



# *The Old Ironsides Report*

Friday, April 16, 2004



## 'Old Ironsides' hands city over to '1st Team'

By Jim Garamone, American Forces Press Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq— Task Force Baghdad, made up mostly of the 1st Cavalry Division, has assumed responsibility for Baghdad and its environs from the 1st Armored Division.

Maj. Gen. Martin E. Dempsey handed over the responsibility to Maj. Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli in a "no-fuss, no-muss" manner. "We weren't going to have a ceremony for this," said Army Lt. Col. Jim Hutton, the public affairs officer for Task Force Baghdad. "Our people have more important things to do."

News reports indicate that at least portions of the 1st Armored Division, which has its headquarters in Wiesbaden, Germany, will remain in Iraq as part of the combat force plus-up that Army Gen. John Abizaid, U.S. Central Command commander, requested.

Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers visited the headquarters of Task Force Baghdad as part of a visit to Iraq. The Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman has stopped at Tallil and visited with Italian members of the coalition, and at Hillah, where he visited with the Polish commander of the Multinational Division Central. He is meeting here with Combined Joint Task Force 7's commander, Army Lt. Gen. Ricardo S. Sanchez, and Coalition Provisional Authority administrator Ambassador L. Paul Bremer III.

The transition of authority to the 1st Cavalry Division, based at Fort Hood, Texas, was a long process. The Army identified the division as the replacement last year. Planning went into high gear. CJTF 7 officials did not want to lose the experience that the 1st Armored Division had painfully built up in a year in Baghdad.

Officials from the 1st Cavalry Division visited their counterparts in Baghdad, and 1st Armored Division personnel began sending information to Fort Hood. The cavalry division went through training at Fort Hood, the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., and the Joint National Training Center at Fort Polk, La., before deploying.

The Fort Hood unit also began getting raw data from Baghdad and running its own analyses. They then matched their conclusions with those of the 1st Armored Division people in Iraq.

The 1st Cavalry Division's initial party deployed in January. Key staff people met with their counterparts, and the initial party laid the foundation for follow-on groups. They began a "left-seat/right-seat" training regimen. Under this program, 1st Cavalry Division people observed 1st Armored Division people doing their jobs. They would then switch; the 1st Cavalry person would do the job and the 1st Armored Division person would critique the soldier's performance. "This went right down to the squad level," Hutton said. "It was enormously important."

But the 1st Cavalry Division did not just duplicate what the 1st Armored Division did. For example, the cavalry unit is not based at the Baghdad airport, as the armored division was. "Eventually, the airport will revert to the Iraqi people, and they will need the space," Hutton said. "Plus, here force protection



**Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Bush, 1st Armored Division command sergeant major, inspects the division's colors before transfer of authority ceremonies April 15.**

is a bit easier."

Hutton said the division can still get to trouble spots quickly from its new location. The big shoulder patch of the 1st Cavalry Division is now apparent at military checkpoints through the city, and, unfortunately, the division has already lost people – seven soldiers died and 51 were wounded in an attack April 4.

Division officials said the 1st Cav faces a small number of enemies but a threat that is constantly evolving. They said the division faces former regime elements, foreign fighters and illegal militias of all stripes. The main focus of concern is the Thawura area – also known as Sadr City. "Our job is to keep the area safe, and we are doing that," Hutton said. "We can still go on any street we want to go on. We can go anywhere we want to go. No government building is occupied by enemy forces, nor will they be."

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## **NEWS...**

### **Bush, Blair Will Meet to Show Iraq Unity**

WASHINGTON (AP) - Meeting at the White House, President Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair are looking to show a united front on Iraq, hoping to boost public support and bolster a wobbly military coalition. The two leaders were to meet for 90 minutes Friday, hold a joint news conference, and then return for an hour-long private lunch.

### **Diplomat Killed in Iraq; 3 Hostages Freed**

NAJAF, Iraq (AP) - Gunmen assassinated an Iranian diplomat in Baghdad on Thursday just as Iran, with tacit U.S. approval, attempted to mediate with a radical Shiite cleric defying American forces in this southern Iraqi city. Meanwhile, three Japanese were freed by their captors, a day after other kidnappers executed an Italian - the first known killing of a hostage in Iraq's wave of kidnappings. The freed Japanese hostages - two aid workers and a journalist - were handed over to Islamic clerics in Baghdad after being held for a week. They were later brought to the Japanese Embassy.

### **Europe Rejects Purported Bin Laden Truce**

LONDON (AP) - Key European nations emphatically dismissed a truce offer purportedly from Osama bin Laden, refusing to negotiate with his al-Qaida terror network and rejecting what many called a blatant attempt to divide the United States and its allies. France and Germany, staunch opponents of the Iraq war, denounced the tape, as did Britain, Spain and Italy. The recording offered "a truce to European countries ... to any country which does not carry out an onslaught against Muslims or interfere in their affairs."

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

### **Live and Learn**

At the time of his inauguration, President George Washington had only one remaining tooth of his own. To make up for this deficiency, he wore dentures made of such materials as ivory, lead, or cow, hippopotamus and human teeth.

Although too late to save his own teeth, Washington learned from his mistakes and on his orders, the estate grooms brushed the teeth of his six prize white stallions each morning as part of their grooming.

## ***In other news...***

### **Kilt-Wearing Marine Plays Bagpipes in Iraq**

FALLUJAH, Iraq (AP) -- Amid the clatter of gunfire and explosions that regularly rock this city, an unexpected sound rises over the front line - bagpipes.

Dressed in Marine fatigues with his gun at his side, 1st Sgt. Dwayne Farr, 36, blows into his set of pipes. The plaintive wail is carried by the wind that whips across this dust-blown, war-torn town.

"Playing on the battlefield - I never thought that would happen," Farr said.

Farr, an African-American from Detroit, was inspired to learn when he saw another player who didn't match the Scotsman stereotype.

"I was at a funeral and I saw a Marine playing the bagpipes, and I thought, this isn't a big, burly, redheaded guy with a ponytail and a big stomach. He's a small Hispanic Marine. I said if he can learn to play the bagpipes, I can learn," he said, chuckling.

When he is not on the front-line, Farr wears a kilt when playing, and some Marines have been skeptical about a member of one of the toughest fighting forces in the world donning what looks like a skirt.

But Farr is unfazed. He's looking for a desert camouflage kilt he can wear in operations like these.

"Kilts are something that fighting men wore many years ago, and we know that the Marines are fighting men. So real men wear kilts. And they are pretty comfortable too," he said.

Among his admittedly limited repertoire is "taps," the tune traditionally played by the military when a service member is killed. Farr has played it several times over the past days in Fallujah.

Marines say the sound of the bagpipes is a morale booster.

"It's something to hear besides the rockets and gunfire," said Master Sgt. Rowland Salinas, 42, from San Antonio, Texas. "It's something that soothes the mind."

## ***Today in history...***

### **April 16, 1863: The Passage of Vicksburg**

(HISTORYCHANNEL.COM) – Admiral David Dixon Porter leads 12 ships past the heavy barrage of Confederate artillery at Vicksburg, Mississippi. He lost only one ship, and the operation speeded General Ulysses S. Grant's movement against Vicksburg.

Grant had been trying to capture Vicksburg for six months. A first attempt failed when General William T. Sherman's troops were unsuccessful in attacking Vicksburg from the north. Grant now planned to move his army down the opposite bank of the river, cross back to Mississippi, and approach the city from the east. The soggy spring conditions slowed his advance to a crawl as his force had to build bridges over the bayous on the Louisiana side of the river. To speed the operation, Grant called on Porter to take the ships loaded with men and supplies and run past the powerful Vicksburg batteries.

The flotilla quietly moved down the river on the dark night of April 16. The exhausts on the steamboats were vented into the paddle wheel housing to muffle the noise. The boats were positioned off center so that if a ship were hit, the following craft could pass safely. The ships were stacked with cotton bails act as a soft armor in the event of a direct hit. Confederate pickets spotted the flotilla and sent word to the batteries, and the bombardment began. The commanding Confederate, General John Pemberton, was attending a ball and was quickly summoned to the scene. Some Rebel soldiers even rowed across the Mississippi River to set fire to the trees on the western bank and provide backlighting for their gunners on the eastern shore.

It took over two hours for the ships and attached barges to pass. The Union lost only one ship and two barges, and Grant's plan proceeded. Within six weeks, he had locked up Vicksburg from the east and the siege began. Vicksburg would surrender on July 4, 1863.



## **1ST ARMORED DIVISION RETENTION**

### **OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM REDEPLOYMENT SUPPORT**



THE DIVISION RETENTION OFFICE WILL PROVIDE RETENTION  
SUPPORT FOR SOLDIERS REDEPLOYING THROUGH KUWAIT.

SFC NAGLE WILL BE LOCATED AT CP KUWAIT  
FROM 6 APRIL 2004 UNTIL MISSION COMPLETE.

**SFC DAN NAGLE**  
**Career Counselor**  
**daniel.nagle1 @us.army.mil**

SEE YOUR **OLD IRONSIDES**  
**CAREER COUNSELOR**  
TODAY

# The Old Ironsides Report April 16, 2004

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2004

Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
0:00	SPORTS SPECIAL - SPORTSCENTER NFL DRAFT SPECIAL	HEADLINE NEWS	ESPNEWS: THE HOT LIST		0:00
0:30		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):	HEADLINE NEWS	ARMY NEWSWATCH	0:30
1:00	THE HOT LIST		TODAY	LESTER HOLT LIVE	1:00
1:30	THE HOT LIST	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):			1:30
2:00	AROUND THE HORN			HEADLINE NEWS	2:00
2:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	2:30
3:00	NHL - PLAYOFFS - 1ST ROUND GM 5: MONTREAL CANADIENS @ BOSTON BRUINS	4 QTRS	SESAME STREET	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	3:00
3:30		NHL - PLAYOFFS - 1ST ROUND GM 5: NASHVILLE PREDATORS @ DETROIT RED WINGS		CBS EVENING NEWS	3:30
4:00			LITTLE BILL (TVY7): - THE DOLLAR/THE CHOICE	COUNTDOWN WITH KEITH OLBERMANN	4:00
4:30			WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):		4:30
5:00			THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	HANNITY & COLMES	5:00
5:30	NHL 2NIGHT				5:30
6:00	MLB - LOS ANGELES DODGERS @ SAN DIEGO PADRES	BASEBALL TONIGHT	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):	THE NEWSHOUR	6:00
7:00		HEADLINE NEWS	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	7:00
7:30		ESPNEWS	JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):	NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	7:30
8:00		HEADLINE NEWS	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	LARRY KING LIVE	8:00
8:25			GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):		8:25
8:30		HEADLINE NEWS			8:30
9:00	ESPNEWS	SESAME STREET		NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	9:00
9:13			GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):		9:13
9:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION				9:30
10:00	SPORTSCENTER	LITTLE BILL (TVY7): - THE DOLLAR/THE CHOICE	HOUSE OF MOUSE (TVY): - DONALD'S LAMP TRADE	PAULA ZAHN NOW	10:00
10:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):	ALL GROWN UP (TVY): - TOMMY FOOLERY		10:30
11:00	MLB - MINNESOTA TWINS @ CLEVELAND INDIANS	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	KIM POSSIBLE (TVY7): - TWO TO TUTOR	NIGHTLINE	11:00
11:30			MY LIFE AS A TEENAGE ROBOT (TVY7): - SAVED BY THE SHELL/TRADESHOW	HEADLINE NEWS	11:30
11:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):			11:46
12:00			JEOPARDY! (TVG):	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	12:00
12:30			HEADLINE NEWS		12:30
12:35		GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):			12:35
12:52			PACIFIC REPORT		12:52
13:00			ESPNEWS	PRIMETIME	13:00
13:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):			13:17
13:30			HEADLINE NEWS		13:30
13:52			PACIFIC REPORT		13:52
14:00	SPORTSCENTER	HEADLINE NEWS	THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - MARGICAL HISTORY TOUR	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	14:00
14:30		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):	MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE (TVPG): - VEGAS		14:30
15:00	NHL - PLAYOFFS - 1ST ROUND GM 5: ST. LOUIS BLUES VS SAN JOSE SHARKS	TODAY	SURVIVOR: ALL-STARS (TVPG):	GOOD MORNING AMERICA	15:00
16:00			ALIAS (TVPG): - REUNION		16:00
16:30					16:30
17:00		HOUSE OF MOUSE (TVY): - DONALD'S LAMP TRADE	HEADLINE NEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	17:00
17:22			PACIFIC REPORT		17:22
17:30	SPORTSCENTER	ALL GROWN UP (TVY): - TOMMY FOOLERY	TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):	CHANNEL ONE	17:30
17:45				ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	17:45
18:00		KIM POSSIBLE (TVY7): - TWO TO TUTOR		THE EARLY SHOW	18:00
18:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	MY LIFE AS A TEENAGE ROBOT (TVY7): - SAVED BY THE SHELL/TRADESHOW	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):		18:30
19:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDY! (TVG):			19:00
19:30		HEADLINE NEWS	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		19:30
20:00	ESPNEWS	ESPNEWS	DOCTOR DOUITTLE	FOX NEWS LIVE	20:00
20:19	BASEBALL TONIGHT				20:19
20:30		HEADLINE NEWS			20:30
21:00	SPORTSCENTER	THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - MARGICAL HISTORY TOUR		PRIMETIME	21:00
21:30		MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE (TVPG): - VEGAS	GODZILLA		21:30
22:00	SPORTS SPECIAL - FIREFIGHTERS' COMBAT CHALLENGE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP	SURVIVOR: ALL-STARS (TVPG):		FOX NEWS LIVE	22:00
23:00	SPORTS SPECIAL - FIREFIGHTERS' COMBAT CHALLENGE WORLD - WORLD CHALLENGE XI	ALIAS (TVPG): - REUNION		HEADLINE NEWS	23:00
23:30				INSIDE POLITICS	23:30