

Serving Task Force Marne

# **Command visits Jurf as Sahkr**



Sat. Ben Brody

Sgt. Andrea Chandler, a 3rd Infantry Division linguist, inspects a building under construction in Jurf as Sahkr, Iraq, during a mission March 5 in which Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, commander of the 3rd Infantry Division, met with Sheikh Sabbah, a community leader in Jurf as Sahkr. A new goverance center is expected to open at the end of the month.

# Local sheiks meet at FOB Hammer to discuss agriculture

SPC. BEN HUTTO 3RD HBCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB HAMMER – Sabbah Nissan Council members met with Coalition Forces to discuss ways to improve farming and irrigation methods in the Mada'in Oada March 6.

Council members met with Floyd Wood, a U.S. Department of Agriculture representative, and Capt. Chas Cannon, commander of Battery A, 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery.

"Agriculture is the foundation of every strong society," said Wood, from Washington, D.C. "I think everyone in this room would agree that to help Iraq we need to keep helping the farmers of this country."

The sheiks said water was the chief

concern of farmers in their area and requested the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team's further assistance with water projects. The Mada'in Qada is in the 3rd HBCT's area of operation.

Wood talked with sheiks about using wells to alleviate the need for irrigation canals from the Tigris River; he

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# Iskandariyah vocational school benefits residents

SGT. 1ST CLASS KERENSA HARDY 3RD BCT, 101ST ABN. DIV. (AASLT)

CAMP STRIKER – More than a dozen representatives from the Mahmudiyah Qada toured the Iskandariyah Vocational School March 2, to see how local residents may benefit from it.

The Mahmudiyah Qada council chairman and education director general, an area representative, the Yusufiyah nahia chairman and nine senior sheiks from throughout the qada attended. The group toured the vocational school, adjacent the Iskandariyah Industrial Complex.

Approximately 22 programs are offered through the school, said Dr. Nassir Abbas, the school director. Classes include welding, sewing, computer skills and maintenance, generator and air-conditioning repair and electrical engineering.

The vocational school opened in 1972. Almost 500 students are currently enrolled.

"We are hoping in April to have 850 and in May more than 1,000," Abbas said.

The end goal of the school is generating employment, said Lt. Col. Robert Bobinski, deputy team leader for the embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team attached to 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

"That means sustainable employment, not part-time jobs; full-time jobs that pay money," Bobinski said.

The short-term goal is to bring students from the Mahmudiyah Qada to the school to teach them skills. Midterm is to provide opportunities for the



Sgt. 1st Class Kerensa Hardy

Dr. Nassir Abbas, director of the Iskandariyah Vocational School, speaks to Mahmudiyah Qada Education Director General Dr. Kais, Mahmudiyah Council Chairman Najim Mahdi al Dulaymi and Sheik Somar Abdul Amir Al Anbari in a women's sewing class during a tour of the Iskandariyah Vocational School March 2.

students to hone skills, perhaps by onthe-job-training.

"Long-term, as demand for employees grows, we will work with the Government of Iraq to make more (vocational schools)," Bobinski said. That way, there will be a pipeline of trained employees with sustainable, marketable skills, he said.

The leaders toured halls jam-packed with students walking to class and entered classrooms filled to capacity with Iraqis learning to sew, weld and repair generators and computers among other technical skills. They took copious notes, spoke to instructors and asked the director numerous questions

about how the school could benefit the Mahmudiyah Qada.

"Whatever you learn here, you can bring back to your community and make other jobs," Bobinski said. "There is universal honor in taking care of your family."

Representatives from the Mahmudiyah region agreed to submit applications for 150 Sons of Iraq to begin training in April.

"We will definitely send our people here," said Sheik Hattim Muhsin 'Alwan al-Mehowi, from Yusufiyah. Asked which programs would be best suited for the citizens in his area, he said, "All of them."

#### THE

## **Dog Face Daily**

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# **FARM:** Agriculture in Sabbah Nissan From page 1

suggested testing different crops to discover which ones would work best using this method.

"It frustrates me to see crops that could be grown here being shipped here from Syria, Iran and Jordan and being sold in the local markets," Wood said. "If we can come up with ways to help the farmers here, I believe that it will help everyone here in the gada."

Wood and the sheiks agreed to dig several irrigation wells in different parts of the qada as test projects to show their potential effectiveness to area farmers.

"This could very well be the future of farming in this part of Iraq," Wood said. "We need your help in showing your fellow farmers that it can work successfully here."

The 1-10th FA is assigned to the 3rd HBCT, 3rd Infantry Division, from Fort Benning, Ga., and has been deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom since March 2007.

## ABC'S EXTREME MAKEOVER: HOME EDITION SEARCHING FOR HEROIC FAMILIES

Do you know someone whose home deserves an Extreme Makeover? If so, the producers of ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition want to hear from you! Ty Pennington and his crew have been all across the map and they are ready to drive that infamous bus into your neighborhood.

#### What does it take to be picked for an Extreme Makeover?

We are in search of real heroes - people that have amazing strength and who have put their own needs aside to help someone else. In addition to heroics, the producers are looking for families whose homes are in dire need of help. We don't want to tear down a nice looking house. We want to see houses that look like they might fall down on their own!

<u>To be eligible</u>: A family must own their own single family home and be able to show producers how a makeover will make a huge difference in their lives.

<u>Interested families should:</u> e-mail a short description of their family story to -castextremehome@gmail.com.

#### Nominations must include:

- 1. The names and ages of each member of the household
- 2. A description of the major challenges within the home.
- **3.** Explanation of why this family is deserving, heroic, or a positive role model in their community.
- 4. Photos of the family and a photo of the home
- 5. Don't forget to include a contact phone number.

The deadline: for nominations is March 13, 2008. Don't Delay!

For more information on how to apply please visit our website at <a href="http://abc.go.com/primetime/xtremehome/index?pn=apply">http://abc.go.com/primetime/xtremehome/index?pn=apply</a>

# Keep running race, finish deployment well

CHAPLAIN (LT. COL.) HARLON TRIPLETT

3RD INF. DIV. CHAPLAIN

Whether you have three months left or 15 months left is critical that we finish the deployment well. Finishing anything well is always difficult. Winners are the ones who finish well.

It was easy to start this deployment well. Starting any deployment well is almost always easy. At the beginning of this deployment we were fresh and ready to go with an abundance of energy and enthusiasm, extremely well trained and straining to "get out of the starting blocks." We all got out of the deployment starting blocks about even.

In the beginning of any race in a track and field event everyone starts at the same place. Everyone starts at the starting line. That is the easy part. As soon as the starting gun goes off it is a totally different story. The runner with the most ability, who has trained hardest, has the most determination, and the most heart usually wins. We started this deployment many months ago. Some of us only have a few months left.

The Apostle Paul wrote to us in the book of 2 Timothy 4:7, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." We have to keep running to the finish line. We must not let up. We must stay fired up every minute of every day because lives are dependent on our perseverance. Life is the same way.

The Apostle Paul was really talking about his life when he says he has run the good race, fought the good fight, and kept the faith. We must also finish the race of life well. I know many people who start life out very well but in the end do not finish well for a variety of reasons.

The people that you and I respect most are those who finish their lives well who run the race without quitting, without throwing in the towel, and those run without losing their faith.

Let's pray for the strength from God to finish this deployment well, finish this life well, and this race well.

## Safety Thought of the Day

Leaders Safety Self Assessment

#### Are you:

- Discussing unit accident experiences and accident prevention measures with Soldiers?
- Discussing hazard identification, risk assessments, and other aspects of risk management applied to all activities?
- Conducting and enforcing on-the-spot safety corrections?
- Periodically reviewing qualifications of

personnel for assigned positions?

- Teaching safe practices and enforcing the rules and regulations?
- Checking to ensure that all tactical drivers have a valid Government Motor Vehicle Operator's Identification Card?
- Empowering your subordinates to recognize and halt unsafe acts?
- Identifying your high risk Soldiers and providing the appropriate counseling?

#### **Headline Highlights**

### Two-thousand mile test drive; save world by eating whale

## Man takes car on 2,000 mile test drive from city to outback

CANBERRA (Reuters) – An Australian who took a new car on a 3,200 km (1,988 mile) six-day test drive from the city to the outback has been arrested, police said on Thursday.

The 30-year-old convinced a car dealer in the southeastern city of Melbourne to lend him a A\$40,000 (\$37,000) Honda Accord sedan last Friday and drove the equivalent of London to Istanbul before he was arrested near the town of Tennant Creek, deep in the outback of the Northern Territory.

"He drove from Melbourne to Adelaide to Alice Springs," Tennant Creek police Constable James Gray-Spence told Reuters.

He said the man was arrested without incident at a road block on his way north to Darwin after he failed to pay for fuel at a hamlet.

The test drive was the longest known to Australian police and topped a 500km theft on New Zealand's South Island in 2006.

"I think we've topped that with the 3,000 km mark," Gray-Spence said.

Melbourne car yard owner Ian McKenzie said the man would have had to have been in the car all day, every day to reach Tennant Creek.

"He seemed a legitimate gentleman. He stood at the desk right in front of a camera. He wasn't afraid of being photographed or videoed," McKenzie told the Herald Sun newspaper.

The man was charged with aggravated unlawful use of a motor vehicle and unlawful possession of property and will appear in court on Thursday.

## Norwegian lobby: 'Eat whale and save the planet'

OSLO (Reuters) – Eat a whale and save the planet, a Norwegian pro-whaling lobby said on Monday of a study showing that harpooning the giant mammals is less damaging to the climate than farming livestock.

Environmental group Greenpeace dismissed the survey, saying almost every kind of food was more climate friendly than meat.

The survey, focused on whale boats' fuel use, showed that a kilo (2.2 lbs) of whale meat represented just 1.9 kilo (4.2 lbs) of greenhouse gases against 15.8 for beef, 6.4 for pork and 4.6 for chicken.

"Basically it turns out that the best thing you can do for the planet is to eat whale meat compared to other types of meat," said Rune Froevik of the High North Alliance, which represents the interests of coastal communities in the Arctic.

"Greenhouse gas emissions caused by one meal of beef are the equivalent of eight meals of whale meat," the study said.

The Norwegian-based Alliance said it was the first to measure the "carbon footprint" of whaling. Fish and seafood was comparable to whale meat with relatively low emissions.

Norway and Japan, the two main whaling nations, are seeking new arguments to promote whale meat after years of condemnation from anti-whaling nations for breaking with a 1986 moratorium on all hunts meant to save many whale species from extinction.

Oslo says, for instance, that the small minke whales it hunts are plentiful in the North Atlantic and that a 2008 Norwegian quota of 1,052 animals will not harm stocks.

Greenpeace said the threat of extinction was more important.

"The survival of a species is more important than lower greenhouse gas emissions from eating it," said Truls Gulowsen of Greenpeace. "Almost every food is more climate friendly than meat. Most fish and seafood has similarly low emissions."

The Alliance survey, covering eight of Norway's 30 whaling vessels, said they emitted 885 tons of carbon dioxide in 2007 by burning diesel fuel and landed 461 tons of whale meat. That meant an average of 1.9 kilos of emissions per kilo of meat.

By contrast, raising cows in developed nations requires use of tractors, ploughs and fertilizers to produce feed. The animals themselves generate methane, a powerful greenhouse gas, in their digestive tracts.

The International Whaling Commission (IWC) will hold a special meeting in London this week to review deadlock between pro- and anti-whaling nations.

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4				1	2	9	7	

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japa

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

## ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

North

shih-mal