



# The Old Ironsides Report

Friday, May 07, 2004



## TF 1-37 Signal Soldiers ensure clear comms



**Task Force 1-37 Armor signal officer, 2nd Lt. Scott Paul, carries hanks of computer network cable and a case of Meals, Ready to Eat, during set up operations for the task force's communications systems.**

**Story and photo by Spc. Andrew Meissner, 1AD PAO WITH TASK FORCE 1-37, Iraq --** In war, communication lines are just as important as battle lines.

When Task Force 1-37 Armor arrived at Camp Lima they found the Polish forces already inhabiting the camp had already set up a good foundation for the task force's signal operations.

Setting up secure communications links for the task force tactical operations center (TOC) was one challenge, but tying Internet, voice and radio communications into the Polish systems was another.

Task Force signal officer, 2nd Lt. Scott Paul, said that the real test of signal Soldiers' skills is the time it takes to install, test and troubleshoot the TOC communications systems.

The signal Soldiers do not have the luxury of time, he said. Their work needs to be completed quickly and error-free at the same time.

Paul said setting up communications in Camp Lima had unique challenges such as integrating U.S. and Polish communication systems and establishing "direct comms with their equipment as well as our headquarters'."

Paul has a small team working with him to help set up the lines of communication.

Cpl. Lawrence Strickland, a communication systems specialist, runs wire for the telephone system.

"That (wire is for telephone service) for all over this area -- all the way up to Babylon," he said explaining the several sets of wires. "Everything down here is Bulgarian, Polish and Thai. Being in touch with the international forces is just as important as being in touch with your own."

Strickland said the task force will have telephone communications with U.S. forces quickly

"That's what we're setting up, right now we're just looking for the phones," he said.

Staff Sgt. Christopher Joshua, the communications section noncommissioned officer-in-charge, said his crew is responsible for maintaining all communications for Task Force 1-37 Armor.

As the NCOIC, Joshua is also responsible for the welfare of the Soldiers working under him.

"As a leader I have to be sure that Soldiers have all the right equipment, but also eat properly, drink plenty of water and take care of their human needs."

Joshua said he trusts his Soldiers' training and abilities, and feels the Soldier and the mission go hand-in-hand.

"If you take care of people, people will take care of the mission," he said.

The task force Soldiers have a tough job that is time sensitive. They know they have plenty of tasks ahead of them.

"We deal with all kinds of stuff, radios, phones -- anything that has an electrical current running through it," said Strickland.

But, laughing he revealed his true affection for his position, "I love my job, I love it... where else can you do what you want to do and get paid for it?"



**Soldiers from the 1st Armored Division bow their heads during a prayer breakfast at the Bob Hope Dining Facility on Baghdad International Airport in Baghdad, Iraq May 6. The prayer breakfast, which included a speech by Chap. (Lt. Col.) John Read, Combined Joint Task Force – 7 deputy chaplain, was held to commemorate the National Day of Prayer. The National Day of Prayer is an annual event held on the first Thursday of May. Photo by Sgt. Shauna McRoberts.**

## **NEWS...**

### **U.S. Seizes Governor's Office in Najaf**

NAJAF, Iraq (AP) - The United States intensified pressure on a radical cleric Thursday, seizing the governor's office from his fighters in Najaf and killing an estimated 40 insurgents in battles east of the holy city, a U.S. official said. In Baghdad, a suicide attacker detonated a car bomb outside the so-called Green Zone that houses the U.S. headquarters, killing five Iraqi civilians and a U.S. soldier.

### **Bush: Rumsfeld 'Will Stay in My Cabinet'**

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Bush said Thursday that Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld "will stay in my Cabinet" despite calls for his resignation by congressional Democrats in the wake of abusive treatment of Iraqi prisoners at the hands of American captors. "Secretary Rumsfeld has served our nation well," Bush told reporters in an appearance in the White House Rose Garden. Speaking slowly for emphasis, he added, "Secretary Rumsfeld has been the secretary during two wars, and he is an important part of my Cabinet."

### **Juror in Nichols Case Has a Heart Attack**

McALESTER, Okla. (AP) - A juror in bombing trial of Oklahoma City bombing conspirator Terry Nichols had a heart attack before arriving in court Thursday and was replaced by an alternate. Judge Steven Taylor said the man was hospitalized and is expected to fully recover. His notes were destroyed, and the judge said reporters should not contact him.

### **Injured Officer Foils Theft in Detroit ER**

DETROIT (AP) - A public safety officer being treated for a knee injury at a hospital emergency room foiled a fellow patient's apparent attempt to steal a watch from an unconscious patient. James Lant, 59, was at Henry Ford Hospital on Tuesday after hurting his knee while fighting a house fire. He said he watched as the fellow patient shook the man lying on a gurney to see whether he was awake.

## **Sports & Entertainment...**

### **Aniston Among Olympic Torch Bearers**

ATHENS, Greece (AP) -- Magic Johnson, Carl Lewis and Gail Devers, along with "Friends" TV star Jennifer Aniston, will help carry the Olympic torch on its journey around the world.

Australia's 400-meter Olympic champion Cathy Freeman will carry the torch at the start of the relay in Sydney on June 4.

Later in Brazil, the flame's first appearance in South America, the torch will be carried by soccer stars including Pele, Ronaldo and Zico.

Besides Johnson, Lewis and Devers, Michael Johnson and Edwin Moses and actress Angelina Jolie were selected. Aniston is of Greek descent.

In London, Roger Bannister, Steve Redgrave, Tim Henman and Sally Gunnell are among 140 torchbearers who will carry the flame through the city.

The flame was lit in Ancient Olympia on March 25 and brought to Athens' marble stadium, where the first modern Olympics were held in 1896.

It will burn at the stadium until June 4, when it starts a 46,800-mile journey across six continents, 27 countries and 33 cities with some 11,000 runners.

The torch relay returns to Greece July 9 for the second half of its domestic relay. Jolie will carry the torch during one of the relay's final stages for the Aug. 13-29 Olympics.

### **Reggae Legend Peter Tosh to Be Honored**

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) - Late reggae legend Peter Tosh will be honored at the fourth annual Calabash International Literary Festival later this month. The May 28-30 festival will bring together several internationally recognized writers, actors and musicians for public readings and performances.

## **Thought for the day...**

### **The Decoy**

During World War II, the Germans constructed with meticulous care, a decoy 'airfield' of wood. There were wooden hangars, oil tanks, gun emplacements, trucks and aircraft. However, the Germans took so long in building their wooden decoy that Allied photo experts had more than enough time to observe and report it.

On the day the airfield was finished, a lone RAF plane crossed the Channel, came in low, circled the field once and dropped a large wooden bomb.

The moral value of Integrity entails the ethical integration of public and private life. Meaning, that if the values you display at home differ from those demonstrated in public, then you lack Integrity. The difference between real integrity and a 'moral false front' is the same as that between a functioning airfield and a wooden decoy. Both may look the same from a distance, but only one will pass the test of close scrutiny.

## Today in history...

### May 7, 1915: LUSITANIA SINKS

(HISTORYCHANNEL.COM) -- On the afternoon of May 7, 1915, the British ocean liner *Lusitania* is torpedoed without warning by a German submarine off the south coast of Ireland. Within 20 minutes, the vessel sank into the Celtic Sea. Of 1,959 passengers and crew, 1,198 people were drowned, including 128 Americans. The attack aroused considerable indignation in the United States, but Germany defended the action, noting that it had issued warnings of its intent to attack all ships, neutral or otherwise, that entered the war zone around Britain.

When World War I erupted in 1914, President Woodrow Wilson pledged neutrality for the United States, a position that the vast majority of Americans favored. Britain, however, was one of America's closest trading partners, and tension soon arose between the United States and Germany over the latter's attempted quarantine of the British isles. Several U.S. ships traveling to Britain were damaged or sunk by German mines, and in February 1915 Germany announced unrestricted submarine warfare in the waters around Britain.

In early May 1915, several New York newspapers published a warning by the German embassy in Washington that Americans traveling on British or Allied ships in war zones did so at their own risk. The announcement was placed on the same page as an advertisement of the imminent sailing of the *Lusitania* liner from New York back to Liverpool. The sinkings of merchant ships off the south coast of Ireland prompted the British Admiralty to warn the *Lusitania* to avoid the area or take simple evasive action, such as zigzagging to confuse U-boats plotting the vessel's course. The captain of the *Lusitania* ignored these recommendations, and at 2:12 p.m. on May 7 the 32,000-ton ship was hit by an exploding torpedo on its starboard side. The torpedo blast was followed by a larger explosion, probably of the ship's boilers, and the ship sank in 20 minutes.

It was revealed that the *Lusitania* was carrying about 173 tons of war munitions for Britain, which the Germans cited as further justification for the attack. The United States eventually sent three notes to Berlin protesting the action, and Germany apologized and pledged to end unrestricted submarine warfare. In November, however, a U-boat sunk an Italian liner without warning, killing 272 people, including 27 Americans. Public opinion in the United States began to turn irrevocably against Germany.

On January 31, 1917, Germany, determined to win its war of attrition against the Allies, announced that it would resume unrestricted warfare in war-zone waters. Three days later, the United States broke diplomatic relations with Germany, and just hours after that the American liner *Housatonic* was sunk by a German U-boat. On February 22, Congress passed a \$250 million arms appropriations bill intended to make the United States ready for war. In late March, Germany sunk four more U.S. merchant ships, and on April 2 President Wilson appeared before Congress and called for a declaration of war against Germany. On April 4, the Senate voted to declare war against Germany, and two days later the House of Representatives endorsed the declaration. With that, America entered World War I.

### Help for Iron Families in the 104<sup>th</sup> ASG

The extension of 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom has raised many questions in the minds of Soldiers and families stationed throughout the 104<sup>th</sup> Area Support Group. In order to respond to the needs of Iron Families, the 104<sup>th</sup> ASG has set up specific information links on their website.

As the morale and welfare of the Soldiers currently deployed to Iraq is being addressed by the 1AD chain of command, the 1AD rear detachment and the 104<sup>th</sup> ASG are addressing issues on the home front. Realizing that many of the issues faced by deployed Soldiers and families at home often overlap, the 104<sup>th</sup> ASG website offers a tool with which to address some of those issues.

Specifically for the families in the rear, Stop Loss/Stop Move is still in effect and certain policy exceptions are already in place in order to aid families in a variety of issues ranging from relocating within the 104<sup>th</sup> ASG to attending DODDS this fall.

For more information, please visit the Q&A site at:

[http://www.hanau.army.mil/HanauWeb/04\\_services/newsfrontvtc.asp](http://www.hanau.army.mil/HanauWeb/04_services/newsfrontvtc.asp).

All questions can be directed to:

[http://www.hanau.army.mil/HanauWeb/04\\_services/newfront/form2.htm](http://www.hanau.army.mil/HanauWeb/04_services/newfront/form2.htm).

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: FRIDAY, MAY 07, 2004			As of: Thursday, May 06, 2004 9:24:49 PM		
Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS
0:00		HEADLINE NEWS		ESPNEWS: THE HOT LIST	
0:30		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):	MAIL CALL (EPS 1-13) (TVPG):	HEADLINE NEWS	AIR FORCE TV NEWS
1:00	AROUND THE HORN		MASTERPIECE THEATER (TVPG): - THE JURY (PT. 3)	TODAY	LESTER HOLT LIVE
1:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):			
2:00	SPORTSCENTER		MASTERPIECE THEATER (TVPG): - THE JURY (PT. 4)		HEADLINE NEWS
2:30		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS
3:00	THE SPORTS REPORTERS	MLB - BOSTON RED SOX @ CLEVELAND INDIANS	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - CLASH OF THE TEUTONS	SESAME STREET	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT
3:30	TOTALLY NASCAR		SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY): - JELLY FISHING/ PLANKTON!		CBS EVENING NEWS
4:00	BEYOND THE GLORY		THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - SELMA'S CHOICE	BUGS BUNNY MOTHER'S DAY SPECIAL	COUNTDOWN WITH KEITH OLBERMANN
4:30			THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - THE SHOW MUST GO ON	WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):	
5:00	NBA - PLAYOFFS - 2ND ROUND GM 1: MIAMI HEAT @ INDIANA PACERS		THE DEAD ZONE (TV14): - PRECIPITATE	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	HANNITY & COLMES
6:00		ESPNEWS	BOSTON PUBLIC (TV14): - CHAPTER TEN	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):	THE NEWSHOUR
6:30		ESPNEWS			
7:00		HEADLINE NEWS	DINOSAUR PLANET (TVPG): - POD'S TRAVEL	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	BET NIGHTLY NEWS
7:30	INSIDE THE NBA	ESPNEWS		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):	NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT
8:00		HEADLINE NEWS	TOYOTA WORLD OF WILDLIFE (TVG): - RAIN & WATER	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	LARRY KING LIVE
8:25				GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):	
8:30	ESPNEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	JACK HANNA'S ANIMAL ADVENTURES (TVG): - WILDLIFE IN THE BIG CITY		
9:00	BASEBALL TONIGHT	SESAME STREET	BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER (TV14): - ONCE MORE, WITH FEELING		NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN
9:15				GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):	
10:00	SPORTSCENTER	BUGS BUNNY MOTHER'S DAY SPECIAL	THE X-FILES (TV14): - DREAMLAND (PT. 1)	HOUSE OF MOUSE (TVY): - PLUTO SAVES THE DAY	PAULA ZAHN NOW
10:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):		ALL GROWN UP (TVY): - SUSIE SINGS THE BLUES	
11:00	MLB - MILWAUKEE BREWERS @ CINCINNATI REDS	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - CLASH OF THE TEUTONS	OZZY & DRIX (TVY7): - HOME WITH HECTOR	NIGHTLINE
11:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY): - JELLY FISHING/ PLANKTON!	AS TOLD BY GINGER (TVY): - MS. FOUTLEY'S BOYS	HEADLINE NEWS
11:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):			
12:00			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - SELMA'S CHOICE	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS
12:30			THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - THE SHOW MUST GO ON	HEADLINE NEWS	
12:35		GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):			
12:52				PACIFIC REPORT	
13:00			THE DEAD ZONE (TV14): - PRECIPITATE	ESPNEWS	PRIMETIME
13:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):			
13:30				HEADLINE NEWS	
13:50					HEADLINE NEWS
13:52				PACIFIC REPORT	
14:00	SPORTSCENTER	HEADLINE NEWS	BOSTON PUBLIC (TV14): - CHAPTER TEN	FRIENDS (TVPG): - THE ONE WITH ALL THE OTHER ONES-A FRIENDS RETROSPECTIVE	THE O'REILLY FACTOR
14:30		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):			
15:00	BUDWEISER BOXING SERIES - ATLANTIC CITY, NJ	TODAY	DINOSAUR PLANET (TVPG): - POD'S TRAVEL	FRIENDS (TVPG): - THE LAST ONE (60 MINS)	GOOD MORNING AMERICA
16:00			TOYOTA WORLD OF WILDLIFE (TVG): - RAIN & WATER	SURVIVOR: ALL-STARS (TVPG):	
16:30	ESPNEWS		JACK HANNA'S ANIMAL ADVENTURES (TVG): - WILDLIFE IN THE BIG CITY		
17:00	SPORTSCENTER	HOUSE OF MOUSE (TVY): - PLUTO SAVES THE DAY	BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER (TV14): - ONCE MORE, WITH FEELING	HEADLINE NEWS	HEADLINE NEWS
17:22				PACIFIC REPORT	
17:30		ALL GROWN UP (TVY): - SUSIE SINGS THE BLUES		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):	CHANNEL ONE
17:45					ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING
18:00	TOTALLY NASCAR	OZZY & DRIX (TVY7): - HOME WITH HECTOR	THE X-FILES (TV14): - DREAMLAND (PT. 1)		THE EARLY SHOW
18:30	BASEBALL TONIGHT	AS TOLD BY GINGER (TVY): - MS. FOUTLEY'S BOYS		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):	
19:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - CLASH OF THE TEUTONS		
19:30		HEADLINE NEWS	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY): - JELLY FISHING/ PLANKTON!	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	
20:00	ESPNEWS	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - SELMA'S CHOICE	CONAN THE BARBARIAN	FOX NEWS LIVE
20:19	BASEBALL TONIGHT				
20:30		HEADLINE NEWS	THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - THE SHOW MUST GO ON		
21:00	MOTORCYCLE RACING - THQ WORLD SUPERCROSS (250CC) LAS VEGAS, NV	FRIENDS (TVPG): - THE ONE WITH ALL THE OTHER ONES-A FRIENDS RETROSPECTIVE	THE DEAD ZONE (TV14): - PRECIPITATE		PRIMETIME
21:45				NORTH SHORE	
21:50					FOX NEWS LIVE
22:00	MOTORCYCLE RACING - THQ WORLD SUPERCROSS (125CC) LAS VEGAS, NV	FRIENDS (TVPG): - THE LAST ONE (60 MINS)	BOSTON PUBLIC (TV14): - CHAPTER TEN		FOX NEWS LIVE
23:00	MLB - COLORADO ROCKIES @ CHICAGO CUBS	SURVIVOR: ALL-STARS (TVPG):	DINOSAUR PLANET (TVPG): - POD'S TRAVEL		HEADLINE NEWS
23:30				CINEMA SECRETS (TVG): - HIGH STRUNG	INSIDE POLITICS