

## USA Express Steams into Baghdad

Story and photos by Spc. Derrol Fulghum II, 1AD PAO

BAGHDAD, Iraq – Task Force 1st Armored Division Soldiers at Baghdad International Airport were entertained by the USA Express band Saturday night.

The USA Express is a pop music band composed of seven Soldiers from Fort Bliss, Texas; Fort Belvoir, Va.; Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort McPherson, Ga., and Fort Meade, Md. Hundreds of Soldiers auditioned for the opportunity to travel around the world entertaining their comrades-in-arms., but these seven Soldiers were selected.

The band opened with a short, jazzy welcome, then launched into a rousing rendition of Lynard Skynard's



The vocalists from the USA Express finish one of their song-and-dance routines while performing for TF 1AD Soldiers.

“Sweet Home Alabama.” The more than 150 Soldiers present readily clapped their hands and sung along. The USA Express played for two hours.

Three female vocalists smoothly blended melody with harmony, while the accompanying bass provided a solid rhythm, complimenting the drummer. The lead guitarists' fingers were a blur across his fingerboard. In addition to his piano skill, the man behind the dual keyboards also displayed the ability to provide a myriad of sound effects.

“They're all very talented,” said 1st Lieutenant Dan Brosey, a personnel officer assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Armored Division. “They played a wide spectrum of songs, and people would hear a song they remember and were able to sing along. There was

something for everybody – everybody can enjoy it.”

The USA Express has toured in Korea, Alaska, Cuba, and all over the Middle East, as well as in the United States. They began touring in February and will finish in mid-July. “It's been great,” said Staff Sgt. Jennifer McMahan, a Patriot Missile crewmember from Fort Bliss, Tx. “I've met people from all over the place. Even from countries I didn't know existed. I've been able to make friends from everywhere.”

The night ended with the vocalists coming down from the stage and shaking the hands of Soldiers in attendance, and thanking them for what they're doing.

Most of the songs played during the two-hour show were recent chart-topping hits, but the band did pay tribute to America's Soldiers with “God



CPT Sarah Stitt, Personnel Officer with 2nd Squadron, 501st Aviation Regiment, applauds the USA Express band at their concert Saturday night.

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## Quote of the Day...

*"It's no use saying, 'We are doing our best.' You have got to succeed in doing what is necessary."*

-- Winston Churchill 1874-1965, British Statesman, Prime Minister



Task Force 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division Soldiers gathered inside a hangar at Baghdad International Airport to participate in a video teleconference with President of the United States George W. Bush, Wednesday.

## Oddly Enough...

### Woman Trying to Kill Squirrel Shoots Self

LAPORTE, Ind. - A 78-year-old woman tired of squirrels raiding her bird feeder got out her shotgun to kill the critter, but instead accidentally shot and injured herself. Alberta Jones loaded her 16-gauge shotgun Sunday and carried it with the barrel pointed down to the back door to take aim, police said. The gun accidentally discharged, police said, and shotgun pellets ricocheted off the floor. Conservation officer Jerry Shepherd with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources said it is not squirrel season, and that hunting game out of season is a misdemeanor punishable by a maximum 60 days in jail and up to a \$500 fine. Authorities are not pressing charges. Jones vowed to keep shooting at squirrels and using firecrackers — as she has done several times before — to discourage them from getting into her bird feeder. She also shoots groundhogs and other animals she considers a nuisance. "My neighbors call me Annie Oakley," she said.

## Chaplain's Thought for the Day...

### Pursue Excellence

In his fine book, Excellence, John Gardner says, "Some people have greatness thrust upon them. Very few have excellence thrust upon them...They achieve it. They do not achieve it unwittingly by 'doing what comes naturally' and they don't stumble into it in the course of amusing themselves. All excellence involves discipline and tenacity of purpose."

## Today in History...

(Historynet.com)

**1579** Sir Francis Drake claims San Francisco Bay for England.

**1799** Napoleon Bonaparte incorporates Italy into his empire.

**1856** The Republican Party opens its first national convention in Philadelphia.

**1863** On the way to Gettysburg, Union and Confederate forces skirmish at Point of Rocks, Maryland.

**1876** General George Crook's command is attacked and bested on the Rosebud River by 1,500 Sioux and Cheyenne under the leadership of Crazy Horse.

**1913** U.S. Marines set sail from San Diego to protect American interests in Mexico.

**1917** The Russian Duma meets in secret session in Petrograd and votes for an immediate Russian offensive against the German Army.

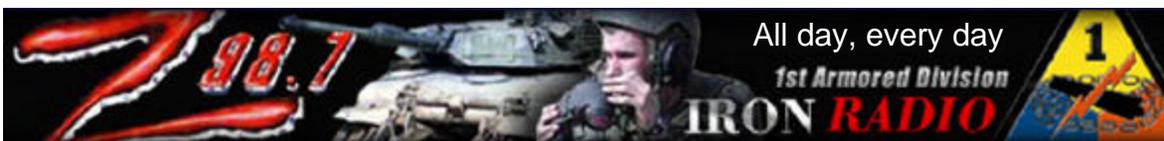
**1926** Spain threatens to quit the League of Nations if Germany is allowed to join.

**1931** British authorities in China arrest Indochinese Communist leader Ho Chi Minh.

**1953** Soviet tanks fight thousands of Berlin workers rioting against the East German government.

**1972** Five men are arrested for burglarizing Democratic Party headquarters at the Watergate complex in Washington, D.C.

**1994** Millions of Americans watch former football player O.J. Simpson--facing murder charges--drive his Ford Bronco through Los Angeles, followed by police.



# For your Information...

## 8TH FINANCE KEY DATES AND ACTIONS

### 16 JUN to 10 JUL:

BIAP Check Cashing & Casual Pay

M-W-F 0900-1700 hrs

### 17 JUN:

All Paying Agents must Clear  
8<sup>th</sup> Finance Bn

POC- CPT Miller @ 551-9308

\*Early Clearance is Highly Encouraged

**IRON  
FINANCE!**

### 26 JUN:

Last Day for Turn-In of 365 BOG Paperwork

*Include Soldiers Eligible through 30 Jun*



## Reenlistment Bonus Incentives continue.

The Army continues to pay soldiers for remaining part of the team. Recently, some bonuses have been retroactive as far back as March 18, 2003.

If a Soldier reenlisted between March 18 and Sept. 18, 2003 for either option E1 (Regular Army) or E2 (Current station stabilization) and did not receive a bonus, he or she should contact their Career Counselor and see if they qualify for the bonus.

The most current update to the Selective Reenlistment Bonus program is MILPER Message 04-163 dated 05/14/2004.

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2004					As of: Wednesday, June 16, 2004 7:54:25 PM	
Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
00:00	SPORTSCENTER				HEADLINE NEWS	00:00
00:30		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	00:30
01:00	MLB - CHICAGO CUBS @ HOUSTON ASTROS	BIG	THE WILD THORNBERRIES (TVY): - GOBI YOURSELF	SESAME STREET	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	01:00
01:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY7): - PRESSURE / THE SMOKING PEANUT		CBS EVENING NEWS	01:30
02:00			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - THE BOY WHO KNEW TOO MUCH	PLAY WITH ME SESAME	COUNTDOWN WITH KEITH OLBERMANN	02:00
02:30			HAPPY DAYS (TVG): - BE THE FIRST ON YOUR BLOCK	WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):		02:30
03:00		PREDATOR	ONE TREE HILL (TVPG): - ARE YOU TRUE?	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	HANNITY & COLMES	03:00
04:00	MLB - NY YANKEES @ ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS		THE WEST WING (TVPG): - SWISS DIPLOMACY	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):	THE NEWSHOUR	04:00
05:00		HEADLINE NEWS	DOMINICK DUNNE'S POWER, PRIVILEGE, AND JUSTICE (TVPG): - BILLIONAIRE BOYS CLUB	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	05:00
05:30		ESPNEWS		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):	NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	05:30
06:00		HEADLINE NEWS	JOURNEYS TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH - THE LOST CITY OF GOLD	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	LARRY KING LIVE	06:00
06:25				GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):		06:25
06:30		HEADLINE NEWS				06:30
07:00	TRACK & FIELD - IAAF BERGEN BISLETT GAMES	SESAME STREET	MASTERPIECE THEATER (TVPG): - LUCKY JIM		NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	07:00
07:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):		07:13
08:00	SPORTSCENTER	PLAY WITH ME SESAME		DISNEY'S HERCULES (TVY): - THE TIFF ON THE OLYMPUS	PAULA ZAHN NOW	08:00
08:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):		HEY ARNOLD! (TVY): - SCHOOL PLAY		08:30
09:00	MLB - INTERLEAGUE - TEXAS RANGERS @ CINCINNATI REDS	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	THE WILD THORNBERRIES (TVY): - GOBI YOURSELF	YU-GI-OH! (TVY): - DOUBLE TROUBLE DUEL (PT. 1)	NIGHTLINE	09:00
09:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY7): - PRESSURE / THE SMOKING PEANUT	JACKIE CHAN ADVENTURES (TVY7): - SCOUTS HONOR	AIR FORCE TV NEWS	09:30
09:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):				09:46
10:00			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - THE BOY WHO KNEW TOO MUCH	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	10:00
10:30			HAPPY DAYS (TVG): - BE THE FIRST ON YOUR BLOCK	HEADLINE NEWS		10:30
10:35		GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):				10:35
11:00			ONE TREE HILL (TVPG): - ARE YOU TRUE?	ESPNEWS	60 MINUTES	11:00
11:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):				11:17
11:30				PACIFIC REPORT		11:30
12:00	SPORTSCENTER	HEADLINE NEWS	THE WEST WING (TVPG): - SWISS DIPLOMACY	EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND (TVPG): - THE CONTRACTOR	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	12:00
12:25				SCRUBS (TV14): - MY RULE OF THUMB		12:25
12:30		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):				12:30
12:50				REEL TIME		12:50
13:00	MLB - INTERLEAGUE - CHICAGO WHITE SOX @ FLORIDA MARLINS	TODAY	DOMINICK DUNNE'S POWER, PRIVILEGE, AND JUSTICE (TVPG): - BILLIONAIRE BOYS CLUB	EXTREME MAKEOVER (TVPG): - DESHANTE AND PAM	GOOD MORNING AMERICA	13:00
14:00			JOURNEYS TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH - THE LOST CITY OF GOLD	E.R. (TVPG): - IMPULSE CONTROL		14:00
15:00		DISNEY'S HERCULES (TVY): - THE TIFF ON THE OLYMPUS	MASTERPIECE THEATER (TVPG): - LUCKY JIM	PACIFIC REPORT	HEADLINE NEWS	15:00
15:30		HEY ARNOLD! (TVY): - SCHOOL PLAY		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):	ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	15:30
16:00	GOLF - 104TH U.S. OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP, FIRST ROUND	YU-GI-OH! (TVY): - DOUBLE TROUBLE DUEL (PT. 1)			THE EARLY SHOW	16:00
16:30		JACKIE CHAN ADVENTURES (TVY7): - SCOUTS HONOR		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):		16:30
17:00		JEOPARDY! (TVG):	THE WILD THORNBERRIES (TVY): - GOBI YOURSELF			17:00
17:30		HEADLINE NEWS	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY7): - PRESSURE / THE SMOKING PEANUT	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		17:30
18:00		ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - THE BOY WHO KNEW TOO MUCH	SARAH, PLAIN & TALL: TALL: WINTER'S END	FOX NEWS LIVE	18:00
18:30		HEADLINE NEWS	HAPPY DAYS (TVG): - BE THE FIRST ON YOUR BLOCK			18:30
19:00		EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND (TVPG): - THE CONTRACTOR	ONE TREE HILL (TVPG): - ARE YOU TRUE?		60 MINUTES	19:00
19:25		SCRUBS (TV14): - MY RULE OF THUMB				19:25
19:50		REEL TIME				19:50
20:00		EXTREME MAKEOVER (TVPG): - DESHANTE AND PAM	THE WEST WING (TVPG): - SWISS DIPLOMACY	AMERICAN GIGOLO	FOX NEWS LIVE	20:00
21:00	GOLF - 104TH U.S. OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP, FIRST ROUND	E.R. (TVPG): - IMPULSE CONTROL	DOMINICK DUNNE'S POWER, PRIVILEGE, AND JUSTICE (TVPG): - BILLIONAIRE BOYS CLUB		HEADLINE NEWS	21:00
21:30					INSIDE POLITICS	21:30
22:00		HEADLINE NEWS	JOURNEYS TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH - THE LOST CITY OF GOLD	ESPNEWS: THE HOT LIST		22:00
22:30		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):		HEADLINE NEWS	AIR FORCE TV NEWS	22:30
23:00	GOLF - 104TH U.S. OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP, FIRST ROUND		MASTERPIECE THEATER (TVPG): - LUCKY JIM	TODAY	LESTER HOLT LIVE	23:00
23:30		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):				23:30