



The Old Ironsides Report



Wednesday, December 24, 2003

Civil affairs soldier edits 'Iraqi Journal of Medicine'

Story and photo by Sgt. Mark S. Rickert, 372nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq—During the last 10 years, physicians in Iraq have struggled for updated medical information, said Maj. John E. Padgett, the officer in charge of the public health team with the 490th Civil Affairs Battalion, an Army Reserve unit based in Abilene, Texas, who now edits the "Iraqi Journal of Medicine."

The 490th Civil Affairs Battalion is part of Task Force 1st Armored Division.

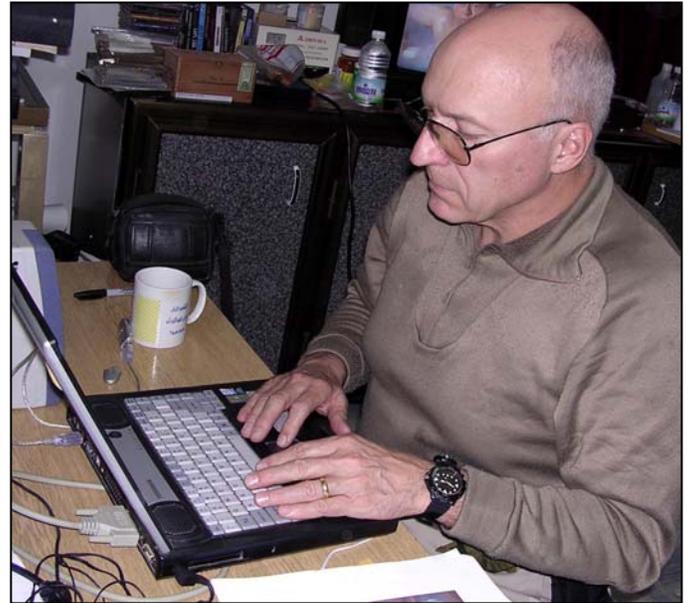
"Iraqi physicians had no access to updated information," said Padgett. "Before the war, a politically-connected physician could travel to Europe and Asia for seminars and advanced training, but most others could not."

Padgett, who is an educator at Samuel Merritt College in Oakland, Calif., says physicians must continue their education by reading medical journals and attending seminars. While new diagnostic techniques, breakthrough medicines and technological advances keep the medical world turning, physicians are obligated to keep up with the changes.

"Physicians have a responsibility to the patient to deliver the best care possible," said Padgett, "so they should be familiar with the newest diagnostics techniques, equipment and drug discoveries. If we didn't have continuing education, we'd still be bleeding patients instead of using antibiotics, cat scans and MRI (magnetic resonance imaging.)"

Medical journals are crucial to physicians, yet Padgett knows of no medical journals published within Iraq since the first Gulf War. This makes the "Iraqi Journal of Medicine" an especially valuable tool for medical practitioners.

The "Iraqi Journal of Medicine" is a compilation of recently published medical information from all over the world, reviewed and summarized by the Ministry of Health and then passed on to Padgett, who edits the material for language, relevancy and content. Padgett, who has published works in "Physicians Assistant Journal" and various magazines, also writes an editorial



Maj. John E. Padgett, officer in charge of the 490th Civil Affairs Battalion's public health team, an Army Reserve unit based in Abilene, Texas, edits the next edition of the "Iraqi Journal of Medicine."

column for the Iraqi journal.

Padgett says an important function of the editorial process is reviewing work for relevancy. Because most Iraqi physicians are not yet equipped with the latest technology, Padgett must find articles that pertain to the Iraqi physicians.

"The physicians here don't have the equipment available in the western world," said Padgett. "So we have to take into consideration their limited resources and make value assessments."

Until now, the journal was a collection of gathered information from writers outside of Iraq. The next issue, however, will contain some articles written by Iraqis.

"We are striving for relevancy, and we're encouraging Iraqi physicians to solicit articles for the Iraqi Journal of Medicine," said Padgett. "Although we want to offer new information to the Iraqis and stimulate their thought processes, we also want to make the information relevant. The only people who can really do this are the Iraqis."

The Old Ironsides Report

December 24, 2003

News...

Aftershocks Rattle California After Quake

PASO ROBLES, Calif. (AP) - More aftershocks rattled the area Tuesday following a magnitude-6.5 earthquake that jolted the central California coast, killing two people, injuring dozens and wrecking a landmark clock tower.

The bodies of two women were pulled from under the roof of Paso Robles' 1892 clock tower, which pitched into the street and crushed a row of parked cars in this San Luis Obispo County community of 25,000, some 20 miles east of the epicenter.

Security Boosted Amid U.S. Terror Alert

WASHINGTON (AP) - In ways big and small, obvious and opaque, already tight security has been fortified at transportation and energy facilities nationwide in response to government warnings that al-Qaida could attack this holiday season.

Bomb-sniffing canine units were added at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport, maritime patrols were augmented near power plants that border Lake Erie, and more officers than usual were activated along the U.S.-Canadian border.

Canada Court to Keep Marijuana Illegal

TORONTO (AP) - Canada's top court ruled Tuesday to keep marijuana possession illegal, dealing a blow to activists who had argued the drug causes no serious harm.

In a 6-3 decision spanning 400 pages, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that trafficking and possession, even in small amounts, would remain a criminal offense. The judgment prompted praise from law enforcement groups and disappointment from proponents of legalization.

Prosecutors Can Examine Limbaugh Records

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) - Prosecutors can examine Rush Limbaugh's medical records to determine whether he should be charged with "doctor shopping" for prescription painkillers, a judge ruled Tuesday. Palm Beach Circuit Judge Jeffrey A. Winikoff denied the conservative commentator's request to keep the records sealed, but did say prosecutors cannot make the records public.

GDP Roars Ahead at 8.2 Percent in Q3

WASHINGTON (AP) - The U.S. economy, propelled by tax cuts and low interest rates, roared ahead at an 8.2 percent annual rate in the third quarter, the best showing in nearly 20 years, while Americans' incomes and spending both showed healthy gains in November.

The government reports Tuesday on the gross domestic product, the country's broadest measure of economic health, and personal incomes and spending provided further evidence that the economy was convincingly shaking off a prolonged period of lethargy and beginning to fire on all cylinders.

Rudolph's Replacement???

Scientists Clone First Deer

Dec. 23, 2003 (AFP) — U.S. researchers said Monday they had carried out the first successful cloning of a white-tailed deer in a "breakthrough" that could be instrumental in conserving endangered deer species.

The cloned animal, a fawn named Dewey, was born to a surrogate mother several months ago, but was only certified as a genetic clone of a donor through a recent DNA analysis, researchers at Texas A and M University said.

"Dewey is developing normally for a fawn his age and appears healthy," said Mark Westhusin, associate professor with the university's college of veterinary medicine and lead investigator on the project in a statement.

Dewey is thought to be the first such deer clone and could ultimately be useful in conserving endangered deer species, including the Key deer of Florida, researchers said.

White-tailed deer are the most abundant, widespread big game animal in North America, but cloning could be used in certain circumstances to preserve the genetics of superior animals who have died of natural causes or have been hunted, the researchers suggested.

The university has previously cloned a disease-resistant Angus bull, and the first Brahma bull, a Boer goat, pigs and a cat.

In August 2001, the first of five litters of cloned piglets were born followed by "cc" the first genetic reproduction of a companion animal in December 2001.

Inmates Get Apples, Not Coal, at Christmas

LITTLE ROCK, Ark (Reuters) - It doesn't matter if you're naughty or nice, if you're a prisoner in Arkansas, you will receive a gift this Christmas.

Prison officials will give each of the 13,500 inmates in the state two apples, two oranges as well as \$5 on Christmas Eve and Christmas day in a bid to make life a bit brighter for those behind bars over the holidays.

The \$70,000 cost for the program is paid for by prison vending machine profits and from rebates the system receives on long-distance calls placed by inmates. The fresh fruit is donated from various U.S. orchards.

For security reasons, the prison system forbids inmates' friends and relatives from sending gifts to prisoners at any time of year -- except for gift packages purchased through prison commissaries.

Chaplain's thought for the day...

I am Responsible

"I am responsible. Although I may not be able to prevent the worst from happening, I am responsible for my attitude toward the inevitable misfortunes that darken life. Bad things do happen; how I respond to them defines my character and the quality of my life. I can choose to sit in perpetual sadness, immobilized by the gravity of my loss, or I can choose to rise from the pain and treasure the most precious gift I have -- life itself." --Walter Anderson

The Old Ironsides Report

December 24, 2003

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2003

As of: Tuesday, December 23, 2003 7:57:07 PM

Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
00:00	ESPNEWS		IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE	TODAY		00:00
00:15		HEADLINE NEWS				00:15
00:30	ESPNEWS				NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS	00:30
00:45		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO				00:45
01:00	AROUND THE HORN				LESTER HOLT LIVE	01:00
01:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION					01:30
01:45		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN				01:45
02:00	SPORTSCENTER			SESAME STREET	HEADLINE NEWS	02:00
02:30			EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES		NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	02:30
02:45		ESPNEWS				02:45
03:00	NFL LIVE	COLLEGE GAMEDAY	FRANKLIN'S MAGICAL XMAS	BOB THE BUILDER	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	03:00
03:30	NFL FILMS PRESENTS - THE GOLDEN BOY	COLLEGE FOOTBALL - 2003 FORT WORTH BOWL: BOISE STATE VS TCU		WHEEL OF FORTUNE	CBS EVENING NEWS	03:30
04:00	MOTORCYCLE RACING - FIM: SPEEDWAY GRAND PRIX (SLOVENIA)		RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER - RUDOLPH THE RED- NOSED REINDEER	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	THE NEWSHOUR	04:00
05:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - BIG XII: ILLINOIS VS MISSOURI		CHRISTMAS UNWRAPPED: THE HISTORY OF CHRISTMAS - CHRISTMAS UNWRAPPED: THE HISTORY OF CHRISTMAS	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW	HANNITY & COLMES	05:00
06:00			OPERATION SEASON GREETINGS	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	THE NEWS WITH BRIAN WILLIAMS	06:00
06:30			WAR STORIES WITH OLIVER NORTH	JUDGE JUDY		06:30
07:00	SPORTSCENTER	HEADLINE NEWS		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	07:00
07:25				GUIDING LIGHT		07:25
07:30		ESPNEWS	A CHRISTMAS CAROL (1938)		NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	07:30
08:00	MOTORCYCLE RACING - FIM: SPEEDWAY WORLD CUP (OUTRUP)	HEADLINE NEWS			LARRY KING LIVE	08:00
08:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL		08:13
08:30		HEADLINE NEWS				08:30
08:45			WHITE CHRISTMAS			08:45
09:00	NFL TOTAL ACCESS	SESAME STREET		BABY LOONEY TUNES : - MINE!	NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	09:00
09:30				I SPY		09:30
10:00	SPORTSCENTER	BOB THE BUILDER		A WALK IN YOUR SHOES	PAULA ZAHN NOW	10:00
10:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE		LIBERTY'S KIDS (EPS 14-26)		10:30
11:00	NHL - TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING @ BOSTON BRUINS	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	FRANKLIN'S MAGICAL XMAS	JEOPARDY!	NIGHTLINE	11:00
11:30				HEADLINE NEWS	YOUR CORPS	11:30
11:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW				11:46
11:52				PACIFIC REPORT		11:52
12:00			RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER - RUDOLPH THE RED- NOSED REINDEER	ESPNEWS	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	12:00
12:30				HEADLINE NEWS		12:30
12:35		GUIDING LIGHT				12:35
12:52				PACIFIC REPORT		12:52
13:00			CHRISTMAS UNWRAPPED: THE HISTORY OF CHRISTMAS - CHRISTMAS UNWRAPPED: THE HISTORY OF CHRISTMAS	FROSTY THE SNOWMAN - FROSTY THE SNOWMAN	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	13:00
13:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL				13:17
13:30	SPORTSCENTER			HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS		13:30
14:00		HEADLINE NEWS	OPERATION SEASON GREETINGS	DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS	CNN DAYBREAK	14:00
14:30	NFL LIVE	JUDGE JUDY	WAR STORIES WITH OLIVER NORTH			14:30
15:00	NBA FASTBREAK	TODAY			GOOD MORNING AMERICA	15:00
15:30	COLLEGE FOOTBALL - 2003 FORT WORTH BOWL: BOISE STATE VS TCU		A CHRISTMAS CAROL (1938)			15:30
16:00				HEADLINE NEWS		16:00
16:22				PACIFIC REPORT		16:22
16:30				TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO		16:30
16:45			WHITE CHRISTMAS			16:45
17:00		BABY LOONEY TUNES : - MINE!			HEADLINE NEWS	17:00
17:30	SPORTSCENTER	I SPY		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN	ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	17:30
18:00		A WALK IN YOUR SHOES			THE EARLY SHOW	18:00
18:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION	LIBERTY'S KIDS (EPS 14-26)		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		18:30
19:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDY!	FRANKLIN'S MAGICAL XMAS	NATIONAL LAMPOON'S CHRISTMAS VACATION		19:00
19:30		HEADLINE NEWS				19:30
20:00	NBA FASTBREAK	ESPNEWS	RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER - RUDOLPH THE RED- NOSED REINDEER		FOX NEWS LIVE	20:00
20:30	ESPNEWS	HEADLINE NEWS				20:30
20:45				SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE		20:45
21:00	NFL LIVE	FROSTY THE SNOWMAN - FROSTY THE SNOWMAN	CHRISTMAS UNWRAPPED: THE HISTORY OF CHRISTMAS - CHRISTMAS UNWRAPPED: THE HISTORY OF CHRISTMAS		FOX NEWS LIVE	21:00
21:30	COLLEGE FOOTBALL - OUTBACK BOWL PREVIEW	HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS				21:30
22:00	COLLEGE FOOTBALL - CHICK-FIL-A PEACH BOWL PREVIEW	DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS	OPERATION SEASON GREETINGS		FOX NEWS LIVE	22:00
22:30	NHL - ST. LOUIS BLUES @ CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS		WAR STORIES WITH OLIVER NORTH			22:30
23:00				ESPNEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	23:00
23:30			A CHRISTMAS CAROL (1938)	HEADLINE NEWS	INSIDE POLITICS	23:30

DEC. 24, 1814
WAR OF 1812 ENDS:

The Treaty of Peace and Amity between His Britannic Majesty and the United States of America is signed by British and American representatives at Ghent, Belgium, ending the War of 1812. By terms of the treaty, all conquered territory was to be returned, and commissions were planned to settle the boundary of the United States and Canada.

In June 1812, the United States declared war against Great Britain in reaction to three issues: the British economic blockade of France, the induction of thousands of neutral American seamen into the British Royal Navy against their will, and the British support of hostile Indian tribes along the Great Lakes frontier. A faction of Congress, made up mostly of western and southern congressmen, had been advocating the declaration of war for several years. These "War Hawks," as they were known, hoped that war with Britain, which was preoccupied with its struggle against Napoleonic France, would result in U.S. territorial gains in Canada and British-protected Florida.

In the months following the U.S. declaration of war, American forces launched a three-point invasion of Canada, all of which were repulsed. At sea, however, the United States was more successful, and the USS *Constitution* and other American frigates won a series of victories over British warships. In 1813, American forces won several key victories in the Great Lakes region, but Britain regained control of the sea and blockaded the eastern seaboard.

In 1814, with the downfall of Napoleon, the British were able to allocate more military resources to the American war, and Washington, D.C., fell to the British in August. In Washington, British troops burned the White House, the Capitol, and other buildings in retaliation for the earlier burning of government buildings in Canada by U.S. soldiers. The British soon retreated, however, and Fort McHenry in Baltimore harbor withstood a massive British bombardment and inspired Francis Scott Key to pen the "Star-Spangled Banner."

On September 11, 1814, the tide of the war turned when Thomas Macdonough's American naval force won a decisive victory at the Battle of Plattsburg Bay on Lake Champlain. A large British army under Sir George Prevost was thus forced to abandon its invasion of the U.S. northeast and retreat to Canada. The American victory on Lake Champlain led to the conclusion of U.S.-British peace negotiations in Belgium, and on December 24, 1814, the Treaty of Ghent was signed, ending the war. Although the treaty said nothing about two of the key issues that started the war--the rights of neutral U.S. vessels and the impressment of U.S. sailors--it did open up the Great Lakes region to American expansion and was hailed as a diplomatic victory in the United States.

News of the treaty took almost two months to cross the Atlantic, and British forces were not informed of the end of hostilities in time to end their drive against the mouth of the Mississippi River. On January 8, 1815, a large British army attacked New Orleans and was decimated by an inferior American force under General Andrew Jackson in the most spectacular U.S. victory of the war. The American public heard of the Battle of New Orleans and the Treaty of Ghent at approximately the same time, fostering a greater sentiment of self-confidence and shared identity throughout the young republic.