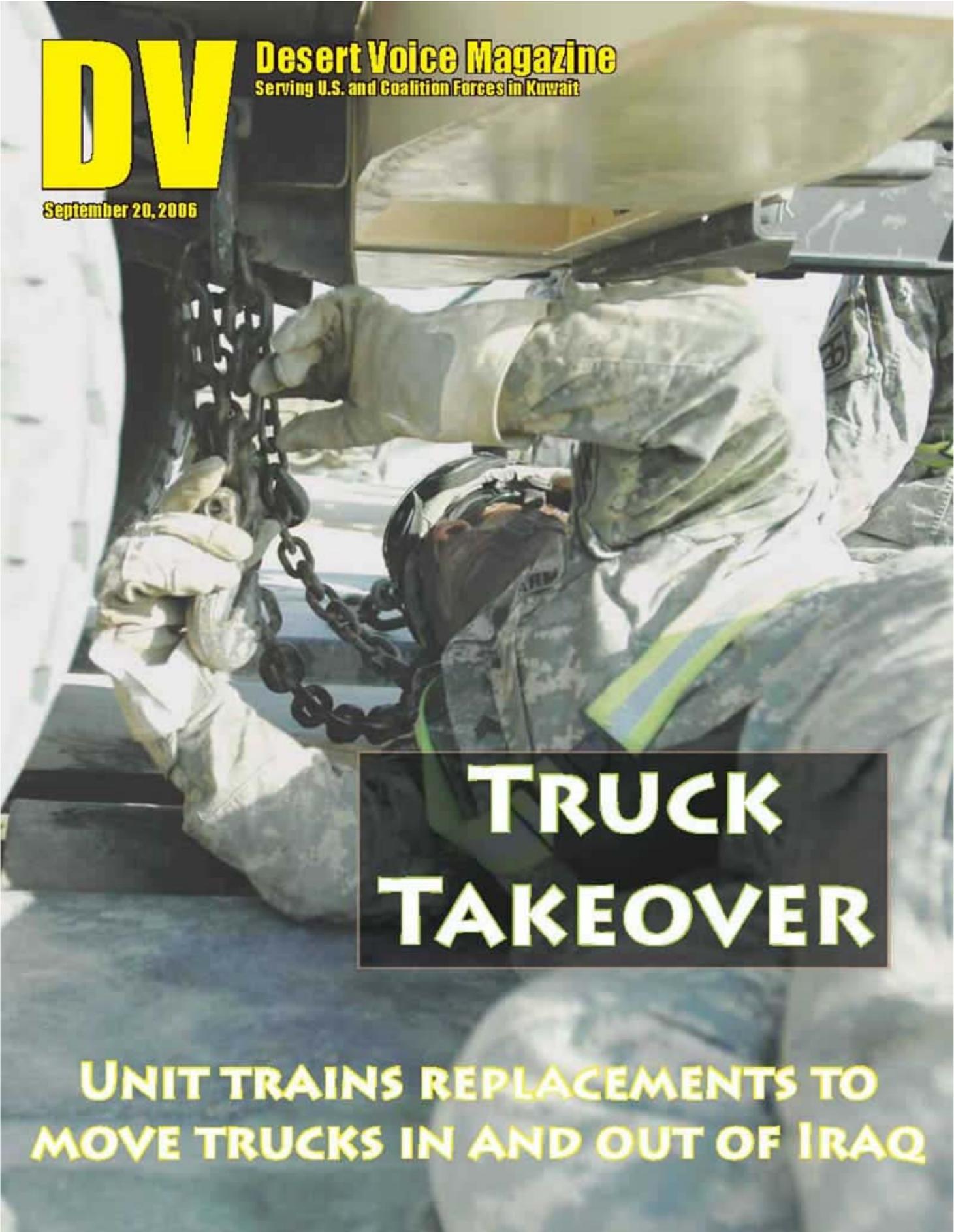


**DV**

**Desert Voice Magazine**  
Serving U.S. and Coalition Forces in Kuwait

September 20, 2006



# TRUCK TAKEOVER

**UNIT TRAINS REPLACEMENTS TO  
MOVE TRUCKS IN AND OUT OF IRAQ**

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A transportation Soldier ties a vehicle in place in preparation for a mock convoy. See page 4 for more photos.

Photo by Spc. Debrah Robertson

# From the Top

## Navy NCO leadership and tradition alive at Camp Arifjan

This week a Navy tradition was carried a few miles from sea in the desert at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. Command Sgt. Maj. Ashe and I watched as 31 Sailors were pinned as the United States Navy's newest Chief Petty Officers (pay grade E7). The Navy chief pinning ceremony is a tradition that dates to 1893 when the chief petty officer pay grade was created.

This recognition takes place only once every year. This ceremony is a significant event in the lives of these Sailors and for the United States Navy, and the preparation for the promotion is not taken lightly.

These new chiefs went through rigorous training and initiation with senior, experienced Navy chiefs as their mentors

to ensure they were ready for this new rank and level of responsibility. Among the new chiefs in formation were Sailors from the Seabees, the Expeditionary Medical Facility Kuwait, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, the Iraqi Assistance Group, the Naval Expeditionary Logistic Support Group, Navy Customs, the Naval Air Ambulance Detachment, Naval Coastal Warfare Unit, Master at Arms from ASG-Kuwait Provost Marshal and other units.

Sailors from these and other outfits serve throughout Kuwait and around the region side by side with Soldiers, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, and Airmen.

As the ceremony's guest speaker, Command Master Chief of U.S. Navy Central Command/U.S. 5<sup>th</sup> Fleet, Master Chief Petty Officer Kelly Schneider, pointed out in his remarks, the United States Armed Forces gives more responsibility to its senior NCOs than most any other countries' militaries.

At this critical time in our Nation's history,

the leadership of these new chiefs is critical to our success in the war on terrorism and in taking care of our Navy's Sailors.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, with the ringing of the "ship's bell" and blowing of the boatswain's whistle, each was "piped aboard" in their new status as "Chief."

As the son of a career Sailor who was a former Navy Chief and then Naval Aviator, I grew up taking part in the Navy's customs and traditions.

But my attendance at this event was to recognize the significance of this

ceremony for our new Navy Chiefs and their Sailors as



**Lt. Gen. R. Steven Whitcomb**  
Third Army Commanding General

these senior noncommissioned officers go on to fulfill their new leadership responsibilities.

Congratulations to the new chiefs. Now arriving: Chief Melchor Cerezo, Chief Timon Cox, Chief Vincent D'Angelo, Chief Kelly Davis, Chief Sherman Fitzgibbon, Chief Melinda Gepfert, Chief Mark Godsey, Chief

William Green, Chief James Henry, Chief Dennis Herring, Chief John Hooser, Chief Thomas Horner, Chief Joseph Lampert, Chief Michael Martin, Chief Charles Michel, Chief David Moore, Chief Lesley Neis, Chief Dennis Ortega, Chief Michael Ortmeier, Chief Martin Quintanilla, Chief Ireneo Rebamonte, Chief Jeff Rosener, Chief Jimmy Seago, Chief Tony Seward, Chief Daniel

Silguero, Chief Richard Smith, Chief Charles Stoneking, Chief Larry Truax, Chief Steve Turner, Chief Kat Wacker, and Chief David Vaught.

I am proud of their achievement and wish each "fair winds and following seas."



**DV**  
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# 6Q

## Servicemembers use self-help to improve quality of life

**Six questions for  
Gary Salmons  
Self Help Center/  
Woodshop Coordinator  
Manitou Springs, Colo.**

### What is Self Help?

"The Self Help program at Camp Arifjan is an extension of the [Department of Public Works]. It is designed to provide advice, tools and expendable items to customers to conduct their own minor repairs and upkeep to facilities. All services and supplies at the Self Help Center are free of charge."

### What kinds of supplies can you get at Self Help?

"Customers can check out tools for a period of one to three days to use while conducting Self Help repairs at their unit [or living quarters]. They can also obtain expendable items used for the project. Painting supplies, cleaning supplies, light bulbs and electrical adapters are just a few examples of the items provided by the Self Help Center. A complete list of tools and expendable items available can be viewed at the Self Help Center."

### Why would someone want to use Self Help?

"People use Self Help for projects that enhance their quality of life here at Camp Arifjan. By performing the work themselves they can ensure that it is completed in a timely manner."

### With what kinds of projects can you use Self Help?

"The Self Help Center at Camp Arifjan has a fully equipped and staffed woodworking shop available free of charge to customers. The facilities are provided for personal as well as unit projects. Currently, Soldiers are constructing flag boxes, unit coin holder displays, jewelry boxes and the like. All personnel desiring to use the woodshop must attend a [mandatory] DPW woodshop/safety orientation, conducted every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday from [4 p.m.-5:20 p.m.]. There is no pre-registration, just show up. Once they have completed the orientation, they are certified to use the woodshop."



*Photo by Spc. Chris Jones*

**Baiju Attavayalil, a Self Help/Woodshop Carpenter with Combat Support Associates Ltd., instructs Master Sgt. Kevin Gunderson, a ASG-Kuwait Camp Cell noncommissioned officer in charge with the Rear Operation Command, on how to build a display box at the Self Help/Woodshop on Camp Arifjan.**

### How does it benefit Camp Arifjan for people to use Self Help instead of putting work orders in?

"The DPW here at Camp Arifjan is staffed by a limited number of tradesmen available to respond to work order requests. Customers with repairs deemed by DPW to be 'self help' projects are referred to the Self Help Center/Woodshop to draw the tools and supplies needed to perform the repairs. The process helps relieve the workload of DPW while ensuring that qualified tradesmen are available for more complicated work order repairs."

### How does someone participate in the Self Help program?

"All military members, DoD civilians, AAFES and [American] Red Cross personnel at Camp Arifjan and Kuwait Naval Base are eligible to use the services of the Self Help Center/Woodshop here at Camp Arifjan."

#### Hours of Operation:

##### Self Help Center:

Tues-Sun, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Mon, CLOSED

##### Woodshop:

Wed-Thurs, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Fri-Sun, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Mon-Tues, CLOSED



Pulling a line from the back of a flatbed truck, a Soldier with the 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment participates in field training. The unit practiced convoy movements, polished their driving skills and practiced loading the vehicles they will be using for the next year.

# Truck takeover

2/17th Field Artillery Regiment reports for duty, as the 1/77th Field Artillery Regiment heads home

Story and Photos by

**Spc. Debrah Robertson**  
Desert Voice Staff Writer

Preparing for their redeployment back to the United States, the 1st Battalion, 77th Field Artillery Regiment, trained their replacements, the 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, to pick up where they left off, moving USARCENT equipment and supplies to Iraq.

"We were here for 11 months," said Sgt. 1st Class Max Holder with the 1-77th. "We moved everything from M-1 Tanks to any kind of sustainment push. You never know

what you'll haul."

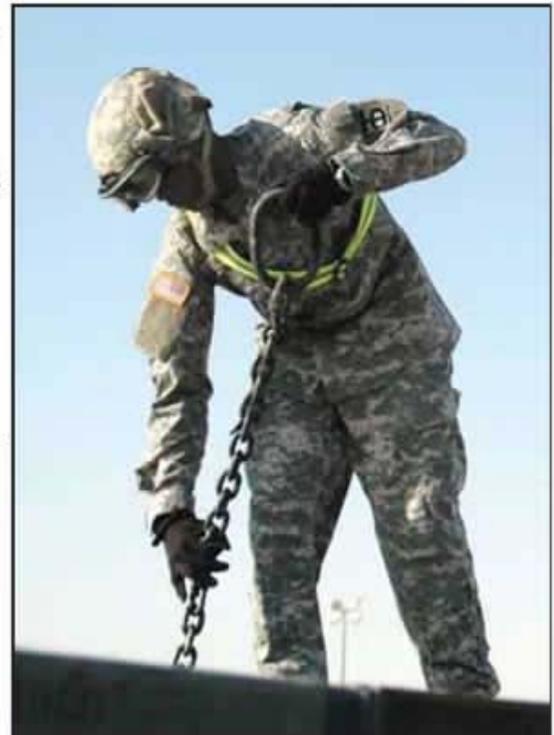
It is important to prepare their replacements for any situation they may encounter, he said.

Like the 1-77th, the 2-17th will be moving equipment into and out of Iraq. Training is vital to accomplishing the mission safely.

"When you go (to Iraq), you want to know you'll do your best. You want to know the mission is going to be completed," said Sgt. LaRuth Moss, of the 2-17th.



Soldiers with the 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, guide a Light Armored Tactical Vehicle onto the flatbed of a truck during a training exercise soon after arriving to Kuwait.



A Soldier with the 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, prepares a chain on the back of a truck's flatbed to tie down a HMMWV during a field exercise preparing the unit for its convoys through Iraq.

Campanella

# Ramadan-Islam's Holy Month

## Respecting our host nation's culture

**Chuck Sprague**

Army Materiel Command PAO

Ramadan, "a month of blessings," is an Islamic religious period and one of the five pillars of faith marked by prayer, fasting and charity celebrated by more than a billion Muslims, and will start this year on Sept. 23, depending upon the full moon sighting.

Military, Department of Defense and other civilian workers should remember that we are guests in Kuwait and must show respect and courtesy toward Islam and be familiar with the religious traditions and practices associated with Ramadan.

Ramadan starts the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, which is a lunar calendar based on the phases of the moon, rather than the solar Gregorian calendar followed by most western culture. The day ends at sunset instead of midnight. Therefore, Ramadan occurs about 11 days earlier in the calendar year than the year before.

It is celebrated as the month that Allah (Arabic for God) began the revelation for the Qur'an to the Prophet Muhammad, through the Angel Gabriel.

Faithful followers of Islam abide by a strict regimen of fasting from sunrise to sunset, no food, smoke or drinking, (including water) and no marital relations during the day.

Most restaurants are closed during the fasting period, and open for business after sunset. All Coalition Forces and civilians off-post and within the Arab community, should refrain from eating, chewing gum, drinking or smoking in public during daylight hours in respect of Islam. This includes vehicles, shops and other public areas. Failure to do so could levy a fine or even jail time.

Please be considerate of followers of Islam who are on Camp Arifjan staff, contractors and third country nationals working on post. Refrain from eating, drinking or smoking in front of them during

The Grand Mosque in Kuwait City.  
Photo by SSG James E. Martin  
377th Theater Support Command PAO

### *What this means to you*

- Don't drink, eat, chew gum or smoke in public during daylight hours.
- U.S. Camps are exempt—however, joint camps, such as KNB and the SPOD, are not exempt.
- Violators can be detained by Kuwaiti officials. Anyone can call the authorities.
- Government offices are usually open for business from 1030-1400 during Ramadan.
- Meetings probably won't occur during the day, but may run into the night.
- During the day you won't be offered anything to drink- don't ask!
- People often stay awake socializing until dawn.
- Highways and roadways will see an increase in traffic before dusk-from 5 p.m. until late in the evening.
- Limit off post travel to essential missions only.

the fasting period. When you are off post, dress conservatively during Ramadan. Tight-fitting clothing should be avoided and arms and legs should be covered for both men and women.

Try to stay off the roads between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. to reduce exposure to hazardous driving conditions, as residents who may be dehydrated, hungry and going through tobacco withdrawal are trying to get home for prayers, breaking of the fast, and family gatherings. All roads become congested just before dusk.

The last ten nights of Ramadan are the most important in religious terms. For many Muslims, the 27th night is considered

self-control. As the body craves food and drink, it reminds the heart that the body and soul must be nourished with religious devotion. Fasting requirements may be waived by the authorities for the sick or aged.

It is an annual act of cleansing of the body and soul, according to Mona Hajjaj, cultural affairs office of the U.S. Embassy, Kuwait. Most followers of the faith begin fasting and participation in Ramadan activities during adolescence.

Charity and good deeds are practiced in Islam, but during Ramadan, generosity and gratitude have special significance.

The Festival of Eid al-Fitr (festival of

---

***Military, Department of Defense and other civilian workers should remember that we are guests in Kuwait and must show respect and courtesy toward Islam and be familiar with the religious traditions and practices associated with Ramadan.***

---

to be the holiest night of the year. Throughout the last ten days of Ramadan, Muslims increase their devotional practices.

Why do they fast? The fast serves many purposes in Islam. In Islamic tradition, the Muslim fast is consistent with other prophets mentioned in the Qur'an, such as Jesus. It reminds the devout the premise of

breaking the fast) begins at the end of the Ramadan period on Oct. 23, or on the first sighting of the moon. Muslims find great joy in Eid al-Fitr, but many will agree that the joy of breaking the month-long fast is secondary to other feelings, such as thankfulness, remembrance, achievement and peace.

# REF Rapid Equipping Force

**Sgt. Thomas L. Day**  
Desert Voice Staff Writer

Roadside bombs, 130-plus degree heat, a faceless enemy who is rarely distinguishable from pedestrians – as the challenges in Iraq and Afghanistan have accumulated, the Army has reacted. Enter the Rapid Equipping Force, a task force with eleven teams in Iraq, Afghanistan and with the U.S. Army Central in Kuwait, positioned to quickly respond to commanders' needs.

For four years, the REF has acted like a machine, receiving observations from Soldiers returning from battle and quickly packaging equipment to respond to those comments. Out of this process have come gear, weapons and battle tools that can

sometimes test the bounds of imagination.

The ARCENTREF chief is Lt. Col. Harold A. Kandes, himself an Iraq war veteran. Kandes is in place to respond to Soldiers' requests without wasting a moment on needless paperwork. To date, the REF has equipped "more than 200" pieces of equipment into the Iraq and Afghanistan theaters, cycling "90-95 percent" of the equipment into the permanent Army Materiel Command arsenal, according to Kandes.

Where cycling a new piece of equipment into use once took two to three years, "We

try to do this in 90 days or less," Kandes said.

Knowing patrols were constantly having to enter buildings, homes and caves without knowing what's inside, the REF supplied units with cameras mounted on wheels and hand-held glider planes ("no heavier than a pound and a half," said Kandes), able to transmit real-time images from the ground overhead of a target.

With Iraqi insurgents hiding roadside bombs in piles of roadside trash, the REF equipped units with debris blowers, taken from the similar machines used in

## Inside the team that is changing the Army

## Body Ventilation System

Lt. Col. Harold A. Kandes

Battery-operated fan

Air circulates through system

Vest is less than five pounds and fits underneath body armor

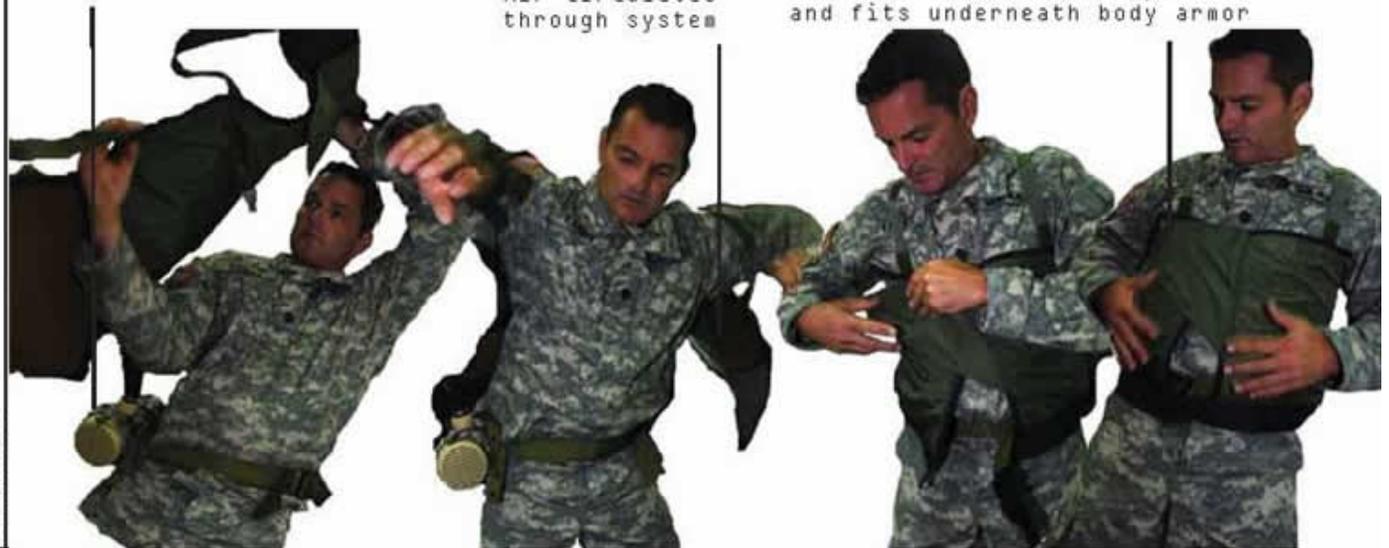


Photo Illustration by Sgt. Thomas L. Day

Camp Arifjan



# Handheld translator

Afghanistan

Can digitally translate basic phrases from English to Arabic.

*Photo provided by Pam Hult, REF Public Affairs Officer*

NASCAR races, with the capability of blowing at 210 miles per hour. The debris blower's strength, according to Kandis, is enough to blow large rocks off the road.

Patrols coming under attack from a sniper can now detect the sniper's location within three meters as soon as the first shot is fired, Kandes said, with the REF's HMMWV-mounted radar-detection system.

With a limited number of Arabic-speaking Soldiers, the REF delivered a hand-held device that can translate basic phrases automatically, turning a Soldier's instruction into a friendly Arabic voice.

The REF was created by (now retired) Gen. Jack Keane, the Army vice chief of staff during the initial stages of the war in Afghanistan.

In response to lessons learned from the initial months of Operations Enduring Freedom, Keane ordered the creation of a task force to meet what he sensed would be the major threats of the Afghanistan – and later Iraq – theaters.

Four years later, the Pentagon has expanded the program well beyond Keane's original scope. "This is a unit

that is right at the forefront of an adaptive culture, a change agent, for our army," said Lt. Gen. James J. Lovelace, the deputy chief of staff for Army operations.

"REF has a role in the Army for a long time. I don't see its mission ending."

REF teams also follow the new equipment once units begin to use the materiel in the field. That's when the determination of whether or not the equipment will become a permanent part of the Army's arsenal is made.



**The equipment development process brings together civilian technicians like Al Qualls (pictured), MIT graduate students and Soldiers returning from the battlefield.**

*U.S. Army photo by Spc. Claudia K. Bullard*

Camp Arifjan

# BROTHERS IN ARMS



Sgt. 1st Class Shelva Combs and Sgt. 1st Class Elva Combs, both aircraft mechanics with the 1107th Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot are repairing a piece of equipment. The brothers travel throughout the theater repairing helicopters for units assigned to USARCENT.

## NCOs make serving in Iraq an AVCRAD family affair

Story and Photo by

**Spc. Debrah Robertson**  
Desert Voice Staff Writer

Although they are so far from their home of Ozark, Mo., Shelva and Elva Combs have each other to lean on.

Inspired by their father's World War II tour, the two brothers followed suit, and joined the Missouri National Guard together Nov. 20, 1974, remembering the patriotism their father, Ernest Combs, had instilled in them.

The brothers joined the military with four of their friends as their senior year of high school wound down.

"But we were the only two who stayed beyond our initial enlistment," said Sgt. 1st Class Elva Combs, an aircraft mechanic with the 1107th Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot, a unit under USARCENT that is helping deployed units with damaged aircraft.

With the encouragement of each other and their father, the brothers have reenlisted in the Guard many times.

"Our father received a Purple Heart and Bronze Star in WWII, and he lost his only brother in the war," said Elva Combs.

Despite his loss, their father encourages them in their military careers, said Sgt. 1st Class Shelva Combs, also an aircraft mechanic with the 1107th. "He said he'd be here with us if he could."

Having family at home to support

---

**Together, the two brothers  
have served in the military for  
a combined 64 years.**

---

them and each other helps the brothers get through their deployment in Iraq.

"It makes things easier," said Shelva Combs about having his fraternal twin in Iraq with him. "It makes you feel a lot more at ease knowing you have family close."

"Working together, it's like we have [extrasensory perception]," said Elva Combs. "I know what he's thinking and he knows what I'm thinking."

"We finish things twice as fast as other people working together because we know what the other one is going to do next."

When not deployed, the brothers work fulltime for the Missouri AVCRAD together as civil service technicians and are now deployed as aircraft mechanics and sheet metal specialists rebuilding airframes.

Together, the two brothers have served in the military for a combined 64 years.

"Although we [each] have enough time in [service] to retire, we'll stay," said Shelva Combs. "The Guard has been good to me; it's the least I could do."

"I'll stay in until they kick me out," laughed Elva Combs.

# Seabees groundwork improves warriors' readiness

Story and Photo by

**Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class Palmer Pinckney II**  
**NMCB Five Public Affairs Office**

Servicemembers stationed in the Middle East in support of the Global War on Terrorism must respond instantly to any alert situation. In wartime, military personnel respond according to training without any hesitation.

On Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, the Seabees of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Five are part of the forces that keep watch and stand ready to go in harms way at a moments call.

Life in the camp calls for walking most everywhere in extreme temperatures. Paved road and sidewalks are scarce in most parts of the camp.

This is particularly true in Zone 6, where rocks and sand cover 98 percent of the traveled roads and paths, making walking a chore.

The Seabees of NMCB Five, known by their command nickname "The Professionals," decided to improve warriors' readiness and quality of life by installing AM-2 matting around several living quarters.

The matting consists of steel rectangles coated with an epoxy nonskid material. They are assembled in a brickwork pattern to form runways, taxiways, parking and other areas. In this case AM-2 matting formed sidewalks for military men and women to walk on.

According to Navy physical therapist Lt. Commander Frank Pearson of Expeditionary Medical Facility Kuwait, "40 percent of the ankle and foot injuries here are caused by military personnel walking or running on uneven ground."

"The majority of these injuries can be attributed to people traversing loose rocks and sand used as pavements in the camp," said Pearson.

Army medics on Arifjan stated that over two hundred military personnel are seen in the physical therapy clinic each month, many of whom suffer from injuries caused by the uneven grounds prevalent in the camp.

NMCB Five constructionman Christopher Fila worked start to finish on the project and said, "We were bombarded by several Soldiers, airmen and Marines telling us 'thank you', and many expressed how this simple addition to the camp would improve morale and readiness."

Fila and 18 other Seabees completed the work in 10 days. Working during the night hours to avoid the intense daylight temperatures, the Seabees placed over

**The Seabees placed over 1,700 pieces of AM-2 matting over an area of more than 2,600 square meters.**



Builder Recruit Mathew T. Finkes (left) and Utilities Constructionman M. Patrick M. Knight II, place a piece of AM-2 matting in Zone 6 of Camp Arifjan Kuwait. This project improves warriors' readiness and quality of life by providing a stable surface to walk on while travelling to and from facilities in the camp.

1,700 pieces of AM-2 matting over an area of more than 2,600 square meters.

Each mat weighs 20 pounds and attaches tongue and groove to adjacent pieces. The attached joint is locked into place with a metal sleeve addition.

Over 4,000 sand bags were filled and placed on each joint to provide reinforcement, ensuring the walkway remains intact.

Coordination and expertise for this project was provided by Navy Petty Officers 2nd Class Leroy Schnathorst and John Davis.

"For our warriors, this is a great addition to the camp, and we are pleased that the Seabees provided the materials and expertise for this job and hope that it can be done in other parts too," said Army Capt. Mathew Krause, who lives in Zone 6.

## 4th Corps MMC Soldiers "ready" for Iraq mission, get a lift from 386<sup>th</sup> AEW

Story and Photo by

**Spc. Chris Jones**

*Desert Voice Assistant Editor*

**A**fter Basic Training, it's been nothing but combat training," said Pvt. 1st Class Michael Simine, who has been in the Army a little more than one year. "So I'm ready."

Simine is on his first deployment but knows plenty about being in the desert. A native of Tuscon, Ariz., Simine noticed as soon as he arrived in Kuwait, "it's just like home, with less cactus."

Simine's unit, the 4th Corps Material Management Center, recently deployed from Fort Hood, Texas.

Before boarding an Air Force C-130 aircraft in early September, heading to LSA, Anacondain Balad, Iraq, the unit spent time at Camp Buehning for some final training. From improvised explosive device training to convoy live fire, the Soldiers honed their combat skills.

Once training is complete, units forward deploy either by ground or air. Part of the USARCENT mission is getting them in and out of Iraq and Afghanistan as quickly and safely as possible.

For troops flying into Iraq,

the 386th Air Expeditionary Wing, stationed in Kuwait, is USARCENT's primary air link. But the missions are never the same, said Maj. Jonathan Watson, a pilot attached the 386th.

Taking flights instead of ground convoys is a faster and generally safer route to Iraq, and for Army Staff Sgt. Chris Haney, "It's a big burden off my chest knowing we're getting there a lot faster, and my Soldiers are more out of the way of a possible ambush."

Haney, who is on his third deployment to the Middle East, said, "the important thing is just to get there and get on with your mission."

"It's a much safer way to get them over [to Iraq] than them taking a big convoy across," said Air Force 1st Lt. Varun Purohit, flight navigator.

"Bringing them home obviously feels better than taking them over, of course, but it's good to know that when we take them, at least they are safer than by ground."

For flight crews of the 386th, no two missions are exactly

the same. Aside from sending troops to Iraq and bringing them home, the unit drops off cargo around the theater of operations, transports detainees and sometimes evacuates wounded Soldiers from combat, said Watson.

Watson, a native of Sperryville, Va., has been deployed to the Middle East for 30 of the last 46 months, during eight deployments.

During this time, he has flown to many nations in the Central Command area of operations, including Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Jordan, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Djibouti, Jordan and Turkey.

"We fly pretty much anywhere, anytime," he said.

But the primary mission remains this: Iraq and back.

"Flying them in feels good," said Watson, "but it also reminds you to keep on your toes."

"We can and do get shot at as well, and you realize that you have 50 to 70 folks counting on you and your crew to get them there safely, so you keep your eyes peeled for threats."

**"It's a big burden off my chest knowing we're getting there a lot faster, and my Soldiers are more out of the way of a possible ambush."**

**— Army Staff Sgt. Chris Haney,  
4th Corps MMC**



Members of the 386th Air Expeditionary Wing, an Air Force unit based in Kuwait, seen in the front deck of a C-130 aircraft above Iraq, as they transport Soldiers to Balad, Iraq.

Southwest Asia

# BLOGGING: it's a question of security

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker recently announced that "we must do a better job" at operational security - "OPSEC" in military parlance. Some Soldiers continue to post sensitive information on the Internet and especially on their Web logs or online diaries, like photos depicting weapon system vulnerabilities and tactics, techniques and procedures.

"Such OPSEC violations needlessly place lives at risk and degrade the effectiveness of our operations," said Schoomaker. He promised that amendments to Army regulations would be circulated soon and that officers would have access to new training materials on the issue.

The Army is still trying to come to grips with this communication medium. The service didn't have policies regulating e-mail and Internet usage when it first became accessible to Soldiers, and it doesn't have policies specifically tailored to blogging, said Lt. Col. Pamela L. Hart, a spokeswoman for the Army's Personnel and Human Resources division.

Existing regulations address operational security and government computer usage issues, but blogging raises issues less black and white than divulging convoy routes or unit capabilities. The Defense Department and the Army both put the responsibility of setting and enforcing rules for blogging on unit and post commanders, said Capt. Chris Karns, a spokesman for U.S. Central Command, which oversees operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Each commander's policies must be in line with Pentagon policies, and "a commander can be more restrictive but not less restrictive," Karns said. Defense Department regulations say Soldiers cannot run Web sites that contain material "offensive in nature," including pornography or links to hate groups.

However, some bloggers are calling on the Pentagon to come up with regulations specifically addressing blogging. "I would like to see the Pentagon come up with rules for blogging," said Matt of Blackfive, a notorious military blogger. "That would make it easier for military people to know what is OK and what is not OK."



## Hometown Hero

**Pvt. Eric Hill**  
160th Signal Brigade  
Supply/Armorer

Hill works hard to get supplies out to Soldiers so that they can complete their missions.

**Talks about what he misses about his hometown, Freeport, NY**

"I think for me [I miss] school athletic events. There is so much support for the school teams that we are one of the toughest in any sport to beat."

## Just One Question...

**What do you do on camp to make time go by faster?**



**"I go to the gym and sweat it out."**

Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Williams  
501st Transportation Battalion  
Transportation NCO  
Savannah, Ga.



**"I try to stay involved in training classes like kick-boxing, abs and buns classes."**

Spc. Shannon D. Cook  
385th Signal Company  
S1 Clerk  
Newport News, Va.



**"Stay busy at work and helping others."**

John McKnight  
160th Signal Brigade  
Personnel Assistant  
El Paso, Texas



**"I go to the MWR center and lounge on the couch and listen to my iPod."**

Air Force Staff Sgt. Cycily Thomas  
Defense Logistic Agency  
Information Technology Support  
Bowie, Md.



**"Checkout DVDs, books and workout."**

Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Kang  
Third Army  
Chaplain NCOIC  
Rocklin, Calif.

# Announcement

## Subversion & Espionage directed against the U. S. Army

Report any Suspicious Activity or Persons to the Counterespionage Office

Commercial: 389-3273 or  
DSN: 430-3286/3273



*Photo by Maj. Web Wright 2 BCT Public Affairs Officer*

### ON TARGET...

Sgt. 1st Class Edward Sanchez fires his weapon recently at a stationary target at range ten at Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Sanchez, the Brigade Logistics Non-commissioned Officer-in-Charge arrived with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team "Commandos."

**00030770**