

January 15, 2005

# DESERT MESH

*The Official Voice of ARCENT - Qatar*



Issue 31

*Dr.  
Martin  
Luther  
King Jr.*



*Black History  
Month*



# Celebrating African-American/Black History February 1-28

## National Observance For Civil Rights Leader

It took 15 years to create the federal Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday. Congressman John Conyers, Democrat from Michigan, first introduced legislation for a commemorative holiday four days after King was assassinated in 1968. After the bill became stalled, petitions endorsing the holiday containing six million names were submitted to Congress.



*Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.*

Conyers and Rep. Shirley Chisholm, Democrat of New York, resubmitted King holiday legislation each subsequent legislative session. Public pressure for the holiday mounted during the 1982 and 1983 civil rights marches in Washington.

Congress passed the holiday legislation in 1983, which was then signed into law by President Ronald Reagan. A compromise moving the holiday from January 15, King's birthday, which was considered too close to Christmas and New Year's, to the third Monday in January helped overcome opposition to the law.

## National Consensus on the Holiday

A number of states resisted celebrating the holiday. Some opponents said King did not deserve his own holiday—contending that the entire civil rights movement rather than one individual, however instrumental, should be honored. Several southern states include celebrations for various Confederate generals on that day, while Utah calls it Human Rights Day. Legislation is now pending to change the name to Martin Luther King Day. Arizona voters approved the holiday in 1992 after a threatened tourist boycott. In 1999, New Hampshire changed the name of Civil Rights Day to Martin Luther King, Jr., Day.

## Quotes From MLK

*I decided early to give my life to something eternal and absolute. Not to these little gods that are here today and gone tomorrow, but to God who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.* **From "Rediscovering Lost Values," Feb. 28, 1954**

*The question is not whether we will be extremist but what kind of extremist will we be.* **From "Letter from Birmingham Jail," April 16, 1963**

*We are not makers of history. We are made by history.*  
**From Strength to Love, 1963**

*There can be no deep disappointment where there is not deep love.* **From "Letter from Birmingham Jail," April 16, 1963**

*I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal."* **From the "I Have a Dream" speech, Aug. 28, 1963**



*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., delivering his "I Have A Dream" speech on the steps of Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. on August 28, 1963.*

*We will have to repent in this generation not merely for the hateful words and actions of the bad people but for the appalling silence of the good people.* **From "Letter from Birmingham Jail," April 16, 1963**

*Nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.* **"From Strength to Love," 1963**

*I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. This is why right, temporarily defeated, is stronger than evil triumphant.* **Nobel Peace Prize Acceptance Speech, Dec. 10, 1964**

# Soldiers Make History In Shooting Competition

The first ever Marksmanship Championships were held 22 December, 2004 between the United States Armed Forces stationed in Qatar at both Camp As Sayliyah and Al Udeid and Qatar military personnel. The competitive event was hosted by the Qatari Military. Utilizing international competition rules for Olympic and international shooting events, a total of over 100 men competed for each of their respective countries. Women were allowed to coach and practice, however they were not allowed to compete.

The three areas of competition consisted of; pistol, drop plates rifle and the 300 meter rifle. The team was comprised of Spc. James "Bubba" Lenz of the



*Spc. James Lenz, Staff Sgts. Duane Stinson, Bradley Barontine, Michael Roth, Jensen Brouillette, and Coach Tech. Sgt. Amy Osborne*

U. S. Army. From the U. S. Air Force Staff Sgts. Duane Stinson, Bradley S. Barontine, Michael Roth, Coach Tech. Sgt. Amy L. Osborne, won the bronze medal in the drop plates rifle competition. Making history as the first Americans ever in an all Arabic competition and winning a medal in the event. The Imperial Guard placed first and the Special Forces team placed second. Although the Qatar military shooting competition occurs on a yearly basis, this was the first year the Americans have been invited to participate. American participants practiced daily at the ranges from 0630 to 1300 then continued on with the rest of their duty day.

The American Soldiers were competing against Qatari shooters including; special forces, royal guards, border patrol commandos, infantry soldiers, military police and Olympic shooters.

## An American Soldier

Deployed since January 2003, arriving in Qatar in March 2003, Army winning team member in the drop

plate competition Spc. James Lenz was asked how long had he been shooting. "Probably since I was five, I'm from Alabama." Spc. Lenz learned to shoot, "With a rebuilt gun – me and my step-dad rebuilt, a Smith and Wesson 22 caliber rifle." Interestingly enough, the gun was purchased at a local pawn shop. Wanting to follow in his father's footsteps, Spc. James Lenz joined the army seven years ago with an MOS of postal and is currently serving in the Reserves. He attributes his interest in shooting to his step-dad who was "Always setting up targets in the backyard of their Tennessee home." He stated, "I never practice but qualify every year." Given the opportunity, Spc. Lenz would be hunting deer in Mississippi.

When not serving in the Reserves, Spc. Lenz is employed with Morgan County Court house (Decatur, Alabama) as a maintenance man. Siting his favorite gun as an old police issued Smith and Wesson 38 special (collector's item) given to him by his step-dad after he suffered a stroke. His top choice for hunting is a Winchester 30/30.

Spc. Lenz went on to say, "I'd like to thank all of ARCENT for their support; everyone on their shooting teams and Qatar military for doing so well in the competition and for making it an enjoyable competition." Competition was fierce in each of the events, with only seconds separating each of the participating teams. The difference between 3<sup>rd</sup> place and 6<sup>th</sup> place was 5 points.

Members comprising the pistol team were as follows: Lt. Cols. Art Rozier, Mark Teskey, Air Force; Senior Airman Robert McNiel, Air Force; Tech. Sgt. Tish Gerrell, Air Force; Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class Elias Doma, Navy; Maj. Jericho Guzman, Army; Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Howard Brown Jr., Army.

The Air Force is currently organizing another competition between the two countries with a tentative date in late January 2005. This will afford those participating members the opportunity to earn the Excellence in Competition badge (EIC). Work is underway to create similar badges for those participating on the Qatari teams.

*Story by Jamie Whipp*

# New Chapter In History of 25th Signal Battalion

The official history of the 25<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion began on 03 February 1944. The battalion has the distinction of being one of the few units that fought in both the European and Pacific Theaters of World War Two. The battalion later served in Germany with 7<sup>th</sup> Army during the Cold War and with 35<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. The battalion was reactivated on 01 September 2003 in Camp As Sayliyah, Qatar with the responsibility of having to maintain communications support over a larger geographic area than any other signal battalion in the United States Army. The date of 27 February 2004 will now be added to the colorful history of the battalion. On that date, the new battalion headquarters located at Camp As Sayliyah, Qatar was officially opened.

Distinguished guests at the grand opening of the battalion headquarters included Maj. Gen. Commander of the United States Army Network Enterprise Command, Commander of ARCENT-QATAR, Command Sgt. Maj. of ARCENT-QATAR,



*NETCOM Commanding General, Maj. General Hylton speaking at the building Dedication*

Command Sgt. Maj. of NETCOM, and Command Sgt. Maj. of 160<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade. The soldiers and civilians of the battalion were present to witness



*Ribbon Cutting Ceremony dedicating the 25th Signal Battalion's new building.*

this historical event.

The event was opened by Staff Sgt. George Crimmins who led the battalion in the opening prayer. He was followed by Spc. Rezsau Lewis who read the official history of the 25<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion. The Battalion Commander spoke briefly about the history of the battalion and its role in the Global War on Terror. He was followed by Maj. Gen. Hylton who spoke briefly about how the army's changing role and how it relates to the Global War

on Terror. Then the moment the entire battalion had waited for finally arrived. Maj. Gen. Hylton, Lt. Col. Starke, Lt. Col. Corbett and Command Sgt. Maj. Manley cut the ribbon to the new building officially signifying the new battalion headquarters was open for business.

*Article by Cpt. Kenneth R. Barber  
Photos by Staff Sgt. Danny D. Barnes*

## Holiday E-pictures

USO Qatar would like to thank all the volunteers for making this year's "Holiday E-Pictures with Santa" a success! The seven days E-Pictures was held over 575 digital pictures were taken and e-mailed. Your unselfish dedication and hours sacrificed this holiday season does not go unnoticed. You brought smiles and holiday spirit to the men, women and children at Camp As Sayliyah and their loved ones back home. USO received numerous replies from family members thanking us and as one mother wrote "making their holiday season".

Once again, thank-you for your continued support!

The Alexander family	Sandy Goodman
Miguel Amaro	Marie Grosse
Beth Bennett	Barron Hall
The Bisrat family	Phil Helinski
Glenda Bush	Matt Herman
Cathy Curt	Calandra Holt
Bill Dempsey	Davine Irving
Will Eadie	Nancy Musick
Dave Foley	Bernadette Salas
Bucky Savard	Gina Smith Wilson
Debbie Dixon and the Girl Scouts, USA Overseas Troop Qatar	
Mark Seay and the American School of Doha band	
Gregory Wright	

USO needs your help!

Programs like these need your support to survive. If you are not yet a USO volunteer and are interested in becoming one, please contact: USO Qatar, building 406. DSN 432-4008 or civilian 561-9919.

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## USO's Holiday Board

This year's Holiday Board Contest sponsored by the USO had nine participants from several tenant units and one entry from local Cub Scout Troop 970. The field of entries was narrowed to three with the Cub Scouts taking first place, followed by the Iraq Survey Group placing second and CFSOCC winning third.

Congratulations to all of our participants, USO looks forward to next year's contest and even more participation from Camp As Sayliyah!

## Holiday Spirit or Competitive Nature?

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Camp As Sayliyah Door Decorating Contest. Twenty-two contestants officially entered vying for first place as Camp As Sayliyah's Top Door. Doors were decorated with a variety of themes for



this year's event; ranging from nativity scenes, Christmas trees and the ever popular Santa Claus. Congratulations to this year's winners: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Barbara Leonard of ARCENT, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Malachi of Finance and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place went to Sgt. Gentry of Vet. Detachment.



Participating doors were photographed and posted on the intranet for popular voting. The field was narrowed from twenty-two to the top five by popular vote. Random judges were selected from tenant units. Judges then independently viewed and voted for their top choice.

## Presidents' Day



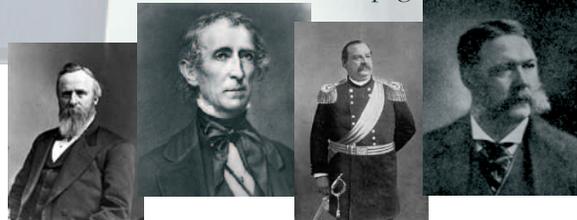
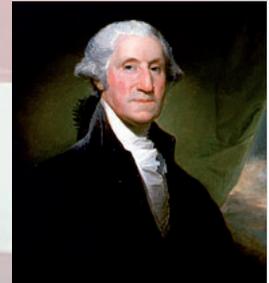
According to the federal government, the holiday observed on the third Monday in February is officially Washington's Birthday. But many Americans believe that this holiday is now called "Presidents'

Day," in honor of both Presidents Washington and Lincoln, whose birthdays are February 22 and February 12.

America's presidents have represented many states, held different occupations and faced difficult challenges.

However, each president answered the same call--the call to serve the American people.

How many American Presidents can you name? Answers are located on the back page.



## A Very Special Thank You To The Tamimi Global Staff, We Appreciate You!



## Presidents' Day Answers



1. George Washington, 1789-1797
2. John Adams, 1797-1801
3. Thomas Jefferson, 1801-1809
4. James Madison, 1809-1817
5. James Monroe, 1817-1825
6. John Quincy Adams, 1825-1829
7. Andrew Jackson, 1829-1837
8. Martin Van Buren, 1837-1841
9. William Henry Harrison, 1841
10. John Tyler, 1841-1845
11. James Knox Polk, 1845-1849
12. Zachary Taylor, 1849-1850
13. Millard Fillmore, 1850-1853
14. Franklin Pierce, 1853-1857
15. James Buchanan, 1857-1861
16. Abraham Lincoln, 1861-1865
17. Andrew Johnson, 1865-1869
18. Ulysses Simpson Grant, 1869-1877
19. Rutherford Birchard Hayes, 1877-1881
20. James Abram Garfield, 1881
21. Chester Alan Arthur, 1881-1885
22. Grover Cleveland, 1885-1889
23. Benjamin Harrison, 1889-1893
24. Grover Cleveland, 1893-1897
25. William McKinley, 1897-1901
26. Theodore Roosevelt, 1901-1909
27. William Howard Taft, 1909-1913
28. Woodrow Wilson, 1913-1921
29. Warren Gamaliel Harding, 1921-1923
30. Calvin Coolidge, 1923-1929
31. Herbert Clark Hoover, 1929-1933
32. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 1933-1945
33. Harry S. Truman, 1945-1953
34. Dwight David Eisenhower, 1953-1961
35. John Fitzgerald Kennedy, 1961-1963
36. Lyndon Baines Johnson, 1963-1969
37. Richard Milhous Nixon, 1969-1974
38. Gerald Rudolph Ford, 1974-1977
39. James Earl Carter, Jr., 1977-1981
40. Ronald Wilson Reagan, 1981-1989
41. George Herbert Walker Bush, 1989-1993
42. William Jefferson Clinton, 1993-2001
43. George Walker Bush, 2001-

## Community Services

### Catholic Services

#### Weekdays

*Mon-Thur: 1200 hrs at B120*

#### Weekends

*Sat: 1730 hrs at B120*

*Sun: 0900 hrs at B120*

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

*Sat: 1530 hrs at B120*

*Sun: 0800 hrs at B120*

AND by Appointment

### Protestant Services

*General Protestant Service: 1030 hrs at Bldg 120*

*Church of Christ Service: 1900 hrs at Bldg 120*

*Chapel fellowship: Joint Protestant & Catholic*

*1000 hrs at Bldg 120*

## Offices & Services

American Embassy	488-4101
APO	432-2256
Chaplin	432-2198
Clinic	432-3508
Finance	432-2824
Hours of Operation	
Saturday-Thursday /	0800-1130
	1300-1630
Friday	1300-1630
Housing	432-2351
Legal Assistance	432-2409
Operator	432-1110
OTB (overseas travel bureau)	460-8287
Public Affairs	432-2572
Photographer	432-3400
Postal Package Pickup	432-2807
Post Office	
Hours of Operation	
Monday - Saturday /	0800-1200
	1300-1730
Sunday	1300-1730
S-1 (Personnel)	432-2251
MWR	432-4337
Transportation	432-2195
(In/Outbound)	
Tricare Rep	460-8330