THE Dog Volume 1, Issue 262





Serving Task Force Marne



Pfc. Monica Smith

Soldiers working on the Falcon forward armament and refueling point work on two Kiowas from 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment Jan. 27 at the Combat Aviation Brigade flight line, Baghdad. As two Soldiers refuel the aircraft, two others stand by with fire extinguishers ready.

Falcon FARP keeps Kiowas going

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

CAMP STRIKER — When troops on the ground need the help of attack helicopters, it is essential those aircraft spend as little time away from the fight as possible. For the Kiowas of 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, quick pit-stops to restock fuel and ammunition are often made at the Falcon forward arming and refueling point.

"When troops are in contact (with the enemy) it's important the Kiowas can fuel and get out," said Sgt. Adam Bartlett, Company E, 4th Battalion, 3rd "When troops are in contact (with the enemy) it's important the Kiowas can fuel and get out."

Sgt. Adam Bartlett
 Co. E, 4-3rd Avn. Regt.

Aviation Regiment. "They don't have the time to shut down and get cold fuel. Normally they'll call four or five minutes out, but for situations like that, they call from a way out. When we hear them tell us they need rockets, it means they've been out shooting."

The Falcon FARP, located at the Combat Aviation Brigade flight line, is manned primarily by the Soldiers of Co. E, 4-3rd Avn. Regt., though Soldiers from 3-17th Cav. Regt. help support the FARP, said Staff Sgt. Samuel M. Middleton, Company E.

Pilots call the FARP over FM radio with an estimated time of arrival and needs of the aircraft, which range from refueling, loading rockets, light main-

See FARP, Page 3

Mahmudiyah mayor declares 'year of peace'

CAPT. ALLISON FLANNIGAN
3RD BCT, 101st Abn. Div. (AASLT)

CAMP STRIKER — The four nahias that comprise the Mahmudiyah Qada Council came together Jan. 15 to discuss progress in the qada and talk about future plans.

Lt. Col. Daniel Dolwick, deputy commanding officer of 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Maj. Robert Bertrand, brigade civil military operations officer, and members of the four nahias — Lutifiyah, Mahmudiyah, Yusufiyah and Al Rasheed — attended the meeting.

Mahmudiyah Mayor Jabbar Farraj Mullah al-Kilabi began the meeting by describing the responsibilities councilmen have to constituents in their respective nahias.

"This will be the year of peace and development," al-Kilabi said. "Security is strong and it has been relatively strong for some time now. It's time for the people of Iraq to see their government stand up and start governing."

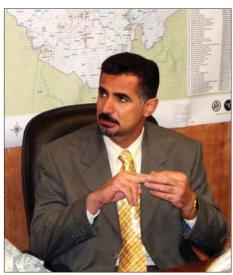
The chairman, Najim Mahdi Al-Dulaymi, echoed the mayor's sentiments and encouraged the nahia leadership to provide essential services to the people of the qada.

He congratulated the local populace on their victory over al-Qaeda and encouraged them to continue their recent progress.

Bertrand said the Mahmudiyah Qada has seen relative peace for the last six months, lending hope to the people and the government of Mahmudiyah.

"It's impressive to see the council members beginning to cut ties with American funding and go to their own government to solve their own prob-





lems," Bertrand said. "This inspires the Coalition Forces to work even harder to help the Iraqi government to achieve their own independence."

Since the U.S.-led invasion in 2003

Photos by Maj. Robert Bertrand Above: Iraqi citizens and Soldiers from 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), listen as the Mahmudiyah

Qada Council discusses progress Jan. 15. Left: Mahmudiyah Mayor Jabbar

Farraj Mullah al-Kilabi declared this year will be a "year of peace and development" at a qada council meeting Jan. 15.

and the development of the insurgency, the Mahmudiyah qada became known as the Triangle of Death, where Sunni insurgents fought both Coalition Forces and Shia citizens.

In these recent months of peace, the qada council, local citizens and their leadership have begun referring to this area as the "Circle of Peace" as they begin their road to reconciliation.

THE

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7th Sustainment Brigade
720th Military Police Battalion

302nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

FARP: Refuel team keeps Kiowas flying From Page 1

tenance such as un-jamming a gun or de-arming an aircraft for test flights.

"We have eight Soldiers per shift," Middleton said. "On the FARP, one Soldier comes out to run the fuel truck, two Soldiers do the actual refueling, while two Soldiers do the re-arming, loading rockets or doing maintenance for the guns. While one Soldier is working the other stands ready with the fire extinguisher and then they switch."

If the aircraft only needs refueling, the process could take as little as five minutes from when the aircraft lands to when it takes off, or 10 minutes for fuel and armor, Bartlett said.

Though the Falcon FARP is primarily designed for Kiowas, the FARP pad can be reconfigured to assist Black Hawks. However, the Riflestock FARP, which is located on the opposite side of the flight line, also refuels and rearms. Riflestock FARP provides service to Black Hawks, Chinooks, Apaches and other Coalition Forces helicopters. Having another FARP chiefly for Kiowas reduces stress that may overwhelm the Riflestock FARP, said Middleton.

"Having the Falcon FARP makes refueling and re-arming more expedient," said Lt. Andrew Alvord, Co. E, 4-3rd Avn. Regt. "The mission of the OH-58s is constant. Those guys are always



Pfc. Monica K. Smith

Spc. Timothy Cross, Company B, 277th Combat Support Task Force, attached to 3-17th Cav. Regt., watches a Kiowa depart the Falcon FARP after being refueled Jan. 27 at the Combat Aviation Brigade flight line.

flying so it requires them to be quick, in and out, just to keep that flow and their mission going."

To date, Bartlett said, the Falcon FARP has distributed more than 1.5 million gallons of fuel to more than 5,000 visits from aircraft. Bartlett says he takes pride in his work though he

has not always felt that way.

"When I first came in I didn't really like my job, but this is my third deployment and I understand now how what we do is important," Bartlett said. "Once you get a full understanding of what we do — I think that's where the enjoyment comes from."

Safety Thought of the Day

.50-cal Safety

- Improper headspace and timing can cause malfunctions, damage to the weapon, and injury to personnel.
- Do not use headspace and timing gauges if they are bent, rusted or pitted.
- If the timing nut can be easily turned with one finger or it doesn't click as you move it, the nut's spring is too weak and it won't hold timing. Get the spring replaced.
- If the spring can't hold the barrel in place, the barrel turns during firing and headspace is lost. Test the spring by setting the correct headspace and then trying to unscrew the barrel. If the barrel turns, the spring is weak or loose

- or the barrel locking lugs may be worn.
- If the barrel and barrel extension threads are chipped or burred, it will be difficult to screw in the barrel. Even worse, you may think you've screwed in the barrel when you haven't. That means bad headspace. Stone any chips or burrs until they're smooth.
- Always set and check Headspace
 Timing IAW TM 9-1005-213-10,
 June 2001.
- For additional requirements see TACOM Safety of Use Message 06-008 dated 13 Dec 05.
- Safety glasses, hearing protection, and protective clothing will be worn when repairing, firing, or cleaning weapon.



File photos

Headline Highlights

Joke book lawsuit; extreme Canada ice-skating

Hospital serves mouse head

HELSINKI (Reuters) — A hospital patient in Finland found a mouse head among the steamed vegetables on his plate.

"Understandably, he lost his appetite," said Sakari Kela, chief administrator at the Northern Karelia Central Hospital.

The health of the patient in Joensuu, eastern Finland, had not been compromised by the dead rodent, Kela said on Saturday.

The severed head most likely originated in a bag of Belgian vegetables. The body has not been found and being "a Belgian mouse, the rest of it could be anywhere in Europe," Kela said.

Leno wins joke book lawsuit

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) — "Tonight Show" host Jay Leno got the last laugh Wednesday in his legal battle with the creator of numerous joke books filled with stolen gags and punch lines.

The publishers of such compendiums as "Jokes to Go," "Comedy Thesaurus" and "The Funny Pages" vowed to immediately stop printing and distributing the books in a settlement with Leno and fellow comedians who sued author Judy Brown.

Under the legal deal announced by Leno's lawyers, Brown and her publishers also agreed to pay monetary compensation, and she apologized to the entertainers whose jokes she copied. Financial terms of the settlement were not disclosed.

"In my books, I have published jokes of Jay Leno and the other comedians in

this lawsuit without their permission," Brown said in a statement. "I sincerely apologize for doing so. I greatly admire the creativity, wit and energy of standup comedians, and I recognize that comedy is as much an art form as other types of creative expression."

Leno was joined as a plaintiff in the copyright suit, filed in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles in November 2006, by such stand-up comics as Rita Rudner, Jimmy Brogan and Bob Ettinger, as well as by NBC Studios, which produces "The Tonight Show."

Leno and Rudner plan to donate all their proceeds to charity, said his attorney, Theodore Boutrous.

"We got everything we wanted and could have asked for through the settlement." he told Reuters.

According to Boutrous, Brown filled her books with thousands of jokes taken from Leno and other professional comics, many of them not a party to the suit, including NBC "Late Night" host Conan O'Brien, Leno's CBS rival, David Letterman, and Comedy Central funnyman Jon Stewart.

He added that Brown seemed to have a special penchant for Leno, whose material accounted for roughly 10 percent of the jokes reprinted in "Jokes to Go," one of about 17 such books widely available in stores and through online outlets.

Brown gave credit in her books to the comics whose jokes she published, but she violated copyright laws by taking the material without permission or compensation, Boutrous said.

To make matters worse, many of the books were marketed with such slogans as: "Why pay the cover charge in a comedy club? You can get the jokes here," he said.

Leno acknowledged much of the material attributed to him originated with his "Tonight Show" writing team.

"On behalf of the tremendous and talented group of writers we have at 'The Tonight Show' and many other hard-working comedians, I'm very glad we've been able to stop this practice once and for all," he said in a statement.

Canadians go for extreme ice skating

MONTREAL (Reuters) — Not content to simply play hockey on frozen ponds or waltz along canals that have turned to ice, some Canadians prefer to amuse themselves with a more extreme form of outdoor skating.

In Quebec City, skaters will hurtle through the city's historic quarter on a 1,755-ft track of ice that has steep drops and sharp turns resembling a bobsleigh run. For added fun, the track includes a series of washboard bumps.

Some 100 racers, wearing protective hockey gear, will compete over Friday and Saturday, with the C\$5,000 prize going to the winner of a series of heats.

The third annual competition, sponsored by an energy drink company, comes as Quebec City, capital of the mainly French-speaking province of 7.5 million, celebrates its 400th anniversary. Television footage of media personalities taking a crack at speeding down a short length of the steep track showed them mainly sprawling face forward or falling flat on their backsides.

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4	7			6			5

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

Monday

il ith-nain