

DESERT VOICE



Troop Idol
Straight-talk

DESERT VOICE INSPIRATION

"War must be carried out systematically, and to do it, you must have men of character activated by principles of honor."

-- Gen. George Washington



PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Friendly Iraqi children put their hands on a Soldier's shoulder in Sadr City, Iraq. The Soldier is assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division's Company B, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment. He was conducting a patrol in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Desert Voice

Third Army/U.S. ARCENT/
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BE A POWER SHREDDER!

If you do not think people are going through the trash looking for information, you are mistaken and part of the problem!

OPSEC IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

If you are interested having your photo considered for photo of the week, please e-mail the photo, as well as outline information to karima.mares@us.army.mil

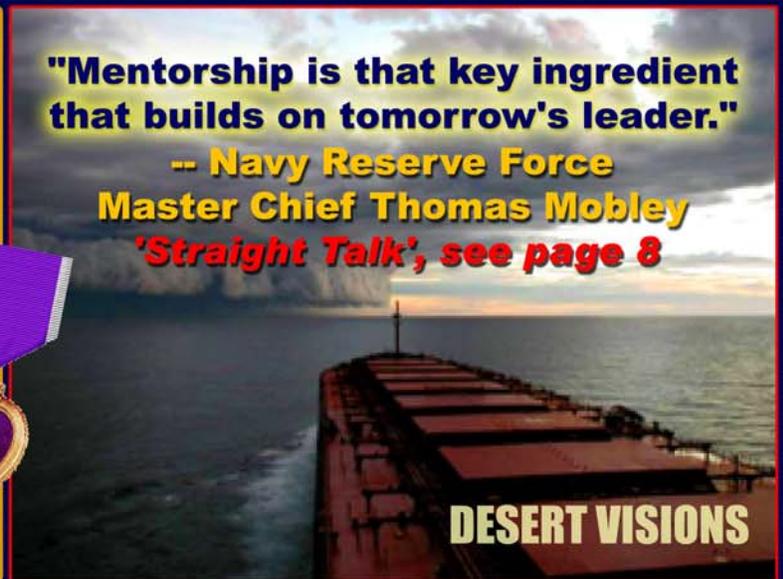
MIL FYI

All Purple Hearts issued since the end of WW II, to include Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, OEF & OIF, come from the original stockpile of Purple Heart medals minted in preparation for the invasion of Japan in 1945, and the horrendous casualties anticipated. The 495,000 unused medals was called the most wonderful of all surpluses.



"Mentorship is that key ingredient that builds on tomorrow's leader."

**-- Navy Reserve Force
Master Chief Thomas Mobley
'Straight Talk', see page 8**



DESERT VISIONS

The Desert Voice staff welcomes your story suggestions and photos. Email them to us, or call us at DSN 825-5332 or 825-4730.



Shawn Kellner sings an original song called "Breather Support" during the Troop Idol Competition at Camp Wolverine April 22. Photo by Spc. Scott Akanewich.

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Coalition Forces Land Component Command moves to Arifjan

Zaworski, CFLCC Staff Judge Advocate, chief paralegal non-commissioned-officer. "There's a lot of logistical requirements involved, and a lot of pre-planning and pre-staging equipment and personnel as well as supporting the theatre as CFLCC does, which made it a challenge."

Spc. Karima L. Mares, 13th Public Affairs Detachment

CAMP ARIFJAN— Like any good guest, Coalition Forces Land Component Command (CFLCC) knows when to leave graciously.

CFLCC is wrapping up its stay at Camp Doha and nearly one thousand servicemembers are scheduled to complete the move to Camp Arifjan by the end of April.

According to Col. Alex Kozlov, Camp Arifjan movement czar, the reason for the move is to improve the command and control for Lt. Gen. David McKiernan, Third Army/U.S. Army Forces Central Command (ARCENT) commanding general.

"Working out of three headquarters is not conducive for his ability to maintain the optimal command and control," Kozlov said. "Atlanta, Doha, and Arifjan were the three places that Lt. Gen. McKiernan was exercising command and control from. Now

it's going to be mainly Arifjan, with a rear Combat Operations Intelligence Center (COIC) in Atlanta."

Kozlov said the long-term intent is to build a consolidated CFLCC headquarters in Camp Arifjan.

"The building is scheduled to be built in Zone I, but its still three years away," he said. "The design is complete, but things get built here by a particular process and that process probably won't develop into a headquarters for another three years."

Although CFLCC headquarters has moved to Camp Arifjan, the buildings in which they are now residing are only temporary accommodations.

"We couldn't live that long without a consolidated command and control," Kozlov said. "So this is actually a temporary facility, the plan for the permanent facility includes a COIC annex, signal brigade headquarters and a whole bunch of other facilities tied in with the communications part," he said. "The new facility would be laid out on what is now the soccer field. That's a long-term vision of which only the funding remains to be provided by the Kuwaitis," he added.

Although the move has been relatively smooth, the most difficult encounter for servicemembers has been not missing a beat.

"I think the biggest challenge has been maintaining our mission focus while we're trying to move to Arifjan," said Sgt. Maj. Chris



Col. Alex Kozlov

For the people in charge of the move, the most difficult aspect of the move for them was what to do with the newcomers.

"The people issue was probably the most significant,

because not only did we have to find places for the people, we had to match the people to the appropriate office capabilities," Kozlov said. "This is not just generic office spaces, it's highly functional office space with appropriate amount of communications, connectivity and data connectivity that had to exist to provide the right command and control for the CG; we couldn't have done this without a holistic approach by all the people involved."

Kozlov said he hopes that everyone involved will see a better, faster and more efficient headquarters communications between CFLCC and its theater support command.

"As far as productivity, this is probably as productive and efficient a headquarters as any army headquarters at operational level," Kozlov said. "We can't compare this to a CENTCOM or CONUS based headquarters because this is the only operational level headquarters currently in existence, so it's unique."



Photo by Spc. Karima Mares

Sgt. Maj. Chris Zaworski, CFLCC SJA, chief paralegal non-commissioned-officer prepares for the move.

CFLCC & Third Army Receive Campaign Awards

CFLCC's significant role in the campaigns to free Afghanistan and Iraq is being recognized with the awarding of a silk ribbon to be attached to the unit colors. The well-earned streamer is embroidered with the words: CFLCC, 11 SEP 01 - 15 JUN 03.



JOINT MERITORIOUS UNIT AWARD



ARMY SUPERIOR UNIT AWARD

In recognition of the service and sacrifices of the men and women who distinguished themselves in the course of OEF and OIF, 11 Sept. 2001 - 15 June 2003, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff has awarded CFLCC the **JOINT MERITORIOUS UNIT AWARD**.

The **ARMY SUPERIOR UNIT AWARD** is being awarded to the men and women of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Third U.S. Army, in recognition of the professionalism and hard work that distinguished their service, 16 May 2002 - 18 Mar. 2003.

GYM-DANDY!

Fitness Center upgrades provide additional athletic options

Spc. Scott Akanewich, 13th Public Affairs Detachment

Many changes are afoot at the Camp Arifjan Fitness Center these days. Soldiers are now finding more options to quench their thirst for athletics and in no small part due to the myriad of changes that has taken place in recent months. According to Leon Perdue, Morale, Welfare and Recreation, sports supervisor, the center is constantly a work in progress.

"We wanted to get things up and running so Soldiers could use the gym for PT," said Perdue. "Now we're refining it as we go."

The 1% rule
To simulate road running on a treadmill, simply raise the incline to a one-percent grade before you begin running. Researchers have determined this degree of treadmill most closely approximates running outdoors on roads.

One of the most noticeable and popular upgrades is the presence of a new cardio room, said Perdue.

"We wanted to increase cardio because that's what people want for PT," he said. "So, we incorporated more treadmills and bikes."

Not all of the changes lie within the center's walls, however. Soldiers now have access to a variety of outdoor sports activities as well. The soccer field across the street from the center is surrounded by a running track that will eventually feature a padded surface. There are also outdoor basketball courts located next to the softball field.

The presence of the basketball courts



Photo by Spc. Scott Akanewich

Maj. Jim Haley, 8th Medical Brigade works out in the new, state-of-the-art cardio room at the Camp Arifjan Fitness Center.

gives the staff more flexibility for staging events, said Perdue.

"Initially, we only had the indoor court, but now we can run tournaments," he said.

The underlying factor from MWR's perspective is to improve Soldiers' quality of life by offering them many of the same activities available to them at their stateside posts, said Perdue.

"We realize how important it is to give Soldiers the opportunity to enjoy themselves," he said. "The entire goal is to make things better for them." 

Employer Support of

You have rights. The ESGR prohibits discrimination against those who choose to serve in the "uniformed services." The Act entitles servicemembers to a leave of absence from their civilian employment for the period necessary to perform military service, for up to 5 years of cumulative voluntary service.



the Guard & Reserve

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve conducts an awards program designed to recognize employers who support a strong National Guard and Reserve force. For more info about this program or general information, log onto www.egsr.com.

UNIT PROFILE 50TH AREA SUPPORT GROUP

by Kimberly J. McDonald, 50th ASG

So you're living, working, or passing through sunny Camp Arifjan and know you've got it pretty good. Have you ever asked yourself how this all works? If you sleep in a tent, drink a bottle of water, wash a truck, shower or have a hot plate of dinner here on Arifjan or one of the ballparks, the truth is it works because the 50th ASG makes it happen.

Billeting and lodging for thousands of troops is a tough task, particularly when your guests are the tough customers of the U.S. Army, Air Force, Marines & Navy. Sgt. Maj. Art Wells is an ambassador of good will, working with his team to make room for

thousands of servicemen & women either going into the Iraqi Zone or finally making their way home.

The 50th ASG offers an additional service, as well, said Sgt. Chanel Courtney.

"We reunite families, friends, sisters, and cousins because we know the location of all individuals and units," said Courtney.

If it's a hot plate of chow you're after,



Col. Timothy Sullivan

Chief Warrant Officer Bill Wyllie has made sure the food was ordered, shipped in, cooked and served with a smile. He and his folks in seven facilities across Kuwait serve more than 45,000 meals daily.

Hot showers, light sets, cool air conditioning, clean toilets and the myriad of contracting requirements are all the realm of the Host Nation Director, Lt. Col. Mike Calhoun and his able staff of contracting managers. Life wouldn't be nearly as good without the hard work and diligence of the Host Nation Team.

Water and ice are essential to living right in the desert. The 50th ASG moves more than 40,000 cases of drinking water and thousands of pounds of ice to troops in the SPOD, APOD,

STAR WARS

American heroes belt it out at Troop Idol competition

Spc. Scott Akanewich, 13th Public Affairs Detachment

Gusty desert winds mixed with the sound of music and song April 22 at Camp Wolverine as the First Annual Troop Idol Competition came to a climax with the final round.

Ten competitors squared off for the title and there was no shortage of talent on display as the performances ranged from old school Motown to new school rock-n-roll and just about everything in between.

When the dust settled, literally on a windy Kuwaiti night, and figuratively as his competition was eliminated one by one, Tech. Sgt. Mike Tyler was left to collect the spoils of victory.

Tyler, a St. Louis native assigned to the 332nd Aeromedical Group, wowed the crowd and more importantly the judges with his soulful rendition.

According to Tyler, he was initially reluctant when the competition began three weeks previously with a total of 30 competitors.

“Once I saw the caliber of talent, I got nervous,” said Tyler. “There are more talented people in the military than I expected.”

Tyler, who began singing when he was nine and lists The Temptations among his musical influences, approaches each performance as if it were an intimate connection with his audience, he said.

“It’s like I’m having a private conversation,” said Tyler, who counted a Rolex watch along with the king’s ransom of prizes he was awarded for his triumph.

Tyler was truly taken aback by the gravity of his accomplishment.

“It’s a feeling I can’t explain,” he said. “It’s awesome.” 



Tech. Sgt. Mike Tyler (above) took home top honors at the Troop Idol Competition, while Lydia Welch (left) finished seventh. Tyler, a St. Louis native, began singing at the age of nine with his family at church.

UNIT PROFILE: 50TH AREA SUPPORT GROUP (Continued)

the Kuwaiti Navy Base and the Navistar in addition to the folks on Zone I & II. The troops of the 50th ASG fix your weapons and vehicles, manage the receipt and shipping of tons of supplies every day, and stand guard over the camps night and day. They fix your computers in the CSSAMO (Combat Service Support Automation Management Office) and orchestrate the chaos of a bustling wash rack. Officers of the 50th ASG make decisions on the CFLCC staff that control the movement of entire divisions of soldiers.

Vehicles in the sterile lot? Reclamation of all the supplies out at four-corners? The consolidated arms room, amnesty, military working dogs,

customs, you name it there is very little that takes place on Arifjan or southern Kuwait that Col. Tim Sullivan, the ASG commander, and his team don’t have a hand in. From ammunition to new boots, a starter for your HMMWV or another ice cream sandwich after lunch, it’s the 50th ASG that makes life on Arifjan bearable. When



Sgt. Maj. Arthur Wells

the big voice blasts out “Retreat” or the guards check you through the gate, it’s

the Fightin’ Five-Oh that has made it possible. The proud soldiers from Florida and their partners from all branches of the service, reserve, active and contractors all work diligently to serve the needs of the Arifjan community and ensure that the right things get done the right way. SFC Kenny Wimberly sums it up “We provide real world comforts; a comfortable bed, a hot shower and a hot meal” Success in Support is what the 50th ASG strives for.

**SUCCESS
IN SUPPORT**



May 2004

**Coming together is a
keeping together is a
working together is s**

**Members of the 50th ASG team,
Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.**

Photo illustration by Staff Sgt. Eric Brown, 13th PAD

**beginning;
process;
success.**

Henry Ford, Sr.



**We will not falter
We will not fail**

1	17
2	18
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15	31
16	

Straight Talk

The Navy Reserve's senior enlisted sailor speaks about leadership, country and patriotism.

Story and photos By Staff Sgt. Eric Brown
13th Public Affairs Detachment

Navy Reserve Force Master Chief, Thomas Mobley, visited Camp Arifjan's enlisted sailors April 14th and took a few moments to address issues that all servicemembers may relate to.

What do you think is the most important aspect of leadership?

Any good leadership begins with good core values. Whatever those core values are, in fact, you can see leadership in anybody for what they value most in their life and it comes out in their leadership style. We [in the Navy] go by a core value of honor, courage and commitment, which we start focusing on when we first come into the military and we build on those values throughout our careers.

It is of key importance to have a good value system so you may focus a whole lot on your decision making process.

For example, *HONOR*; would you do anything that would bring dishonor to you, your counterparts, unit or community? *COURAGE*-The courage to do the right thing, stay true to that commitment to doing the right thing under whatever circumstances may be in front of you. And finally, a *COMMITMENT* to your Nation.

Another good basis of leadership is to focus direction. Where are you going? What is the intent? What's behind where you are going; is the drive of personal nature or is it for the greater good? Those are the things that breakout the excellence in a leader.

Are there any differences between noncommissioned officers between the services?

I don't think there is any

difference in the responsibilities we have. Whatever your rank is (pause) each rank has its own different level of responsibilities. Is there a difference in the different rank levels? Yes...as far as responsibility goes. Everyone has different leadership requirements by their community, those functions that are expected of them by their community.

We have certain expectations. The higher we go up in rank, the more responsibility we are expected to handle and when you get to that level, your expected to bear that responsibility.

What contributions do you think the Reserves are making here?

Well, I think we, as the Department of Defense, have to look at everybody participating as Soldiers, Marines, sailors or airmen. We really need to get out of the Reserves versus active mindset, because the value added is the value added-period. Is there a lot of participation from the Reserves community? There is a huge amount of Reserves participation. But this war isn't

fought off of a Reserves agenda; this war is fought off what is good for the country. Everybody is participating...this is a DOD function. This is about supporting the President and the decisions he has to make in the world's interest and the interests' of our country. So in that light, a sailor is a sailor as a Soldier is a Soldier is a Soldier. I think we owe value in recognizing that everybody is part of a team. The Reserve components of each service have a lot of value added. The components are doing exactly what they were designed to do, be that surge requirement in the time of War. They are part of the team, the war team.

How important is mentorship in the military?

Mentorship is that key ingredient that builds on

tomorrow's leader. It is so vitally important that we take [subordinates] underneath our wing, so to say, and teach them those values we've learned, the education, and the seasoned experienced we've acquired.

When we pass all of that on to a subordinate, in the mentorship form, we're investing in our future, the future leaders who rise up behind us and take on leadership roles. They take what we pass on and add their own gift to that and we become a better



Master Chief Mobley spoke on matters relevant to all members in the Armed Forces, not only sailors assigned to units on Camp Arifjan.

military. Mentorship is valuable, and by the way, mentorship can be done at any level. An E-2 can provide mentorship to an E-1. All the way up and down the chain of command, everyone has an opportunity to take the time to care about somebody else, about their future and what they are doing. It is, in fact, extremely important to our future.

Do you consider mentorship and counseling two different things?

I do. Professional counseling is just as equally important. Mentorship is after you have developed a relationship with somebody. You're the type of person who can sit down and talk with another one on one and maybe have the hard talks every now and then. You, as a friend, give the person a counsel that might not always be what they want to hear, but they would understand from the relationship you have, that you care enough to tell them what they need to know. I look at counseling, on the other hand, as a *professional* counseling.



Basically, those are things you do from a leadership role that say to the subordinate, 'these are the things you need to do professionally to get ahead.' It focuses on career development in your professional community.

You had mentioned the word 'caring' in your responses a few times. How important is it for a leader to express caring for his subordinates?

It is extremely important. I think that caring part is what makes us a family. That's the part that binds us as servicemen and women. The part that says we do have a service family in the military. Without that caring key, the person just becomes another person. If we don't care about them, there's no inspiration to mentor them or caring about what is before them in the future. The caring part is essential. It's the thing that says, 'we don't leave anyone behind.'

How do you view the role of Reserves in the future?

I think the military is progressing wonderfully in thinking futuristic right now. It is thinking about how to fight smarter and better in the future. In that, there must be an optimum balance between Reserves and active requirements-those things that need to be done in our military in a time of war, peace and when other contingencies may pop up. I think that all Reserve components will go through some sort of change in the future. It's essential for us to change-we're not fighting that Second World War style any more. We are fighting a different type of war now. The threats in our world are different

than the ones in World War II or even the World War I era. We have to evolve...we have to change. We should always expect a certain level of evolution in the military and how we do the work for our country, if not, we ourselves will become a handicap instead of our country's advantage.

How do you feel about service to nation in time of war?

Take a look at our military members who are serving right now. I have been truly blessed to see, what I think, is the absolute best in patriotism in our country. I see people all of the time, go into harm's way, because it's the right thing to do. We saw the doors of our services flooded with new recruits after 911. People wanted to make a difference, because they cared about their country. I see those folks now growing in our services-still wanting to make a difference, and by the way, there are still people at our doors wanting to make a difference. We set the example for the world right now. You know there is an article



"We should always expect a certain level of evolution in the military and how we do the work of our country, if not, we ourselves will become a handicap instead of our advantage."

ran by a newspaper

that I clip out every year. It lists the level of confidence that American society has for different professions. And do you know the military is always ranked in the top three of the twenty they rank? In the last few years, it has been in the top one. The American people love the patriotism that we, as servicemen and women, bring to our country and our willingness to do the things we do. I think [patriotism] it is the key element to what we do. It is that driving force that says, 'even when it is as bad as it is, and things are not always working out, and it's been a long time since I've been home, I still know I'm doing the right thing.' It gives you the energy and courage to keep moving forward, when other times you would rather quit. That is what patriotism is all about.

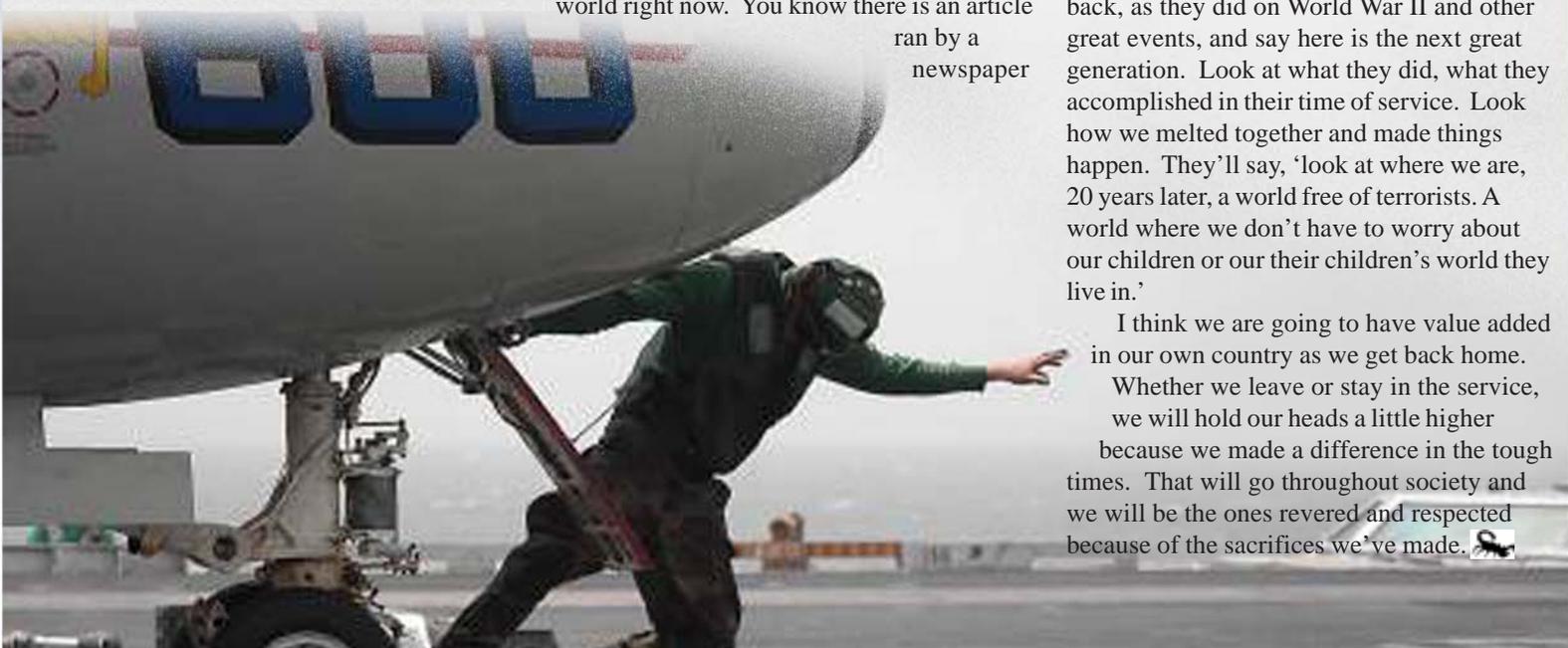
What bond do servicemembers share, regardless of rank?

We do have a certain bond towards defending our country in our own way. We have a certain bond towards our family. I think that military members have a deep value towards family and the added value in that. We have an extreme value for freedom and what freedom really means and the opportunities to see the world and different places. It opens the door to many great and wonderful things in the world. We have the perspective that democracy is good and that's what we should have. We have the opportunity now to share democracy with Iraqis to use on their own plateau.

Is there anything else you would like to share with the servicemembers in Kuwait?

Twenty years from now, people will look back, as they did on World War II and other great events, and say here is the next great generation. Look at what they did, what they accomplished in their time of service. Look how we melted together and made things happen. They'll say, 'look at where we are, 20 years later, a world free of terrorists. A world where we don't have to worry about our children or our their children's world they live in.'

I think we are going to have value added in our own country as we get back home. Whether we leave or stay in the service, we will hold our heads a little higher because we made a difference in the tough times. That will go throughout society and we will be the ones revered and respected because of the sacrifices we've made.



FACES OF FREEDOM



Spc. Samantha Rusczyk, Omaha, Neb.



Pvt. Robert Rutherford South Point, Ohio



Spc. James O'Reilly, Central Islip, N.Y.



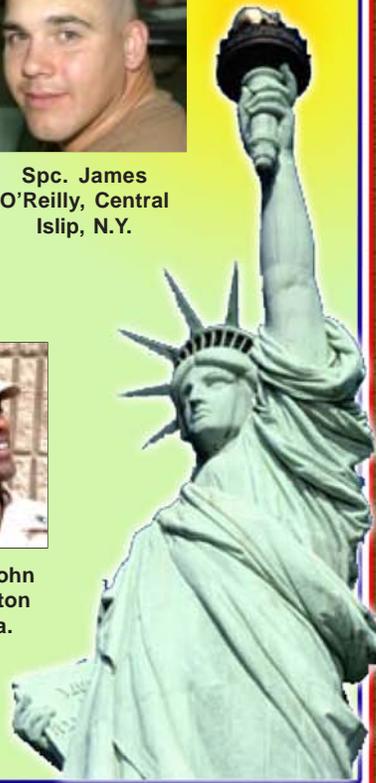
Pvt. Adam Haller, Jordan, Minn.



Spc. Josh Welch, Cedar Rapids, Iowa



Staff Sgt. John Gaines, Baton Rouge, La.



Camp Kuwait Events

Camp Arifjan

Today, Monday, Tuesday: Unit-level softball, gym, 6 p.m.

Today: Deadline to sign up for bench-press competition

Techno Night, Community Center, 7 p.m.

Thursday: Uno competition, Community Center, 7 p.m.

Bench-press competition, gym, 6 p.m.

Friday: Flag football sign-up starts, gym Bingo, Community Center, 7 p.m.

Saturday: Asian Pacific Heritage display, library

Sunday: Remote-control car racing, Community Center, 6:30 p.m.

Monday: Board game tournament, Community Center, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Racquetball tournament sign-up starts, gym

Camp Doha

Today: Latin Dance Night, Frosty's, 7 p.m.

Saturday: Table Tennis tournament, Frosty's, 7 p.m.

Monday: Pool tournament, Frosty's, 7 p.m.

Sunday: Spa day, Marble Palace, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month—a celebration of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States.

In June 1977, a resolution was introduced that called upon the president to proclaim the first ten days of May as Asian/Pacific Heritage Week.

On October 5, 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed a Joint Resolution designating the annual celebration. In May 1990, the holiday was expanded further when President George H. W. Bush designated May to be Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese immigrants to the United States in 1843.



Camp Movies

CAMP ARIFJAN

Wednesday	6 p.m.	The Spanish Prisoner
	8 p.m.	The Girl Next Door
Thursday	6 p.m.	Matchstick Men
	8 p.m.	The General's Daughter
Friday	6 p.m.	Heaven
	8 p.m.	Corky Romano
Saturday	6 p.m.	Runaway Jury
	8 p.m.	Bad Boys II
Sunday	6 p.m.	Punch Drunk Love
	8 p.m.	Judge Dredd
Monday	6 p.m.	Above the Rim
	8 p.m.	The Mask
Tuesday	6 p.m.	Black Sheep
	8 p.m.	The Insider

CAMP DOHA

Wednesday	5:30 p.m.	Barber Shop 2
	8 p.m.	Win a Date with Tad Hamilton
Thursday	5:30 p.m.	The Passion of the Christ
	8 p.m.	Calendar Girls
Friday	5:30 p.m.	The Passion of the Christ
	8 p.m.	Kill Bill
Saturday	2 p.m.	The Butterfly Effect
	5:30 p.m.	Miracle
	8 p.m.	You Got Served
Sunday	2 p.m.	Movie cancelled due to brief
	5:30 p.m.	Against the Ropes
	8 p.m.	Catch That Kid
Monday	5:30 p.m.	Miracle
	8 p.m.	The Big Bounce
Tuesday	5:30 p.m.	The Perfect Score
	8 p.m.	Catch That Kid

Money \$ense

Dinars 10% Euro Dollars Invest?

Give yourself some credit!

Financial responsibility is critical in getting a good credit rating

Your credit score changes over time with your credit patterns. Credit bureaus weigh the events on your credit record from the last two years more heavily than events further in the past. Events dating back seven years or more are dropped from your record. One of the most important things to creditors is that you pay your bills on time. So, start a pattern of on-time payments. Even if you don't have the money to pay off your credit cards, make sure you at least meet the minimum monthly balances. Do this month after month, and your credit score will slowly begin to rise. Also, don't hit all your credit limits (using 80 percent is a sign you're stretched), don't apply for new credit, and close accounts you aren't using, as lenders may see them as a risk that you might go on a spending jag. Naturally, holding less debt will improve your credit rating and make it easier for you to make monthly payments. Pay off as much as you can from your savings account, since you're paying your debtors much more than you're earning on interest. You may want to consider selling assets to get your credit rating back on track.

To chip away at credit card debt, pay the card with the highest rate first, while

paying the minimum on the rest—and then cancel that card. Then, move on to the card with the next highest rate. Consider consolidating to a low-rate card, but be careful of low “teaser” rates that will shoot up later. Sometimes, if you call or write your creditors and tell them why you are having trouble staying on top of things, they'll lower your rate.

What's your credit score?

Ever since you've had credit, the country's three largest credit bureaus have been keeping tabs on how you manage it. Managing it poorly can stop you in your tracks when it comes to dealing with the rest of your financial life. A bad credit history (which includes late payments, exceeding your credit limits, and applying for more credit on a regular basis) can also result in your having to pay higher interest than average whenever you apply for a loan. Here's an example: If mortgages are averaging 7.5 percent, for instance, and you've got a below-average credit score, you may be asked to pay 9.5 percent.

How can you improve your credit score?

Cancel the cards in your wallet that you're not using, use less than 50 percent of the credit available to you, don't apply for additional credit cards in the six months before you're going to start shopping for a house and a mortgage, and—of course—pay your bills on time and without fail.

THE CLEARING BARREL

Spc. Joseph Hale

Age: 23 **Hometown:** Kasota, MN

Job: radar repairman

Unit: 82nd Airborne

Time in service: 2.5 years

Importance of investing:

“I want to make sure that when I get up in years, like my parents, I can retire and live off my investments and not have to work my entire life as they have had to do.”



Deployment savings plan:

“I save my money on deployments. I don't just go out and spend my money, buying new CD's and such like others. Even my car is an old hooptie [an '85 Olds 98] which I just keep fixing up. In the past eight months of this deployment, I've only spent maybe \$200. The money I saved I'm planning on investing. I've seen other soldiers make real mistakes financially.”

Biggest satisfaction: Being debt free.

Financial advice: Think about where you want to be in the next 20 years. Ask yourself, ‘do you want to work your whole life?’ Think about whether you want to have your fun now or have your fun later.”

Near term goal: “I want to go to college. I like to learn, knowledge is power.”

Long term goal: “Start an orchard, grow my investment.”

A great return? Invest in the SAVINGS DEPOSIT PROGRAM!



1st ATM Customer
PFC Christina Neal

New ATMs Dedicated

The dedication of two new ATMs was a big highlight for the 336th Theater Finance Command and for the service members at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

Intended to expand the camp's finance office, the new ATMs will now offer service members 24-hour, 7-day-a-week access to their accounts. The ATMs recently installed will provide both U.S. and Kuwaiti currency.

This is the second of several enhanced projects planned for the theater of operation. The next planned area to see ATMs will be Qatar, while also targeting bases throughout the theater of Iraq. Additionally, 336th FINCOM future plans include providing self-service terminals near finance offices where servicemembers can easily check their “MyPay” account for a LES and other financial information.

In her remarks, Col. Maurenia Wade, 336th FINCOM, commander, expressed a special thanks to the National Bank of Kuwait for taking the business risk to make this day possible. The NBK will provide the ATMs and provide access to the global banking network.

The 336th TFC is continuing to explore new and innovative ways of providing effective and efficient financial services to Soldiers regardless of where they are deployed. The ATMs are just one more improvement providing a better quality of life for U.S. servicemembers at Camp Arifjan.

RUMOR CONTROL
Bank of Kuwait (NBK) does NOT charge a transaction fee, but be aware of what your bank may charge for ATM usage.

Operation Iraqi Freedom



Photo by Staff Sgt. Klaus Baesu
 Pfc. Steven Underwood helps guard a provincial government building in Tikrit, Iraq. Underwood is assigned to the 1st Infantry Division's Company C, 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment. The building was the object of recent terrorist attacks, and U.S. Soldiers were called in to augment security provided by Iraqi Civil Defense Corps personnel.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Klaus Baesu
 Spc. Ronnie Young and a member of the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps provide security for a government building in Tikrit, Iraq, which was the target of several recent terrorist attacks. Young is assigned to the 1st Infantry Division's 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment.

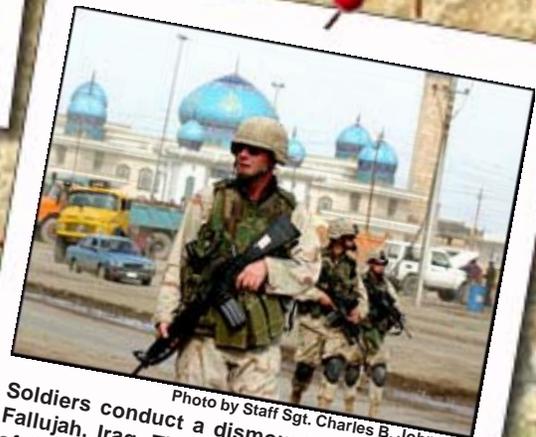


Photo by Staff Sgt. Charles B. Johnson
 Soldiers conduct a dismounted patrol in Al Fallujah, Iraq. The detachment is composed of Soldiers from the 346th Psychological Operations Company and paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne Division's Company B, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment.



Photo by Department of Defense
 Soldiers aboard two OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopters take off from Udari Air Base in Kuwait. The aviators and their aircraft are assigned to the 1st Infantry Division. Army aviation assets have played a critical role in Operation Iraqi Freedom, the multinational Coalition effort to end the repressive regime of Saddam Hussein and bring security and stability to Iraq.

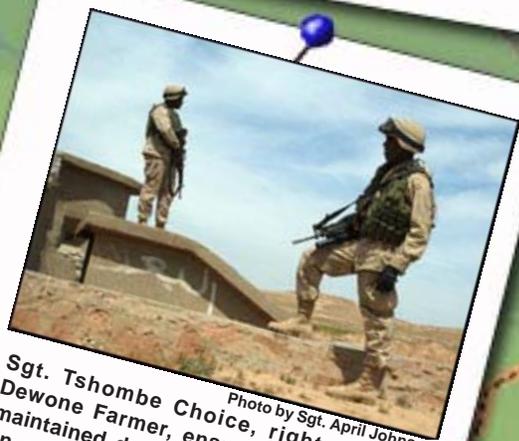


Photo by Sgt. April Johnson
 Sgt. Tshombe Choice, right, and Pfc. Dewone Farmer, ensure that security is maintained during a mission to demolish an ammunition cache in the town Katan Alkaber, Iraq. The Soldiers are assigned to the 25th Infantry Division's 2nd Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment.