



The Old Ironsides Report



Tuesday, February 17, 2004

DIVARTY medics train ICDC counterparts

By Staff Sgt. Mark Bell, 372nd MPAD

CAMP STEEL FALCON, Iraq – The Iraqi Civil Defense Corps took another step toward self-sufficiency when 66 guardsmen recently completed the first combat medic course offered in Iraq.

Medics from the 1st Armored Division Artillery Combat Team, the ICDC in the Al Rashid district of southern Baghdad now have trained medical specialists. The class consisted many of the same tasks found in the U.S. Army's Combat Lifesaver's Course.

After graduating, 50 of the medics will serve in the individual platoons of the 304th ICDC Battalion, said 1st Lt. Chad Swaims, the DCT surgeon. The remaining 16 will serve in other ICDC units throughout the Baghdad area.

"We utilized as a base program the Army's combat lifesaver program. (We) had it translated to Arabic and expounded on it," he said. "They are learning the ABC's of basic life-saving skills here."

From learning how to apply basic first aid skills, to the combat lifesaver's favorite task: "sticking" their fellow classmates with an I.V., Swaims said he hopes the new graduates take away from the course more than the skills they learned during the week-long instructional course.

"I hope they have learned that we are here to help them. This is the first step to helping them work separately from the coalition forces," he said. "Everywhere you have ground troops you'll have to have medics in combat zones."

Swaims said what makes this inaugural class special is the "extra" help they received from ICDC soldiers attending the course. Several doctors and other medical professionals are in the ICDC ranks.

They used their expertise and passed on their medical skills to their fellow corpsmen, he said.

"It's great to see them teaching each other," he said after students completed the written examination. "We have doctors who are very knowledgeable and are able to better communicate in their own language."



An Iraqi Civil Defense Corps soldier is "stuck" by a fellow student during a basic first aid training course conducted by the 1st Armored Division's Division Artillery Combat Team. The class of 66 was their first ICDC team to complete the training.

Although the class was very informative and intensive, Swaims said he hopes to see this course grow and lead to more advanced training for the ICDC.

"I would love to see this course be much longer than what we were able to provide this week," he said. "I could easily see it growing to two or three weeks."

With both female and male ICDCs in the course, one Iraqi said he thinks having females in the course is a great thing for the ICDC and Iraq.

"I would trust her if I needed medical help," he said. "I hope more females join the ICDC. This training is a very good thing for me and my country."

Whether they were learning the basics of splinting a fracture or successful providing an I.V., the ICDCs took a lot of pride in their work, said Swaims.

NEWS...

2 GIs and a U.S. Civilian Killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Roadside bombs killed two U.S. soldiers in separate attacks Monday in Baghdad and a city to the northeast, the U.S. military said, and an American civilian was shot and killed in a weekend ambush. Also, a grenade exploded in an elementary school playground in a Shiite Muslim neighborhood of Baghdad on Monday, killing one child and wounding four others. The children apparently triggered the explosive, hidden in some garbage, while they were playing, Iraqi police said.

Kuwait Lawmakers Approve Iraq Fuel Probe

KUWAIT CITY (AP) - Kuwaiti lawmakers voted unanimously Monday to hold a parliamentary investigation into charges that a Kuwaiti supplier to a subsidiary of Halliburton overcharged for fuel deliveries to Iraq after the U.S.-led war toppled Saddam Hussein. The vote, passing without dissent in the 50-member parliament, came shortly after Kuwait's energy minister, Sheik Ahmed Fahd Al Ahmed Al Sabah, told parliament he would support such a probe.

Debate Strengthens Kerry's No. 1 Position

MILWAUKEE (AP) - John Kerry says he will "do the work" necessary to win Wisconsin's Democratic presidential primary Tuesday, even though he has a hefty lead in the polls and emerged largely unscathed from debate with rivals trying to make a likely last stand. Howard Dean and John Edwards were given several chances to criticize Kerry during a 90-minute debate Sunday night, but Edwards seemed more inclined than Dean to take advantage. "Not so fast," he blurted out at one point when Kerry talked as if the race already had been decided and that it was time to focus on President Bush.

President Focuses on Economy on Fla. Trip

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) - President Bush courted voters Monday in the state that decided the 2000 election, arguing his tax cuts are helping the economy and suggesting Democrats would endanger America's fiscal health by raising taxes. Spending the President's Day holiday in Florida, the second day of his 19th visit to the state as president, Bush said the country is recovering from its economic downturn. He blamed the recession, corporate scandals, and the 2001 terrorist attacks for the problem, but said his policies turned the economy around.

Thought for the day...

Keep Cool

Nothing gives a person so much advantage over another as to remain always cool and unruffled under all circumstances.

--Thomas Jefferson

Sports...

Greek Guards to Shadow Olympic Athletes

By LISA ORKIN, Associated Press Writer

ATHENS, Greece (AP) -- Armed Greek guards will accompany athletes from countries considered potential terrorist targets attacks during the Athens Olympics.

Guards will be on all buses ferrying athletes during the games, and will carry arms when dealing with "higher risk" countries, said the ministry, which did not list the countries. Greece has budgeted more than \$750 million on Olympic security, and plans to deploy more than 50,000 security personnel, including soldiers.

Seven nations, including the United States, Britain and Australia, are part of an advisory group helping Greece prepare security for the games.

United States and Australia are also among the several countries which have requested additional security for their athletes.

According to a poll carried out by The Associated Press, 52 percent of Americans believe a terrorist attack is likely to occur at the Athens Games. And four out of 10 say American athletes are most likely to be the target of any such attack.

The AP-Ipsos poll of 1,000 adults was taken Feb. 2-4.

The poll has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

The Australian Olympic team's director of security, Bob Myers, said athletes going to the games should expect to encounter magnetic gates, X-ray machines, handheld metal detectors, armed patrols and sniffer dogs.

Myers, speaking at a team management meeting in Sydney, also warned there would be strict accreditation checks.

He told officials at the weekend meeting that everything possible was being done to make the games safe.

"It is no good hiding under the bed - let's all get on with life," Myers was quoted as saying in a statement posted on the Australian Olympic Committee's Web site Monday.

AOC president John Coates told the meeting that Athens has done "everything humanly possible" to ensure the safety of the games.

"After what has happened in the world since the Sydney Games, we have made the safety of our athletes our No. 1 priority," Coates said.

Navy Jet Fighter Is for Sale on EBay

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) -- You can now have your very own Navy F/A-18A Hornet jet fighter - but some assembly may be required. The price for the jet, which formerly belonged to the Navy's Blue Angels aerial demonstration team, is just over \$1 million on the auction firm eBay, or about \$9 million for a buyer who wants it assembled, painted and certified ready-to-fly.

Only legal U.S. residents can bid. The auction is scheduled to end Thursday.

An F/A-18 in 1997 cost the military \$28 million, according to the Blue Angels' official Web site.

Mike Landa, of Landa and Associates, the Washington state brokerage that has listed the fighter on the Internet auction service, told The Virginian-Pilot that the jet is in parts and came out of military service in 1994. Landa wouldn't identify the owner, but said he came by it legally.

"This thing obviously slipped through the system somehow," Landa said

The FBI came out to visit Landa after he put the jet up for bidding. They wanted to know "what are you selling here," he said. "They wanted to have the scoop on it."

Landa said he has no doubt that someone will surface to claim the Hornet. The jet's model can fly about 1,400 mph and climb 30,000 feet in a minute.

Today in History...

February 17, 1820: Senate passes Missouri Compromise

(HISTORYCHANNEL.COM) The Senate passes the Missouri Compromise, an attempt to deal with the dangerously divisive issue of extending slavery into the western territories.

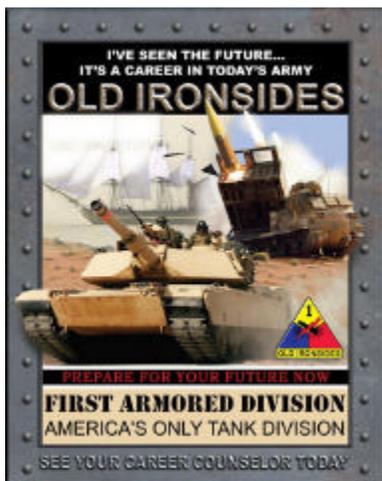
From colonial days to the Civil War, slavery and western expansion both played fundamental but inherently incompatible roles in the American republic. As the nation expanded westward, the Congress adopted relatively liberal procedures by which western territories could organize and join the union as full-fledged states.

Southern slaveholders, eager to replicate their plantation system in the West, wanted to keep the new territories open to slavery. Abolitionists, concentrated primarily in the industrial North, wanted the West to be exclusively a free labor region and hoped that slavery would gradually die out if confined to the South. Both factions realized their future congressional influence would depend on the number of new "slave" and "free" states admitted into the union.

Consequently, the West became the first political battleground over the slavery issue. In 1818, the Territory of Missouri applied to Congress for admission as a slave state. Early in 1819, a New York congressman introduced an amendment to the proposed Missouri constitution that would ban importation of new slaves and require gradual emancipation of existing slaves. Southern congressmen reacted with outrage, inspiring a nationwide debate on the future of slavery in the nation.

Over the next year, the congressional debate grew increasingly bitter, and southerners began to threaten secession and civil war. To avoid this disastrous possibility, key congressmen hammered together an agreement that became known as the Missouri Compromise. In exchange for admitting Missouri without restrictions on slavery, the Compromise called for bringing in Maine as a free state. The Compromise also dictated that slavery would be prohibited in all future western states carved out of the Louisiana Territory that were higher in latitude than the northern border of Arkansas Territory.

Although the Missouri Compromise temporarily eased the inherent tensions between western expansion and slavery, the divisive issue was far from resolved. Whether or not to allow slavery in the states of Texas, Kansas, and Nebraska caused the same difficulties several decades later, leading the nation toward civil war.



Reenlistment bonus available until soldiers depart Theater

Currently, more than 1,400 soldiers have taken advantage of the deployed force reenlistment bonus since October. Soldiers must understand the bonus is no longer available once they redeploy to their home station.

The most frequently asked question from soldiers is "how long am I eligible for the reenlistment bonus?"

The answer is simple: once a soldier leaves Iraq, Afghanistan, or Kuwait, the lump sum tax-free bonus no longer exists.

As we begin to redeploy, our Career Counselors and key retention personnel will become much less accessible as they will be spread thin throughout Iraq, Kuwait, and Germany.

Soldiers eligible for this incentive are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity well in advance of their expected redeployment date. Soldiers should contact their Career Counselors who are standing by to assist our Iron Soldiers in continuing to serve proudly and "Stay Army."

For more information, contact your career counselor:

TF 1AD MWR Presents...

An advertisement for the Washington Redskins Cheerleaders. It features four cheerleaders in red and white uniforms standing in a line. To the left is a Redskins helmet. Above the cheerleaders, it says "WASHINGTON REDSKINS Cheerleaders". Below them, it says "First Ladies of Football". To the right is a logo for "OLD IRONSIDES" featuring a triangle with a "1" and a tank. At the bottom, it says "Tuesday, 17 February 1100-1215 Hrs" and "1AD MWR Tent (Red/White Big Top on East BIAP)".

The Old Ironsides Report February 17, 2004

mvafr.net TV SCHEDULES: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2004			As of: Monday, February 16, 2004 4:27:32 PM			
Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
00:00			THE PRACTICE : - PRO SE	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	THE NEWSHOUR	00:00
00:30	NHL 2NIGHT			JUDGE JUDY		00:30
01:00	SPORTSCENTER	HEADLINE NEWS	CELEBRITY PROFILES : - BOB SAGET	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	01:00
01:25				GUIDING LIGHT		01:25
01:30		ESPNEWS			NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	01:30
02:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - MWC: BYU @ COLORADO STATE	HEADLINE NEWS	DEAD POETS SOCIETY		LARRY KING LIVE	02:00
02:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL		02:13
02:30		HEADLINE NEWS				02:30
03:00		SESAME STREET		ARTHUR : - D.W.'S LIBRARY CARD/ ARTHUR'S BIG HIT	NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	03:00
03:30				WHAT'S NEW SCOOPY DOO? : - THE UNNATURAL		03:30
04:00	SPORTSCENTER	DRAGON TALES : - TEASING IS NOT PLEASING/ TEAM WORK		THAT'S SO RAVEN : - THE PARTIES	PAULA ZAHN NOW	04:00
04:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES	THE AMANDA SHOW		04:30
05:00	NHL - VANCOUVER CANUCKS @ COLORADO AVALANCHE	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	ROCKET POWER : - RADICAL NEW...	JEOPARDY!	NIGHTLINE	05:00
05:30			THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS	HEADLINE NEWS	NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS	05:30
05:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW				05:46
05:52				PACIFIC REPORT		05:52
06:00			THE SIMPSONS : - BART GETS AN F	ESPNEWS	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	06:00
06:30			THE COSBY SHOW : - THEO AND THE OLDER WOMAN	HEADLINE NEWS		06:30
06:35		GUIDING LIGHT				06:35
06:52				PACIFIC REPORT		06:52
07:00			J.A.G. : - FORTUNATE SON	SMALLVILLE : - VISITOR	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	07:00
07:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL				07:17
07:30	SPORTSCENTER					07:30
08:00		HEADLINE NEWS	THE PRACTICE : - PRO SE	MEN OF HONOR	PRIMETIME SPECIAL EDITION: : - MEL GIBSON'S PASSION	08:00
08:30	NBA FASTBREAK	JUDGE JUDY				08:30
09:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - BIG EAST: NOTRE DAME @ SYRACUSE	TODAY	CELEBRITY PROFILES : - BOB SAGET		GOOD MORNING AMERICA	09:00
10:00			DEAD POETS SOCIETY			10:00
10:15				HEADLINE NEWS		10:15
10:37				PACIFIC REPORT		10:37
10:45				TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO		10:45
11:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - BIG XII: OKLAHOMA STATE @ OKLAHOMA	ARTHUR : - D.W.'S LIBRARY CARD/ ARTHUR'S BIG HIT			HEADLINE NEWS	11:00
11:30		WHAT'S NEW SCOOPY DOO? : - THE UNNATURAL			CHANNEL ONE	11:30
11:45				THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN	ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	11:45
12:00		THAT'S SO RAVEN : - THE PARTIES			THE EARLY SHOW	12:00
12:30		THE AMANDA SHOW	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES			12:30
12:45				ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		12:45
13:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDY!	ROCKET POWER : - RADICAL NEW...			13:00
13:15				THE DEVIL'S OWN		13:15
13:30		HEADLINE NEWS	THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS			13:30
14:00	TOTALLY NASCAR	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS : - BART GETS AN F		FOX NEWS LIVE	14:00
14:30	NBA FASTBREAK	HEADLINE NEWS	THE COSBY SHOW : - THEO AND THE OLDER WOMAN			14:30
15:00	SPORTSCENTER	SMALLVILLE : - VISITOR	J.A.G. : - FORTUNATE SON		PRIMETIME SPECIAL EDITION: : - MEL GIBSON'S PASSION	15:00
15:15				BEVERLY HILLS COP 3		15:15
16:00	NHL - SAN JOSE SHARKS @ PHILADELPHIA FLYERS	MEN OF HONOR	THE PRACTICE : - PRO SE		FOX NEWS LIVE	16:00
17:00			CELEBRITY PROFILES : - BOB SAGET	ESPNEWS: THE HOT LIST	HEADLINE NEWS	17:00
17:30				HEADLINE NEWS	CNN'S INSIDE POLITICS	17:30
18:00	THE HOT LIST		DEAD POETS SOCIETY	TODAY		18:00
18:15		HEADLINE NEWS				18:15
18:30	THE HOT LIST				NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS	18:30
18:45		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO				18:45
19:00	AROUND THE HORN				LESTER HOLT LIVE	19:00
19:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION					19:30
19:45		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN				19:45
20:00	SPORTSCENTER			SESAME STREET	HEADLINE NEWS	20:00
20:30			EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES		NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	20:30
20:45		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD				20:45
21:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - BIG TEN: PURDUE @ MICHIGAN STATE		ROCKET POWER : - THE LONGEST DAY	BLUE'S CLUES - SUPERFRIENDS!	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	21:00
21:15		THE DEVIL'S OWN				21:15
21:30			THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS	WHEEL OF FORTUNE	CBS EVENING NEWS	21:30
22:00			THE SIMPSONS : - SIMPSON AND DELILAH	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	CNBC: THE NEWS	22:00
22:30			THE COSBY SHOW : - HALLOWEEN			22:30
23:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - SEC: FLORIDA @ GEORGIA		ALLY MCBEAL : - WITHOUT A NET	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW	HANNITY & COLMES	23:00
23:15		BEVERLY HILLS COP 3				23:15