



The Old Ironsides Report



Thursday, February 19, 2004

Ceremonies mark the beginning of the end for Bulldogs' Baghdad mission

From 'Bulldogs' to 'Blackjacks'

By Spc. John S. Wollaston, 3BCT PAO

BAGHDAD, IRAQ – In a ceremony on the helipad at 3rd Brigade Combat Team headquarters, the "Bulldog Brigade" of the 1st Armored Division transferred authority for western Baghdad over to the "Blackjacks" of the 2nd Brigade 1st Cavalry Division Feb 13.

The ceremony marks the official end to the brigade's Baghdad mission and start a new assignment as the 3rd BCT prepares to move some of its units north to Taji.

In front of 10 battalions, several general officers, local religious leaders, tribal sheiks and his fellow brigade commanders, Col. Russ Gold and Command Sgt. Maj. Nathaniel Hopkins cased the unit's colors; completing the transfer of authority for western Baghdad from 3rd Brigade to Col. Michael Formica, Command Sgt. Maj. Neil Ciotola and the 2nd Brigade.

"You and your brave Soldiers conducted thousands of intelligence-based, precise offensive operations against the enemies of freedom in Baghdad," Brig. Gen. Martin Dempsey, 1st Armored Division commanding general, told the assembly. "The people of Kadamia, Monsur, Ghazalyia and Abu-Gharib call you friends, brothers and sisters. You have given the people of western Baghdad the opportunity to be free and to determine their own future."

"Those of us that have walked this ground, have our own unique memories and experiences that will affect us in different ways now and for the rest of our lives," Gold said.

"Our Soldiers came here not by choice but rather by their sense of honor and duty. They came here to make a difference, not for self-serving reasons, but to selflessly liberate a nation from a tyrant who had contributed nothing to Iraq but hatred, discontent and violence among his people," he said. "History will show, that this generation X and Y will be equal to if not the best generation our nation has produced."

Calling it an "historic mantle of responsibility," Formica outlined his plan to continue where the Bulldogs left off with the people of Baghdad.

"The Soldiers of the 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division will continue to help you help yourselves to realize your dream of a sovereign and democratic Iraq," he said.

The handoff to 2nd Brigade was the conclusion of a week of Transfer of Authority hand-offs between the two brigade's battalions beginning with 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor Regiment, the longest serving of the brigade's units in Iraq, turning over control of the Abu-Gharib area to the 2nd Squadron, 12th Cavalry.

"Your country has called and you have answered." Lt. Col. Lee Quintas, 2nd Bn. 70th Armor commander, told his Soldiers. "I live in awe and pride of what you have accomplished."

Incoming commander Lt. Col. John T. Ryan of 2nd Squadron, 12th Cavalry thanked the "Thunderbolts" for laying



Col. Russ Gold, 3rd Brigade Combat Team commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Nathaniel Hopkins, brigade command sergeant major, case the unit's colors during a Transfer of Authority ceremony Feb. 13. The "Bulldog Brigade" turned over operations in western Baghdad to 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division "Blackjacks."

the groundwork for his battalion's continued success and told those gathered, "We will press forward into the future until the mission is complete."

The next TOA occurred at the headquarters of the 1st Battalion, 13th Armor Regiment, on the banks of the Tigris River.

Lt. Col. Frank Sherman and Command Sgt. Maj. Carlos Ayers cased the "Dakota's" colors and made way for Lt. Col. Myles Miyamasu and the "Black Knights" of the 1st Squadron, 5th Cavalry Regiment.

"When I look back upon this last year, you the Soldiers of Task Force Dakota have not complained at all about the sweat, blood nor focused on the Soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice." Sherman said. "But rather you focused on security, providing basic human services and building the foundation upon which democracy will rest."

With Saddam Hussein's former palace informally known as the "Four Heads" providing the backdrop, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery Regiment handed control of the Al-Mansour district over to Lt. Col. Tim Vuono and the 3rd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment.

Lt. Col. Rick, Bowyer, 4/1 FA commander, praised his Soldiers and listed their accomplishments.

"Not bad for a bunch of artillerymen from Kansas, a platoon of MP's from Connecticut and a Civil Affairs Team from Texas," he said.

"But this success has not come without a price," Bowyer said. "Today we also remember the Soldiers of the task force who have been wounded and specifically Spc. (Irving) Medina, Capt.

Continued next page...

NEWS...

At Least 8 Iraqis Killed in Truck Attack

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Two trucks packed with explosives blew up Wednesday outside a Polish-run base south of Baghdad after coalition forces opened fire on the suicide bombers racing toward them. Eight Iraqi civilians were killed and at least 65 people were wounded, many of them coalition soldiers. The two drivers also were killed, according to the U.S. military, but no information about their identities was available.

More Than 200 Die in Iran Train Blast

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) - Runaway train cars carrying fuel, fertilizer and industrial chemicals derailed and exploded in northeastern Iran on Wednesday, killing more than 200 people, injuring hundreds more and devastating five nearby villages, the government news agency said. Most of the known dead were fire and rescue workers, who died in the blast hours after the train cars derailed and caught fire. Officials in the city of Neyshabur - including the local governor, mayor and fire chief - were among those killed.

White House Backs Off Job-Growth Forecast

WASHINGTON (AP) - The White House backed away Wednesday from its own prediction that the economy will add 2.6 million new jobs before the end of this year, saying the forecast was the work of number-crunchers and that President Bush was not a statistician. White House press secretary Scott McClellan, asked repeatedly about the forecast, declined to embrace the prediction which was contained in the annual economic report of the White House Council of Economic Advisers.

Dean to Leave Race, Mobilize Supporters

BURLINGTON, Vt. (AP) - Howard Dean will end his campaign for the presidential nomination and launch a new "campaign for change" within the Democratic Party to keep his issues alive and his supporters organized, a key campaign aide said Wednesday. The former Vermont governor, who went winless in 17 caucuses and primaries after falling from leading contender early in the year, does not intend to endorse either John Kerry or John Edwards, the aide said on condition of anonymity. Kerry won the Wisconsin primary Tuesday night with about 40 percent of the vote while Edwards finished a close second with 34 percent. Dean, who had banked his future on a strong showing in Wisconsin, drew just 18 percent.

Thought for the day...

Believe

Believe it is possible to solve your problem.
Tremendous things happen to the believer. So believe the answer will come. It will.

-- Norman Vincent Peale

TOA continued...

(James) Shull and Pfc. (Luis) Moreno who paid the ultimate sacrifice to ensure our success."

Thirty minutes prior to the start of the TOA between 70th Engineer Battalion and 91st Engineer Battalion, the Soldiers were reminded of just how dangerous Baghdad remains. Several mortars were fired into the brigade support area landing near where the ceremony was to take place.

The transfer went smoothly with Lt. Col. Anthony Wright and Command Sgt. Maj. Randy Dyson casing the "Kodiak's" colors and making way for Lt. Col. Christopher Martin and the Soldiers of the 91st Engineer Battalion.

The BSA was also the site for the final battalion-level TOA as well when Lt. Col. Jack Hinkley of the 125th Forward Support Battalion handed control of the support duties over to Lt. Col. Ray McCarver and the 15th FSB.

"The Soldiers of the 125th are certainly different now than they were eleven months ago," Hinkley said. "Most of the names are the same but the Soldiers themselves are vastly different. They are more mature, experienced, technically proficient and committed."

While their responsibility of maintaining the peace and security of western Baghdad is over, there is still work left to be done by the Bulldog Brigade.

Within hours of the completion of the TOA, Soldiers left to take over for 4th Infantry Division at the abandoned military complex in Taji north of Baghdad. They will secure the base until the arrival of the Arkansas National Guard's 39th Infantry Brigade, 7th Infantry Division.

Starting in mid-March, convoys will begin heading south to Kuwait to begin the process of cleaning vehicles and equipment for sea transport back to the United States.

Entertainment...

Shock Rocker Marilyn Manson Settles Suit

DETROIT (AP) -- A civil lawsuit accusing shock rocker Marilyn Manson of sexual assault has been dismissed after the two sides reached a settlement, according to an attorney for the plaintiff.

Security guard Joshua Keasler was working on the stage during a July 2001 performance in Detroit when Manson allegedly approached him, wrapped his legs around the guard's neck and gyrated against him while wearing only a leather thong and panty hose.

Keasler had sued Manson in U.S. District Court in Detroit for sexual assault and intentional infliction of emotional distress.

Both sides agreed not to release terms of the settlement, Keasler's attorney John D. Nickola said in a statement. The lawsuit was dismissed Jan. 28.

A message seeking comment was left Tuesday evening for the attorney who represented Manson when he pleaded no contest in 2002 to disorderly conduct and assault and battery in the same incident.

Oakland County prosecutors originally charged Manson, whose real name is Brian Warner, with sexual conduct and assault and battery. District Judge Gerald McNally threw out the sex charge.

In the criminal proceedings, Manson, 35, was ordered to pay \$4,000 in fines and costs.

Manson is known for his outrageous and controversial stage performances. He has broken wine bottles on his chest during performances and ripped a Bible. Band members take their first names from pop culture icons and their surnames from famous serial killers.

Today in History...

February 19, 1473: COPERNICUS BORN

(HISTORYCHANNEL.COM) On February 19, 1473, Nicolaus Copernicus is born in Torun, a city in north-central Poland on the Vistula River. The father of modern astronomy, he was the first modern European scientist to propose that Earth and other planets revolve around the sun.

Copernicus was born into a family of well-to-do merchants, and after his father's death, his uncle--soon to be a bishop--took the boy under his wing. He was given the best education of the day and bred for a career in canon (church) law. At the University of Krakow, he studied liberal arts, including astronomy and astrology, and then, like many Poles of his social class, was sent to Italy to study medicine and law.

While studying at the University of Bologna, he lived for a time in the home of Domenico Maria de Novara, the principal astronomer at the university. Astronomy and astrology were at the time closely related and equally regarded, and Novara had the responsibility of issuing astrological prognostications for Bologna. Copernicus sometimes assisted him in his observations, and Novara exposed him to criticism of both astrology and aspects of the Ptolemaic system, which placed Earth at the center of the universe.

Copernicus later studied at the University of Padua and in 1503 received a doctorate in canon law from the University of Ferrara. He returned to Poland, where he became a church administrator and doctor. In his free time, he dedicated himself to scholarly pursuits, which sometimes included astronomical work. By 1514, his reputation as an astronomer was such that he was consulted by church leaders attempting to reform the Julian calendar.

The cosmology of early 16th-century Europe held that Earth sat stationary and motionless at the center of several rotating, concentric spheres that bore the celestial bodies: the sun, the moon, the known planets, and the stars. From ancient times, philosophers adhered to the belief that the heavens were arranged in circles (which by definition are perfectly round), causing confusion among astronomers who recorded the often eccentric motion of the planets, which sometimes appeared to halt in their orbit of Earth and move retrograde across the sky.

In the second century A.D., the Alexandrian geographer and astronomer Ptolemy sought to resolve this problem by arguing that the sun, planets, and moon move in small circles around much larger circles that revolve around Earth. These small circles he called *epicycles*, and by incorporating numerous epicycles rotating at varying speeds he made his celestial system correspond with most astronomical observations on record.

The Ptolemaic system remained Europe's accepted cosmology for more than 1,000 years, but by Copernicus' day accumulated astronomical evidence had thrown some of his theories into confusion. Astronomers disagreed on the order of the planets from Earth, and it was this problem that Copernicus addressed at the beginning of the 16th century.

Sometime between 1508 and 1514, he wrote a short astronomical treatise commonly called the *Commentariolus*, or "Little Commentary," which laid the basis for his heliocentric (sun-centered) system. The work was not published in his lifetime. In the treatise, he correctly postulated the order of the known planets, including Earth, from the sun, and estimated their orbital periods relatively accurately.

For Copernicus, his heliocentric theory was by no means a watershed, for it created as many problems as it solved. For instance, heavy objects were always assumed to fall to the ground because Earth was the center of the universe. Why would they do so in a sun-centered system? He retained the ancient belief that circles governed the heavens, but his evidence showed that even in a sun-centered universe the planets and stars did not revolve around the sun in circular orbits. Because of these problems and others, Copernicus delayed publication of his major astronomical work, *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium libri vi*, or "Six Books Concerning the Revolutions of the Heavenly Orbs," nearly all his life. Completed around 1530, it was not published until 1543--the year of his death.

In the work, Copernicus' groundbreaking argument that Earth and the planets revolve around the sun led him to make a number of other major astronomical discoveries. While revolving around the sun, Earth, he argued, spins on its axis daily. Earth takes one year to orbit the sun and during this time wobbles gradually on its axis, which accounts for the precession of the equinoxes. Major flaws in the work include his concept of the sun as the center of the whole universe, not just the solar system, and his failure to grasp the reality of elliptical orbits, which forced him to incorporate numerous epicycles into his system, as did Ptolemy. With no concept of gravity, Earth and the planets still revolved around the sun on giant transparent spheres.

In his dedication to *De revolutionibus*--an extremely dense scientific work--Copernicus noted that "mathematics is written for mathematicians." If the work were more accessible, many would have objected to its non-biblical and hence heretical concept of the universe. For decades, *De revolutionibus* remained unknown to all but the most sophisticated astronomers, and most of these men, while admiring some of Copernicus' arguments, rejected his heliocentric basis. It was not until the early 17th century that Galileo and Johannes Kepler developed and popularized the Copernican theory, which for Galileo resulted in a trial and conviction for heresy. Following Isaac Newton's work in celestial mechanics in the late 17th century, acceptance of the Copernican theory spread rapidly in non-Catholic countries, and by the late 18th century it was almost universally accepted.

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myafm.net TV SCHEDULES: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2004			As of: Wednesday, February 18, 2004 2:21:36 PM			
Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
00:00	NBA - LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS @ PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS		THE WEST WING : - HARTSFIELD'S LANDING	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	THE NEWSHOUR	00:00
00:30				JUDGE JUDY		00:30
01:00		HEADLINE NEWS	KEN BURNS' HISTORY OF JAZZ - SWING: PURE PLEASURE, 1935-1937	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	01:00
01:25				GUIDING LIGHT		01:25
01:30		ESPNEWS			NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	01:30
02:00		HEADLINE NEWS	KEN BURNS' HISTORY OF JAZZ - SWING: THE VELOCITY OF CELEBRATION 1937		LARRY KING LIVE	02:00
02:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL		02:13
02:30	NBA FASTBREAK	HEADLINE NEWS				02:30
03:00		SESAME STREET	HORATIO HORNBLOWER : - THE FIRE SHIPS	DISNEY'S 101 DALMATIONS : - EVERLY LITTLE CROOKED NANNY/ CONE HEAD	NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	03:00
03:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION			HEY ARNOLD! : - CASA PARADISO/ GERALD'S TONSILS		03:30
04:00	SPORTSCENTER	BEAR IN THE BIG BLUE HOUSE : - YOU GO, OJO		POKEMON: JOHTO LEAGUE CHAMPIONS	PAULA ZAHN NOW	04:00
04:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE		JACKIE CHAN ADVENTURES (TV-7): - THE MOTHER OF ALL BATTLES		04:30
05:00	NHL - SAN JOSE SHARKS @ NASHVILLE PREDATORS	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	ROCKET POWER : - MR. B IS IN THE HOUSE/ EARNEST OTTO	JEOPARDY!	NIGHTLINE	05:00
05:30			THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS	HEADLINE NEWS	ARMY NEWSWATCH	05:30
05:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW				05:46
05:52				PACIFIC REPORT		05:52
06:00			THE SIMPSONS : - THE SIMPSON'S HALLOWEEN SPECIAL	ESPNEWS	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	06:00
06:30			THE COSBY SHOW : - DENISE DRIVES	HEADLINE NEWS		06:30
06:35		GUIDING LIGHT				06:35
06:52				PACIFIC REPORT		06:52
07:00			AMERICAN IDOL	FRIENDS : - THE ONE WHERE ROSS IS FINE	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	07:00
07:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL				07:17
07:25				GOOD MORNING MIAMI : - THREE WEEKS NOTICE		07:25
07:30	SPORTSCENTER		MY WIFE AND KIDS : - OF BREASTS AND BASKETBALL			07:30
07:50				REEL TIME		07:50
08:00		HEADLINE NEWS	THE WEST WING : - HARTSFIELD'S LANDING	THE BACHELORETTE II	48 HOURS	08:00
08:30	NBA FASTBREAK	JUDGE JUDY				08:30
09:00	COLLEGE GAMENIGHT	TODAY	KEN BURNS' HISTORY OF JAZZ - SWING: PURE PLEASURE, 1935-1937	E.R. : - THE LOST	GOOD MORNING AMERICA	09:00
09:30	NHL - PHOENIX COYOTES @ DETROIT RED WINGS					09:30
10:00			KEN BURNS' HISTORY OF JAZZ - SWING: THE VELOCITY OF CELEBRATION 1937	HEADLINE NEWS		10:00
10:22				PACIFIC REPORT		10:22
10:30				TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO		10:30
11:00		DISNEY'S 101 DALMATIONS : - EVERLY LITTLE CROOKED NANNY/ CONE HEAD	HORATIO HORNBLOWER : - THE FIRE SHIPS		HEADLINE NEWS	11:00
11:30		HEY ARNOLD! : - CASA PARADISO/ GERALD'S TONSILS		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN	CHANNEL ONE	11:30
11:45					ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	11:45
12:00	COLLEGE GAMENIGHT	POKEMON: JOHTO LEAGUE CHAMPIONS			THE EARLY SHOW	12:00
12:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	JACKIE CHAN ADVENTURES (TV-7): - THE MOTHER OF ALL BATTLES		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		12:30
13:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDY!	ROCKET POWER : - MR. B IS IN THE HOUSE/ EARNEST OTTO	THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE		13:00
13:30		HEADLINE NEWS	THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS			13:30
14:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - ACC: DUKE @ WAKE FOREST	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS : - THE SIMPSON'S HALLOWEEN SPECIAL		FOX NEWS LIVE	14:00
14:30		HEADLINE NEWS	THE COSBY SHOW : - DENISE DRIVES			14:30
15:00		FRIENDS : - THE ONE WHERE ROSS IS FINE	AMERICAN IDOL		48 HOURS	15:00
15:15				ANNIE HALL		15:15
15:25		GOOD MORNING MIAMI : - THREE WEEKS NOTICE				15:25
15:30			MY WIFE AND KIDS : - OF BREASTS AND BASKETBALL			15:30
15:50		REEL TIME				15:50
16:00	ESPNEWS	THE BACHELORETTE II	THE WEST WING : - HARTSFIELD'S LANDING		FOX NEWS LIVE	16:00
16:30	ESPNEWS					16:30
17:00	PGA TOUR - NISSAN OPEN: FIRST ROUND	E.R. : - THE LOST	KEN BURNS' HISTORY OF JAZZ - SWING: PURE PLEASURE, 1935-1937	ESPNEWS: THE HOT LIST	HEADLINE NEWS	17:00
17:30				HEADLINE NEWS	CNN'S INSIDE POLITICS	17:30
18:00		HEADLINE NEWS	KEN BURNS' HISTORY OF JAZZ - SWING: THE VELOCITY OF CELEBRATION 1937	TODAY		18:00
18:30		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO				18:30
19:00			HORATIO HORNBLOWER : - THE FIRE SHIPS		ARMY NEWSWATCH	19:00
19:30		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN			LESTER HOLT LIVE	19:30
20:00	SPORTSCENTER			SESAME STREET	HEADLINE NEWS	20:00
20:30		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	20:30
21:00		4 QTRS	ROCKET POWER : - THE GOOD HOUSEKEEPING SEAL/ WHAT'S THAT SMELL?	TELETUBBIES : - NUMBERS 2'	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	21:00
21:30	NBA - SACRAMENTO KINGS @ MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES	BASEBALL TONIGHT	THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS	WHEEL OF FORTUNE	CBS EVENING NEWS	21:30
22:00		NHL - BOSTON BRUINS @ PHILADELPHIA FLYERS	THE SIMPSONS : - TWO CARS IN EVERY GARAGE	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	CNBC: THE NEWS	22:00
22:30			THE COSBY SHOW : - RUDY SUITS UP			22:30
23:00			CHARMED : - NYMPHS JUST WANNA HAVE FUN	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW	HANNITY & COLMES	23:00