

THE Dog Face Daily

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Serving Task Force Marne

1-15 Inf. conducts combined ops with CLC, NPs

SPC. BEN HUTTO

3RD HBCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB HAMMER — Soldiers from Company A, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, conducted a two-day combined operation with the 3rd Brigade, 1st National Police Division and Concerned Local Citizens in Zelig, northeast of Salman Pak, Jan. 20 and 21.

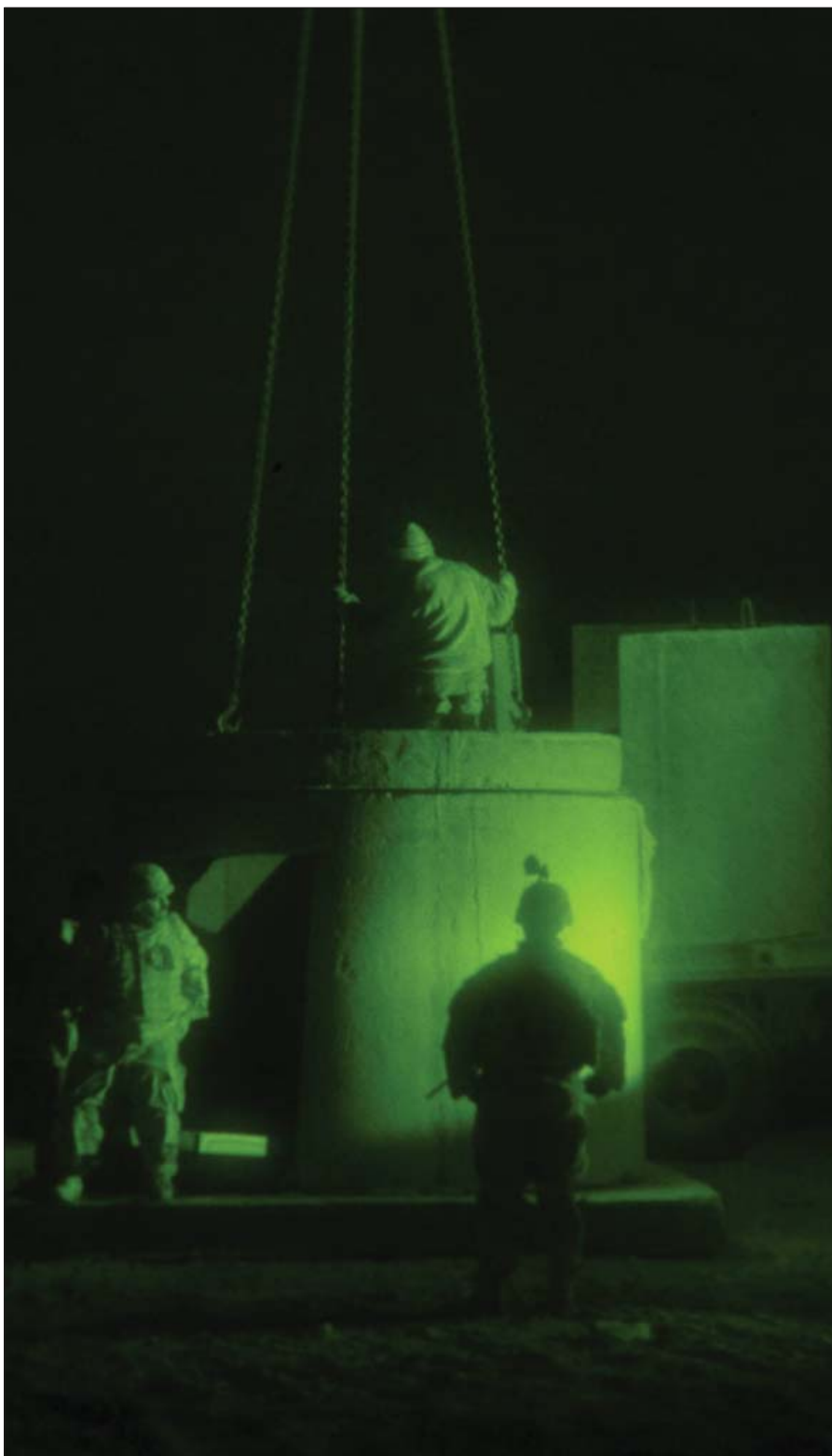
Thirteen insurgent fighters were killed, two enemy trucks were destroyed and 14 improvised explosive devices were found during the course of the operation.

Capt. William Clark, Wheeling, Ill., the commander of Company A, said Concerned Local Citizens took the lead in the operation. He said the group uncovered the majority of IEDs found and cleared homes along major routes in and out of Zelig.

Company A assisted the Concerned Local Citizens in setting up checkpoints by providing materials and equipment.

"Locals are coming out to help build checkpoints with the Concerned Local Citizens," said Staff Sgt. Matthew Jemison, from Metairie, La., a Soldier in 1-15 Inf. Regt. "The results of the operation were very positive."

An NP from 3/1 NP Div. and a Soldier from Co. A, 1-15th Inf. Regt., provide security as a Concerned Local Citizen helps set up a guard tower at a CLC checkpoint Jan. 20.



Sgt. Timothy Kingston

CENTCOM commander visits Wasit troops

SGT. 1ST CLASS STACY NILES
214TH FIRES BRIGADE

FOB DELTA — U.S. Central Command's top commander, Adm. William J. Fallon, visited Wasit province Jan. 26 to assess operations at FOB Delta and the Zarbatiyah Point of Entry.

"I just wanted to have my own appreciation of what is going on here and to meet with some of the organizations based here," he said.

Fallon met with leaders from the 214th Fires Brigade, the 3rd Georgian Infantry Brigade, the 1st Georgian Infantry Brigade, the

214th FB Provincial Reconstruction Team, and Task Force Tusken Border Transition Team.

Issues discussed with Fallon were security in the province and at the border, the political climate, the relationship of Coalition Forces with Wasit citizens and the capabilities of the Iraqi Security Forces.

"This place is becoming more stable and there is less enemy activity," Fallon said. "We want to make the Iraqi Security Forces more capable so the citizens can have a life which they did not have before."



Sgt. 1st Class Stacy Niles
Adm. William Fallon, U.S. CENTCOM commander, receives a briefing about operations at FOB Delta Jan. 26.

Today in Marne history ... January 28, 1944

Tech. 5th Grade Eric G. Gibson, 3rd Infantry Division, was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions on this date near near Isola Bella, Italy. Gibson, the company cook, led a squad of replacements through their initial baptism of fire, destroyed four enemy positions, killed five and captured two German soldiers, and secured the left flank of his company during an attack on a stronghold.

Placing himself 50 yards in front of his new men, Gibson advanced down the wide stream ditch known as the Fossa Femminamorta, keeping pace with the advance of his company. An enemy soldier allowed him to come within 20 yards of his concealed position and then opened fire on him with a machine pistol.

Despite the stream of automatic fire which barely missed him, Gibson charged the position, firing his sub-machine gun every few steps. An artillery concentration fell in and around the ditch; the concussion from one shell knocked him flat.

As he got to his feet, Gibson was fired on by two soldiers armed with a machine pistol and a rifle from a position only 75 yards distant. He immediately raced toward the foe. Halfway to the position a machinegun opened fire on him. Bullets came within inches of his body, yet he never paused in his forward movement. He killed one and captured the other soldier.

Before leading his men around a bend in the stream ditch, Gibson went forward alone to reconnoiter.



Hearing an exchange of machine pistol and submachine gun fire, Gibson's squad went forward to find that its leader had run 35 yards toward an outpost, killed the machine pistol man, and had himself been killed while firing at the Germans.

THE Dog Face Daily

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3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Abn. Division (Assault)
4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division
3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division
214th Fires Brigade
7th Sustainment Brigade
720th Military Police Battalion
302nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Army, AF work together to fight extremists

SGT. JASON STADEL
2ND BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB KALSU — The U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force are two different military branches in the Department of Defense, but they share a common goal: defeat the enemies of the United States and its allies. Operation Marne Thunderbolt, Multi-National Division — Center's ongoing operation, highlights the partnership of both ground and air forces.

Heading the operation is 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, in areas south of Baghdad.

Three large air strikes against al-Qaeda, which targeted training areas, safe havens, improvised explosive device locations and weapons caches, are a highlight of the ongoing mission.

In the brigade's tactical operations center, the Air Force mans a cell known as joint tactical air controller. Their mission is to advise and assist the Army brigade commander with integration of air support.

JTAC personnel are Air Force Airmen but air support coordination comes from

many Coalition air assets including Air Force, Navy, Marines and Great Britain's Royal Air Force.

"We control air to put the desired effects on the battlefield," said Air Force Maj. Bruce Munger, air liaison officer for 2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div. From ground-based intelligence, Army leaders pick areas to target from air.

"We give the Coalition air forces our targeting recommendations based off the desired effects and end state we want for each of the targets," said Chief Warrant Officer Houston Burke, 2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div. targeting officer.

After Coalition air forces in Qatar receive target data, they give the Army recommendations on the best targets based on the availability of aircraft, Burke said.

"The Coalition constantly has assets flying overhead," said Senior Airman Tim Johnson, who works in the JTAC. "This allows us to act quickly and support the Army anytime they need us."

With the Army on the ground providing intelligence and the Air Force do-



Sgt. Jason Stadel

Air Force Senior Airman Tim Johnson coordinates with Master Sgt. Bobby Bennett prior to requesting aircraft to strike targets in Arab Jabour Jan. 20.

ing recon from the sky, there is a better picture for targets that are picked. The combined efforts of the Air Force and Army have made Operation Marne Thunderbolt highly effective and safer to local Iraqi civilians.

"We dropped more than 80,000 pounds of munitions and we had no friendly-fire incidents, no civilians or noncombatants were hurt, killed or had any other property damage," Burke said.

During all three of the major January air strikes the TOC was busy with information flowing from Air Force to Army and vice versa. Communication between all sections is so vital that Air Force units train with Army units prior to deployments.

"Without this level of communication joint opera-

tions between the Air Force and Army would not be possible and the bombing campaign would not have taken place," Johnson said.

The cohesion between the two branches paid off during the air strikes. Munger said the branches worked well together because the 2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div. commander is a firm believer in air power. "Colonel (Terry) Ferrell understands what we can bring to support the ground mission."

Johnson said working with the Army gives him the opportunity to see many different parts of the operation. "If it were not for us working directly with the Army, we would be severely limited as to what we, as Air Force personnel, could bring to today's fight," he said.

Safety Thought of the Day

Winter Driving Tips

- Ensure that heater systems are functioning, including hoses and vents.
- Ensure that switching systems are functioning and not rigged.
- Ensure that coolant lines are in good condition with no leaks.
- Engines may need to warm up; never "race" an engine. Racing cold engines will reduce service life.
- Exhaust systems need to be checked for leaks; any leaks will increase the chances of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Check headlights, tail lights, and turn signals for function and cleanliness.
- Check windshield wipers, motors, and fluids.
- Check fire extinguishers for serviceability including hand held and mounted systems.
- Ensure that tire pressure is correct on all tires.

Headline Highlights

Coca for coffee; dead cyclist sued for damages

Venezuela's Chavez swaps coffee for coca in speech

CARACAS (Reuters) — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez switched from coffee to another stimulant during a speech on Saturday — he popped a coca leaf into his mouth and chewed it while defending the use of the plant.

Bolivian President Evo Morales, an advocate of the Andean nation's indigenous coca growers, brought Chavez coca leaves while in Caracas for a summit of Latin American leaders allied with Chavez.

"I knew you wouldn't let me down, my friend, I was running out," Chavez said as he received the leaves from Morales during the televised summit. He broke one in half and chewed it, drawing applause.

"Capitalism and international mafias have converted (it) into cocaine, but coca is not cocaine," he said.

Opposition leaders this week said the leftist Chavez, famous for speaking for hours on end, should take a drug test after he told legislators he chews coca to keep his energy level up.

The anti-U.S. leader said this month that every morning he chews "coca paste", a highly addictive substance made from coca leaves that serves as a base for cocaine and is sometimes smoked, not chewed, by drug users.

Chavez appeared to have misspoken, meaning instead to say he chews coca leaves. Indigenous groups in the Andean highlands have for centuries chewed coca leaves to boost energy and ward off hunger.

Before winning the presidency in

2005, Morales helped organize Bolivia's coca farmers and openly opposed U.S.-backed coca eradication efforts.

The U.S. drug czar last week accused Chavez of turning Venezuela into a haven for drugs trafficked from neighbouring Colombia, the world's top producer of cocaine. Chavez said the charge was a politically motivated smear campaign against him.

Driver sues dead crash victim

MADRID (Reuters) — A Spanish driver who collided with a cyclist is suing the dead youth's family \$29,300 for the damage the impact of his body did to his luxury car, a Spanish newspaper reported on Friday.

Businessman Tomas Delgado says 17-year-old Enaitz Iriondo caused \$20,500 of damage to his Audi A8 in the fatal 2004 crash in La Rioja region, the El Pais newspaper reported.

Delgado, who has faced no criminal charges for the incident, wants a further 6,000 euros to cover the cost of hiring another vehicle while his car was being repaired, El Pais said.

The youth had been cycling alone at night without reflective clothing or a helmet, according to a police report cited by El Pais.

His family won 33,000 euros compensation from Delgado's insurance company after the firm acknowledged he had been driving at excessive speed and this could have contributed to the incident, El Pais reported.

"I'm also a victim in all of this, you can't fix the lad's problems, but you can fix mine," Delgado told the newspaper,

ahead of a Jan. 30 legal decision on his suit.

The family said they had previously pitied Delgado for the guilt he must feel at killing their son but were now disgusted that his greatest concern appeared to be money.

"This was the final straw, a kick in the teeth," the youth's mother Rosa Trinidad told El Pais.

Singapore stops foreigners from singing complaints

SINGAPORE (Reuters) — A choir that planned to sing a list of complaints about life in Singapore cancelled its performances after the city-state banned its foreign members from singing, organizers said on Saturday.

The 60-member "complaints choir", a concept that originated from two Finnish artists, was scheduled to perform at a weekend festival but authorities granted a performance license on the condition that the foreigners would not participate.

"Our conductor is Malaysian, so how could the choir go ahead without him?" said Melissa Lim, the festival organizer.

Singapore's Media Development Authority said the license was conditional because the lyrics touched on "domestic affairs" and it preferred only Singaporeans take part.

Some of the complaints that would have been sung included, "when a pregnant lady gets on the train, everyone pretends to sleep" and "when I'm hungry at the food court, I see people (reserve) seats with tissue paper."

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

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC PHRASE OF THE DAY

Where are the men?

wen erree-ah-jee-al?