

THE Dog Face Daily

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Serving Task Force Marne



Sgt. Jason Stadel

Iraqi Army NCOs salute during the playing of the Iraqi national anthem at the grand opening of the Task Force Marne NCO Academy at Forward Operating Base Kalsu Feb. 12.

NCO Academy welcomes first full class

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

FOB KALSU — The Task Force Marne Noncommissioned Officer Academy at Forward Operating Base Kalsu welcomed its first full class of Iraqi Security Force NCOs Feb. 12. It is the first division-level NCO academy for Iraqi Army, Iraqi Police and National Police in Iraq.

Last month, 56 ISF NCOs graduated from the academy's test class, which was deemed highly successful.

The first official class welcomed more than 180 ISF NCOs to the two-week course.

Multi-National Forces - Iraq Command Sergeant Major, Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin Hill, was the guest speaker for the academy's grand opening.

He said the U.S. Army has thrived because of the dynamic leadership of NCOs. Hill said the Task Force Marne NCO Academy will do the same for the ISF. "It will produce a better-led formation of great Iraqi leadership."

Hill added a strong NCO corps in

the ISF will be a powerful symbol of the "new" Iraq and will be strong in the fight against al-Qaeda in Iraq and other extremist groups.

"Our mission and your mission has not changed; we are here to protect and secure the population," he said to the three platoons of students standing before him.

Hill commended the students on their patriotism. "I salute your courageous decision to defend Iraq."

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Leaders plan for hospital refurbishment

SGT. NATALIE ROSTEK
3RD HBCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

COP CAHILL — Soldiers and leaders of the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team toured the al Mada'in General Hospital in Salman Pak Feb. 12 to discuss future projects for the hospital, staff and residents of the Mada'in Qada.

The tour, said Lt. Col. Ryan Kuhn, from Clarks Neb., deputy commander of the 3rd HBCT, was held to bring local leaders, the government of Iraq, the Ministry of Health and Coalition Forces leaders together to assess the hospital's needs.

"This is the first time since 2005 that anyone from the government of Iraq, the qada government and the Ministry of Health has visited the hospital," Kuhn said. "It's critical the government of Iraq and health professionals conduct a joint inspection with Coalition Forces to see how we can support this hospital."

A crowd of people, patients, staff and area leaders gathered as the group was escorted through the hospital.

"People saw their government in action," Kuhn said. "It revitalized hope for a brighter future and showed the government does care for them."

Maj. Cynthia Majerske,

from Bar Harbor, Maine, 3rd HBCT surgeon, took pictures and notes. Among the needs she saw, Majerske said, were more doctors, more equipment, reliable power and fuel for the generators.

Majerske said the problem in the past was a lack of coordination between the Ministry of Health, the local government and doctors. With recent collaboration between key leaders in the qada, Majerske said a complete turn-around is feasible.

Dr. Ihassaan al Jabouri Shwat, health director for the Mada'in Qada, said the hospital has been open for 18 months. For the past three weeks, doctors have seen approximately 50 to 150 patients every morning and Ihassaan has hopes for even longer patient care hours.

"I want to see the hospital open at night," he said through a translator. "I also want to see the emergency room, the surgery and delivery rooms open longer."

To reach this goal, Kuhn said a joint project is underway with the Ministry of Health, the Mada'in Qada government and Coalition Forces to rehabilitate the hospital. Kuhn anticipates \$1 million going into the improvements.

"This is the first project where all three are working



Sgt. Natalie Rostek

Maj. Cynthia Majerske looks at a shrapnel wound on a local boy's right cheek during a tour of the al Mada'in General Hospital in Salman Pak Feb. 12.

together toward the common vision to bring the hospital back to life," Kuhn said. "We welcome working with the Ministry of Health and the government of Iraq as we go forth with this important project."

Kuhn said the project is possible due to improved security in Salman Pak. The director general of the qada agreed to assign 20 Sons of Iraq members to provide ad-

ditional security of the hospital.

Sons of Iraq leaders also agreed they would provide security for doctors making the commute from Baghdad.

"This shows Iraqis solving problems," Kuhn said. "All we had to do was bring all the sides together and give them the opportunity to exchange information, phone numbers, and ideas and they worked solutions."

THE Dog Face Daily

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ACADEMY: *First full class of Iraqi NCOs begins at FOB Kalsu*

From Page 1

Mohamed Abud Obied was the honor graduate from the test class and will be an instructor during the first full class. The Iraqi policeman from the 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Police Division said the ISF needs to take on the challenge of defending their borders. "This is our Iraq and we need to fight for it with our blood," Obied said.

During the two-week course, students will hone basic skills such as leadership, marksmanship, searching vehicles, combat patrols and other troop-leading skills.

Lt. Gen. Raymond Odierno, Multi-National Corps - Iraq commander, Command Sgt. Maj. Neil Ciotola, MNC-I command sergeant major, Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, Multi-National Division - Center commander and Command Sgt. Maj. Jesse Andrews, MND-C command sergeant major, were in attendance for the opening.

SUBVERSION

NOT ALL OF OUR ENEMIES ARE OUTSIDE THE FOB.
BE AWARE OF LOCAL NATIONALS ON BASE!

REPORT POSSIBLE ACTS OF TERRORISM

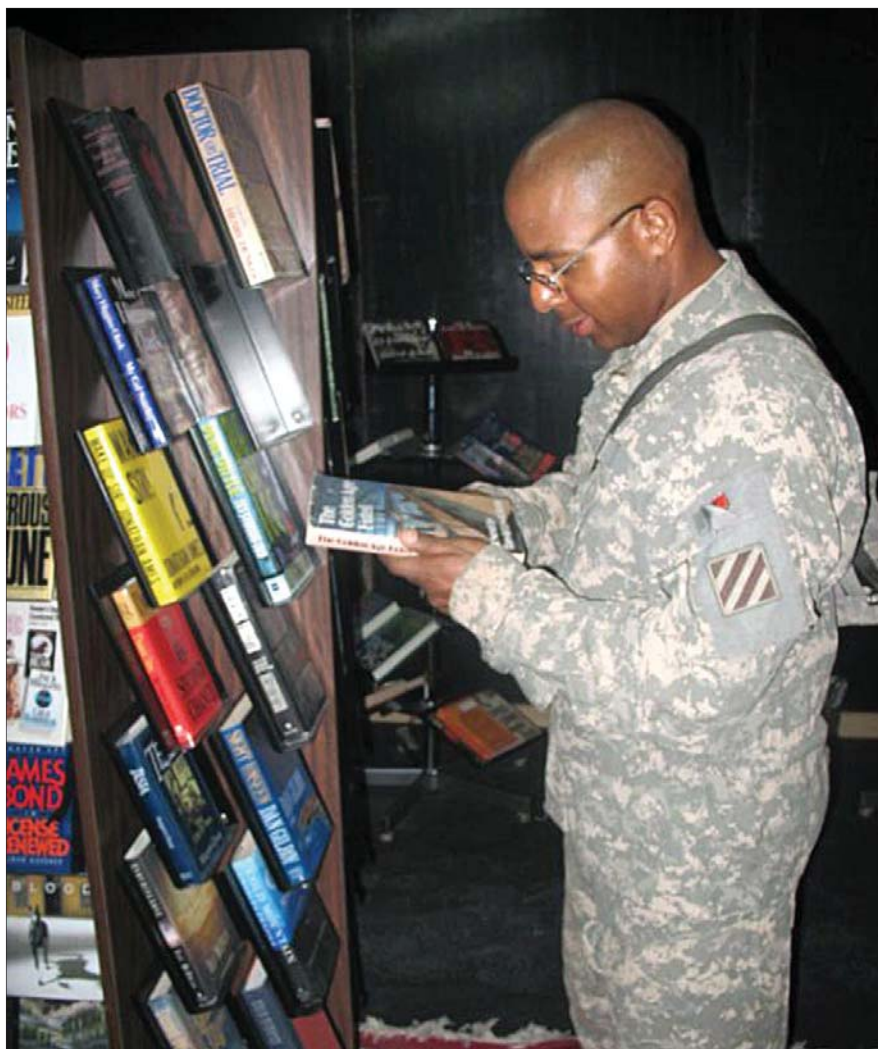
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picture-taking • Video-recording • Note-taking • Pace-counting • Asking questions 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities where Soldiers congregate • Equipment and Weapons • Secured or Sensitive areas
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ESPIONAGE

Hanging out at Hammer SACC



Sgt. Natalie Rostek

Sgt. 1st Class Howard McMorris, from Columbus, Ga., Company A, 203rd Brigade Support Battalion, looks at a book in the library of the new Soldier, Airmen and Civilian Center after an opening ceremony Feb. 10 at Forward Operating Base Hammer.

Safety Thought of the Day

Ammunition and Explosives Turn-In Procedures

- Leaders must ensure that personnel are briefed on proper ammunition turn in procedures.
 - All ammunition must be turned in to the AHA.
 - Separate live ammunition from expended and other residue.
 - Separate all ammunition and explosives by type.
 - Place all safety pins into ammunition where they belong.
 - If possible use original packing for turn in.
- If ammunition is dirty do not bang or hit

against anything to clean.

- Do not abandon ammunition at trash dumps/dumpsters.
- Do not throw any ammunition in to burn barrels or burn pits.
- Small amounts of ammunition may be turned in to FOB or PB amnesty points.
- When in doubt contact the Brigade Ammunition Officer for assistance.
- For further information, reference DA Pam 710-2-1, Chapter 11.

Headline Highlights

Power cable thief shock; Thai referee beating

Shock horror for would-be cable thief

LONDON (Reuters) — Police in central England are hunting for a badly scorched would-be copper power cable thief after finding a hacksaw embedded in an 11,000 volt power cable Saturday night.

The thief, who also left a lit blow torch at the scene, is expected to be badly charred, spiky haired and not exactly the brightest bulb in the socket.

"The sheer stupidity of cutting through power cables should be glaringly obvious to everyone," said Phil Wilson, customer operations manager with local power company Central Networks.

"At the very least putting the hacksaw through the cable would have created an almighty bang and the line would have burned for quite a few seconds, showering them with molten copper... We can only assume they left in a great hurry or they were injured and were dragged away by an accomplice."

But searches of local hospitals have so far not found the culprit, a spokeswoman for Derbyshire Police said Tuesday.

"Maybe they had a lucky escape," she said. "We don't have any leads yet."

Nearly 800 customers in the village of Creswell were cut off when the wannabe copper thief sawed into their power supply on Saturday night, but Central Networks got the lights back on within a few hours.

Copper prices have more than dou-

bled in the last four years as China has gobbled up huge quantities of it, sparking a wave of copper thefts across the globe from South Africa and the United States to Italy and Britain.

Thieves targeting power lines and electricity substations have already led to two fatalities in Britain and many serious injuries, while leaving thousands without power.

Thai referee beaten by entire soccer team

BANGKOK (Reuters) — A Thai soccer referee was beaten up by an entire team after sending off three of their players during a match to decide promotion to country's second division, local media reported on Friday.

Referee Prakong Sukguamala needed 50 stitches and also broke a finger after being attacked by the Kuiburi FC squad, furious at being shown three red cards during a 4-1 loss to Kasem Bundit on Thursday, the Thai-language Thai Rath newspaper said.

The angry players charged into Prakong's dressing room at the stadium in Ayutthaya, north of Bangkok, and started to kick and punch him. They dispersed after police fired gunshots into the air.

The players then chased Prakong into the stadium's office, where the hapless official ran into a mirror, leaving him with cuts all over his body.

Prakong told Channel 3 television he was forced to lock himself in the room to escape his attackers.

In the same interview, Kuiburi's coach accused Prakong of biased refereeing but said he had urged his players to show restraint when tempers flared.

Prakong, covered in bruises, insisted he had refereed the game fairly and had been told by Thailand's soccer federation to press charges against the Kuiburi team.

No red roses for Saudis

RIYADH (Reuters) — Saudi Arabia's religious police have banned red roses ahead of Valentine's Day, forcing couples in the conservative Muslim nation to think of new ways to show their love.

The Commission for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice has ordered florists and gift shop owners in the capital Riyadh to remove any items colored scarlet, which is widely seen as symbolizing love, newspapers said.

"They visited us last night," the Saudi Gazette quoted an unidentified florist as saying.

It is not unusual for the Saudi vice squad to clamp down ahead of Valentine's Day, which it sees as encouraging relations between men and women outside of wedlock, the newspaper said.

Saudi Arabia imposes an austere form of Sunni Islam which prevents unrelated men and women from mixing, bans women from driving and demands that women wear a headscarf and a cloak.

Relations outside marriage are strictly banned and punishable by law.

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

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

al-Qaeda

il kah-ee-deh