



The Old Ironsides Report



Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Al Anef Primary School celebrates reopening

Story and photos by Spc. Andy Miller, 122nd MPAD

ABU GHRAIB, Iraq – Soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Company 1st Armored Division, the 425th and 478th Civil Affairs Battalions, and members of the Abu Ghraib Municipal Council celebrated the reopening of the Al Anef primary school in Abu Ghraib March 25.

Renovations initiated by the 414th Civil Affairs Battalion four months ago are completed and classes are in session.

The ribbon cutting ceremony signified the accomplishments made through American-Iraqi cooperation in the Abu Ghraib school district.

The renovations made to Al Anef school included fixing leaking roofs, installing a water source and providing new school supplies. The 1st Armored Division's Commanders' Emergency Response Program provided funds for the renovations and Iraqi contractors carried out the work.

The 414th, 425th and 478th Civil Affairs Battalions made periodic visits to the school to monitor the progress of the renovations.

"I think these (events) are great," said Staff Sgt. William Smith, 425th Civil Affairs Battalion team leader. "Everybody says that Civil Affairs is supposed to win hearts and minds. I think that you have to start with the kids. They are the ones who are going to be the future of Iraq."

Students gathered up in the school's courtyard to welcome the soldiers to their newly renovated school. A group of boys marched out and raised the Iraqi flag while other children sang the new Iraqi national anthem.

Following speeches by Smith and a representative from the school, everyone was invited inside for refreshments.

The school was badly damaged and in poor condition before the renovations began, said Ali Mohammed Kareem, Al Anef's principal. "(Renovations) to such a school are very difficult," he said. "But it is very different now. It is very nice."

With the help of programs like the renovation



Schoolchildren raise the Iraqi flag while their classmates sing the new Iraqi national anthem during a grand opening celebration at the Al Anef primary school in Abu Ghraib Thursday.

project at Al Anef, Iraqi children are ensured the possibility of a better future for themselves, he said. At the same time, cooperation between local Iraqi authorities and American soldiers can help foster relationships that will ensure a better future for Iraq.

"I am very pleased," said Sheik Saad Abaidkadum, chairman of the advisory council in Abu Ghraid and the Abu Ghraid municipal council. "Many schools have already been renovated by the Coalition Provisional Authority."

"Our relationship is based upon friendship," he said. "I hope the Iraqi people can be good friends to the Americans, allowing both peoples to cooperate for a democratic Iraq."

NEWS...

At Least 23 Killed in Uzbekistan Clashes

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan (AP) - Police and military clashed with suspected terrorists, including three female suicide bombers, and 23 people were killed in a third day of violence Tuesday that rattled the Uzbek capital during a sweep to round up Islamic militants, witnesses and authorities said. Government forces besieged an apartment building near the presidential residence in northern Tashkent for nearly five hours after confronting the suicide bombers. Gunfire and explosions were heard throughout the day.

Eight Terror Suspects Seized Near London

LONDON (AP) - Police arrested eight men Tuesday and seized a half ton of ammonium nitrate, a fertilizer compound that can be used to make bombs, in raids which may have prevented a major attack in London. The arrests in and near London were "a timely reminder that the (United Kingdom) and its interests abroad remain a target," Home Secretary David Blunkett said.

Rice to Testify in Public Under Oath

WASHINGTON (AP) - Bowing to pressure, the White House will allow National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice to testify in public under oath before the commission investigating the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. President Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney also agreed to speak with the full panel privately. To reach the compromise, the administration said Tuesday it had won agreement from the commission that it would seek no further public testimony from White House officials and that Rice's appearance would not be viewed as a precedent.

Mass. Gay Marriage Ban Passes Hurdle

BOSTON (AP) - With one chapter closed in Massachusetts' gay marriage debate, several new ones now open, as gay couples look ahead to what may be a short-lived chance to tie the knot and lawmakers prepare for crucial November elections. Legislators approved a constitutional amendment Monday that would ban gay marriages while legalizing civil unions. If passed during the next two-year Legislative session, the measure would go before voters in November 2006.

Thought for the day... Character

Abraham Lincoln said concerning his integrity in leading a war-torn nation: "I desire so to conduct the affairs of this administration that if at the end, when I come to lay down the reins of power, I have lost every other friend on earth, I shall at least have one friend left, and that friend shall be down inside of me." Character is a victory, not a gift.

Travel & Entertainment...

Statue of Liberty to Reopen in Summer

NEW YORK (AP) -- The Statue of Liberty, closed immediately after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, will reopen to the public this summer, officials said Tuesday.

Pledges of \$7 million in donations, including a \$100,000 gift from Mayor Michael Bloomberg, will finance upgrades that were necessary at the national monument before it could be reopened.

Currently, tourists can visit Liberty Island but are not allowed inside the 151-foot statue in New York Harbor.

"Safety of our citizens and preservation of the statue are our main goals," said Secretary of the Interior Gail Norton, acknowledging that the 118-year-old statue was "an attractive terrorist target."

According to Norton, an examination of the national monument revealed potential for fire problems and a lack of exits. Screening procedures, much like those at airports, and a reservation system to reduce long lines will be implemented once the monument reopens in late July, Norton said.

She said after the upgrades are completed, the public will be allowed to climb the 354 steps to the statue's crown, or observation deck.

The island was closed for 100 days after Sept. 11, 2001. Airport-type metal detectors were installed to screen visitors boarding the ferry from lower Manhattan before the island was reopened in December 2001. But the statue itself has remained closed.

Since the terrorist attacks, officials have said the number of visitors to Liberty Island has dropped by 40 percent. Still, more than 4 million people have visited since then. The statue had undergone a major restoration for its 100th birthday in 1986.

The upgrade project is being overseen by the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation.

NBC Signs Jay Leno to Contract Extension

NEW YORK (AP) -- NBC has inked late-night television's ratings king, Jay Leno, to a contract extension that will keep him as "Tonight" show host until the end of 2009.

Leno's contract had been due to expire at the end of next year.

Leno, who replaced Johnny Carson as "Tonight" show host in 1992, eclipsed CBS rival David Letterman in the ratings during the 1995-96 season and hasn't looked back.

This season, both late-night hosts have increased their audiences, but Leno's margin of victory has gotten wider. Leno is averaging 6.2 million viewers a night this season, and Letterman is at 4.4 million, according to Nielsen Media Research.

Terms of the deal were not disclosed. The Hollywood Reporter, quoting unnamed sources, said it was believed Leno would make between \$25 million and \$27 million per year. He was said to make under \$20 million annually in his last deal.

Although he pronounced himself happy with the terms, Leno told The New York Times that "I'm still not making Dave money." Letterman reportedly makes about \$31 million a year.

Leno supplements his income each year through appearances as a stand-up comedian, outside work that Letterman does not do.

Although Leno gets the viewers, Letterman has won more critical plaudits. Letterman's "Late Show" won the Emmy Award for best variety show for five straight years, until Comedy Central's "The Daily Show" with Jon Stewart won in 2003.

Leno has won the award once, in 1995.

Leno's contract extension leaves up in the air the future of Conan O'Brien, who has no obvious path for advancement at NBC from his 12:35 a.m. time slot as host of the "Late Night" show. O'Brien is signed through 2005; Marks said contract negotiations haven't opened with him.

Today in History...

March 31, 1889: EIFFEL TOWER OPENS

(HISTORYCHANNEL.COM) On March 31, 1889, the Eiffel Tower is dedicated in Paris in a ceremony presided over by Gustave Eiffel, the tower's designer, and attended by French Prime Minister Pierre Tirard, a handful of other dignitaries, and 200 construction workers.

In 1889, to honor of the centenary of the French Revolution, the French government planned an international exposition and announced a design competition for a monument to be built on the Champ-de-Mars in central Paris. Out of more than 100 designs submitted, the Centennial Committee chose Eiffel's plan of an open-lattice wrought-iron tower that would reach almost 1,000 feet above Paris and be the world's tallest man-made structure. Eiffel, a noted bridge builder, was a master of metal construction and designed the framework of the Statue of Liberty that had recently been erected in New York Harbor.

Eiffel's tower was greeted with skepticism from critics who argued that it would be structurally unsound, and indignation from others who thought it would be an eyesore in the heart of Paris. Unperturbed, Eiffel completed his great tower under budget in just two years. Only one worker lost his life during construction, which at the time was a remarkably low casualty number for a project of that magnitude. The light, airy structure was by all accounts a technological wonder and within a few decades came to be regarded as an architectural masterpiece.

The Eiffel Tower is 984 feet tall and consists of an iron framework supported on four masonry piers, from which rise four columns that unite to form a single vertical tower. Platforms, each with an observation deck, are at three levels. Elevators ascend the piers on a curve, and Eiffel contracted the Otis Elevator Company of the United States to design the tower's famous glass-cage elevators.

The elevators were not completed by March 31, 1889, however, so Gustave Eiffel ascended the tower's stairs with a few hardy companions and raised an enormous French tricolor on the structure's flagpole. Fireworks were then set off from the second platform. Eiffel and his party descended, and the architect addressed the guests and about 200 workers. In early May, the Paris International Exposition opened, and the tower served as the entrance gateway to the giant fair.

The Eiffel Tower remained the world's tallest man-made structure until the completion of the Chrysler Building in New York in 1930. Incredibly, the Eiffel Tower was almost demolished when the International Exposition's 20-year lease on the land expired in 1909, but its value as an antenna for radio transmission saved it. It remains largely unchanged today and is one of the world's premier tourist attractions.



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 March 31, 2004

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2004

As of: Tuesday, March 30, 2004 9:08:45 PM

Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
00:00		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):	A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN	TODAY		00:00
00:30					NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS	00:30
01:00	AROUND THE HORN	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):			LESTER HOLT LIVE	01:00
01:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION					01:30
02:00	SPORTSCENTER	ESPNEWS		SESAME STREET	HEADLINE NEWS	02:00
02:30		ESPNEWS	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES (TVPG):		NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	02:30
03:00	MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - POSTSEASON NIT - SEMIFINALS: RUTGERS VS IOWA STATE	WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP - ELITE 8: MINNESOTA VS DUKE	ROCKET POWER (TVY): - TWISTING PLACES/ POWER PLAY	BLUE'S CLUES - BUGS!	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	03:00
03:30			THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS	WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):	CBS EVENING NEWS	03:30
04:00			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - FLAMING MOE'S	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	COUNTDOWN WITH KEITH OLBERMANN	04:00
04:30			THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - WAR STORIES			04:30
05:00	MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - POSTSEASON NIT - SEMIFINALS: OREGON VS MICHIGAN	WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP - ELITE 8: STANFORD VS TENNESSEE	ALLY MCBEAL (TV14): - THE EX-FILES	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):	HANNITY & COLMES	05:00
06:00			STAR TREK: NEXT GENERATION (TVPG): - FACE OF THE ENEMY	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	THE NEWSHOUR	06:00
06:30				JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):		06:30
07:00		HEADLINE NEWS	TACTICAL TO PRACTICAL (TVPG): - HOT CHOPPERS, LASERS, FIREFIGHTING	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	07:00
07:25				GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):		07:25
07:30	WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL - NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP UPDATE	HEADLINE NEWS			NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	07:30
08:00	SPORTS SPECIAL - COLLEGE LACROSSE: NAVY @ ARMY	SESAME STREET	SECRETS OF WAR (TVPG): - TOOLS OF DECEPTION		LARRY KING LIVE	08:00
08:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):		08:13
09:00		BLUE'S CLUES - BUGS!	CHEATERS	BETWEEN THE LIONS (TVY): - OUT IN OUTER SPACE	NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	09:00
09:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):		TEAMO SUPREMO (TVY): - IN THE BEGINNING/DULY DEPUTIZED SUPER AGENTS		09:30
10:00	SPORTSCENTER	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):		A WALK IN YOUR SHOES	PAULA ZAHN NOW	10:00
10:30				STRANGE DAYS AT BLAKE HOLSEY HIGH (TVY7): - LOST		10:30
10:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):				10:46
11:00	NASCAR NEXTEL CUP SERIES - FOOD CITY 500		ROCKET POWER (TVY): - TWISTING PLACES/ POWER PLAY	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	NIGHTLINE	11:00
11:30			THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS	HEADLINE NEWS	ARMY HEALTHWATCH SPECIAL EDITION - ARMY MENTAL HEALTH TEAM REPORT ON SUICIDES IN IRAQ	11:30
11:35		GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):				11:35
11:52				PACIFIC REPORT		11:52
12:00			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - FLAMING MOE'S	ESPNEWS	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	12:00
12:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):				12:17
12:30			THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - WAR STORIES	HEADLINE NEWS		12:30
12:52				PACIFIC REPORT		12:52
13:00		HEADLINE NEWS	AMERICAN IDOL (TVG):	8 SIMPLE RULES FOR DATING MY TEENAGE DAUGHTER (TVPG): - PREMIERE	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	13:00
13:30		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):		BERNIE MAC SHOW, THE (TVPG): - LOVE THY NEPHEW		13:30
14:00		BETWEEN THE LIONS (TVY): - OUT IN OUTER SPACE	STAR TREK: NEXT GENERATION (TVPG): - FACE OF THE ENEMY	AMERICA'S NEXT TOP MODEL (TVPG): - THE GIRL IS A VISUAL ORGANISM	CNN DAYBREAK	14:00
14:30		TEAMO SUPREMO (TVY): - IN THE BEGINNING/DULY DEPUTIZED SUPER AGENTS				14:30
15:00		TODAY	TACTICAL TO PRACTICAL (TVPG): - HOT CHOPPERS, LASERS, FIREFIGHTING	THE OC (TVPG): - THE THIRD WHEEL	GOOD MORNING AMERICA	15:00
15:30	SPORTSCENTER					15:30
16:00			SECRETS OF WAR (TVPG): - TOOLS OF DECEPTION	HEADLINE NEWS		16:00
16:22				PACIFIC REPORT		16:22
16:30	BASEBALL TONIGHT			TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):	HEADLINE NEWS	16:30
17:00	NBA FASTBREAK	A WALK IN YOUR SHOES	CHEATERS			17:00
17:30	FRIDAY NIGHT FIGHTS - WELTERWEIGHTS: OSCAR DIAZ VS EBO ELDER	STRANGE DAYS AT BLAKE HOLSEY HIGH (TVY7): - LOST		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):	CHANNEL ONE	17:30
17:45					ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	17:45
18:00		JEOPARDY! (TVG):			THE EARLY SHOW	18:00
18:30		HEADLINE NEWS		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		18:30
19:00	SPORTSCENTER	ESPNEWS	ROCKET POWER (TVY): - TWISTING PLACES/ POWER PLAY	THE FUGITIVE		19:00
19:30		HEADLINE NEWS	THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS			19:30
20:00	REAL SPORTS WITH BRYANT GUMBEL	8 SIMPLE RULES FOR DATING MY TEENAGE DAUGHTER (TVPG): - PREMIERE	THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - FLAMING MOE'S		FOX NEWS LIVE	20:00
20:30		BERNIE MAC SHOW, THE (TVPG): - LOVE THY NEPHEW	THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - WAR STORIES			20:30
21:00	TENNIS - NASDAQ 100 OPEN - MEN'S & WOMEN'S QUARTERFINALS	AMERICA'S NEXT TOP MODEL (TVPG): - THE GIRL IS A VISUAL ORGANISM	AMERICAN IDOL (TVG):	DRAGNET	FOX NEWS LIVE	21:00
22:00		THE OC (TVPG): - THE THIRD WHEEL	STAR TREK: NEXT GENERATION (TVPG): - FACE OF THE ENEMY		FOX NEWS LIVE	22:00
23:00		HEADLINE NEWS	TACTICAL TO PRACTICAL (TVPG): - HOT CHOPPERS, LASERS, FIREFIGHTING	ESPNEWS: THE HOT LIST	HEADLINE NEWS	23:00
23:30		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):		HEADLINE NEWS	INSIDE POLITICS	23:30