

THE Dog Face Daily

Volume 1, Issue 308

www.taskforcemarne.com

March 22, 2008

Serving Task Force Marne

Canine receives first-class medical care

SPC. LADONNA JENKINS
COMPANY C, 26TH BSB

FOB DELTA – Accustomed to meeting the challenge of saving human life, one patient put the 26th Brigade Support Battalion's motto of "No Challenge too Great" to the test.

Jago, a 5-year-old German shepherd with the 3rd Infantry Division's K-9 unit, was brought into FOB Delta's Level II Hospital for evaluation by Company C, 26th BSB, medics.

Jago became ill while on a mission to a Coalition checkpoint. He stopped eating or drinking and became very lethargic, said his handler Spc. Matthew Carroll. Jago was returned to FOB Delta but his symptoms didn't improve. He was taken to the hospital prior to evacuation to a facility with veterinary services.

"It was extremely important that he received medical care quickly," Carroll said. "It's probably more important for them because they can't tell us what's wrong. What might seem minute to us may be extremely serious for them."

Medics 1st Lt. Joyce Mullins, Spc. Brandy Elliot and Staff Sgt. Christine Roberts gave the distressed dog a thorough triage based on information provided by his handlers.

Jago was evacuated to Camp Slayer, where he was diagnosed with an upper respiratory infection.



Spc. LaDonna Jenkins

Spc. Matthew Carroll, a 3rd Infantry Division military dog handler, and Staff Sgt. Christine Roberts, a medic with Company C, 26th Brigade Support Battalion, comfort 5-year-old Jago, who was suffering from a respiratory infection. Jago, a search dog, was evacuated to a Coalition veterinary facility for treatment.

Female Soldier employs dad's teachings at work

SGT. KEVIN STABINSKY
2ND BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB KALSU – At a petite 5 feet 2 inches, 114 pounds, with green eyes and a youthful, slender face framed by shoulder-length black hair, Spc. Barbara Benedict doesn't look like a typical gunner. But as her fellow company

mates will tell you, she is one hard-core trooper and a fine gunner.

"I was really impressed with her," said Spc. Daniel Sanders, a civil affairs specialist with Company A, 415th Civil Affairs Battalion, from Kalamazoo, Mich., adding she defies all expectations.

In addition to her civil affairs duties,

Benedict serves as a gunner for her team, expertly handling crew-served weapons with ease.

"Most people are surprised because I'm a small, short female gunner," she said.

Despite not fitting the stereotypical

See GUNNER, page 2

GUNNER

From previous page

mold of a crew-served weapons operator, it is a role she was prepared for growing up.

"I'm daddy's little girl. I did everything he did."

That 'everything' encompassed a lot of weapons training.

Her father, Sgt. 1st Class Louis Benedict, U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion, operations noncommissioned officer, is a 31-year veteran in the Army who often took his daughter shooting.

"My dad taught me to shoot when I was young; first a BB gun, then a .22 rifle," Benedict said of her marksmanship training.

While teaching his youngest girl -

Benedict has two older sisters - how to aim at a target, Louis also inadvertently aimed her to follow in his footsteps.

Benedict said her father was her inspiration to join the Army.

After enlisting, Benedict said she was amazed at the lessons taught in a weapons training class by a master gunner.

She began talking with the master gunner, learning all she could about various weapons used by the Army, picking his brain for knowledge. The work paid off. She soon knew more about weapon systems than anyone else on her team. She passed her knowledge about crew-served weapons such as the M-240-B and .50-caliber machine guns on to her fellow Soldiers.

Sanders, a native of Grand Rapids, Mich., saw some of that skill first hand while qualifying on the M-240-B ma-

chine gun range at Fort Bragg, N.C., in preparation for deployment.

The pair would qualify expert on the weapon, a distinction Benedict also holds for the M-4 rifle.

Although some people find it odd to see her in a traditionally male role, Benedict sees no problem. To those who dismiss her because of her gender, she says they are wrong. "You do what you're good at. I did what I wanted to do. I wanted to be here (serving as a gunner)."

It was a desire born, in part, from the knowledge that women play an integral role in the military, especially in Iraq.

"There are certain things you can't do without females, especially over here," she said, noting that cultural norms in the Arab world prevent a lot of male-female interaction.

Coalition forces link state-side NGO with child needing surgery

1LT. KALEN SMITH
2ND BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB KALSU - A young girl and her family are anxiously awaiting a decision from an organization in Los Angeles to determine the fate of her eyesight.

Soldiers of Company D, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, escorted 5-year-old Noor to the 86th Combat Support Hospital in Baghdad March 14 to have her eyes evaluated by an optometrist.

The medical evaluation done in Iraq will give doctors almost 8,000 miles away the information they need to determine whether they'll perform the surgery.

"We are all working toward getting this young girl the gift of sight."

— Lt. Col. Hee-Choon Lee
battalion surgeon, 1-30th Inf. Regt.

Initial diagnosis by Lt. Col. Hee-Choon Lee, battalion surgeon for the 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, found that Noor was blind due to a birth defect which re-

See SURGERY, page 3



Courtesy photo

Capt. Angie M. Pruitt, doctor of optometry with the 24th Medical Detachment, currently assigned to the 86th Combat Support Hospital in Baghdad, examines the eyes of Noor Taha Najee March 14.

THE Dog Face Daily

The Dog Face Daily is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of *The Dog Face Daily* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 3rd Infantry Division. All editorial content of *The Dog Face Daily* is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Task Force Marne Public Affairs Office.

TASK FORCE MARNE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

www.taskforcemarne.com

Commanding General - MAJ. GEN. RICK LYNCH

Command Sergeant Major - COMMAND SGT. MAJ. JESSE L. ANDREWS JR.

Editorial Staff

TF Marne PAO — Lt. Col. Randy Martin

Managing Editor — Master Sgt. Marcia Triggs

Editor/Design — Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

Contributing Units

2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division
3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division
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

Got RISK?
<https://erc.army.mil>

PDRs Preliminary LOSS REPORTS
 for the week of February 21-27, 2008

5
SOLDIERS DIED IN ACCIDENTS
 • 5 Soldier Injured
 • 2 FAASVs Damaged

LOSSES

- ➔ A Soldier was killed in a vehicle accident Feb. 22 at approximately 2200 local in Christian County, Ky. The Soldier was a passenger in a 2008 Chevy Malibu when the driver lost control of the vehicle, struck a tree, sideswiped a pole, and overturned.
COST: 1 Soldier Killed
- ➔ A Soldier was killed in a vehicle accident Feb. 23 at approximately 0330 local in El Paso, Texas. The Soldier was driving a 2002 Nissan Altima with another Soldier at a high rate of speed when he lost control of the vehicle and struck an underpass. Both Soldiers were wearing seat belts.
**COST: 1 Soldier Killed
 1 Soldier Injured**
- ➔ A Soldier was killed in a vehicle accident Feb. 24 at approximately 0230 local in Killeen, Texas. The Soldier was driving a 2004 Honda Civic at a high rate of speed when he crossed the median and was struck by an oncoming vehicle.
COST: 1 Soldier Killed
- ➔ A Soldier was killed in a vehicle accident Feb. 24 at approximately 0400 local near New Orleans, La. The Soldier was driving a 1995 Chevrolet S-10 pickup when he lost control of the vehicle, hit a median, left the roadway, and struck a tree. The Soldier was wearing his seat belt. Speed is reported as a contributing factor.
COST: 1 Soldier Killed
- ➔ Four Soldiers were injured in a Field Artillery Ammunition Support Vehicle (FAASV) accident Feb. 25 at approximately 1330 local on Fort Carson, Colo. The Soldiers were conducting vehicle recovery operations, towing one FAASV with another, when the vehicles attempted to negotiate a downward slope. The towed FAASV became detached and the forward FAASV overturned. The U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center is investigating the accident.
**COST: 4 Soldiers Injured
 2 FAASVs Damaged**
- ➔ A Soldier was killed in a vehicle accident Feb. 26 at approximately 0550 local near Cameron, Texas. The Soldier was driving a 2008 Pontiac G6 through an intersection when he failed to yield the right of way after stopping at a stop sign and collided with a 2004 Dodge pickup truck. The Soldier was wearing his seat belt.
COST: 1 Soldier Killed

U.S. ARMY
 ARMY STRONG

U.S. ARMY COMBAT READINESS/SAFETY CENTER

SURGERY: *girl to get LA based help*

From previous page

sulted in poorly-developed corneas in both her eyes.

Her 32-year-old uncle Mustafa also suffers from the same defect.

The information from Noor's medical appointment will be evaluated by doctors from the Eye Defects Research Foundation, a non-governmental organization in Los Angeles. The foundation will make a decision on whether or not she is a viable candidate for surgery and where the surgery would take place.

Lee said if representatives from the foundation can find other patients to operate on in Iraq then a trip could be organized. If not, then Coalition forces would work to have the young child and her family taken to Los Angeles to have the surgery done.

While her uncle is also being evaluated as a candidate for surgery, his case requires more caution. Lee said because he is an adult, his eyes might not heal as easily as those of his young niece.

"I think Noor's left eye has a lot of hope. Her right eye may not be a good candidate because it is too small," said Lee a native of Lorton, Va., "All the (ultrasound) pictures were sent up and we're waiting."

In a study of corneal transplants success in pediatric patients done by Emory University, the success rate in the best of circumstances was only 50 percent.

"We are all working toward getting this young girl the gift of sight," Lee said.

OPERATION SMART

The Army's recruiting referral program is receiving momentum with a directive from the Army vice chief of staff and a \$1,000 increase in the bonus.

Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Dick Cody has directed that all Soldiers register with Operation SMART, the Sergeant Major of the Army Recruiting Team, at Web site www.usarec.army.mil/smart. The U.S. Army Accessions Command is tracking how many Soldiers have registered.

Individuals who register with SMART are eligible for the \$2,000 referral bonus for recruiting civilians. Soldiers, Department of the Army civilians, to include Non-Appropriated Fund civilians are eligible to participate in the recruiting program. The bonus is paid in increments. The referrer will receive \$1,000 after the applicant completes basic training, and the last half will be paid after the applicant graduates from advanced individual training or one station unit training.

Headline Highlights

Generous ATM; forgetful father; getaway taxi; bride arrested

ATM shoppers get double-money from faulty machine

LONDON (Reuters) – A British cash machine became a big hit this week after it started paying out twice as much money as it should.

The ATM, outside a supermarket in the city of Hull in northern England, began spewing out double the money Tuesday afternoon and continued doing so for several hours.

Those requesting the maximum daily withdrawal of 300 pounds (\$600) were being given 600 pounds and a receipt for 300.

“People were calling their mates up and telling them to get down there,” the Hull Daily Mail quoted a passer-by as saying.

Payzone, a company that administers ATMs, would not comment in detail on the incident but said it appeared one of its machines had malfunctioned.

Police said those who had benefited could face charges but only if the operator complained.

Fleeing shoplifter forgets son

AMSTERDAM (Reuters) – A shoplifter looking to make a quick getaway from a Dutch supermarket after stealing a packet of meat left police a crucial piece of evidence – his 12-year-old son.

In his haste the 45-year-old thief made a solo dash to his car, batting away a supermarket worker who had

flung himself on the vehicles’ bonnet in a bid to stop the escape.

Police in the southern Dutch town of Kerkrade said they managed to contact the thief via the boy, but he had refused to return and collect his son. The man told officers to get hold of the youngster’s mother instead.

The thief later turned himself in Thursday, a police spokeswoman said.

Would-be robbers nabbed by cops driving getaway taxi

TORONTO (Reuters) – Sometimes it pays to have your own wheels.

Two teenage suspects in a convenience store robbery in Oakville, Ontario, near Toronto, may have made a clean escape had they thought to bring a getaway car along for the heist.

Instead, the men fled the store on foot with an undisclosed amount of money, and then called for a taxi – which showed up with two police officers inside.

Unfortunately for the would-be robbers, the police had been tipped off about the robbery by the wife of the store’s lone employee that night. During a phone call with her husband she had heard a commotion, before the call was cut short.

She phoned the police who asked a local taxi company to alert them of any suspicious calls from the area. When an out-of-breath caller asked for a cab near the store, police met up with the taxi, took over from the driver and headed

to the pick-up location.

The two men emerged from a wooded area and said they called for a cab. They were immediately arrested and driven to jail.

“Obviously not having a getaway vehicle or anything like that and calling a cab is generally not a sign of your most sophisticated criminal,” Detective Sergeant Kevin Maher of the Halton Regional Police Service told Reuters.

Instead of ring, threat-making bride gets handcuffs

GERING, Neb. – Instead of a wedding ring, one Scottsbluff bride found herself in handcuffs. Scotts Bluff County deputies arrested 31-year-old Dianne Carnes on Tuesday afternoon, just after her courthouse wedding was to have started.

Her offense? Officials say a day earlier, Carnes threatened a woman who served on the jury of her felony driving under license suspension trial. Prosecutors say Carnes was caught driving last year while her license was suspended for a drunken driving conviction. Carnes was found guilty of driving under suspension Monday.

Officials say an arrest warrant was issued Monday for Carnes after she threatened the juror.

Meanwhile, Carnes had called a county clerk to schedule her wedding for the next day, and was arrested in front of her wedding party when she showed up for the ceremony.

Sudoku

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

from Sudoku Easy Presented by Will Shortz

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

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

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

kind (type)

nah-wa-AA