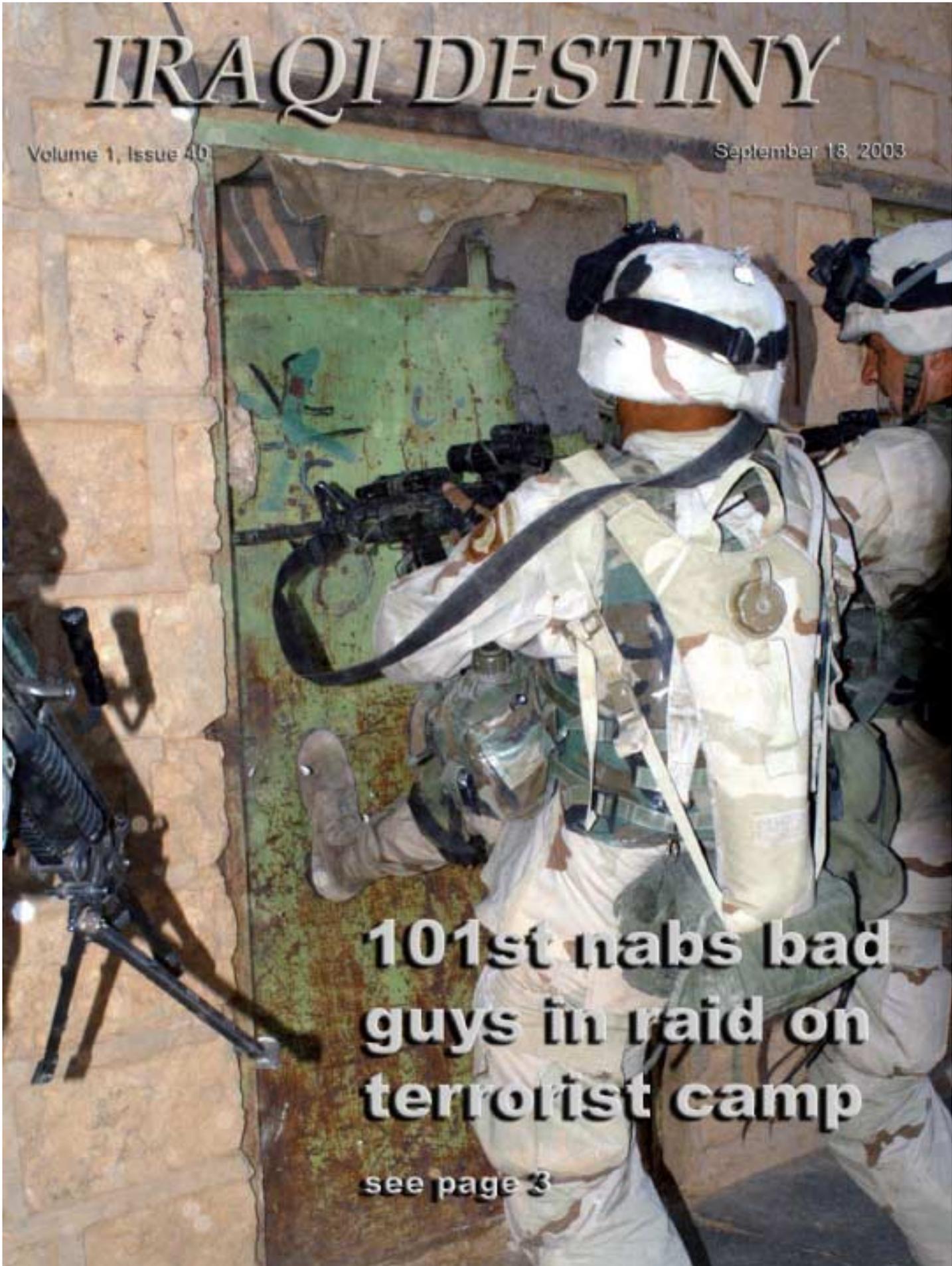


# IRAQI DESTINY

Volume 1, Issue 40

September 18, 2003



**101st nabs bad  
guys in raid on  
terrorist camp**

see page 3

## Commentary

# Army acronyms: gotta loathe 'em

by Pfc. Chris Jones  
40th PAD

I remember, not especially fondly, the day I discovered the mystery of letters.

I was five. My mom, always with a knack for slyness, was fed up with my stinking body. The period of time spent between Mr. Bath and I had reached several days (okay, okay, weeks – I can't count that time I went into the bathroom, locked the door and used the soap for a basketball, shooting hoops in the bathtub).

Glancing into the living room at my mom and older sister, I realized a conspiracy was forming against me. They were using letters to destroy my youth.

"He needs a B.A.T.H.," they said.

Thirteen years later, along with acquiring significantly better hygiene habits, I made the decision to join the Army. Ah, the military! A place where the brain can rest easy! At least, that's what I thought, until, on the first day of Basic Training I was assaulted by an army of letters. However, these letters made little sense to me, for, unlike B.A.T.H., they formed no words. LES.

Les? Who's Les? A pay statement, they tell me. A pay statement! Why don't they just say pay statement? It rolls off the tongue better!

The conspiracy arises again! Basic Training, even without acronyms, wasn't so basic for me. My M-16 didn't like me, because whenever we got to the range, his mouth (or chamber, as they're called by real soldiers) kept spitting out his food (rounds). Land navigation – um, the best thing I ever did in land navigation was make up really cool codenames for my partner and I; he was Waking Duck and I was Blue Otter. Okay, so cool is the wrong word.

Anyway, acronyms were a different kind of confusing. They seemed to pop up everywhere, even after thorough investigation proved them to make little or no sense.

Take KP, for example. Kitchen police. On my first day of KP duty, I washed dishes. "Ah, what exactly am I policing?" I thought to myself. "I've been washing 90 pound pots for the last 10 hours and I haven't moved a foot. Come to think of it, I can't feel my feet! Help! Somebody! Wait, let me rephrase that – S.O.M.E.B.O.D.Y.!"

To further illustrate my hatred

for acronyms, here is a very fake telephone recording between two soldiers – a staff sergeant and a private.

"Private!"

"Yes, sergeant!"

"I need you at the 2<sup>nd</sup> BCT LZ at 0400! Take extra PAX in the LMTV from the SP or FYS!"

"Huh?"

"Huh who? Huh, Joe? Huh, little sister?"

"Huh, sergeant!"

"That's better. So WYMM?"

"I don't understand!"

"HWRJ, private! JIIL UHJ at YHI TANL!"

"Alright, now you're just making things up!"

"Drop." End of make-believe transmission.

One of the most notorious acronyms in the Army is POV (privately owned vehicle), which means nothing more than car. There is no excuse for using this acronym, period.

Thankfully, there are certain good acronyms which redeem the dreadful.

One acronym I have grown to like is APFT, reduced from Army Physical Fitness Test. This one sticks. Each letter seems to have a proper place beside the next, and in contrast to the words they represent, they can be spoken quickly and efficiently.

Moreover, APFT is easily identified among the majority of soldiers. When this acronym is spoken, few, if any, will need to ask for clarification.

Then there are the acronyms which aren't technically accurate, but are used because they are already so well in place that to change it would cause unnecessary confusion.

The Army does not have a JAG (Judge Advocate General); it has a SJA (Staff Judge Advocate). However, JAG is used widely because it's only one syllable (and sounds good too).

Acronyms are infamous in the military, but it's definitely been spreading, and Internet chat has been the biggest catalyst. LOL (laugh out loud), BRB (be right back), OMG (oh my God!), TTYL (talk to you later). Folks, this must stop! One of the key reasons the military became so fixated on acronyms was so troops could make rapid radio transmissions. But heck, a civilian making a quick call? Um...

Here in Iraq, danger is obviously greater, and the best way soldiers can ensure safety is to have a solid line of communication between each other.

I'll sign off now. I've got a RWD (rendezvous with destiny) on the KIRE (keepin' it real express). Choo choo!

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# 101st troops assault terrorist camp, capture 86 suspects in Southwest Iraq

by Pfc. Chris Jones  
40th PAD

On the eve of the second anniversary of the biggest terrorist attack ever against the United States, soldiers of the 101st countered with their own attack against terrorism, capturing a total of 79 suspected terrorists in a raid on a training camp in Southwest Iraq.

Before dawn on Sept. 10, a light, lethal force of soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) stormed the training camp in Southwest Iraq. Soldiers from 2nd Platoon, Company B, 502nd Infantry Regiment and Pathfinder Co., 6th Bn., 101st Aviation Rgt. led the charge, with various 101st units supporting the effort.

Military intelligence spotted the camp and requested a swift but quiet raid. The location of the camp is in the 3rd Infantry Division's area of operations, but the 101st

was called on because of the division's focus on rapid assaults, said Lt. Col. Steve Countouriotis, commander, 6th Bn., 101st Avn. Rgt.

The soldiers vigorously rehearsed the raid for two days before the attack, including night drills. Countouriotis urged soldiers to use enough speed to overwhelm the enemy so they put up little resistance.

Well before dawn Wednesday, six Chinooks were filled to the brim with infantrymen as well as a small team of engineers from 326th Engineering Bn. The choppers landed on the outskirts of the camp. The infantry platoon secured the housing area while the pathfinders targeted all other places. Once the housing area was secured, the infantry platoon and pathfinders cleared outlying buildings.

In less than four hours, the site was fully secure.

With 79 suspected terrorists detained, it was the biggest raid against terrorism in the war, Countouriotis said. Along with the

suspects, a stash of \$60,000 was found along with more than one million Iraqi dinar. Large weapons caches were uncovered and many electronic devices were found.

The suspects were taken into custody for questioning. The following day, a much smaller team returned to the camp and detained seven more suspected terrorists for a total of 86.

However, the fact which pleased Countouriotis the most was that no shots were fired throughout both raids.

"Soldiers swooped down quietly in the early dawn and used amazing precision to capture the suspects and secure the place -- the raid was just like one in the movie *Apocalypse Now*," Countouriotis said. "It was a pretty awesome mission."

Helicopters from 1st Bn., 101st Avn. Rgt. and 2nd Cavalry Squadron, 17th Avn. Rgt. flew above the camp, offering additional firepower as well as guiding soldiers to buildings which still needed clearing.



Pfc. Chris Jones

A soldier with 2nd Plt., Co. B, 2nd Bn., 502nd Inf. Regt., passes on information to another team during a raid on a suspected terrorist training camp in Southwest Iraq.

# 426th FSB makes first golf course in Iraq

## *Sand traps a drawback; no water hazards to be found*

by Spc. Joshua Hutcheson  
101st Abn. Div. (AAslt.) PAO

The days can be long and hard at Qayyarah West Airfield in Northern Iraq, full of dust and camel spiders. And what relaxes a person after a hot sweaty day better than “The TPC at Mosul South Course,” the first golf course in Iraq?

1st Lt. Jesse White, shop officer, Bravo Company, 426th Forward Support Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) created the course in May. In an area full of waist-high dirt piles and holes big enough to fall into, White made a course 150 yards long, with just one hole. His idea was to have a place where he could relax and get in a few practice swings when possible.

But one hole wasn't enough, soon other people wanted to play games there, and for that more holes would be needed.

“As it turned out, the new battalion commander was a golfer,” White said. “He asked me what the chances were of expanding it.”

The chances were good. Soon two more holes were added to the make-shift course. Then, after less than a month three more holes were added, to make the course a total of six holes, “ranging from 50 to 250 yards,” White said.

It was there that construction halted, only because they ran out of room.

“We'd like to add three more holes but we're out of space, if you can believe that out in the desert,” White quipped.

As for it being the first course in the country, White claimed to have looked on the Internet to find others.

“I researched it, and as far as I know it's the only golf course in Iraq,” he said.

The golf clubs and balls have been scrounged from many sources: people's personal collections as well as donations from places back in Amer-



Spc. Joshua Hutcheson

1st Lt. Jesse White, shop officer, 426th Forward Support Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), tees off at the “TPC At Mosul South Course,” a golf course he created to help the soldiers of Q-West relax during their time off.

See GOLF page 11

# Well drilling company bounces back after war

by Spc. Joshua M. Risner  
40th PAD

**D**OMEZ, Iraq -- Water is a source of life for the people of Northern Iraq and the crops they grow to sustain themselves.

The Water Drilling Company of Mosul has dug ten wells since coalition forces entered the Ninevah Province, but would not have been able to do so without the help of the 431st Civil Affairs Battalion.

"The company was looted severely after the war," said Capt. John Gerald, 431st

CA Bn. "We have been assisting them with restoring everything they lost."

The administrative buildings and warehouses are about 90 percent complete, according to Gerald.

"We are using an Italian design drill and started our operation again about a month ago," said Fadhil Hameed Rajab, a geologist with the Water Drilling Company. "Right now, we have five working drills and a six-man team for each drill and each shift."

One problem the company has run into is a geological one. A layer of gypsum lies under the surface of the soil and will contaminate a drinking water supply. The

drill team has to be able to drill through it to get to the water.

As long as the drill can go below the gypsum layer, the water supply will be safe. But in some areas, this layer can run very deep.

"It depends on the ground as to how deep the gypsum goes," Rajab said. "We have a drill that will go as far as 500 meters and that will usually get us under it."

Not all the wells have been for drinking water; some are for irrigation, giving much needed water for crops in light of low rainfall, according to Rajab.

"This well here, (Domez) is for drinking water and irrigation," Rajab said.



Spc. Joshua M. Risner

Workers clear away the sediment that has built up on the equipment during the drilling. The sediment could cause a number of malfunctions, so keeping it clean helps to keep the equipment functioning properly.

# Operation Adopt-a-Village brings America to Iraq

by Spc. Joshua Hutcheson  
101st Abn. Div. (AAslt.) PAO

The 426th Forward Support Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) is using care packages as a way to build bridges with the people of Iraq.

Under Operation Adopt-a-Village, the 426th FSB is collecting and sorting care packages for people in two local villages, said Lt. Col. Jeffrey Kelley, commander, 426th FSB.

Col. Ben Hodges, commander, 1st Brigade, 327th Infantry Regiment, shared the idea of finding cities in America which would send care packages to Iraqis with Kelley.

"I thought it was a great idea because people of the United States want to support, and we've had nothing but support from the people back home," Kelley said.

Kelley sent his company commanders out to find villages that would benefit the most from the items sent from America. The requirements for the villages were that they had to need assistance in basic everyday items, like school supplies and books, Kelley said.

"The hard part was picking the villages, there are so many out there," he said.

In the end, they settled on two villages, one Iraqi and one Kurdish, each with a population of roughly 1,500, according to Capt. Charles Atanasio, chaplain, 426th FSB.

Atanasio is in charge of finding cities in America to participate in Adopt-a-Village. His work with the adopt-a-platoon Web site made him the best candidate to locate American cities, he said.

So far the town of Salem, Utah has signed on and begun to send care packages. Atanasio also found people in Minnesota and a man who owns a car dealership in Tennessee who have to have decided to help.

"There's been a tremendous amount of support," Atanasio said. "I believe we're planting the seeds of hope and peace in Iraq."

The program is just getting on its feet right now, care packages and supporters are trickling in.

"I probably have 20 to 25 boxes right now," Atanasio said.

In the packages people have sent books, school supplies, soccer balls and other sports equipment, canned food, toiletry items and other items.

Atanasio is pleased by the show of caring by the Americans and wants to help the Iraqis by "providing comfort and peace," during the current period of change all over the country, he said.

"(The soldiers of the 101st) want peace to last here," Atanasio said. "The people here must understand that we have their

best interest at heart. It's just being a good neighbor."

The first group of boxes is scheduled to be handed out to the villages September 16. Anybody interested in helping the 426th FSB Adopt-a-Village can contact Chaplain Atanasio at [charles.john.atanasio@us.army.mil](mailto:charles.john.atanasio@us.army.mil).



Spc. Joshua Hutcheson

In these boxes are books and school supplies for Iraqi villagers, donated by American cities in the 101st Airborne Division's (Air Assault) Operation Adopt-a-Village.

# Screaming Eagles soccer team takes local championship

by Spc. Mary Rose Xenikakis  
22<sup>nd</sup> MPAD

AL QOSH, Iraq -- The Screaming Eagles soccer team from the Lady Virgin Orphanage, in Al Qosh, won a local championship game 2-1, Sept. 12.

Seven teams from Al Qosh and its surrounding areas participated in the soccer season. With help from the 101st, the Lady Virgin Orphanage was able to host the championship game. Army engineers leveled an area outside of the orphanage and made it into a suitable soccer field.

Many people showed for the big game. Soldiers from the 2nd Bde. Fire Support Element, who were actively involved with the orphanage also came to watch.

The hazy evening turned into an eventful one with kazoos blowing and children cheering with their families. All the teams who played in the season came to watch and support the two final teams in their playoff. With all the families and children on the sidelines it had the feel of a children's soccer game in America.

Father Mufid Toma Marcus, director of the orphanage, said it was customary for all teams to come to the final game of the season.

After the game ended the crowd ran onto the field to hail the winning team with screams and laughter.

Each team participating in the season



photos by Spc. Mary Rose Xenikakis

(Above) Two players, one from the 'Screaming Eagles' team and one from the Sharafeya team, battle it out for the soccer ball in the final game of the season. (Below) Crowds came from all over the area to see the game in Al Qosh. The 'Screaming Eagles' won the final game 2-1.

**See SOCCER, page 11**



# 101st repairs Badoosh school

by Spc. Joshua Hutcheson  
101st Abn. Div. (AAslt.) PAO

Children of a small village in northern Iraq have a chance for a complete education thanks members of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

"We looked for a place where we could make a difference and ended up here, said Capt. Ernest West, chaplain, 2nd Battalion, 44th Air Defense Artillery Regiment.

Before the soldiers arrived, the school had broken or missing windows, dilapidated wooden doors, no curtains, broken desks, no heat or air conditioning, no running water and chalk boards sitting on the ground, West said.

That was inside the school. Outside, the courtyard was barren, with no playground or area for the children to have fun. "There was literally nothing there," West said.

The battalion used the funds to hire local workers to make the school someplace where children would enjoy learning.

The \$45,000 repairs were completed in five week-long phases, West said.

The phases involved installing new wiring, plumbing, a playground, air conditioning, and heat and having water pumped into the bathrooms. The workers also repainted walls, built brand new desks for the students and brought in six new computers.

"This is great," said Lt. Col. Donald Fryc, battalion commander, 2-44 ADA

"Air conditioning, heat, the whole nine yards."

The work done to the school also pleased members of the Badoosh community.

"(I am) very happy," said Maher Abdulkereem, principal, Badoosh School. I want to thank the United States for this and I want us to build the future of Iraq.

"I'm very happy to see this new building," agreed Johan Isak Zaya, planning manager, Mosul Ministry of Education.

"It feels good to have our battery serve the people, to help little kids to get an education in their lives and to see the smiles on their faces," said Spc. Marisol Rincon, supply clerk for the battalion, who handed out notebooks to the students.

"This is a division project because folks recognize the Screaming Eagles and that we're here to make a difference," West said. "It's seeing this stuff that makes it all worth while. It's a blessing."



Spc. Joshua Hutcheson

Spc. Marisol Rincon, supply clerk, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 44th Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) hands out brand new notebooks to the students of the Badoosh school. The school was refurbished and repaired by the 101st.

# PSYOPS soldiers spread coalition message

by Spc. Mary Rose Xenikakis  
22<sup>nd</sup> MPAD

Near an intersection in the Mosul University area cars stopped to grab newspapers from soldiers who were standing along the road side.

Soldiers from the 318<sup>th</sup> Psychological Operations Company from St. Louis, Mo., packed their trucks with Coalition newspapers, stuffed animals for kids, and portable radios, Sept. 10, for a day on the town.

With the sun rising and a cool breeze,

the group of soldiers went on with their day to accomplish the task set before them. "We've taken whatever objective the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division has had. We've gone out and informed the people of what's going on, what we're doing and why we're here," said Spc. Misty J. Korman, a psychological operations specialist with the 318<sup>th</sup>.

According to Staff Sgt. Darrell J. Isbell, tactical Psychological Operation Detachment non-commissioned officer in charge they're trying to revitalize the nation with ideas to rebuild the economy and physical environment.

"We get these 'ideas and campaigns' out to the people through newspaper, radio and face-to-face, said Isbell. "The messages are good messages, like 'if you clean your neighborhood up you won't get sick,'"

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn. Div. (AAslt.), area of operations soldiers like Korman and Isbell have been producing and distributing information to educate people on everything from mine awareness, finding Saddam, to conserving water.

"We're making sure they're informed," said Korman. "We're hoping to mold them into what is best for their country, so that the mission can be accomplished."

## 52 paths to joy: playing cards an essential item

by Pfc. Chris Jones  
40<sup>th</sup> PAD

Not everyone likes playing cards. Heck, why play a simple game of black jack when you can cruise the streets in a tank in Playstation 2's mega-selling *Grand Theft Auto: Vice City*?

"Well, you can't pack a PS2 in your ruck," answered Spc. Virginia Brickner, Company C, 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 101<sup>st</sup> Aviation Regiment. "You can take cards anywhere, anytime. At night, all you need is a flashlight to keep playing. I suck at PS2 anyway."

Smaller than an average wallet, a deck of cards is a truly convenient form of entertainment.

"It doesn't take batteries, doesn't take time to set up, fits anywhere, and it's been around for so long that everyone knows at least one game," said Sgt. Steve Magness,

an engineer with 1<sup>st</sup> Squad, 2<sup>nd</sup> Plt., Co. A, 326<sup>th</sup> Engineers Bn. "Cards bring people to a common ground."

However, the secret to the success of playing cards may not be its simplicity; in contrast, it may be in the versatility of a single deck. According to the International Playing-Card Society website, [www.pagat.com](http://www.pagat.com), thousands of card games have been invented since playing cards were introduced in England in the 14th Century. Hearts, Spades, Black Jack, Poker, Rummy, Go Fish – take your pick.

"There's no end to how much you can do with cards," said Pfc. Joe Green, an engineer in Magness' squad. "You can do anything with them. You can put them in a hat, plaster them to your head, do magic tricks. Cards are one of the most versatile things ever -- kind of like cheese."

To some players, each card has a life of its own. Spc. Kieran Moore, a photographer with 982<sup>nd</sup> Signal Company (Combat Camera), said if all 52 cards came to life,

the joker would be the most popular.

"The king is stuck-up, the queen is scandalous, the jack is irritating," Moore said. "Yeah, the jack would be like a bishop, the power-hungry, stab-you-in-the-back type. But the joker, he's the life of the party, the one who shows everyone a good time. He starts something on the sidelines, then walks away and leaves everyone laughing."

Moore said the world of playing cards is a treacherous one.

"When I see cards, I see chaos, randomness and luck," Moore said. "I see the fake assumption of control and estimation."

Nevertheless, this world is one Moore cannot seem to keep out of. Beyond playing poker with "the guys in the field," he has another incentive for digging out the cards.

"If I know there's gonna be girls, I bring [cards]. With girls, I like to play the

**See CARDS page 10**



Spc. Kieran Moore

Soldiers from 8/101st Aviation Regiment, play a game of cards at night while on a mission in Southwest Iraq. The soldier in the background is Sgt. Austin MacDonald. Holding the card is Sgt. Jose Cadengo.

## News around Iraq

### 4TH ID CAPTURES WEAPONS DEALERS, IED MAKERS

**TIKRIT, Iraq** -- Fourth Infantry Division and Task Force Ironhorse units conducted a series of successful raids and patrols throughout the Task Force area of Operations targeting former regime loyalists suspected of selling weapons and building improvised explosive devices to be used against Coalition forces.

In a 24-hour period, they conducted 240 patrols and seven raids, including 56 joint patrols conducted with the Iraqi police, Iraqi Civil Defense Corps, and Border Guards. Forty-eight individuals were detained over the period and six were targeted individuals.

In Tikrit, soldiers from 1-22 Infantry Battalion conducted a raid on several buildings which local informants reported as housing subversive elements and workshops used to build IEDs. The raid resulted in uncovering two IED workshops and the detention of five Iraqis suspected of building IEDs.

Confiscated materials include batteries, electrical wire, remote control devices, one IED, chemicals, dynamite, plastic explosives, nine mortar rounds, 36 smoke grenade canisters, 13 plastic grenade casings, five blasting caps, nine fuses, small arms ammunition, two pistols, two AK-47, 15 AK-47 magazines, one shotgun, walkie-talkies, military uniforms, several military training manuals and six million Iraqi dinar.

In additional raids over the past 24 hours, Task Force Ironhorse soldiers seized 33 AK-47s and other weapons to include semi-automatic rifles, shotguns and blasting caps. Three sticks of dynamite, propellant and other bomb making materials were also confiscated.

Fourth Infantry Division and Task Force Ironhorse will continue to pursue former regime loyalists working against Coalition forces and the interests of the free Iraqi people.

### COALITION SUPPORTS NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION DAY

**BALAD, Iraq** -- Medical personnel from units attached to the 4th Infantry Division helped Iraqi medical personnel administer vaccines to children during Iraqi National Immunization Day.

Iraqi National Immunization Day, which is held the 22nd day of each month to vaccinate children and provide sup-

plemental vaccinations to immunized adults against preventive diseases. The immunizations were given at Balad General Hospital.

Iraq's practice of preventive medicine should reduce the need for long-term patient care and allow for a healthier population.

Coalition forces' participation in this monthly event demonstrates the support the Coalition gives for the restoration and normalization of Iraqi society.

### 3RD COSCOM SOLDIERS TRAIN VOLUNTEER VEHICLE INSPECTORS

**BALAD, Iraq** -- Iraqis will soon assist 3rd Corps Support Command soldiers in keeping Logistical Support Area Anaconda in Balad safe.

A security patrol is being trained to assist guards at the front gate of the installation. These guards will conduct pre-inspections before civilian non-tactical vehicles enter the gate of LSA Anaconda. The volunteers are mostly former Iraqi soldiers. Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Aubain, 3rd COSCOM sergeant major, spearheads the program that he and a team of soldiers developed.

Training includes elements of drill and ceremony, necessary commands, voice inflections and taking charge of situations. The focus remains on the proper procedures for searching vehicles. Instead of focusing on how to guard the installation, they concentrate on recognizing when something is out of the ordinary, identifying objects out of place and taking command of situations when something doesn't seem right.

Near the end of the training, the military police will come to observe the progress and help fine-tune some of the techniques if necessary. The MPs are the final word on ultimately certifying them as inspectors.

The inspectors who've finished this first class will also be used to help train the next group that comes through. Eventually, about 40 Iraqis will be hired as security inspectors.

They'll receive badges that expire in six months from issue. They will then go through re-certification.

The group will pick their uniform, establish their creed and have a graduation where their family members are invited.

As their motto goes: Fakhor (pride in self).

### COALITION HELPS RECONSTRUCT ROADS IN BAGHDAD

**BAGHDAD, Iraq** -- Coalition forces are working to make Baghdad city streets safer places to travel and a visible sign of progress in Iraq.

The 354th Civil Affairs Brigade, an Army Reserve unit based in Riverdale, Md., and part of Task Force 1st Armored Division, recently assessed various road construction sites in Baghdad as part of their road maintenance program.

Before the first phase of the project, the 354th CA Brigade selected six major roads within the city for improvements.

During the first phase, the Iraqi construction crews widened the streets, built center medians, posted signs and fixed streetlights.

Phase two of the road maintenance program entails a more detailed approach, including resurfacing the roads, ensuring guard rails are placed along critical points and proper signage is placed throughout the city.

This is expected to be the longest phase of the project as such efforts entail "catching up" for the lack of maintenance during the previous regime.

### CARDS from page 9

dummy and act like I don't know how to play, so they have to sit there and teach me."

The question remains: after all the technological advancements already surfacing in the early 21st Century, can the card industry survive?

Spc. Dave Stage, a cameraman in Moore's unit, said he has no doubt about the fortitude of the industry.

"Cards will always be here," Stage said. "We need them for self-survival and sanity."

Magness said playing cards are perfect as they are, but he does have one idea how to spice them up.

"They could put certain smells on certain cards," Magness said. "or cards for blind people! Braille cards!"

Though the sole creator of playing cards is unknown, soldiers in Iraq are clearly grateful. To this forgotten inventor, Brickner removes her Kevlar and says, "The soldiers in Iraq thank you. That's all we do in the field."

**GOLF from page 4**

ica.

Of the equipment, 25 clubs and a few flags were donated from a country club in the Signal Mountains of Tennessee, where the battalion commander's father is a member.

Besides clubs they also donated "a whole lot of golf balls because we easily lose those things," said Lt. Col. Jeffrey Kelley, 426th Forward Support Battalion commander.

Kelley plays at "The TPC at Mosul South Course" every Saturday at 6:30 a.m. along with people from all over Q-West airfield who enjoy playing a short game.

"It's a great time for everybody to unwind and just have a good time," Kelley said.

Just because the course was made by soldiers in the middle of a desert

doesn't mean that it's an easy one.

The terrain presents its own unique challenges.

Most of the holes are par-3, and besides the normal hazards found on a golf course there are a few additions particular to the environment, such as old military equipment.

"It's challenging because of the greens," Kelley said. "There's no straight putts, there are rocks, holes and all kinds of debris in the way."

The course is open to all the soldiers at Q-West, and all the soldiers who can make the trip are invited to enjoy a game or two.

"All tee times can be scheduled at 581-1528," White said.

"We have a good time and that's the bottom line," Kelley said.

"Everybody has a good time and the winner gets to talk smack for a week," Kelley added.

**SOCCER from page 7**

received awards and medals. Father Toma chose soldiers to present the trophies to the teams.

Team Sharafeya won second, Bozan team won third place and Shekhan won fourth place in the championship.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Stuart Allen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bde. Fire Support Element, told the crowd "We took special interest in this orphanage; we know how much you all enjoy football (soccer)."

Toma asserted his appreciation by saying, "We thank the 101<sup>st</sup> for everything they've given this orphanage."

With another cheer from the crowd Allen and Father Toma along with a few other soldiers passed out the trophy and awards to the teams.

Brig. Gen. Frank G. Helmick, assistant division commander of operations, and soldiers with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Fire Support Element have been working with, and supporting the orphanage. Earlier in the summer, the 101<sup>st</sup> Abn. Div. (AASlt.) purchased uniforms with each of the children's names on the back and "Screaming Eagles" written in Arabic on the front. Helmick also threw a pool party for the orphanage at the Civil Military Operations Center in Mosul.

# The Judge Says...

## Items of legal interest to soldiers

**Q: What is small claims court? Does my state have one?**

**A:** *When most people think of "small claims court," they think of the television shows "The People's Court" or "Judge Judy." If a state has a small claims court system, those shows can be very similar to the types of cases heard in those courts.*

*Small claims courts are designed to handle relatively small disputes, which usually means there is a dollar limitation on the amount in dispute. In Alabama, for example, the maximum you can sue for in small claims court is \$3,000.*

*The person suing is called the "plaintiff," and the person or business being sued is called the "defendant."*

*Usually a small claims court trial is before a judge alone, not a jury. In some states you may hire an attorney, while in other states an attorney is not permitted.*

*It is also important to know that not all states have a small claims court system.*

*While small claims court is less complex than regular court, the operations of small claims courts vary greatly from state to state. If you considering pursuing legal action, check first if your state has a small claims court, and if so, contact the court*

*for further information.*

**Q: If I win my case, will I get my money?**

**A:** *Winning a case in small claims court does not guarantee automatic payment.*

*In some states, like Alabama for example, the failure of the defendant to pay the judgment requires the plaintiff to file additional court paperwork, to seize property or garnish wages. Plaintiffs must consider this when they are considering a suit in small claims court.*

**Preventive law tip of the week:**

*If you have to pay money to get a scholarship, it may be a scam.*

*A common scholarship scam asks an applicant to pay a "small "processing fee." For \$5 to \$25, an applicant can be considered for a \$1,000 scholarship, which sounds pretty good up front. But when you consider that an average of 5,000 to 10,000 applicants will pay this fee, the cost of awarding one or two \$1,000 scholarships means thousands of dollars of profit for the company, and very bad odds for the applicant.*

## Opportunities...

### ***Become a Warrant Officer***

The United States Army is looking for highly motivated soldiers to fill its Warrant Officer ranks. Positions are open in all 45 specialties if you qualified. Soldiers with less than 12 years active federal service (AFS) are encouraged to apply. For more information, contact the Warrant Officer

Recruiting Team at  
www.usarec.army.mil/warrant or DSN  
536-0484/0458/0488/0478.

### ***Recruit the Recruiter***

United States Army Recruiting is seeking highly motivated and dedicated NCOs

to assist in providing the strength of America's Army. Take the challenge and learn how you can become a member of the recruiting team if you qualified. For more details, visit our Web site:

www.usarec.army.mil/recruiter or DSN  
536-0271/0215/0465/0210/0

# Man on the Street

## How do you keep in touch with loved ones?



"I keep in touch through e-mail."

- Pfc. Douglas W. Trotter Jr.,  
Company B, 501st Signal  
Battalion



"You have to trust the old e-mail. Once in awhile, I give them a call."

- Sgt. Richard C.  
Dawson, Co. B, 501st  
Signal Bn.

"NIPR net (e-mail) and every now and then I'll ship something home."

- Maj. David Stock,  
318th Tactical Psycho-  
logical Operations Co.



"I'm a signal person, mainly through e-mail and phone calls."

- Master Sgt. James  
Price, G-6, 101st Air-  
borne Division (Air  
Assault)



"I write home once a week and call home once a week."

- Sgt. Joe Hyland, 431st  
Civil Affairs Bn.



"I keep in touch with them in formation once a week."

- Sgt. 1st Class Ted Vytlačil,  
318th PSYOP Co.

