

THE Dog Face Daily

Volume 1, Issue 242

www.taskforcemarne.com

Serving Task Force Marne

January 5, 2008



Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Mills

Spc. Joshua Howell, petroleum supply specialist, finishes checking fuel in a fuel truck as a Black Hawk helicopter takes off from Riflstock FARP.

Aviation fuel handlers pump 5 million gallons

SGT. 1ST CLASS THOMAS MILLS
3RD CAB, 3RD INF. DIV.

CAMP STRIKER — Fuel is the lifeblood of Army equipment and one aviation unit supporting surge troops south of Baghdad is keeping the fuel flowing.

Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division's Riflstock forward arming and refueling point at Baghdad International Airport has pumped five million gallons in a seven-month period.

Riflstock FARP is run by a fuel and arming platoon from Co. A, 603rd Aviation Support Battalion, 3rd CAB. The accomplishment is remarkable when put into context, said 1st Lt. Eric Mtika,

platoon leader. When the unit deployed to Iraq in 2005 they had pumped 3.1 million gallons over a period of 12 months.

"The difference is we're doing a lot of bulk" distribution, Mtika said.

Riflstock FARP services the entire 3rd CAB at the BIAP and Camp Striker areas — that includes supplying fuel in bulk quantities for ground vehicle fuel points, other fuel and arming platoons, and aircraft refueling.

In 2005 the unit had done mainly aircraft refueling, Mtika said, and with the same basic platoon structure.

"They've been working a

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North Babil Tribal Council meets at Kalsu

4TH BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB KALSU, Iraq — Members of the North Babil Tribal Council met at FOB Kalsu Jan. 3 to discuss matters of regional importance with Iraqi Security Forces leaders and the Vanguard Brigade leadership.

The NBTC first met in October 2006 as a means of linking all the sheiks in the North Babil area, and thereby keeping Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces informed. The group of U.S. troops, Iraqi Police, Iraqi soldiers and tribal

leaders discussed infrastructure projects, security, and efforts to legitimize Concerned Local Citizens.

The Iraqi Police made a strong showing at the meeting, as they provided security on the convoy to FOB Kalsu, and the Iraqi Army leadership led discussions on regional security.

"The Iraqi Army has enormous capability, but there's still some equipment they need" said Col. Thomas James, commander of 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division. "The older battalions have more equip-

ment and training, but they're all great units."

Also at the meeting, Brig. Gen. Fadil Raddad, the new Iraqi Police chief for North Babil, renewed his non-sectarian stance, stating that he is an Iraqi, not a Shia or Sunni. After the meeting, council members held a press conference at the Kalsu dining facility that drew about 30 Iraqi reporters.

The eventual goal is to hold future meeting's locations chosen by the tribal leaders and ISF leaders and not on Coalition installations.

'The Division Chaplain's Juicy Gossip Column'

CHAP. (LT. COL.) HARLON TRIPLETT
MND-C CHAPLAIN

Now that I have grabbed your undivided attention by calling this article the "Chaplain's Juicy Gossip Column," I will get to the point.

This is not a gossip column, but it is a column about gossip and the importance of preventing gossip and its destructive effects on individuals and on organizations like Task Force Marne.

We have a vast array of high tech weaponry at our disposal here in Iraq — weapons that are extremely effective because they are so accurate, so powerful and so destructive.

However, nothing in our personal arsenal is so effective at destroying someone's reputation or detracting from the good order and discipline of the command as gossip.

Gossip is truly a weapon of mass destruction and a morale-killer, plain and simple. According to Webster's dic-

tionary, the definition of the word "gossip" is: "Rumor or talk of a personal, intimate, and often sensational nature. One who habitually repeats intimate or private rumors or facts."

The Bible tells us in Proverbs, "a gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy man keeps a secret."

The tongue only weighs a couple of ounces, but can effortlessly and unjustly unleash the fury of Hell on someone's character. The power the tongue can unleash is the equivalent to several hundred megatons of destructive energy when it gossips and slanders others. The tongue can be an evil character assassin.

The Bible warns us in James 1:26, "If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless."

Gossip is never helpful and in our present combat environment can actually take away from our ability to ac-



complish our mission. It can weaken an individual and in turn weaken our whole Marne combat team.

So don't gossip and don't participate in gossip. It is always wrong and always counter-productive, and it can seriously undermine the team's effectiveness. When it comes to gossip we need to take Barney Fife's advice and "nip it in the bud."



Pfc. Monica K. Smith

Spc. Brandon Johnson and 2nd Lt. Garrett Gandia, Co. A, 603rd ASB, reveal the company's new mascot Jan. 1, at the Camp Striker North MWR center.

CAB unit changes mascot, motto to reflect relentlessness in battle

PFC. MONICA K. SMITH
3RD CAB, 3RD INF. DIV.

CAMP STRIKER — Company A, 603rd Aviation Support Battalion, had a mascot re-designation ceremony, Jan. 1, at the North Morale, Welfare and Recreation Center at Camp Striker, Baghdad.

Company A, previously called, the "Rock" changed their mascot to the "Spartans" and their motto from "Rock solid support" to "Support without mercy."

"The rock no longer fully represented what we stood for," said Capt. Tonya Gil-

lard, Co. A commander. "As the Spartans, we seek out missions. Like our namesake, we are relentless in the support we provide. No matter where we are needed on the battlefield, we are there."

The mascot was proposed by Spc. Brandon Johnson during a contest. Johnson recently watched the movie "300," which depicts the legendary story of Spartan King Leonidas I and his 300 warriors who fought against King Xerxes in 480 B.C.

"I thought it fit us," said Johnson. "It represents the power of a company."

THE Dog Face Daily

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7th Sustainment Brigade
720th Military Police Battalion
302nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment



Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Mills

Black Hawk helicopters from Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Inf. Div., are fueled up by Co. A, 603rd Aviation Support Battalion petroleum supply specialists at Riflestock FARP at Baghdad International Airport.

FUEL: *Riflestock FARP reaches milestone in fuel, resources provided*

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lot harder than any other platoon I've been in from the get go," Mtika said of his troops.

There is more work, agreed Staff Sgt. Elwood Fleming, a section sergeant from Emporia, Va., but that's not necessarily a bad thing.

"Instead of just sitting around waiting for aircraft or vehicles you have a steady pace of workload," Fleming said. "That includes the maintenance and any training we have to do."

In fact, Fleming said, the added workload can actually be a good thing.

"For us it's a good thing. It's a good thing for the guys to keep the maintenance up on the vehicles. Sometimes, if there's no workload you can get lackadaisical."

Fleming said there can be anywhere from 18 to 30 aircraft every eight-hour

shift, all vying for fuel at the four-point FARP.

Staff Sgt. Everett Goins, platoon sergeant, said the constant grind of helicopters and vehicles receiving fuel is a great opportunity for the troops to gain hands-on experience.

Petroleum supply specialist Pfc. Avery Campbell, from Little Rock, Ark. couldn't agree more.

Campbell said the Soldier's competitive spirit has been raised, as each tries to learn the many different types of Coalition Forces helicopters that come in for fuel.

"You want to be that guy that everyone goes to," said Campbell, "and right now I'm that guy."

As the competition grows, the younger Soldiers on their first deployment even rib the older Soldiers who were in Iraq in 2005 about the amount of fuel distributed.

"It's like a morale booster," said Campbell. "With the guys who deployed last time we say, 'Look at what we've done now. You guys hit only 3.1 million gallons and we've hit 5 million.'"

Goins, from Columbia, S.C., said he fully expects his platoon to double the amount of fuel distributed by the end of the 3rd CAB's 15-month deployment. "If we don't reach 10 million gallons we'll be real close to it," he said.

Though busy, the platoon has been able to celebrate the various milestones they've reached over the months, but Goins admits becoming a bit desperate for ideas on how to celebrate.

"We just keep hitting these different milestones and we're running out of ideas," said Goins.

But if they reach 10 million gallons, Goins said, "We have to do something, because that's a remarkable accomplishment."

Safety Thought of the Day

Driving With Limited Visibility

- During periods of limited visibility or brownouts ensure that you leave enough space between vehicles so that the driver can react to objects in the road.
- Keep your vehicles windshield and lights clean at all times.
- Driver and crew must communicate with each other and keep scanning with their eyes.
- Reduce your speed or stop moving whenever you

cannot see the road or vehicle in front due to limited visibility or brown outs.

- Speeds must be adjusted to allow adequate reaction time.
- At entrances to FOBs and patrol bases, laying gravel is a good way to prevent excess dust for kicking up.
- Water sprayer trucks work well on FOBs to prevent dust-outs.

Headline Highlights

Aircraft plant vacation spot; slow driver banned

Aircraft plant to be resort

BEIJING (Reuters) — China is to create a tourist resort in a giant cave used by the former Nationalist government as a secret aircraft factory during World War Two, the official Xinhua news agency said Tuesday.

The Haikong cave, in verdant mountains near the southwestern city and wartime capital of Chongqing, will cost about 500 million yuan (\$68 million) to develop, the report said.

The cave is “an ideal place for conferences and leisure travel,” it said, citing the local investment bureau’s Web site.

“The enshrouded cave is 50 meters (164 ft) high and as spacious as a giant conference hall,” Xinhua added. “The tourist bureau said that the manufacturing plant could be developed into a loft art workshop.”

The plant was deserted in 1949, the report said, after the Nationalists fled to Taiwan after losing a brutal civil war with the Communists.

Snack is a wing and a prayer

CHICAGO (Reuters) — A Chicago tavern said on Thursday it will begin selling chicken wings coated in one of the world’s hottest peppers — a dish so hot that patrons first have to sign a waiver agreeing not to sue for injuries.

Jake Melnick’s Corner Tap said the wings made with Red Savina pepper will be served with an alarm bell for patrons to summon waiters with sour cream, milk sugar and white bread if things get out of hand.

Levy Restaurants, which owns the tavern, said its chef d’Cuisine Robin Rosenberg had been working on the concept for years but was never sure he’d be able to serve it.

“This isn’t the right sauce for everyone, but for someone out there, this is going to be absolute heaven. Of course, for a handful of people, it’s going to be hell,” he said.

Motorist banned for driving 10 mph on motorway

LONDON (Reuters) — A woman banned from driving for seven days after traveling at speeds of less than 10mph on the motorway told Reuters on Friday: “that road’s my nemesis.”

Stephanie Cole, 58, of Fishponds, Bristol, straddled the hard shoulder and inside lane as she dawdled along a stretch of the M32 near her home last August.

In the back window of the car was a sign which said: “I don’t do fast, please overtake.”

Cole admitted driving without reasonable consideration at North Avon Magistrates’ Court on Friday and was told she would have to take another test at the end of the ban.

“I didn’t intend getting onto the motorway, but all of a sudden I found myself on it and I could not get off,” she told Reuters after the hearing.

“I just panicked. I hate that particular stretch of road and I avoid it normally. It is my nemesis.”

Cole had been traveling from her home to a stationer’s when she was arrested in her Perodua Kenari mini

people-carrier.

“I thought ‘thank God’ when I saw the blue flashing lights,” she said. “I thought they could help and I asked them if they could drive me home.”

Cole, who has multiple sclerosis, said she depends on her car for getting around.

“I will try and retake the test,” she said. “I will have to do my best when driving, and hope it is better than it was.”

Official resigns after video-taped brawl

TEGUCIGALPA (Reuters) — Honduran Foreign Minister Milton Jimenez resigned on Thursday after local television aired a video that caught him punching police after he was arrested for drunk driving.

Jimenez, a close aide of President Manuel Zelaya, was arrested on December 30 and taken to a police station, where he ended up in a fist fight with police officers. A local television channel broadcast the cellphone-taped video on Wednesday.

“I made the mistake of driving while drunk,” a black-eyed and heavily bruised Jimenez told a news conference on Thursday as he announced his resignation.

Jimenez is the seventh cabinet member to quit since Zelaya took office in January 2006.

On Wednesday, Minister of the Presidency Yani Rosenthal left his post to compete for the ruling Liberal Party’s nomination for the 2009 presidential election.

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6								1
	8		7		1	3		
		8					2	3
7	4	5	2	1			6	
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from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday’s puzzle:

2	4	9	3	8	5	1	7	6
5	8	6	9	7	1	4	2	3
3	1	7	6	4	2	8	5	9
4	2	1	7	3	6	9	8	5
6	5	3	8	2	9	7	1	4
7	9	8	5	1	4	3	6	2
9	7	2	4	6	8	5	3	1
8	6	4	1	5	3	2	9	7
1	3	5	2	9	7	6	4	8

ARABIC PHRASE OF THE DAY

Move slowly

it Hah-rek ah-leh key-eh-fek