the satellite campuses.

After the first ceremony, the unit took off to the al-Nahrain University. The university received a new political science building, complete with air conditioning, fluorescent lighting, bathrooms, and an amphithe-

ater for lectures.

"The building was started before the war, but it was pretty much a skeleton structure," Kotecki said. "The floor was littered with anti-aircraft rounds when we first got here."

The al-Nahrain University, formerly the Saddam University, was an elite school for Ba'ath Party children, Kotecki said.

At each university, Lt. Col. Kendall Penn, the 1-153 INF commander, cut the ribbon for the ceremonies. After the al-Nahrain University ribbon cutting, the Soldiers were treated to a feast of Arabic food and sodas.

On the horizon, Company A, 1-9 Cav. has many projects starting. Some of them include an allergy and vaccination clinic, the al-Zeweia Health Clinic and a building a gas station near Baghdad University, which will be the only one in the area.

Don't be a terrorist target!

You can reduce your vulnerability of becoming a terrorist target.

When traveling by airplane:

- Do not fly on a flight targeted by terrorists.
- Report suspicious or unusual activity.
- Do not fly in uniform or with military luggage.
- Sit in the middle or rear portion of the airplane.
- If your airplane is hijacked, don't say or do anything, follow the instructions of your rescuers.

Mail safety, be aware of:

- Unexpected mail.
- Postmark or return address missing.
- Unusual handwriting
- Excessive weight or size.
- Inflexibility.
- Springiness.
- Protruding wires.
- Odd Smell.
- Grease marks.
- Excessive Post.
- Metal inside.

Diamond Elementary School Supplies 2004/05

Item Description	PK	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Binder (3-ring)								🍏
Bookbag - clear plastic preferred	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏
Calculator							🍏	🍏
Colored Pencils		🍏					🍏	🍏
Composition Book - black & white (without wire)			🍏		🍏			
Crayons (16 or 24 count)			🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏		
Crayons (8 count)		🍏						
Elmer's Glue		🍏	🍏		🍏			
Erasers (block)		🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏			
Erasers (pencil top)			🍏		🍏			
Glue Stick	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏
Graph Paper					🍏		🍏	🍏
Tissues -2 (big box)	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏
Liquid Hand Soap		🍏						🍏
Highlighters								🍏
Markers - wide tip		🍏	🍏	🍏				
Markers - thin tip		🍏						🍏
Notebook Dividers (6)								🍏
Notebook Paper (regular)					🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏
Old Shirt for Art Class		🍏	🍏		🍏			
Pencil Box		🍏	🍏					
Pencils - 3 dozen		🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏
Pens (erasable)							🍏	🍏
Pocket Folders with 3 prongs (7 colors)					🍏	🍏		
Ruler								
Scissors (rounded)								
Sketch Book (9x12 or 12x19)		🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏	🍏
Spiral Notebook			🍏	🍏				
Wet Ones	🍏	🍏	🍏		🍏			
Ziplock Bags (sandwich size)		🍏						
Ziplock Bags (gallon size)		🍏	🍏					

CENTCOM News

Two thousand employed in largest project to date

BAGHDAD, Iraq — First Cavalry Division on July 10 broke ground on the Al Boetha landfill, a \$35 million project which will be the largest employment effort in 5th Brigade Combat Team's area of operation, providing jobs for 2,000 Iraqi workers.

Workers, who earn \$7 a day, will clear a 3.6 kilometer area for the landfill, and will build fences and a road during the two-month project. Employees will also dig a canal for water runoff around the landfill.

In an effort to distribute jobs evenly in the area, neighborhood councils from six districts provided 200 names to Army civil affairs officials.

In addition to the expected 2,000 employees, 700 additional Iraqis came to the site looking for jobs, said Staff Sgt. Rodney Cox, a civil affairs team sergeant in Company A, 489th Civil Affairs Battalion.

"Word is just spreading that there are jobs available and people are coming to see if they can get a job," said Maj. Luther Webster, a CA team leader, 489th CA Bn.. "We had people come from as far as Sadr City looking for work."

"In Al Rashid we have put thousands to work in a number of projects; this is just one such project," Webster said. "So we encourage the local populace to see their [neighborhood councils] and get on a list with them."

Insurgents attack Abu Ghraib detention facility

ABU GHRAIB, Iraq — Anti-Iraqi insurgents launched a mortar attack Sunday night on the Baghdad Central Corrections Facility at Abu Ghraib, where Multi-National Forces hold over 2,300 Iraqis for participating in or directly supporting activities threatening the security of Iraqi and Multi-National Forces.

One injury resulted from the attack.

The attack was the sixth by insurgents

on the facility since a mortar attack on 20 April left 22 Iraqi detainees dead and over 100 injured, including five other mortar attacks and one RPG attack.

Iraq's elite emergency response unit sends second group to training

BAGHDAD — Another 116 recruits entered the Civilian Police Assistance Training Team's Emergency Response Unit training course Saturday, as part of an ongoing effort to stand up an elite 270-man Iraqi Police Service unit trained to respond to national-level law enforcement emergencies.

Recruits will negotiate a one-week selection process evaluating candidates' oral and literacy skills, spatial and visualization aptitudes, and physical fitness and medical conditions, as well as running volunteers through a background and security check before sending them on to the training phase following next week.

The eight-week highly-specialized training course is a result of the current wave of terrorist and insurgent actions disrupting security efforts in Iraq as the country continues to shore up the overall force structure just two weeks after the June 28 handover.

Graduates of the training course will join 40 recent graduates completing the course at the end of June.

"The mission of the Iraqi Police Service Emergency Response Unit," reported the Civilian Police Assistance Training Team, "is to provide a national, high-end, rapid-response law enforcement tactical unit responsible for high-risk search, arrest, hostage rescue, and crisis response operations."

The \$64.5 million effort is part of a larger mission to create a nation-level law enforcement investigative and special operations capability within the Iraqi Ministry of Interior to counter terrorism and large-scale civil disobedience and

insurgencies throughout Iraq.

The capability will eventually include a Counterterrorism Investigative Unit and Special Operations Unit. The Emergency Response Unit will operate as part of the future Special Operations Unit primarily focused on nation-level, high-risk tactical response operations.

Volunteers for the force must first complete the standard eight-week basic training course or three-week transition integration program for prior service officers before entering the specialized Emergency Response Unit training modeled after the United States Department of State's Anti-Terrorism Assistance and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms' training programs.

The program was reshaped to more completely reflect Iraq's unique environment.

Of the total force, 235 eligible candidates will complete an eight-week program of instruction based on the Anti-Terrorism Assistance Crisis Response Team training program while the balance of 35 recruits will be selected for the Special Operations Explosive Ordinance Team — also an eight-week program of instruction — based on the Department of State's Anti-Terrorism Assistance Explosive Incident Countermeasures training course.

Instruction focuses on terrorist incidents, kidnappings, hostage negotiations, explosive ordnance, high-risk searches, high-risk assets, weapons of mass destruction, and other national-level law enforcement emergencies.

Officers also have an opportunity to receive supplementary training in hostage negotiation, emergency medical procedures, and counterterrorism task force coordination.

A mentoring program will begin after training is complete with instructors assigned as advisors to each unit or discipline in a training reinforcement role.

The Emergency Response Unit will be the predominant force for national level

incidents calling for a DELTA/SWAT capability and will only be used in extreme situations by local and national authorities.

Combined forces command Afghanistan statement

KABUL, Afghanistan — The Coalition continues its efforts to support voter registration and to ensure equal and fair representation.

The current total for voter registration is well over 6.6 million. Female registration has been higher in Phase II than in Phase I and women now make up more than 39 percent of all voters registered.

In another effort to involve Afghanistan's women in the country's future, the Coalition has provided more than 1,400 Grundig hand-crank radios to the Women's Ministry. They will be delivered to women's centers in 29 provinces country wide. From there they will be disseminated to rural women, giving them the ability to increase their social and political awareness and furthering their education.

The Coalition has a solid partnership with the Afghan people and assists them in many ways. On July 13 Coalition forces evacuated for medical treatment a 10-year-old Afghan boy who had fallen down a well. He had multiple compound fractures.

Another Coalition initiative will assist the Afghan National Police in their efforts to boost security and ensure free and fair elections. The Ghazni Provincial Reconstruction Team will deliver five new Hilux pickup trucks to the ANP within the week. These trucks will be essential in providing mobility and response during the critical period leading up to the elections.

Additionally, the Jalalabad PRT will deliver an additional seven new police vehicles within the week. These new vehicles are currently at the Jalalabad PRT and are being fully equipped with modern communications equipment that will allow the police to communicate better and to boost security in the region.

POLICE REPORTS



- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charge:** Simple battery
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Family member, 38-year-old male
- **Charges:** Wrongful use of cocaine, wrongful use of marijuana, assault on child under 16, indecent acts with a child, enticing a child
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Family member, 31-year-old male
- **Charge:** Indecent language to child under 16
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 26-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Larceny of AAFES property, obstruction by fleeing
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Civilian, 69-year-old male
- **Charge:** Criminal trespassing
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Obstruction of justice by hindering, underage drinking, resisting arrest, wrongful making, altering or tampering with military identification card
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Corporal, 24-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Disorderly conduct
- **Location:** Savannah

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

- **Subject:** Private 2, 18-year-old male,

4th Bde.
 • **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
 • **Location:** Waycross

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Family member, 20-year-old female
- **Charges:** Wrongful possession of marijuana, driving on suspended license
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Civilian, 24-year-old male
- **Charge:** Wrongful possession of marijuana
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 34-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of cocaine
- **Location:** Melbourne, Fla.

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 22-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, failure to obey general order - driving on post suspension
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old male, 4th Bde.

- **Charge:** Larceny of government property
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Staff Sergeant, 33-year-old male, DISCOM
- **Charge:** Dereliction of duty
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 19-year-old male, DISCOM
- **Charges:** Assault, consummate with a battery, assault with intent to attempt/commit sodomy, underage drinking
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private, 19-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Family member, 26-year-old female
- **Charges:** Wrongful possession of cocaine, wrongful possession of marijuana
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 21-year-old male, Aviation Bde.
- **Charges:** Distribution of dangerous drugs, possession of dangerous drugs, selling of dangerous drugs, possession of

tools for the commission of a crime

- **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 24-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Larceny of government funds, fraud
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Drunk in public
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private, 21-year-old male, Aviation Bde.
- **Charges:** Failure to obey lawful order, wrongful possession of a controlled substance
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Corporal, 24-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Driving under the influence
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Corporal, 24-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Driving under the influence
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private 2, 21-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Damage to government property, drunk/disorderly
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 19-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Affray
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 19-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Wrongful making, altering or tampering with military Identification card
- **Location:** Hunter

Marne TV

July 2004 Schedule

Marne TV can be found on Comcast Cable Channel 16 every weekday. Tune in to the Marne Report six times a day for the latest from Stewart and Hunter.

5 a.m. Army Newswatch
 5:30 a.m. MARNE REPORT
 6:30 a.m. Air Force News
 7 a.m. Navy News
 7:30 a.m. Army Newswatch
 8 a.m. MARNE REPORT
 9 a.m. Air Force News
 9:30 a.m. Navy News
 11:30 a.m. Army Newswatch
 Noon MARNE REPORT

1 p.m. Air Force News
 4:30 p.m. Navy News
 5 p.m. MARNE REPORT
 6 p.m. Army Newswatch
 6:30 p.m. Air Force News
 7 p.m. Navy News
 10 p.m. MARNE REPORT
 11 p.m. Army Newswatch
 Midnight MARNE REPORT

3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

Brittin Elementary open house
Parents and students are welcome to visit school and meet teachers on Aug. 4, 3 to 5 p.m. If you are a private organization (Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts), and wish to set up a table, please contact Principal Tillman at 368-3324. Registration starts Monday until Aug. 2, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. For further information regarding registration, you may contact our registrar, Ms. Lampkin, at 368-3324/7514 or 767-8179/8182. Registration packets can be picked up anytime and returned during this period.

DUI nomination
The Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) is now accepting nominations for the Sept. 2004 DUI Free Awards Program. Request all units eligible to self nominate for their DUI Free Award no later than Aug. 9 (no exceptions). To nominate your unit, ASAP will need the name of the unit being nominated (spelled out exactly how you will like to see it on the certificate), the last accountable date a DUI

was given to your unit, which award it will be (1st, 2nd, or 3rd), and the POC and telephone number for the unit.

AFAP issues
Planners for the next Army Family Action Plan conference are gathering issues to discuss at this this year's conference, Sept. 22 to 23 and the Youth AFAP, Aug. 21. If you have an idea or concern, contact AFAP program manager, Vicki Wiginton before Aug. 1. If you want to work as a delegate, facilitator, recorder or volunteer at the conference, contact Wiginton at 767-5058 or 352-6816.

Indebtedness claim
Anyone having claims against or whom is indebted to the estate of Capt. Scott T. Corwin, HSC, 92nd En Cbt Bn, Fort Stewart, Ga., should contact Capt. Jacqueline M. Reini at 658-3427.

Red Cross volunteers
The next orientation is Wednesday, 9:30 a.m., Bldg. 623, or call 767-2197.

Hunter

Golf tournament
The Savannah chapter of the American Red Cross has joined forces with Hunter for the first-ever command supported ARC golf tournament at Hunter G.C. July 22 at 1 p.m. The fund-raising event is open to all military personnel and their families. Sign up for the individual or team competition at Hunter G.C. or ACS. The cost is \$50 per player and will go toward continued support of Hunter Soldiers and families. For more info call 651-5314.

Town Meeting
Hunter will be holding its quarterly town hall meeting Aug. 3, 7 p.m. at the ACS building. All members of the community interested in learning more about what's going on at Hunter, or have any concerns to address with with the garrison commander, are encouraged to attend.

Indebtedness claim
Anyone having claims against or whom is indebted to the estate of CW2 Nicholas P. Dimona II, Company C, 1-3 Aviation, Hunter

Army Airfield, Ga., should contact CW2 Michael Kennedy at 352-5713. Anyone having claims against or whom is indebted to the estate of WO1 William L. Loffer, Company C, 1-3 Aviation, Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., should contact CPT Jason Lynn at 352-5713.

ACS birthday
Celebrate the 39th birthday of ACS at Hunter Club, Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Enjoy games, food, entertainment and prizes.

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. 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 call at 352-0376.

Winn /Tuttle

TRICARE Center
The Fort Stewart TRICARE Service Center moved. It is located at 740 General Stewart Way, Suite 109, in Hinesville. The Health Benefits Office will remain co-located with Winn. For more information, call the TSC at 368-3048.

PX Pharmacy
The PX Satellite Pharmacy is now open for full service business. Patients may fill new prescriptions and refill prescriptions here 9 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Dedicated Parking
Dedicated patient-only parking is available at the main entrance of the hospital, on Harmon Ave., from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Beneficiaries parking in No Parking Areas, as indicated by a yellow curb, will be ticketed or towed by the Military Police.

Third party insurance
Individual's social security numbers will no longer be dis-

played on health insurance cards in accordance with Georgia Senate Bill 721. Individuals with private health insurance should contact the Third Party Insurance Office at Winn upon receipt of their unique member identification numbers (policy numbers.) Call the Third Party Insurance Office at 370-6037/6947 for more information.

Appointment Line
The new appointment line phone number is 370-6633.

Intervention Services
Military 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.

Iraqi Guardsmen join Coalition in combined operation

ARNEWS

Special to The Frontline

MOSUL, Iraq — One Iraqi National Guardsman was killed and nine others wounded when their convoy was attacked this morning in Mosul. Soldiers returned fire, killing one of the terrorists before they fled.

In the past two weeks, ING battalions from northern Iraq have combined with police and Coalition forces to conduct six joint operations to restore security to the region. Last week, five 1st Infantry Division Soldiers and one Iraqi guardsman were killed and 22 Soldiers wounded July 8 when terrorists attack an ING compound in Samarra, about 60 miles north of Baghdad.

The combined operations have consisted of large-scale

house-to-house cordon and search operations in which ING soldiers and Iraqi Police search entire neighborhoods for terrorists, weapons and munitions. The operations have resulted in many arrests of known terrorist suspects and discoveries of large weapons caches.

For instance on July 10, Iraqi Security Forces and Soldiers from 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team) detained two people wanted for anti-Iraqi activities, foiled an improvised explosive device attack and collected a variety of weapons and munitions.

In the attack this morning, terrorists approached the convoy of guardsman and opened fire with small arms as the convoy traveled near the neighborhoods of Al Hadba and Al

Qairawan near Mosul University.

The incident is currently under investigation by the Iraqi Police, officials said.

In the July 8 attack on the ING compound, Anti-Iraqi Forces detonated a Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Device at the base of the compound's main building around 10 a.m. The front section of the building, which housed Task Force 1-26 Infantry and ING Soldiers, collapsed from the blast.

Task Force 1-26 Soldiers at the compound dug into the rubble to find fellow Soldiers, while the Anti-Iraqi Forces continued to attack with mortar fire. Other Soldiers fired 120mm mortars in response. Soldiers of the task force medical platoon treated the casualties and prepared them for evacuation to the Forward Operating Base



Courtesy photo

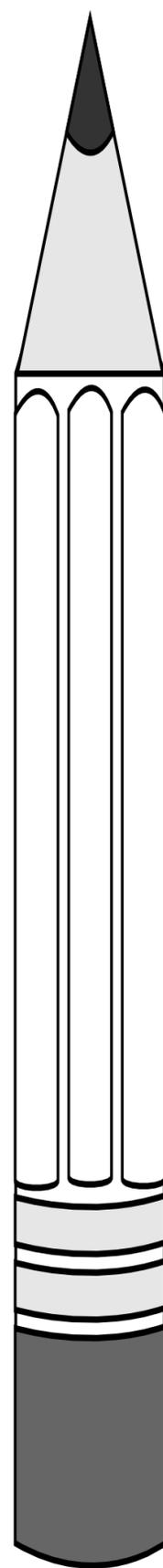
A wounded Soldier is evacuated for further treatment following the July 8 attack on a compound in Samarra.

Brassfield-Mora aid station.

Numerous combat patrols between the ING compound and Brassfield-Mora were executed

in order to evacuate the casualties. While en-route to the aid station, the medics continued to treat the casualties.

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the
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Provost Marshal Office
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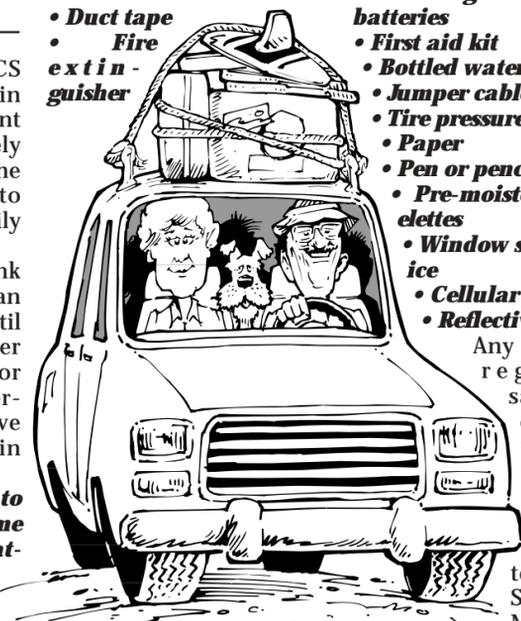
With summer PCS moves and vacations in full swing it is important to ensure your privately owned vehicle has all the necessary equipment to keep you and your family safe during travel.

Often, we don't think about what we need in an emergency situation until we are in one. Whether you have a flat tire or another roadside emergency, you should have the following items in your car:

- Spare tire (be sure to have it checked each time you have your tires rotated)
- Jack
- Scissors
- Tool box with screwdrivers and wrenches
- Car Owner's Manual
- Blanket
- Small hammer
- Flares
- Fuses
- Snack food
- Sealant for small leaks

in tires

- Duct tape
- Fire extinguisher



- Flash light with spare batteries
- First aid kit
- Bottled water
- Jumper cables
- Tire pressure gauge
- Paper
- Pen or pencil
- Pre-moistened tow-lettes
- Window scraper for ice
- Cellular phone
- Reflective vest

Any questions regarding safe vehicle operation and rules of the road may be directed to the Fort Stewart Military

Police Traffic section at 767-9595.

For other information regarding automobile emergency equipment and supplies check the following web sites: www.redcross.org and www.aaa.com

- Empty Gas can
- Can of motor oil
- Portable radio with spare batteries
- Emergency phone numbers of family and friends
- Insurance information
- Car registration

ASK THE JUDGE

Driving Under the Influence

Capt. Jacob Lilly

Special to The Frontline

Q: I received a ticket for drinking and driving, but was found not guilty in court. What can I do about the General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand I received?

A: A conviction for drinking and driving is not required for a GOMOR.

Therefore, your acquittal does not automatically mean your GOMOR will be rescinded.

Q: When are GOMOR's issued for DUI's?

A: A GOMOR will be issued to officers, commissioned and warrant, and NCO's in the following cases:

a. Conviction of intoxicated driving or driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, on or off post;

b. Refusal to take or failure to complete a lawfully requested test to measure alcohol or drug content of the blood, breath, or urine;

c. Driving or being in physical control of a motor vehicle on post when the blood alcohol content is 0.10 percent or higher, or off post when the blood alcohol content violates state law;

d. Driving or being in control of a motor vehicle, either on or off post, when lawfully requested chemical tests reflect the presence of illegal drugs.

Q: If I am an E-4 or below, must I receive a General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand?

A: General officers have discretion to decide whether to issue a memorandum of reprimand for E-4s and below, but they almost

always do as drinking and driving is a serious offense.

Q: What should I do after I receive the reprimand?

A: From the day you receive it, you have five days to submit a rebuttal on your behalf. A rebuttal can be submitted to attempt to remove the reprimand. You may also try to convince the general officer to file the reprimand in your local file instead of the permanent performance fiche of your Official Military Personnel File.

The contents of your rebuttal depend almost entirely on the facts of your case.

The Legal Assistance Office can help you draft a rebuttal.

For an appointment with an attorney, call 767-8819/8809 at Fort Stewart or 352-5115 at Hunter.

Soldiers help air TV talk show in Kirkuk

By Spc. Sean Kimmons

Special to The Frontline

KIRKUK, Iraq — After years of being smothered by media restrictions by Saddam Hussein's regime, Iraqi people are now being exposed to a variety of internal and external information sources.

An unbiased source of information comes from the U.S. funded-Iraqi Media Network, or IMN, which replaced the old Iraqi media network with a modern media organization for the Iraqi people.

In Kirkuk, IMN established a television station that passes along local and national news and entertainment. Kirkuk TV, as it's known, recently debuted a live talk show program, "Political Conversation," that allows Iraqis to discuss issues with local Iraqi and Coalition leaders via the telephone.

Initiated by the Information Operations cell of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th

Infantry Division (Light), the talk show provides leaders opportunities to eliminate rumors and limit confusion citizens may have in the Kirkuk area.

It is also a way for leaders, especially on the Iraqi side, to earn the confidence of the local Iraqi populace.

There were two primary reasons for starting the show, according to Maj. Bill Southard, chief of the Information Operations cell.

"One part was to legitimize the Iraqi government and the other was to provide information to the Iraqi people," he said.

Because of Saddam's extensive use of false information, Iraqi people are still hesitant to believe anything from the Iraqi media. This was Southard's main reason to create a talk show that would be aired live.

"I wanted this [live] talk show so Iraqi people could see their leadership, ask them questions and make their own educated decisions on what's going on in their future," Southard said.

The recent Transfer of Sovereignty was the primary topic of discussion for the first two episodes of Political Conversation.

Kirkuk Coalition Provincial Authority coordinator Paul Harvey and Kirkuk Governor Abdul Rahman Mustafa were the guests for the inaugural show on June 25. Most of the questions they answered pertained to the June 28 Transition of Sovereignty.

On the second show July 1, Lt. Col. Eric Schacht, 2nd BCT executive officer, and Kirkuk police chief General Turhan Yusef joined together to show that Coalition forces remain in Iraq after the transition and will continue their partnership with the Iraqi Security Forces.

"I think it's good to get this show kicked off as we turn over sovereignty," Schacht said after the July 1 show. "Eventually, we want this show to go more into a format of Iraqi leaders talking to their public."

Besides working with the Kirkuk television station, the 2nd



Spc. Sean Kimmons

Lt. Col. Eric Schacht, executive officer for 2nd BCT, and Kirkuk police chief General Turhan Yusef made a joint appearance on "Political Conversations," a live television talk show that recently debuted on Kirkuk TV. The show was videotaped to air 1 July.

BCT Information Operations cell helps spread the Coalition message through local newspapers, weekly press conferences and media advisories.

"We are doing everything in our power to inform the Iraqi people of all the good things

such as projects, security and economic development within the Kirkuk province," Southard said.

"Also," he said, "we are trying to get local Iraqis involved with the national, regional and local governments."