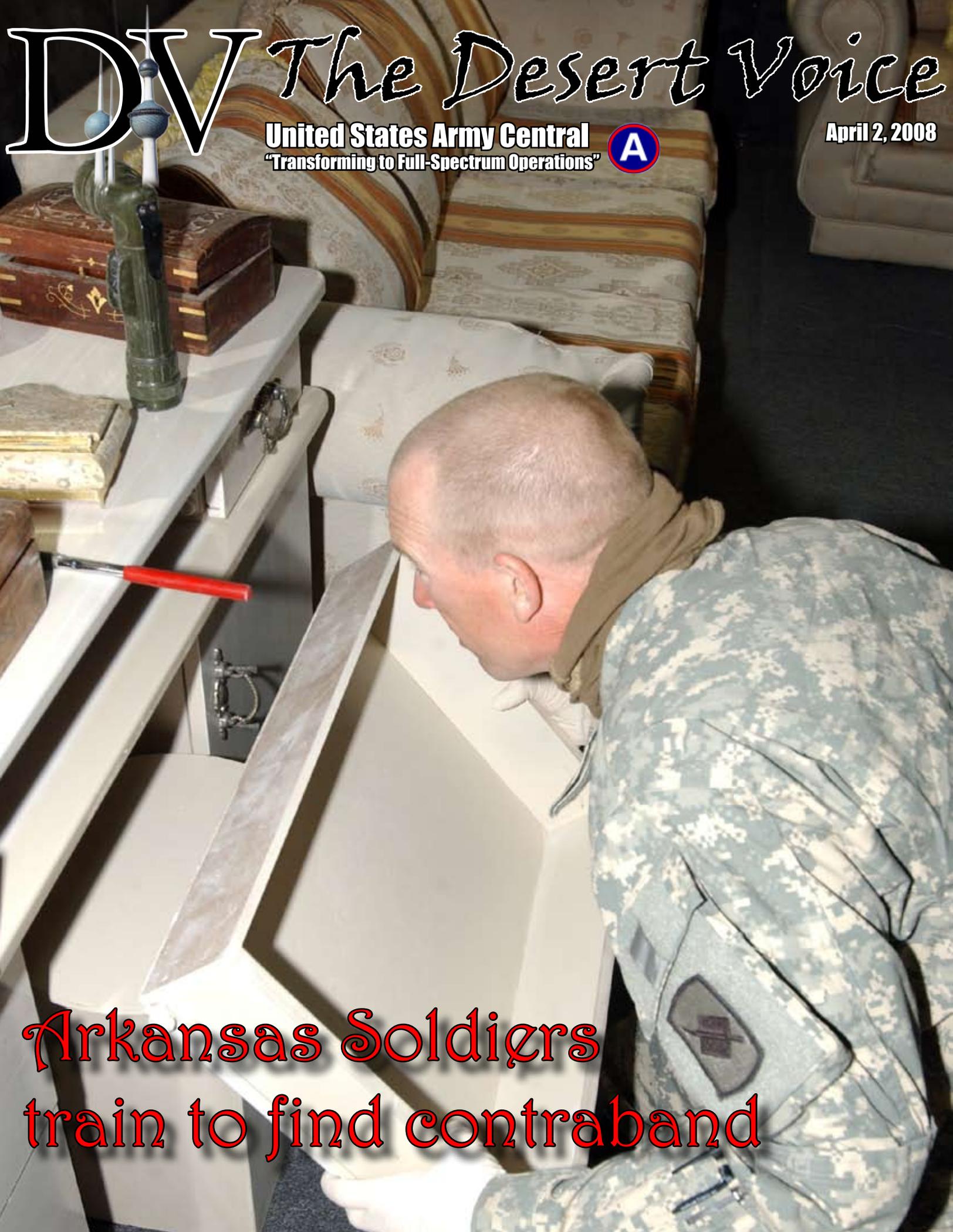


DV The Desert Voice

United States Army Central
"Transforming to Full-Spectrum Operations"



April 2, 2008



Arkansas Soldiers
train to find contraband

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On the cover

A Soldier with HHC, 1st Battalion, 153rd Infantry Regiment, 39th Brigade Combat Team, Arkansas National Guard, search for insurgent weapons during a training simulation at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Thursday. For the full story turn to page 6.

Photo by Pfc. Christopher T. Grammer

Contact us

Comments, questions, suggestions story ideas? Call the Desert Voice editor at 430-6334 or e-mail at desertvoice@arifjan.arcent.army.mil.



On Leadership



Editor's note: This is the second in a series of eight articles on leadership by the commanding general and the command sergeant major.

"Leadership is the process of influencing people by providing purpose, direction, and motivation while operating to accomplish the mission and improving the organization."

— FM 6-22, LEADERSHIP

There is no other single dynamic that is more critical to the success of a team, and there is no other single element that is more entirely within your control, than being a good leader. Leaders are responsible for making the right things happen ... at the right time ... in the right way. I've said before that everyone in this organization is a leader ... regardless of rank. In what follows, I'll tell you a little about why that is.

We live in a complex era of persistent conflict ... that's simply a reality of the early 21st century leader. Just within USARCENT, we are faced with a broad spectrum of actual and potential missions, even as we continue to transform the team to be in a better position to perform those missions. What we do in this headquarters ... and what we will do in this headquarters ... requires leaders who can confidently operate with ease in the turbulent, chaotic, and uncertain operational environment of today's battlefields. And those leaders are you ... each and every one of you.

Leadership manifests itself in perhaps its most enduring way on the battlefield ... but it is developed and exhibited every day ... in motor pools, in training areas ... in orderly rooms and cubicles. It is



Lt. Gen. Jim Lovelace
USARCENT Commander

exhibited daily in displays of great patience and persistence, in displays of tremendous loyalty and considered respect. Leaders are people of character ... they embrace the Army Values and they internalize the Warrior Ethos. Leaders care ... about their people and about the mission ... and, vitally, they care about Families. They strive for excellence

... and they don't accept defeat. Leaders develop themselves and help others to realize their potential ... and they develop the organization into a team who care for one another. They translate plans into action ... and then they execute, mentor and check. Leaders never stop improving themselves, their subordinates and the team. Leaders are what we have in USARCENT ... and leaders are just what we need as we move towards our objectives taking care of Families, succeeding in the current fight, resetting units and rebuilding readiness, and continuing our transformation.

We are in the midst of change in the midst of this dynamic environment. In the Army ... in our current operations ... within this headquarters: there is a culture of change that requires adaptable leaders. As always, chaos, chance and friction dominate combat operations ... and now more than ever, leaders must be proficient on multiple tasks across a huge spectrum of potential missions. Leaders and leadership have never been more important for our nation, our Army and for USARCENT.

On this team, you are that leader, each and every one of you.

Thanks for what you do and for being an essential part of this winning team.

Patton's Own!

Volume 29, Issue 44

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DV
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Fresh eggs return to USARCENT dining facilities

Story by
Col. Jonathan Fruendt
USARCENT Command Surgeon

The U.S. Army Central commanding general has lifted the suspension on the procurement of fresh eggs from Kuwait after a risk analysis determined that the threat to U.S. forces from avian influenza in Kuwait is low.

During the second week in March, fresh eggs reappeared in Kuwait-based USARCENT dining facilities for the first time in almost a year. Fresh eggs are projected into military dining facilities in Iraq at the end of March.

In February 2007, the USARCENT commanding general suspended procurement of fresh eggs from Kuwait after the highly contagious H5N1 Avian Influenza was identified in Kuwait's poultry population. Kuwait had 20 cases of bird flu in its poultry flocks between Feb. 13 and March 21, 2007. All outbreaks were quickly controlled and the disease eradicated by depopulating the infected flocks. No U.S. personnel were infected with bird flu.

The rapid and successful response of the Kuwaiti government to this disease outbreak in their poultry industry confirmed the high quality of their bird flu surveillance and disease eradication programs. This aggressive approach has resulted in over one year with no further infections in any Kuwaiti poultry populations.

To ensure the safety to U.S. and coalition personnel, the following risk management countermeasures and controls are in place to protect the

health of its Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and civilians:

- Department of Defense Veterinary Services (USARCENT food safety auditors) routinely inspect egg production facilities quarterly and also perform comprehensive sanitation audits. Some of the items they review are lab testing records, employee health records, training records, pest control logs, plant sanitation, waste disposal processes, ongoing operations within the facility and poultry vaccinations to ensure compliance with best practices. Additionally, because it takes three days for fresh eggs purchased in Kuwait to reach military dining facilities, USARCENT food safety auditors will have sufficient time if any new cases of avian influenza occur in poultry flocks. Three days provides sufficient time to initiate a recall and place the eggs on a "medical hold" status, until trained personnel can determine whether the eggs are safe to eat.

- Because the most likely source of any new outbreak in Kuwait is from infected migrating birds, Kuwaiti poultry and egg producers enforce bio-security and isolation around egg farms to prevent wild birds from mixing with and infecting domestic poultry.

- The Kuwait Ministry of Agriculture inspects and monitors commercial egg producing farms twice monthly to assess poultry farms and provide continuous surveillance of H5N1 among poultry. In the event of an identified disease, the public is notified and they cull the identified flock that contained the infected bird(s).

- USARCENT purchases fresh eggs only from DOD approved sources that have extensive and documented food safety and food defense programs. These approved sources receive certification from the International Standards Organization, and have multiple auditing organizations, to include local health agencies, that confirm these strict international standards are met.

- USARCENT Preventive Medicine assets conduct monthly food service sanitation inspections to monitor the dining facilities, enforce DFAC personnel hygiene and monitor proper cooking temperatures of eggs.

One of the avian influenza risk countermeasures specific to preparation of eggs in USARCENT dining facilities is that eggs cooked to order are required to reach 155 degrees prior to consumption. This ensures that any virus or other harmful bacteria within the egg will be destroyed. Since eggs begin to "set," or harden at 145 degrees, this means that eggs ordered "over easy" at USARCENT facilities in Kuwait will be cooked more thoroughly than elsewhere, and will not have their traditional appearance of a liquid yolk center.

However, after a year hiatus from any fresh eggs within USARCENT, this additional risk management countermeasure is a welcome alternative to the powdered eggs that have been the only option for the past year.

For more information about the bird flu, visit the World Health Organization at www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/avian_faqs/en. 

Crossing into the time honored corps

Story and photos by
Pfc. Christopher T. Grammer
Desert Voice staff writer

“Today we commemorate this rite of passage as a celebration of the newly promoted joining the ranks of a professional non-commissioned officer corps and emphasize and build on the pride we all share as members of such an elite corps.”

These words opened the NCO induction ceremony held March 25 at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, for 31 new NCOs.

“This ceremony marks the transition from an enlisted Soldier to a member of the NCO corps,” said Sgt. Randy Berry Jr., an information management officer for 54th Signal Battalion.

The NCO induction ceremony, like many others is steeped in tradition and history dating back

to the army of Frederick the Great. Before a Soldier could be recognized as an NCO he was required to stand four watches, one every four days.

At the first watch the privates appeared and claimed a gift of bread and brandy. The company NCOs came to the second watch for beer and tobacco. The first sergeant visited during the third watch and was presented with a glass of wine and a piece of tobacco on a tin plate.

Though this tradition is no longer followed in today’s Army, certain traditions remain a vital part of marking the transition to a member of the time-honored corps.

“Even though the Army is

changing to a younger faster Army, our standards and tradition haven’t changed,” said Sgt. 1st Class Rodriguez Jones, the S3 NCOIC for 54th Signal Battalion.

“Even though the Army is changing to a younger faster Army, our standards and traditions haven’t changed.”

Sgt. 1st Class Rodriguez Jones
S3 NCOIC
54th Signal Battalion



Sgt. Raymond Duplesse walks beneath crossed swords during the NCO induction ceremony held March 25 at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. The ceremony inducted 31 NCOs into the NCO corps.

The basic duties of the NCO remain consistent throughout their enlisted career. From the rank of sergeant an NCO is responsible for the individual training, personal appearance and cleanliness of their Soldiers.

Described in the NCO Creed as the “backbone of the Army,” the NCO is the leader of Soldiers and an example for future NCOs, Jones said.

“NCOs are really where the rubber meets the road,” Berry said.

Each NCO being inducted was called by name and identified by their sponsor. After being called, the NCOs walked beneath crossed swords and congratulated by their superiors.

At the end of the ceremony, the 31 newly-inducted NCOs recited the NCO Creed in unison.

“A lot of people believe you aren’t truly an NCO until you have been inducted,” Berry said. **A**



Newly promoted noncommissioned officers await induction into the NCO Corps during the NCO induction ceremony held March 25 at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

Homeland director visits servicemembers in Kuwait

Story and photos by
Spc. Wesley Landrum
Desert Voice staff writer

Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff visited various military installations throughout Kuwait March 24. The visit took the secretary of homeland security to a Kuwait-Iraq border crossing, the training area at Camp Buehring and the U.S. Embassy.

Chertoff first met with Kuwaiti Armed Forces Brig. Gen. Abdullah al Mehanna who briefed him on how the crossing is operated.

After meeting with the Kuwaiti delegation which also included the Kuwait Ambassador to the United States Sheikh Salem Abdullah al Sabah, and Maj. Gen. Suleiman al Fahad, assistant undersecretary of the Interior Ministry for Border Security Affairs, Chertoff and his delegation headed to Camp Buehring for lunch.

At lunch, Chertoff was met by 13 servicemembers who were going through the naturalization process. Chertoff took the time to personally thank each servicemember for their service and for working hard to become American citizens.

"If anyone deserves to be called U.S. citizens, it's you guys," Chertoff told the servicemembers. "You've earned it in advance. More than anything you deserve the honor of becoming American citizens."

Spc. Linda Laris, an automated logistics specialist with the 314th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, said it was overwhelm-

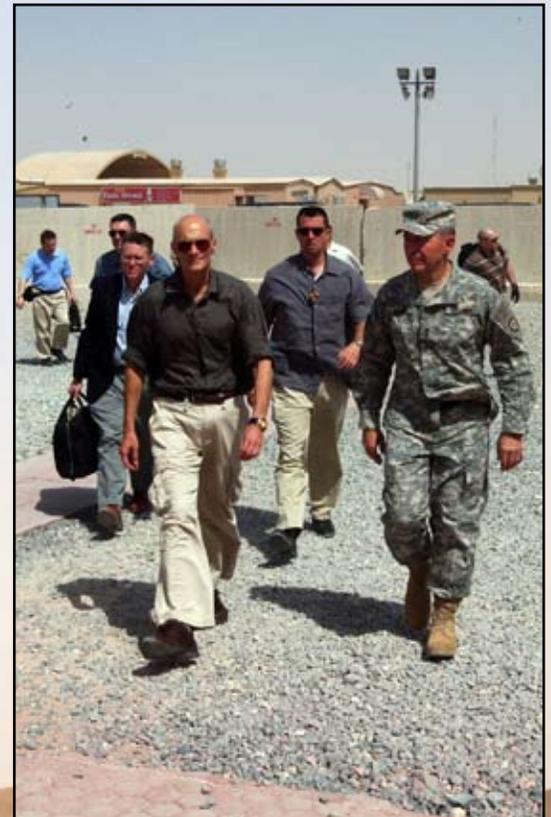
ing to meet Chertoff. Laris, who resides in Las Vegas and originally from Mexico, said she never thought she would be in a position like she found herself – meeting a member of the president's cabinet.

"It's truly an honor to have this opportunity," Laris said. "You get to do something that most Americans don't get a chance to do."

Chertoff told the servicemembers he valued their service although he knows it can be tough, demanding and, at times, dangerous. He said his only regret is that he could not swear them in himself but he said he would be with them in spirit.

Staff Sgt. Abel Cortez, a movement control specialist with the 314th CSSB, is trying to become a naturalized American citizen. The native Peruvian, who now calls Los Angeles home, said for Chertoff to come over here, it sends a message to the troops.

"It's important," Cortez said. "It shows that they do care." **A**



Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, U.S. Army Central deputy commanding general, escorts Michael Chertoff, Director of Homeland Security, at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, March 24. The security chief also toured a Kuwait-Iraq border crossing.



Michael Chertoff, director of Homeland Security, talks with Soldiers, who are going through the naturalization process, during lunch at a dining facility at Camp Buehring.

It's all in the details ...

Arkansas National Guard learn finer points of hunting insurgents

Story by
Spc. Giancarlo Casem
Desert Voice editor

From the outside, it looks innocuous enough. Inside, it has all the trappings of a middle-class home. Look closer however, and this house has more than its fair share of secrets – deadly secrets.

As Soldiers of the Arkansas National Guard meticulously combed over the house, one by one, these secrets came out. In a few minutes, the kitchen table evidenced the house's transgressions: three 9mm pistols, numerous blocks of homemade explosives and an Improvised Explosive Device tucked inside a child's plush doll.

The house hosted a scenario these Soldiers might face during their deployment to Iraq. Fortunately, the Soldiers of the 39th Brigade Combat Team had the opportunity to fine-tune their skills during training at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Thursday.

"The reality of this training is probably the best we've had as far as situation, placement and the element of realism," said Capt. William Jones,

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 153rd Infantry Regiment, acting company commander. "My Soldiers are better prepared for a mission such as this because of this training."

The Melverne, Ark., National Guard Soldiers praised the search house's realism and said this training was utterly important. The house added an extra chance for his Soldiers to go through training that may ultimately save their lives as well save other Soldiers' lives.

During the training, Soldiers looked for tell-tale signs of insurgent activity. They carefully checked for trap doors that could be used to store weapons caches. If the Soldiers made mistakes and triggered an IED, a warning sound would blare and the trainers would then provide additional tips and pointers – a small price to pay for a mistake that could have cost someone's life. That life could be lost due to someone accidentally setting off an IED inside a house in Iraq, or that lost life could be the result of one of these weapons making their way onto the streets and used against coalition forces.

"This [training] is definitely something that will save Soldiers' lives,"

said Sgt. Darrell Knight, HHC, 1st Bn., 153rd Inf. Regt. "It is definitely something to keep in mind when checking doors and other areas. Looking at things before you push or pull on them can save lives."

As the Soldiers found more and more contraband, weapons, booby-traps and trapdoors, the gravity of the situation and training could be easily seen as the Soldiers took the scenario seriously.

"We learned the proper way to search, to be detailed and meticulous," Knight said. "We learned to look in a lot of spots you wouldn't normally think of."

Knight, from Cove, Ark., also said thinking like an insurgent criminal helped during the search house training.

Jones agreed with Knight's sentiments and added, "The only way to be better at this is to think like a criminal. If I were the bad guy, where would I hide it?"

As the Soldiers wrapped up the training, they came away with the feeling of accomplishment, finding weapons and traps, more importantly, they came away with life-saving skills. **A**



Photos and photo illustrations by
Pfc. Christopher T. Grammer

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Camp Buehring



Spc. Mark Peterson, with HHC, 1st Bn., 153rd Inf. Regt., finds counterfeit currencies hidden in a stack of folded newspapers in the living room of the search house at Camp Buehring, Kuwait.



Sgt. Tracy Austin, with HHC, 1st Bn., 153rd Inf. Regt., catalogs a rocket propelled grenade found underneath the mattress in the master bedroom of search house at Camp Buehring.

In a few minutes, the coffee table evidenced the use's transgressions: three 9mm pistols, numerous packs of homemade explosives and an Improvised Explosive Device tucked inside a child's plush doll ...



Women in history celebrated during program

Story and photo by
Spc. Wes Landrum
Desert Voice staff writer

*Pretty women wonder where my
secret lies.*

*I'm not cute or built to suit a
Model's fashion size.*

*But when I start to tell them,
They think I'm telling lies.*

I say

It's in the reach of my arms

The swing of my hips

The stride of my step

The curl of my lips.

I'm a woman phenomenally.

Phenomenal woman, that's me.

Lt. Cmdr. Lorena N. Griffin, from Expeditionary Medical Facility – Kuwait, recited the Maya Angelou poem “Phenomenal Woman” as she walked the stage to begin the Women’s History Month celebration

More than 100 people filled the chapel at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, March 25 to celebrate Women’s History Month. Titled “Women’s Art: Women’s Vision,” the program focused on the story of amazing accomplishments of women throughout history in the world of art and the mediums they used.

“It is a blessing and a privilege to encourage you today using women’s art and vision,”

Griffin said. “Today’s message is very, very simple – there are phenomenal women all around you. The question is How would you know?”

The program honored women like Judy Chicago, who rose to fame in the mediums of painting, print making, tapestry and needlework; Edna Hibell who, in 1917, became famous as a colorist, painter, stone lithographer, serigrapher, etcher, sculptor and film-



Spc. Julia Cotton, 4th Sustainment Brigade, sings a song during the Women’s History Month observance at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, March 25.

maker.

Griffin then went further back into history and told of famous women and their deeds.

“One can go back to the Bible and see the accomplishments of women,” Griffin said. “In the first seven books of the Bible, we find wisdom from the

following groups of women – an army leader, five daughters, the only sister of a prominent figure and four wives.”

Griffin

went on to say that there are over 180 women mentioned in the Bible. However, most of these women are never named and their stories are not fully told. She told of Deborah, a prophet, a judge and a military leader all in one, who is mentioned in the book of Judges. The story told of Deborah and her battle against a foreign invader.

Her hand-picked leader, Barak, told her if she went with him to battle, he’d

go. If she did not go, he wouldn’t go. Deborah went and the battle was won. Because she went by demand, Barak would not get credit for the overall victory. That would go to a woman. Griffin said people can learn a lot from Deborah.

“She was fearless. She judged fairly. Deborah took time to celebrate success,” Griffin said. “She was a phenomenal woman.”

Lt. Col. Amy Blumenthal, Area Support Group-Kuwait S-4, said it’s great that people can come together, be supportive and share ideas.

“It’s nice that they honored women who were not so famous as Rosa Parks or Madam Curie,” she said.

Blumenthal said women have come a long way throughout history to be recognized for their achievements, however, there is still a long way to go.

“There are times where it can still be considered ‘a man’s Army’ or ‘a man’s Navy,’” she said. “There is still a mentality in some places that don’t want women in the foxhole or on the front lines. In this war, there are no front lines.”

*“Today’s message is very,
very simple – there are
phenomenal women all
around you.”*

Lt. Cmdr. Lorena N. Griffin
Expeditionary Medical Facility – Kuwait

Asian-Pacific Islanders bring the beach to Kuwait

Story by
Cdr. Vic Blanco
DCMA – Kuwait

For a few hours, Asian-Pacific Islanders on Camp Arifjan were back at home watching the sun set on the sands of Hawaii, Guam or Manila Bay.

The Pacific Islander's Group hosted their quarterly luau on Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, March 27.

More than 100 Asian-Pacific islanders and other servicemembers turned out for the group's largest function to date.

The guests enjoyed a buffet of

mouth-watering delicacies including popular Filipino dishes such as pancit, lumpia and kare-kare. The main dish, however, was marinated prime rib, cooked in the traditional Pacific Islander way; buried underground.

The night's entertainment included a martial arts demonstration by Chief Warrant Officer Glen Spence. Spence, the Marine Operations Officer for the 640th Sustainment Brigade and his students showcased the Filipino fighting style of Escrima. After the demonstration, Col. Lorraine Tyacke's hula dancers took center stage and really hit home with the islanders. **A**

Pfc. Kristina Campos, 8th Human Resources Sustainment Center, prepares to perform a traditional Hawaiian dance during the Asian-Pacific Islander luau at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, March 27.



Photos and photo illustration by Spc. Giancarlo Casem

Sgt. Maj. Arthur Adkins (right), U.S. Army Central G6 sergeant major (right), samples delicacies from the Philippines during an Asian-Pacific Islander luau at Camp Arifjan.



Chief Warrant Officer Glen Spence demonstrates moves from the Filipino martial art of Escrima.



An uncommon job, an important mission

Story by
Marine Sgt. Sara A. Carter
USARCENT Public Affairs Office

Many think supporting the Global War on Terrorism is a busy business, and it is. There is a constant flow of troops, equipment and information that needs to travel throughout theater.

Boring is a word that many would never think about using to describe their job, but for two individuals a boring day is a good day.

Marine Master Sgt. James Fogg and Navy Chaplain Lt. Dean Vanbrunt are a unique duo who have a one of its kind job – they are the Patient Administration Tracking Team.

They are responsible for rendering two honor ceremonies – one when a fallen warrior is taken off the plane in Kuwait and another when they are placed back in the plane in preparation for their journey home – for anyone who has paid the ultimate sacrifice in the U.S. Central Command area of operation. It is a job that requires 24/7 support.

“Here’s my work schedule,” said Fogg, PATT staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge, as he lifted his cell phone. “Sometimes we have a lot of notice a fallen warrior is arriving, sometimes it is short notice.”

It was a job that neither the master sergeant nor the chaplain knew much about but both feel privileged to be a part of honoring those who have passed away.

It is a simple but honorable ceremony. Every available servicemember from each branch of service and even U.S. civilian employees who work at Kuwait City International Airport, wait in a formation by the plane to pay their respect. Some days the formation is a few as five, other days there are as many as 20 men and women who find the time to pay their respects.

“We wouldn’t be able to do our job without the help of the other services,” Vanbrunt, PATT officer-in-charge, said.

“All services are usually represented during these ceremonies.”

Work goes on as usual on the flight line; cargo is being placed on planes, planes are taking off and landing. No one in the formation seems to pay attention to what is going on around them. They all wait for their cue.

Above the roar of the planes engines Fogg’s voice can be heard, “Present, arms.” Slowly, each person in the formation takes four seconds to raise their hand to their brow or cover their heart.

They stand perfectly still as six warriors lift the flag-covered casket from the cargo hold of the plane and place it carefully in a vehicle which will take it to the mortuary. “Order, arms,” Fogg’s voice is heard again. The formation slowly takes four seconds to lower their arms. They repeat this honor for every fallen warrior who is taken off the plane.

Once the caskets are taken to the mortuary, Vanbrunt says a prayer over each of the fallen.

When the warriors are ready to travel to Dover Air Base, Del. – their final stop before they complete their journey home – a more in depth ceremony is conducted. The formation renders honors outside of the plane. They then move inside of the cargo hold where the caskets are securely fastened.

Vanbrunt makes an opening statement then reads a scripture. He then says the Lords Prayer and the Prayer of Commendation. Fogg’s voice is heard again, “Present, arms.” The formation again slowly renders their four-second salute, they hold it for 10 seconds, then Fogg says, “Order, arms,” and they all slowly end their final good-bye to the warrior they never had a chance to meet.

“I think the Families will feel good knowing their loved one is honored at

every stop along their journey home,” Fogg said.

This job has been present since the start of the war in 2003, Fogg said, although many people do not know it exists.

Vanbrunt volunteered to fill the position to help deal with his issues about death, as he put it; he needed to “face his demons.” He said this experience has

been a healthy one and it has helped him get over his fear of death.

Unlike Vanbrunt, Fogg, a Reservist who is a New York Police Department police

officer when not on active duty, said he comes from a job where he sees death all the time. Although he is used to the sight of death, the East Meadow, N.Y., native explained that doing this job gives him a different perspective on death.

The first warrior he honored when he started this job October 2007 was a fallen Marine. Fogg is used to seeing victims of crimes on a daily basis but he said it hit home to see one of his own who made the ultimate sacrifice.

No matter how hard it is to honor a fallen warrior, “someone’s got to do it,” he continued, “and I am glad the Marine Corps is doing it.”

The duo also tracks every Marine and Navy patient who is sick or injured who are in Kuwait or have been sent to Germany for additional treatment. They attempt to make weekly visits to the troops who are in hospitals in Kuwait, bringing with them goodies sent from organizations throughout the United States.

There are military jobs here in Kuwait which support the Global War on Terrorism and might not have boring or slow days but to Vanbrunt, Fogg or any of the other servicemembers who work in conjunction with the PATT, a boring day is a good day. 

“I think the Families will feel good knowing their loved one is honored at every stop along their journey home.”

Marine Master Sgt. James Fogg
PATT NCOIC

Prevent Sexual Assault:

Ask! Act! Intervene!

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Sexual assault is one of the most underreported violent crimes in America. Since the military is not impervious to this trend, the Department of Defense ensures that servicemembers know that sexual assault crimes are not tolerated.

To better combat sexual assault, DOD implemented the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, which incorporates a comprehensive policy that reinforces a culture of prevention, response and accountability.

The restricted reporting option, which enables victims to come forward without triggering the investigative process, helps victims receive the care that they deserve confidentially.

The unrestricted reporting option allows victims to get care and participate in the criminal justice system as well.

What to do if you have been sexually assaulted:

- Go to a safe location away from the attacker.
- Preserve all evidence of the assault. Do not bathe, wash your hands or brush your teeth. Do not clean or straighten up the crime scene.
- Contact your local sexual assault response coordinator, victim advocate or healthcare provider.
- Seek medical care as soon as possible. Even if you do not have any visible physical injuries, you may be at risk of becoming pregnant or acquiring a sexually transmitted disease.
- Ask the healthcare provider to conduct a Sexual assault forensic examination to preserve forensic evidence.
- If you suspect drugs were involved in the assault, request that a urine sample be collected.
- Write down, tape or record all the details you can recall about the assault and your assailant.

Just One Question ...

“How can you help prevent sexual harrasment in your unit?”



“Promote training and promote the core Army values. Keep communication lines open within the ranks.”

1st Lt. Ryan Kelley
D Company, 3rd Bn., 116th Inf. Regt.
Platoon leader
Fairfax, Va.



“By reporting it when it happens – knowing when to step in.”

Sgt. Richard Barnes
JLTF 1144th
Chaplain's assistant
Springfield, Ill.



“Pay close attention to my other female shipmates.”

Petty Officer 3rd Class Yvette Anderson
NAVELSG Forward Golf
Status board operator
St. Petersburg, Fla.



“Have more team sports. They raise awareness and build teamwork. Treat women as equals regardless of gender.”

Senior Airman Jason Biehl
424th Medium Truck Detachment
Vehicle operator
Pittsburgh, Pa.



“By educating people. It teaches them what to look out for.”

Master Sgt. Sabrina Shaw
640th Sustainment Brigade
Kuwait-AOR DFAC supervisor
Clarksville, Tenn.

Why I serve:

Pfc. Parash Sapkota
429th PSB

Light-wheel vehicle mechanic



The Leesburg, Va., native explains why he chose to join the military.

“I was in college and just wanted to do something with my life and have a career. I plan on re-enlisting, I like this lifestyle.”

What's happening around USARCENT ...

Boom



Photo by Spc. David Hodge

Armor crewmembers of C Company, 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, fire the main guns of their M1A2 Abrams Main Battle Tanks, March 16, during a tank screening at Camp Buehring, Kuwait. The Soldiers of the Raider Brigade Combat Team are training in preparation to begin combat operations in support of Multi-National Division – Baghdad and Operation Iraqi Freedom in April.

Rejected



Photo by Spc. Wes Landrum

Servicemembers compete in the March Madness Women's Basketball Tournament on Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, late March.

Ethnic/Special Observances



Anyone who is interested in participating or helping in the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Observance on May 29.

**The meeting is on April 9
@ 1:30 p.m., Conference 1, Bldg 216,
Zone 1 (the bldg with the flag poles)**

Please contact the ASG-KU EO Advisor
Sgt. 1st Class Teigue @ DSN 430-2215/ cell 722-4989 or
email vicky.l.teigue@swa.arcent.army.mil