

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



Pvt. James Lewis

Behind the scenes with Bravo 1/15

Pvt. James E. Lewis

Staff Writer

FORT POLK, La. — The hard beams of first light shone down on the convoy Aug. 14; its destination was the small town of Jabar Nahr. Gathered intelligence had pinpointed the tiny village as the location where a high-ranking terrorist in the Al-Qaeda network was hiding. The orders for 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment's 3rd Platoon Bravehearts were clear — cordon off the area, search the village for the wanted suspect and bring him in, alive if possible.

Traveling in the convoy were two Bradleys, two 113s and a Light Mobile Tactical Vehicle. Nine Soldiers filled the large, pick-up truck-like bed of the LMTV with two more Soldiers in its front cab.

As the collection of military vehicles traveled down the old dirt road, the Soldiers in the back of the LMTV scanned their surroundings diligently, weapons at the ready, for any enemy movement. The convoy came to an abrupt halt as an old, beat up truck came into view from around a nearby bend in the road.

The Soldiers piled out of the LMTV, training their weapons on the truck. Stopping the suspicious vehicle, they quickly learned that the driver is an elderly man traveling to town with some companions.

They were just a bunch of old farmers, but the Soldiers still had to take precautions, said 1st Lt. Mani A. Wurie, 3rd platoon leader.

The platoon didn't know who those men were or what they could have been doing, he said.

The Soldiers of the battalion quickly climbed back in the LMTV, steeling their nerve for what could possibly be a much more serious threat in Jabar Nahr.

This mission might seem to some to mirror actual operations in Iraq, but in actuality, this was an exercise

conducted at the Joint Readiness Training Center, designed to give Soldiers the training they need when they arrive in Iraq in a few short months.

Arriving at Jabar Nahr, the Soldiers were greeted with what seemed like mass hysteria. Though it is not clear why, the townspeople did not want the Soldiers in their town.

As the Soldiers dismounted from assorted vehicles, angry locals came up to them, shouting and jeering. Wurie had a mission to accomplish, however, and he would not be deterred, he said.

With a small group of Soldiers, he walked over to the nearby police station to see if they knew where the Al-Qaeda terrorist was holed up. After a short conversation with the police, made possible with the help of the translator the platoon brought along, Wurie and a squad of his men headed to a house nearby where the police said the terrorist was hiding.

Greeted on the front porch of the house by what seemed like the entire town, Wurie had a lengthy conversation with what must be the owner of the house — and all the while the townsfolk became more unruly, he said.

While Wurie was engaged in talks with the owner of the house, a truck with three men drove by. Soldiers stopped the vehicle at gunpoint. Unsure of who they were, the Soldiers ordered the men out of the vehicle and began performing a search of the truck.

Wurie was still involved in conversation with the owner of the house where the terrorist was purportedly hiding, when a local walked up to Sgt. Jodie Miller, second squad leader. He explained that he had the information on

See STX, Page 2A

Spc. Jorge Torres, 1/15 Inf., pats down a wanted terrorist during a search exercise at JRTC Aug. 14.

Savannah Tech expands to Hinesville, offers further education to Soldiers

Spc. Robert Adams

Staff Writer

The newly constructed Savannah Technical College campus in Hinesville opened its doors for the first of many terms July 8 and invites Soldiers and the surrounding community to receive a further education.

"The campus was built to better support the Liberty County community by expanding from its main campus in Savannah, and provides more programs and occupational technology courses closer to home," said Al Cunningham, dean of Liberty County Campus Savannah Tech. College.

The campus is currently offering two-year associates degree programs, one to two year diploma programs and certificate programs.

"The Army pays 100 percent for tuition, up to a cap

of \$250.00 per semester hour, and the Soldier only has to pay for books, Darsey said."

The associate degree programs include accounting administrative office technology, CIS microcomputer specialist, CIS Networking Specialist, criminal justice and early childhood care and education.

The diploma programs include accounting, computer programming, marketing management, paralegal studies and practical nursing.

The certificate programs include certified nursing assistance, computer support technician, medical billing specialist and phlebotomy technician.

All students can sign up for the Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally grant and the HOPE scholarship at Savannah Tech. "All students are eligible for the

HOPE Grant regardless of residency status for certain programs," Darsey said. "This is a big bonus not only for Fort Stewart, but also the many family members and civilians in the surrounding counties."

To learn more about the HOPE Grant and Scholarship, students interested can visit <http://www.dtae.org/hope.html>.

Soldiers can also apply for other grants and loans such as the federal Pell Grant which can be used for other expenses such as child care, gas, etc," Darsey said.

Savannah Tech currently has 17 different term dates to make it easy for our total army family," Darsey said. "We also work closely with unit leaders in providing 'quick start fast track' programs during downtime when Soldiers are able to

See TECH, Page 5A

Be Prepared For Stormy Weather

Here are some tips on hurricane readiness from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency.

- A hurricane watch is issued when hurricane conditions are possible in your area within 36 hours.
- A hurricane warning is issued when hurricane conditions are expected in your area within 24 hours.
- Have a family disaster plan in place, and create a disaster supplies kit including a three-day supply of water and nonperishable food and bottled water; one blanket or sleeping bag and pillow per person; a first aid kit, including prescription medicines; emergency tools, including a battery powered (NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) Weather Radio and portable radio, flashlight and extra batteries; an extra set of car keys; a credit card or cash; and special items for infant, elderly and disable family members.
- Learn evacuation routes and prepare an evacuation plan.
- Review your insurance policies for protection against wind and flood damage.
- Complete inventory of personal property for insurance settlements and/or tax deductions for losses. List descriptions

- and take pictures.
- Store important papers in waterproof containers.
- Buy items needed to board up windows and protect your home.

When a hurricane watch is issued

- Listen to radio, TV or NOAA Weather Radio for official storm bulletins.
- Fuel and service family vehicles.
- Inspect and secure manufactured housing tie-downs.
- Complete preparation activities (i.e. put up storm shutters, tie down or bring in objects such as lawn furniture or grills).
- Determine destination: family, friends, hotel, or official shelter.

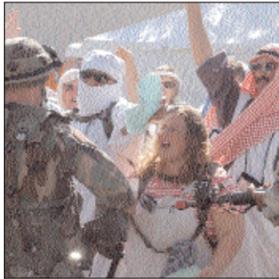
When a hurricane warning is issued

- Follow instructions issued by local officials. Leave immediately if ordered to evacuate.
- Sterilize bathtub and plastic containers and fill them with fresh drinking water.
- Use the phone only for emergencies.
- Notify neighbors and family members outside of the warning area of your evacuation plan.
- Make preparations for pets.
- Be alert for tornadoes during and after a hurricane.

Weather Forecast

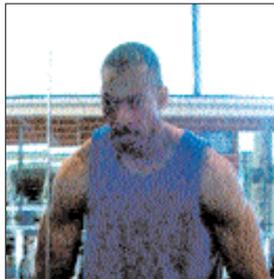
FRI	High 91°	Low 73°
SAT	High 88°	Low 72°
SUN	High 87°	Low 71°

News



Soldiers benefit from role-playing.... 3A

Sports



Lifting weights.... 1B

Life & Times



A bug is a bug, right?...2C

Guide

Voices and Viewpoints	4A
Marne TV Schedule	7A
Blotters	7A
3ID In Brief	7A
Film Fanatic	3C
Worship schedule	4C
Chaplain's Corner	4C
Volunteer Spotlight	5C
Movie listing	5C
Birth announcements	5C



(Left) Sgt. Jodie Miller and (right) Spc. Darrell Ambos, 1/15 Inf. Soldiers, secure the outside perimeter of a house. The training the Soldiers are learning is in preparation for what may be encountered in Iraq.

Photos by Pvt. James E. Lewis

STX

from page 1A

where the Al-Qaeda operative was hiding; the house right across the street.

"The police at the town had given us bogus information," Wurie said. "They were either afraid of the terrorist or they were sympathetic to him."

Miller alerted Wurie of what he had learned and took off with his squad to the building, going around to the side of the house in an effort to take the enemy by surprise. Wurie ordered the squad of men to secure the perimeter of the house until he got there with another squad, but faulty communication equipment gave Miller the wrong impression of what Wurie wanted.

Communication equipment was a big problem on this mission, said Spc. Jorge Torres, radio transmitter operator for the mission.

Instead of holding their position, Miller's squad approached the porch on the front of the house and is greeted by the sound of gunfire.

"There was an insurgent who just popped out of one of the windows of the house and opened fire," Miller said.

One of Miller's men, Sgt. James Browning, was fatally shot, while another of his men, Pvt. Shane Plunkert, was injured. A local man who was standing on the porch was also fatally shot by the insurgent in the gunfight.

Miller opened fire on the insurgent, injuring him and putting the man out of commission. Miller and his squad got into the house and found the terrorist, unarmed, in the front room of the house.

On the front porch of the house now, Wurie sought cover behind an outside-corner wall of the house as he tried to find out what was coming through on the radio.

Shouts of "we got him!" came from inside the house and, suddenly, more gunshots rang out. "LT's (lieutenant) down!" shouted Torres, and a few nearby Soldiers rushed over to help.

It was later determined that a sniper at a nearby gas station shot Wurie, and that first platoon took the man out of action.

Shot in the arm, but not mortally wounded, Wurie was helped over to a nearby M113 Armored Personnel Carrier to receive medical attention, as Soldiers led the wanted terrorist out of the house behind him. As the troops took him away, they walked past a group of mourners standing over the body of the innocent civilian who had been caught in the crossfire and shot by the insurgent on the front porch of the house.

Wurie, who had now received medical attention and was well enough to continue on the mission, went back to the house where the gunplay took place and apologized to the owner of the house. The owner was an innocent civilian, and it was not clear why the terrorist was hiding in his house.

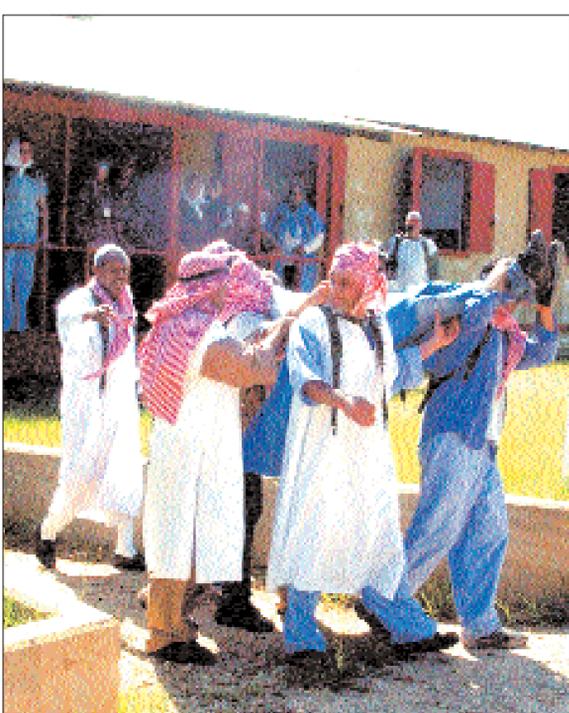
The Soldiers all climbed back into their respective vehicles. Leaving the town of Jabar Nahr behind them, their mission was successfully completed.

"This is really similar to what we encountered when I was in Iraq," said Spc. Darrell Ambos, comparing the exercise to what he experienced while in Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom 1. "It's really close to reality."

Torres, who has never been to Iraq, said he thinks this exercise is good training for what he might see while in country.

"This exercise will definitely give you an idea of what you might encounter in Iraq and how to deal with it," he said. "Especially in dealing with the people, the locals, I think this exercise will help a lot."

"Overall, we met the mission objectives," Wurie said. "We definitely have learned some lessons so the next time we are involved with something like this, we'll be better prepared."



Local townspeople carry one of the "dead" away from the town during the cordon and search Aug. 14.



Spc. Bobby Reyes and Spc. Jorge Torres, B Co., 1/15 Inf., try to keep the angry local townspeople at arms length.



Spc. Anthony Stickney, 1/15 Inf., mans a 240B machine gun atop the LMTV during the cordon and search at the Joint Readiness Training Center.



1st Sgt. Jeffrey Gunter issues orders to Spc. Craig Richards and PFC David Jennings, 1/15 Inf. Soldiers.

3rd Bde. celebrates women's equality

Pvt. James E. Lewis

Staff Writer

FORT POLK, La. — The 3rd Brigade, on rotation to the Joint Readiness Training Center, got a chance to celebrate Women's Equality Day a little early this year.

The nationally recognized day celebrating women's right to vote is usually observed Aug. 26.

This is a chance to recognize and remember the women who came before us, said Sgt. 1st Class Joyce V. Garrett, 3rd Bde. equal opportunity advisor.

"So many women before us opened the doors and paved the way for us to be able to work, to vote and to just excel in life," she said. "They gave us a chance to have opportunities."

Sgt. 1st Class Demetrius Brown, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Bde., was master of ceremonies at the

event.

Speakers at Saturday's event included 3rd Brigade Command Sgt. Maj. Jesse Andrews Jr., and 203rd Forward Support Battalion Chaplain (Capt.) Tommie Lee Pickens.

There was also singing provided by Staff Sgt. Terriance Yvain Hamilton, HHC, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, and Sgt. Courtney Black, Brigade Troops Battalion. Pvt. Danielle Deslover, HHC, 3rd Bde., recited a poem.

"(God) didn't take Eve from Adam's foot so that he could walk all over her," Pickens said in his key-note address. "He didn't take her from his back so that she would always walk behind him. He took her from his side to walk beside him."

"To all the women out there, I encourage you to not settle for mediocrity but to go out there and do your best to get what you want," he said.

"Twenty-four years ago, there were no

women in the Army's ranks," Andrews said. "It's not like that anymore. The Army has come a long way from those days. My hat goes off to the Army for opening its eyes and diversifying its ranks."

"Women compliment the Army," Pickens added. "They complete it."

"There is no doubt in my mind that we have females in the Army right now who can pick up an M-16 and shoot it, or drive a Humvee ... (or) just handle their business as well as males do," Andrews said.

Garrett offered this advice to young women who might wonder why Women's Equality Day is so important since they themselves have not had to go through the hardships and hard-fought freedoms that their foremothers before them endured.

"You can use your minds and be intelligent, you don't have to use your bodies to get what you want out of life," Garrett said.

It's thanks to our foremothers that

women have that privilege now, that they have that right and that opportunity to go after their goals, she said.

Garrett also has her own inspirational tale to share that shows just how far women's equality has come since the days of Susan B. Anthony.

"I used to live in an abandoned building with my children," Garrett remembered. "I had no job and I was on welfare, but I refused to settle for mediocrity. Then one day, God told me to join the Army."

In the Army for 19 years now, Garrett, a single parent, has two daughters in college and two sons at home who she said are exceeding very well.

No matter what you're going through in life, things will get better, she said. Surround yourself with positive people. Work hard, don't ask for a handout and you'll feel much better about yourself when you earn it."

Soldiers benefit from role-playing

Sgt. Raymond Piper

Staff Writer

FORT POLK, La. — There are many different situations the Soldiers of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team are going through at the Joint Readiness Training Center. One of the exercises Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment went through was to provide security during a liquid-propane gas distribution Saturday.

Two role players acted as Iraqi Police while the crowd was also made up of role players simulating Iraqis who have waited five hours to have a chance to buy fuel.

"The JRTC role-player cast is outstanding. They speak Arabic and we have an Arabic translator," said 1st Lt. Joseph Godwin, HHC executive officer.

The Iraqi Police would check for the proper paperwork and leave people into the gate where Soldiers would search them for weapons.

Three or four Soldiers stood near the entrance setting up a

perimeter around the entrance to maintain order. Others performed roving guard in the propane factory, watching for anything out of place.

"We try to control the crowd and get them moving through a central location," Godwin said.

Groups would come in pairs to simulate families coming to buy the much needed fuel. Propane is one of the main sources for heating and cooking in Iraq.

There was one vendor, who could only sell one canister of propane to each family. Some of the families wanted two and tried to argue with the vendor. At this point, the Soldiers stepped in to help settle the dispute.

"We try to reason with them and explain why they can only get one canister," Godwin said. "As a last resort, we throw them out. It's not a good option because it can make the crowd angry."

At one point, the slow trickle of role players flowing through the Iraqi Polices' security point quickly grew to about 20 or 30 people

crowding the gate. Soldiers moved to block their entrance into the area as they started chanting and yelling for gas.

The crowd became more and more aggressive as the Soldiers denied them access to crowd the vendor.

"The scenario tests the military decision making process as we decide what to do in a situation and what resources we can use," Godwin said.

The Soldiers were put to the test as more and more role players clogged the entrance and forced them to react. Concertina wire was pulled across the entrance to force people to flow through the entrance point.

The crowd became angry as the Soldiers stopped them from overrunning the vendor, who still was selling propane to people as they were let in.

Finally, as the role players became more unmanageable, the Soldiers had to use simulated smoke grenades to force the crowd to disperse.



Sgt. Raymond Piper

Role players shout their outrage at not being able to get propane during a training lane Saturday. The crowd grew unruly as HHC, 2/69 Armor Soldiers worked to keep the vendor from being overrun.

"I did this job in Iraq and they (the role players) do a good job of replicating. The stress level is similar. One thing that is hard to replicate is the fear factor. The force we can use here is less," Godwin said.

He added that he felt this is one of the best simulations he's been through.

Spc. Kenneth Grosser, an HHC, 2/69 Armor, light-wheel mechanic echoed Godwin, "It's not as realistic as being in Iraq, but it is pretty

close. I think if they showed more aggression it would make it more realistic."

He added that there is a definite benefit for the Soldiers who haven't been to Iraq or experienced similar operations.

Grosser added, "It gives experience to Soldiers who haven't been to Iraq on how to control a crowd and the proper way to do things, such as searching people and vehicle inspections."

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Lane Down Range

Take me back to work, please

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.

Staff Writer

Rest and relaxation aren't always all they are cracked up to be. After a short period of down time, I am ready to get back to work. The funny thing is I've been planning this vacation for over three months. I was working on the weekends for the last month to make extra money on the trip, so I had not had a day off in over a month. You can imagine how I felt when my first day of leave finally arrived. Now, after spending time on leave, I learned a few things. If you are on vacation, you need to be doing something the whole time. I thought it would feel good to just lie around for a few days, but a few days turned into many, and my lack of planning has left me a little depressed.

I guess the point is you measure your self worth by the things you accomplish daily. If you are too busy thinking about the mission you don't have time to think about all the little things.

My father is the type of man who would come home after a full day's work, change clothes, and work in the yard or on the house until dinner. As a teenager, I thought he was crazy. Yet the older I get the more I understand the logic. I believe that people need many different environments in their lives. Those who don't have them end up feeling a little worthless. One of the greatest things about the Army is before you do a mission you get motivated.

Commentary

While you are doing the mission, you have the right leadership to help you accomplish it, even if you have to be dragged kicking and screaming the whole way. After the mission is over, you review your mistakes and become a better Soldier by applying the lessons learned. Not everyone loves their job, but I'm willing to bet that most of them just haven't found their niche in life.

Many of us Soldiers are so ready for a vacation, but the ones who truly love being a Soldier are ready to get back to work after a week or so. I have been watching a lot of television during my leave, sleeping in and doing pretty much whatever I want. But I am ready to get back to the mission. In the Army I have found a true sense of worth to myself and to those around me. I miss that feeling. If you lay around the house without a purpose, you are bound to become depressed. I remember having no direction and sitting on my can for days at a time. I know there are many Army spouses who stay hemmed up in their houses. I have seen more community involvement in the Army than I have anywhere else. There are so many ways to meet and interact



with the people who live around you. I am guilty of being a hermit, and I wish I could spend my evenings interacting. For some reason I am very selfish with my off time, but if I could use my father as an example I am sure I could do much more with my life.

Small things like taking a walk with my wife, bringing my daughter to the park, jogging or any number of activities not only make me feel better, but help with family bonding. Fort Stewart is a nice little community that is pretty much self contained. It provides me with a sense of security that I have never felt anywhere else. When I leave that security and travel the country, I don't feel as safe as I would on an Army post surrounded by Soldiers and our equipment. We all more or less live by the same standards. You don't find that out here in the world, and after being out here for a while I miss it. So in more time than I would like to wait I will be heading back to the confines of Stewart, where I am sure after a few months I will be complaining about not having any time off. The truth is, many of us are going to complain no matter what the situation is. In the end we will do what we have to do in order to accomplish the mission, whether it battling insurgents, battling wills with your supervisors or fighting in the war zone that can be found at most of our homes. Some of these battles will be lost, but I know the ones that really count will be won.

Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

What is a good safety tip for motorcyclists on the road?

"Don't travel too close to the person in front of you, so you won't get hurt that bad in case of an accident."

Pvt. Sheniqua Fordham
HHC, 3rd FSB



"Never ride in someone's blindspot, motorcyclists need to be conspicuous."

Cpl. Robert Clearwood
STB

"Wear reflective gear so other drivers can see you on the road."

Spc. Sarah Williams
HHSC, STB



"Looking twice can save your life."

Spc. Matthew Chandler
5/7 Cav.
Intelligence Analyst

"If it's a state law or not, wear a helmet. The end result if you don't isn't pretty."

Staff Sgt. Stephen Ross
B Co., USAG, squad leader



"Don't zigzag in front of traffic — it's very dangerous."

Margaret Pierre-Jacques
Dependant

Jennifer's Jabberings



Jennifer Wingfield

Managing Editor

Would I be giving away any signs of tell tale age if I reflect on things I actually remember about Fort Stewart way back when?

Well, I recall a cold day years and years and years ago when John Fitzgerald Kennedy visited the post. Yup, I was right there in the crowd with my mom. As he passed us by in his open-top convertible, he ran his fingers through his hair. To this day my mom will tell you that he did that especially for me. Okay, Mom, maybe he did, considering there were not that many kids or toddlers out there that crisp cool day.

How about this one? The Post Exchange snack bar was located in the current education center. I think I can remember the PX being situated near there for a time. The PX got 'big' when it was relegated to a metal-type hangar building of sorts near what is now Gate 1.

Enjoying that commissary? I'm here to tell you that it used to occupy one of the warehouses on McFarland Avenue. I never recall that place not being crowded.

I know everyone knows where the then Stewart Hospital, known now as Winn Army Community Hospital, used to reside. Well the 'AG Row' was also collocated with it. The row consisted of single structure wooden buildings that serviced personnel in administrative matters.

Alas, Post Headquarters stands fast to this day. It has not moved in my 30-plus years of life. But many two-story wooden buildings have since been torn down that surrounded it.

There were designated signals for the start of the workday at 7:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. for lunch, and one for the end of the workday. If you arrived at 7:31 a.m. you were late or working overtime at 4:31.

The library was formerly housed in a wooden structure near the new PX.



Once the library moved out, it became the Thrift Shop until its demise several years ago.

Fort Stewart did have a prisoner detainment area to my recollection. Because my family lived so close to post, we were alerted when the 'guests' escaped. Hey, it happened! But they were caught. I know because my dad served proudly as a Military Policeman here at Stewart. But I joined the Air Force. Enough said.

Back to reflections. Stewart had a 'zoo'. But this one was open every night of the week with special viewings on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. I speak of the infamous Enlisted Club,

which used to be in the National Guard area around Troupe Avenue. All the beautiful and not so would go to the zoo to 'roar, slither, gape, fight, relax, stare, feed, get fed, even dance.'

Oh but I won't leave out the Officers Club. That establishment was once in the recently demolished Welcome Center. It was always so quiet when my parents would take me in there as a child that I was afraid to speak when inside the building.

Mower, Caro, Jordan, and Newman gyms were still on the drawing boards. Corkan had the bragging rights when I was younger. No weight rooms, indoor pool, or squash courts. What you saw was what you got. The best-kept secret was Weaver Pool at Wright Army Airfield, and it probably still remains that.

One of my favorite summer jobs was as a procurement clerk in Bldg. 920. It just isn't what it used to be because 920 is now just an open lot.

A full-scale laundry service was offered across from what is still a portion of the Transportation Motor Pool.

Memories of the former Hinesville even remain. Stores such as Shaves 5 and 10, Elsie's, Rogers, Saunders, and The Pacer, Ltd. were frequents stops on a weekend. Friendly Grocer was the only grocery market in town. And there really were only two traffic lights in the city.

Many locals never dreamed the day would come when a trailer park would be replaced by the old Wal-Mart shopping center on General Screven.

Heading for Savannah or Jacksonville? Highway 17 was the only way to get to either destination.

My 15-year old son swears I was living in the dark ages when I tell him of even more of the changes of Stewart and Hinesville.

I laugh at his comment while I brush a smudge of okra from my culottes.

Voice your opinion!
Write a letter to the editor!

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Respect, understanding keys to Cultural awareness

Pvt. James E. Lewis
Staff Writer

FORT POLK, La. — Field and company grade officers, as well as other senior non-commissioned officers, filled two theaters of the After Action Report building to learn about cultural awareness Aug. 10.

The class, which was presented by Islamic cultural experts, Dr. Rashad Winas and Anis Said from the Defense Language Institute out of the Presidio of Monterey, Calif., featured slide shows and discussions with the two experts.

"This class is really beneficial to Soldiers because we're no longer in Iraq to wage war, we're there to help out and promote peace," said Staff Sgt. Maurice Valentine, psychological operations specialist for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade. "To know a little bit about the people we're helping helps us facilitate that process."

Topics such as Soldiers' handling of building searches and Islamic beliefs were discussed.

For example, a common Islamic belief holds that if someone compliments a child they must immediately follow it by saying "ma sha Allah" or, may God protect you.

Iraqis believe that if you compliment some-

one you must say this or you will alert the "evil eye" and it will then come to harm the person you have complimented, Winas said.

Winas also warns about complimenting an Iraqi on his possessions.

Do not compliment or say how much you like something an Iraqi has, he said. If you do, he will try to give it to you. He will offer the item three times and you must graciously and politely decline all three times.

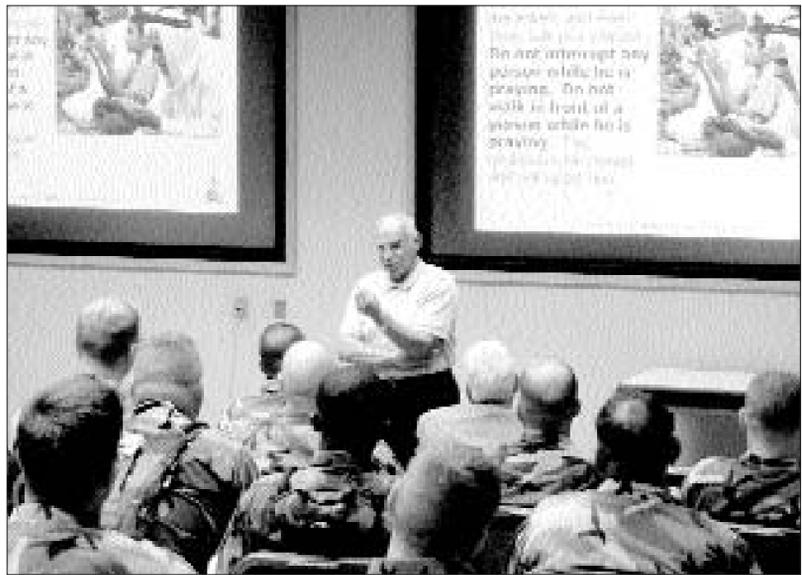
Winas also warns against shaking an Iraqi's hand with your left hand.

"The left hand is considered unclean," Winas said.

The quickest way to offend an Iraqi is to shake hands, wave hello or goodbye, or anything of that nature, using your left hand, he said.

Valentine said the class was very helpful in learning the Iraqi peoples' culture and, in fact, he has already used some of what he learned in the class at some of the exercises at the Joint Readiness Training Center.

"I was talking with a translator at one of the exercises and he showed me a picture of his family, he said. I retained what they taught us in the class about complimenting people and the 'evil eye,' so I told him he had a nice-looking family and followed that with 'may Allah protect them.'"



Pvt. James E. Lewis

Dr. Rashad Winas, Defense Language Institute, speaks with Soldiers about mosque etiquette during a cultural awareness and negotian class at the AAR building Tuesday. One of the lessons learned was that a person should not interrupt anyone while he is praying and not to walk in front of someone praying.

TECH

from page 1A

devote time to education."

Soldiers and family members that have been out of the classroom for awhile can take remedial or learning support programs that are available to get them back up to speed before entering the classroom.

Not only is the campus there for further education but family members with teaching experience are also invited to apply for teaching positions at the campus.

"We have a campus representative on Fort

Stewart that is very knowledgeable of the campus's programs and classes that are continuing to evolve," Cunningham said.

The Army Education Center also has a full staff of professional guidance counselors that work for the Army Continuing Education System.

"It is their job to assist soldiers, family members and civilians in determining future educational and occupational goals to meet individual needs and demands," Darsey

said.

For more information about registration and program information at the Liberty County Savannah Tech. College, please contact Rayland Smith at 767-0339 at the Army Education Center or visit the campus Web site at www.savannahtech.edu for a list of programs.

Darsey said, "It is extremely important that Soldiers take advantage of the education opportunities while here at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield."

85th Annual Society of the 3rd Infantry Division Reunion

Marriott Riverfront, Savannah

For a complete listing of reunion events
and ticket information, please contact Ms.
Susan Phillips, 912-767-5457 or Maj.
Thomas Whitaker, 912-767-4812.



Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Lucia W. Braxton, chief of Army Community Service, explains the purpose of ACS to spouses who are new to the post during their tour of their facilities Aug. 12.

Stewart welcomes new spouses

Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Staff Writer

Whenever new families arrive at Fort Stewart, it is important for them to become acquainted with all the post has to offer.

This is especially true for military spouses in particular, and all the more true for commanders' spouses, who many times have a great deal of responsibility waiting for them in their new community.

It is for this reason that the Fort Stewart Morale, Welfare and Recreation puts together a spouse orientation precisely for spouses of commanders who are new to the post, said Linda Heifferon, director of MWR.

"We do it every time we anticipate new spouses, at least on a yearly basis," she said.

The leadership spouses receive a separate orientation because the information they require and the needs they have are not necessarily the same as those of spouses of enlisted Soldiers.

"This orientation familiarizes them with the layout of the community and acquaints them with command spouse

responsibilities," she said.

The orientation, which MWR has done twice this year so far, includes things like a "windshield" bus tour of the installation, a briefing from the garrison commander and the post chaplain, and a welcome from Kimberly Webster, wife of Major Gen. William G. Webster Jr., 3rd Infantry Division commander, Heifferon said.

Bess Stone, a mobilization and deployment specialist, helped put together the orientation, and said that one of its goals is to train Family Readiness Group leaders.

In addition to all the information they receive from the time the orientation begins at 9 a.m. until that afternoon at 2 p.m., the spouses have the opportunity to meet and get acquainted with each other, she said.

This is exactly what many of them need, because, as newcomers to Fort Stewart, they haven't had a chance to meet many people. At the orientation Aug. 12, nearly 25 spouses attended, and many had not been at Stewart for more than two months.

"I've been here five weeks, and I like it so far," said Julie Walters, wife of Lt. Col. Charles Walters.

"I don't know a lot of people yet, but will

meet people today. I hope to learn more about the post," she said.

Another attendee, Sheila Farrell, wife of Lt. Col. Kevin Farrell, said she had been at Stewart a month and a half so far, and liked being here.

"It's good to be back in the South," she said. "We were stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas before. I want to learn about the organizations on post and how they can assist me and the FRGs in the battalion."

MWR just held a commanders' spouse orientation in July, but since that one received such a great response, it seemed it was time to do another, said Webster.

The windshield tour, conducted by Stone, gave the newcomers a chance to see firsthand what the post has to offer. They passed through enlisted and officer quarters, viewed the building of the new elementary school, and saw where Red Cross, Army Community Services, Marne Garden and Winn Army Community Hospital were located.

MWR also conducts orientations for enlisted Army spouses. For more information on either orientation, contact ACS at 767-5058/5059.

Attention! Register Your Car

Registering a vehicle on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield is mandatory for all vehicles driven on post by Soldiers and civilians. The process is simple and takes about fifteen minutes. At Stewart, the vehicle registration office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The building number is 295, on East Bultman Rd. near Gate 1. At Hunter, the vehicle registration office is in the PMO, building number 1240, on Lightning Rd. The Hunter vehicle registration office hours are from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

Women's Equality Day
 Women's Equality Day Observance Program will be held 11:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 26 at Club Stewart. Contact your Equality Opportunity Advisor or call 767-7181 for tickets.

Society of 3rd Division
 The original painting "Rock of the Marne...Tigris and Euphrates" will be unveiled publicly at the reunion.

Fall sign up
 Officers' Spouse Club invites you to a fun filled evening Aug. 31, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Club Stewart. For table reservations or more information contact Kelley McCulley at

368-1653/659-0252 or Rachel Curry at 448-2140.

Indebtedness claim
 Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of Spc. Andrew L. Tuazon, 293rd MP Co, Fort Stewart, GA 31313, contact 1st Lt. Braden Stai, 293rd MP Co, Fort Stewart, GA 31314, at 767-2186.

Marne Call on the Green
 Taylors Creek Golf Course and Club Stewart are host this event today, 5 to 10 p.m. at Taylors Creek. Enjoy free hors d'oeuvres, beverages for sale, and karaoke. Get in some putting practice.

Hunter

Soccer registration
 DMWR is conducting registration for youth soccer. Registrants should contact 352-5851 to register and/or for additional information. The league is co-ed and is for youths ages 5-12.

Recycle your computer
 Recycle your computer, television and other technology hardware for free. Office Depot Stores will accept televisions, computers, peripherals, and other electronic equipment for recycling during regular store hours through Sept. 6 at all stores in the continental U.S. There is no charge for the program.

There is a limit of one computer system (pc, monitor, keyboard, mouse) or one product (such as PDA or cell phone) per customer per day. For program details go to www.officedepot.com/recycle.

CCD Registration
 First day of CCD instruction begins Sunday and will meet each Sunday following Mass at 10:45 to 11:45 at the Religious Education Building (Bldg. 129), next to Hunter Chapel. If you would like to register your child or are interested in teaching or assisting call for more information at 352-5440 or 912-272-2607.

Winn /Tuttle

Patient Affairs Relocated
 The Patient Affairs Branch has relocated to building 301, co-located with the Health Benefits Office. The phone numbers have remained the same. For more information, call 370-6893.

New TRICARE Number
 For general health care information, you can call the Humana Military Audio Library at 877-217-7946. If you have questions about TRICARE you can call 800-444-5445 or 370-6633.

ER Remodeled
 The Emergency Department will have minor

disruption of services and space Friday through Sept. 3 for remodeling. All emergencies and urgent care patients should still report to the ER. Appointments, including same day appointments, may be scheduled by calling 370-6633.

EDIS
 EDIS is now located next to the main pharmacy in Winn. Military families with children up to 3 years old who may be at risk for developmental delays can call Educational and Development Intervention Services for a free screening. For more information, call 370-6349.

POLICE REPORTS

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charges:** Warrant - contempt of court, speeding 45/30, driving with no insurance, driving while tag is suspended
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Civilian, 20-year-old female
- **Charges:** Speeding 78/55, failure to use child restraint
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 26-year-old male, Div. Spt. Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving on a suspended license, speeding 59/45
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 24-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Attempting to elude or fleeing, driving under the influence, lawing drag, failure to obey a stop sign
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Specialist, 25-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Wrongful possession of opiates, wrongful possession of marijuana, wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Specialist, 30-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, driving too fast for conditions, improper lane usage
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private, 20-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Carrying weapon in public gathering, disorderly conduct, underage drinking
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Driving under the influence
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 18-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Disorderly conduct, public drunkenness, underage drinking
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, separate battalion



- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, speeding 71/55
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 2, 21-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Simple battery
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 22-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Larceny of AAFES property
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 2, 18-year-old male, Div. Spt. Bde.
- **Charges:** Disorderly conduct, simple battery on a police officer
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private 2, 21-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving on suspended license, careless or reckless driving
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, possession of open container while operating vehicle, careless or reckless driving, speeding 75/45
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Private 2, 19-year-old female, 2nd Bde.
- **Charge:** No seatbelt

- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 2, 22-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charges:** Leaving the scene of a traffic accident, no proof of insurance, do drivers license
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, Avn. Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful making, altering, or tampering with military identification card
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private, 19-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana, disrespect to a NCO
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 24-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charges:** Drunken driving, loud music
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Improper transfer of license plate, driving while license is revoked, driving without valid insurance
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charges:** Wrongful use of cocaine, false swearing
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 19-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Assault consummated with a battery, disorderly conduct, underage drinking
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 24-year-old male, Avn. Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence of alcohol, failure to stop at a stop sign, failure to obey traffic control devices, severe injury by vehicle
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Staff Sergeant, 28-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Indecent assault
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

Marne TV

August 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

Traffic MPs have roads in control

Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Staff Writer

The Military Police who take care of traffic at Fort Stewart have a tougher job than some might imagine. One long day shift can include anything from dealing with a dent in a car door in the Post Exchange parking lot, to responding to a drunk and disorderly complaint.

The day begins with weapons draw at 9 a.m., and day shift patrols are on the road by 9:30 a.m. Normal daily duties for a traffic MP include things like supervising the school crossing guards at the post elementary schools and making sure the light sets at each of the gates are functioning properly, said Sgt. Wilhelmina Bolen, assistant traffic accident investigations NCOIC.

"As the day shift, we're basically the go-to guys for the p.m. shift," she said. "We have the resources. Networking for us is huge."

Throughout the day, they remain alert for what they call "TAs," traffic accidents. Bolen said the MPs have to respond to every TA call they get. Most people on day shift have been around long enough to be experienced, she said, and know how to handle collisions.

There are other laws the MPs on the road must enforce — not the least of which, of course, is speeding.

"You'd be surprised how fast people drive around here," Bolen commented. "We pull people over for going 50 or 60 down 30 mile an hour roads a lot."

There are some "hot spots," Bolen said. In school zones, for instance, motorists going even one mile an hour over the limit can be pulled over. Patrols don't give a lot of leeway in housing areas, either.

When it comes to the highway, though, most patrols allow up to ten miles over the limit, she said. Some even allow it on Gulick.

Reactions can vary from people who are pulled over for speeding, Bolen said, smiling. Sometimes civilians who are caught will throw out a line like, "do you know who my husband is?" Not surprisingly, information like this doesn't really concern an MP who has pulled a speeder over.

Many Soldiers who are spotted going too fast like to deny it, she said. When they're asked why they were pulled over, many say they have no idea.

There are others who own up to their fault, though, knowing it won't do much good to argue, she said. Higher ranking Soldiers sometimes can be rude when issued a ticket by a lower-ranking MP.

Another problem drivers seem to have on Fort Stewart is failing to yield the right of way, she said.

"People love to run stop signs around here," Bolen said.

There is a law called "duty upon striking," which usually happens in a parking lot. It refers to when one person hits another's car, normally either with an opening car door or by bumping the car while backing up — and not sticking around to fess up to any damages done.

In situations like that, when MPs are called, they will ask questions of the person whose car was damaged and will check to see if the damage looks recent. If the perpetrator is caught, Bolen said, he can be charged with improper backing and even fleeing the scene.

Each day sees its share of traffic incidents, but there is



Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Moments after a collision, in the parking lot of the Soldier Service Center, Sgt. Wilhelmina L. Bolen, traffic accident investigator, discusses the accident with (left) Spc. Kevin Weston and (right) Spc. Aaron Friederich.

one day of the week in particular on which traffic MPs and patrols are usually kept the busiest, Bolen said.

"Mondays. On Mondays, people really can't drive," she said.

Last Monday, there were 12 incidents before it was time for lunch.

On the slower days, though, there is no real down time, Bolen said. Even during times when there's not a lot going on, there is paperwork that can be done at the office.

Thankfully, she said, though people like to speed and there is a fair share of fender-benders on post, there aren't many traffic fatalities. There is usually one about every two years.

But, she added, "people in car accidents a lot of times don't realize how lucky they are. I've seen accidents where, if the drivers weren't wearing a safety belt, they would be dead for sure."

Some critics of those who work to uphold the law might wonder sometimes if the enforcers really follow the laws themselves when they're off duty. When a police car dashes through a red light with siren blaring or lights flashing, and then, once through the intersection, flips the siren and lights off, it could lead some citizens a little suspicious.

"It's all perception," Bolen said. "A lot of our job is about perception. When people see a car speeding with

its lights on and then the lights suddenly turn off, it could be that the patrol was answering a call but then got another call saying to disregard."

Bolen said she believes that most of the MPs do follow the laws they enforce.

"The mentality is, if I'm going to pull somebody over for it, I'm not going to do it myself," she said.

There are some laws that she is sure MPs don't break when off duty. No one will drive without a seat belt, she said, and no one will drive under the influence of alcohol.

"DUIs make me so mad," Bolen said sternly. "We won't do it."

Although some people on post may see the MPs as the enemy, ready to find something to get them for, Spc. Aaron Friederich, 139th MP detachment, insists the MPs are there for everyone's good.

"We're not out to get them," he said.

But if a driver does break the law, Friederich said the driver needs to take responsibility for what he has done, instead of antagonizing MPs.

"The truth is we aren't the fault of what they do. They are at fault," he said.

"We're not out there to try to make peoples' lives harder," Bolen added. "If they didn't break the law, we wouldn't have a job."

"Our job is the most hated in the Army," Bolen said. "Everyone hates us until they need us."

Age not a factor for this fit Soldier

Pvt. James E. Lewis

Staff Writer

FORT POLK, La. — Running two miles in 13 minutes, 30 seconds is an impressive feat for any Soldier to accomplish. What if the Soldier in question, however, were 47 years of age running that same time?

Maj. John C. Moore, brigade judge advocate, or, "the lawyer" as he puts it, is an average-looking, unassuming man. He only stands at 5'8" and weighs 158, but the feats Moore is capable of physically performing are pretty remarkable. Yes, he runs his two-miler in around 13:30, but that's just the tip of the iceberg.

"I don't know exactly what the scores on the (Army Physical Fitness Test) are, but they always do the extended scale for them," Moore said. "The scores are usually above 320."

Here's the average breakdown for Moore's APFT scores: Run time — 13:30; push-ups — 110; sit-ups — 115.

"When I was a lieutenant, I ran the two mile in 12:00 or under," Moore said. "It feels as difficult to run it now in 13:30 as it did back then when I ran it in 12:00, but

that's just age I guess."

As remarkable as Moore's physical conditioning is now, he revealed that it wasn't always that way.

"I was fat when I was a teenager," he said. "I was so out of shape and all the kids would call me names like pig and fatso. I grew up in an Irish-Catholic neighborhood in Portland, Maine, and it was kind of rough. There wasn't any of this look out for your feelings stuff. I remember they used to call me Pork-a-Moore with a Yankee twang."

It was that same mockery and derision from his peers that changed something inside of Moore. Instead of letting the laughter and scorn get him down, it propelled him to do something about it.

"The ridicule got me motivated," Moore said. "At 15, I lost 50 pounds in a little over a month on a crash diet. That was the point I started running, getting in shape and playing sports. I actually started getting along with people better and making more friends after that."

Moore said his PT regiment these days are not as strenuous as when he was younger. His average week consists of

three "kind of loose" runs for distance that last for about 45 minutes each. In addition, he also does three "hard" runs a week of at least three to four miles.

"On those runs, I go as hard as I can," Moore said. "I'm running so hard that my lungs feel like they're going to bust."

Moore said he also does plenty of calisthenics everyday that include push-ups and sit-ups.

Moore said it's the common sense things that make a big difference for younger Soldiers to get in better shape.

"Don't drink too much," he said. "I'm not saying you can never have a beer, I enjoy a drink every now and then too. But when you overdo alcohol, that slows your body down over time. The best things that I've found are getting plenty of sleep and drinking good fluids, such as Gatorade and water. Stay away from vitamin supplements. I tried them once and they didn't help me. I think they're a rip-off."

Moore said some foods he eats a lot of include bananas and tomatoes because they're high in potassium. He also said Power bars are good stuff for an energy boost. He also doesn't eat any sweets.

If Moore seems like a health nut, he does have his vices as well, he said.

"I'm an avid coffee drinker. I load up on coffee, especially in the mornings. I don't want to promote that to Soldiers, but it does help me," he said with a smile.

Just last week, Moore ran in the Bayou Classic 10 Mile Run, an event that took place on Fort Polk. He came in first place in his age group.

When asked how many people participated in the run, Moore cringes and then bursts out in laughter.

"Oh, you had to ask me that," he said. "There was hardly anybody there. Maybe 40 runners showed up. It was well run though, and they were good people organizing it."

When pressed about the number of runners in his age group that ran, Moore once again elicits a hardy laugh.

"There were only two runners in my age group, including myself," he said. "Really, I just ran it because it's a good workout."

Moore finished the 10-mile run in around 80 minutes, 15 minutes before the other runner in his age group, he said.

CENTCOM News

Humanitarian projects in Iraq continue with new funding

MOSUL, Iraq — Since beginning of July, \$3.1 million has been allocated for humanitarian projects through the Overseas Humanitarian Disaster and Civic Aid account.

Projects identified by local Iraqi officials are approved by Multi-National Forces, in order of importance, and will receive OHDACA money as project approval is awarded. Local contractors handle each project's labor and management. The contracts are awarded through a bidding process that involves at least two other competitors for each project.

Among the projects currently under construction, 50 percent are schools, 35 percent are water and sanitation systems and 15 percent are health care facilities.

School projects include new schools for rural villages and renovations and additions to existing schools across northern Iraq.

"Through projects that help the community, we are trying to help rebuild the infrastructure for Iraq," said Maj. Terrence Evans, Multinational Brigade-Northwest OHDACA Program director.

Well construction, water distribution and irrigation projects will ensure that the villages and agricultural communities throughout the area have enough water for all of their daily needs. Another major project is focused on rebuilding the existing water and sewer system in Mosul.

Health care projects throughout the area are

designed to make quality health care available to every village in northern Iraq, including building new clinics in rural areas and expanding and re-supplying existing hospitals.

New funds are being added to the account almost weekly, and the list of projects waiting to be approved is long, Evans said.

"It is an ongoing process that has unlimited possibilities when you start talking about end states," Evans said. "Hopefully there won't be an end, just a hand over. With new quality of life improvement projects starting and finishing weekly, Iraq is on its way to being a successful independent nation."

Coalition response to latest situation in the west

Kabul — The Coalition welcomes the statement put out by Afghan President Hamid Karzai's office yesterday, setting out a diplomatic solution to the fighting in the west. The ceasefire in the south of Herat Province, in effect since 4 p.m. local time yesterday, is still holding.

Following the speedy deployment of the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police, the ANA are now positioned between the militia and military forces in southern Herat Province. The Afghan National Police are also providing security in the area.

The Coalition welcomes the dispatch of a Ministry of Interior fact-finding mission, and stands ready to support the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan

and provide further assistance as requested and needed.

MNF assist in restoring order to Al Hayy

CAMP DELTA, Iraq — Task Force Tomahawk deployed Aug. 17 from Camp Delta in Al Kut to Al Hayy at the request of the governor of Al Kut Province to restore civil order to the city of Al Hayy.

Multi-National Force patrols encountered AIF resistance during their patrols in Al Hayy.

During one incident, a bus inadvertently entered into the crossfire causing several passengers to be hit by small arms fire. Four passengers were killed and four were injured.

MNF medics attended to the injured and assisted their evacuation to a local clinic. The MNF regrets any injuries or loss of life caused in this incident. This unfortunate event occurred as a result of AIF resistance in holding the people of Al Hayy hostage with their violence. Multinational force medics attended to the injured and assisted their evacuation to a local clinic.

The Iraqi Police Service and Iraqi National Guard are replacing the MNF and will restore order to the city. Provincial and local government officials continue in their efforts to rid the area of criminal elements seeking to disrupt Iraq's progress in establishing a nation of democratic rule. Criminal elements seeking to deprive Iraqis of their right to self-governance are being defeated.

Retired Sgt. Maj. saw many changes in food service program

Jennifer Wingfield

Managing Editor

He is not the 'Father of the Armored Force' nor has he been Chief of Staff of the Army, but he holds the distinction of being the grandson and great-grandson of both of them.

Adna Romanza Chaffee, IV comes from an illustrious lineage of military descendants. He and his chief of staff great-grandfather Adna Romanza Chaffee retired from the military. Both his father and grandfather, Adna Romanza Chaffee, Jr attended West Point. Chaffee, Jr helped develop the armor concepts and doctrine of the future. He predicted that mechanized armies would dominate the next war and assisted in the first program for the development of an Army armored force, thus becoming the leading American advocate of mechanized warfare.

The Chaffee today began his career in 1957 in the Army National Guard, but then found himself on active duty in 1958 to such places as Vietnam, Germany, Fort Jackson, S.C., Fort Benning and Fort Gordon in Georgia, Fitzsimmons Army Medical Center in Colo., Fort Bliss, Texas, and Virginia.

Chaffee rose up to the highest enlisted rank in the food service field: from a private as a cook to the food service sergeant major. He ended his active duty career here at Fort Stewart because he wanted to be close to home in Florida. Plus it was the only opening for a sergeant major at the time. He has been in his current general schedule civilian position since 1996.

Chaffee has seen a lot of changes in the food service program since his time as a private, and he said everything has been good.

"The type of field operations and food preparations have definitely changed over the years," said Chaffee. "In the 50s and 60s, we had to maintain refrigeration by blocks of ice and ice chests. When the ice melted, that was the cold water you used to fill up your canteen. Insulated food containers were how we kept our food hot or cold. Hot water kept the liner warm. Separate tents were set up to store food. We wasted a lot of food, time, and effort."

The late 1960s brought about refrigeration, said Chaffee.

"Now the mobile kitchen trailers are easy to put up and take down. They are more practical because it has all the equipment. You can take two or three out for a company or battalion or just one for a battery or platoon when they are in the field," said Chaffee.

"With the B-rations, mess kits had to be pre-washed. Now we have the Unitized Group Ration-A Ration where we have been able to compact all the nonperishable items in two cases and the perishables into one. The food service sergeants don't have to worry about so much refrigeration," said Chaffee.

The UGAR's have plates and condiments and can prepare meals for 50 people at a time. They save on preparation time. The only set up with the UGAR's is the sanitation center.

There are 17 different meals with a UGAR, which include rib eye steaks, chicken fajitas, oriental chicken, BBQ pork ribs, roast beef, fried chicken, pork chops, waffles, bagels, and Texas Toast, to name a few. With the meals are Cokes and other supplements such as salads, sweet rolls, and doughnuts.

Gone are days of the 'master menu'. No matter if you were in Alaska, Georgia, or Germany, you were going to serve that meal, said Chaffee. The Army now allows the manager to plan the menu based on the needs of the Soldier. There are restrictions, such as how much money can be spent. But the good thing is that now the dining hall can work directly with the main distributors and have their deliveries brought to the dining hall door. Before this, Soldiers would have to come to Troop Issue Support Agency.

There are several updates currently ongoing in regards to dining operations at Stewart and Hunter. The 2nd Brigade Unit of Action dining hall will open in November. The new dining facility at Hunter will be opening soon also. There is a new dining hall in the National Guard area that will be ready to start serving meals whenever the next mobilization occurs, said Chaffee. Either contractors or military personnel will staff that facility.

The dining halls also offer contemporary versus military interior styling along with their meals. The Fires Brigade dining hall has a sports bar and contemporary room.



Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Chaffee, TISA, points out the layout and concept of the dining hall operations for the National Guard area during the next scheduled mobilization.

Division Support Brigade offers a music room with a functioning piano and a fountain room with flowing water.

"Our goal is to keep the Soldier on post to eat", said Chaffee. "We are taking our 80s concept of operations from where you come in get your food and sit down to an ala carte buffet style meal. The meals are low cost, but very good. Soldiers can eat here or get them to go."

Family members may eat in the dining halls for any meal, but only if their sponsor accompanies them, said Chaffee. Department of the Army and Department of Defense civilians can eat in them during their duty time. Contractors are not allowed to eat in the facilities.

"There are plans to try and set up a stationary site down in the motor pool," said Chaffee. "They would provide something like pre-wrapped sandwiches and chips."

Chaffee elaborated on his responsibility for the food service program. "One is to make sure the contractor provides service to our Soldiers in accordance with army regulations, training and field manuals. The quality of food should be the same or better, and with contractors on hand, it should be better. A Soldier has to be a Soldier besides being a cook, while a contractor does not."

"I have to make to make sure the dining facilities are updated with the latest equip-

ment for our cooks and mess personnel, and also upgrade our building to be in tune with 21st century restaurants outside the gate," said Chaffee. "That is something we are battling all the time."

The 92G's have not gone without recognition for their cooking skills here or worldwide. There are several Phillip A. Connelly awards that Stewart Soldiers have won in the past. "They are competing against every military installation in the world and against civilian teams," said Chaffee. "During Thanksgiving and Christmas, you really get to see their talents. Last year, we didn't get to compete because of the war."

In his spare time, Chaffee enjoys working out in the gym and sports officiating throughout the coastal area. He has been involved in officiating sports in high school and the recreation department since 1974 in football, track and field, soccer, basketball and softball.

Like his father, Chaffee and wife Gabriele of 30 years, have eight children. Daughter Natalie Johnson has three children; son Daniel retired from the Army; Teresa Rivas is a model with three children; son Anthony 'Chris' Chaffee; daughters Manuela and Denise; son Steven is a Junior at Armstrong Atlantic State University; and son Kevin graduated from Andrew College in Cuthbert, Ga. and is now joining the US Air Force.

American Legion VIP relives Ranger days with 1/75

Spc. Emily J. Danial

Staff Writer

Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment received some extra attention when John A. Brieden III, American Legion national commander, dropped by for a visit at Hunter Army Airfield August 12.

Brieden, a Brenham, Texas native, was elected to his position in the 2.8 million-member American Legion on Aug. 28, 2003, in St. Louis during the 85th National Convention of the nation's largest veterans organization.

Brieden is a former 1/75 Ranger and said he wanted to spend time with his old battalion for two reasons.

"Part of it is nostalgia," he said. "I haven't been to Hunter in 30 years."

The other motive for his visit, Brieden said, was more practical.

"I'm only able to identify and help solve problems when I spend time with the troops," he said. "When you're in the military, you're restricted from going to Congress to address any issues you might have ... I'm not restricted, and what I have to say is more effective when I can stand up and talk clearly and knowledgeably to Congress."

The Rangers welcomed Mr. Brieden's visit, said Lt. Col. Richard D. Clarke, 1/75 Ranger battalion commander.

"They were able to converse with him about Ranger life, past and present, and were able to show him the new weapons and communications gear that is used today," he said. "A lot of the younger Rangers asked questions about the American Legion and Mr. Brieden was more than happy to answer them."

Brieden joined the American Legion in 1979, and for 25 years he has served in key leadership positions at the post, district, state and national level.

"Of course, the American Legion does a tremendous job helping Soldiers and veterans," Clarke said. "Mr. Brieden was able to



John A. Brieden III, American Legion national commander, and Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Dillingham, HHC, 1/75 Ranger, chat over breakfast.

speaking with several Rangers and enlighten them as to how the American Legion supports all Soldiers. He helped to show them that the American Legion is more than a retired Soldiers' organization."

Clarke added, "(Brieden) was in touch with the needs of the Soldiers and asked several of them what they would like to see change or improve in their quality of life."

Among Brieden's national level appointments are chairman of the National Legislative Commission, chairman of the National Economic Commission, chairman of the National Foreign Relations Commission and chairman of the National Americanism Council.

During his visit at Hunter, Brieden expressed his desire to interact more closely with lower-enlisted Rangers in 1/75.

"Let me talk to the 'Spec-4s,' the E-5, the PFC," he said. "I try to get in and sit down and visit and see the 'normal' things that happen ... the troops deserve the best."

"Mr. Brieden toured our Battalion and

was able to meet and survey Rangers who are living the (Global War on Terrorism)," Clarke said. "He ... toured the battalion, and was also able to observe Rangers conduct live fire training."

He continued, "Mr. Brieden then toured (Fort) Stewart and pointed out the original building structures that housed the Rangers 27 years, when he was a young officer in 1st Ranger Battalion."

"Being a Ranger ... you're being chosen to be one of the best of the best," Brieden said. "Some people look at Rangers walking around and say, 'Oh, they're cocky,' but (Rangers) ... work very hard to reach a standard most people don't reach."

He added, "The defining moments of my life were spent in the 1st Ranger Battalion."

During Brieden's time in the Army, he attended Ranger School, Airborne School, Jungle Warfare School and Arctic Warfare School.

He was selected to serve in the 1st Battalion, 75th Infantry when the Army was



Brieden and Cpl. Seth B. Ryan, HHC, 1/75 Ranger, wait in the short-order line of the Ranger dining facility Aug. 12.

first going back to the concept of Ranger battalions.

"It's an honor to have Mr. Brieden visit us here," said Clarke. "We'll have the opportunity to show him how the core values of the Regiment have stayed the same while we have transformed to maintain readiness for how and where we fight today."

When Brieden was a Ranger, from 1975 to 1976, he said he and his fellows were used "primarily as decoys," and added that he was once told, "We are training for that day when we are used."

"Granada was the ... first combat mission," Brieden said. "This was the culmination of all that training."

"What we are doing today has evolved from when Mr. Brieden was in the battalion 27 years ago, and from the Rangers before him," Clarke said. "This is a great opportunity to bring past and present together."