

3-2 ACR holds ‘basic training’ for ICDC forces

Story by Pfc. Erik Ledrew, 1AD PAO

DIWANIYA, Iraq – The first day of a week-long, crash course “basic training” for the Diwaniya Iraqi Civil Defense Corps soldiers started earlier this month at a camp just outside of the southern Iraqi city.

The training is being conducted by a select group of officers and noncommissioned officers from the “Wolfpack” 3rd Squadron, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Task Force 1st Armored Division, who recently took control of Diwaniya after the withdrawal of Spanish forces.

“During this basic training week we’ll be training (the ICDC recruits) in basic weapons handling and various other basic combat skills such as first aid, how to react to direct and indirect fire, crowd control, how to run a TCP (traffic control point), and how to conduct missions that provide security for the people of Diwaniya,” said Maj. John Steel, 3-2 ACR operations officer.

Until May 15, training of the Diwaniya ICDC was being overseen by the Spanish Army.

“These (ICDC forces) had been working with the Spanish before we got here, but we need to assure that they’re trained to our standards,” Steele said.

“I think the ICDC are a little shocked at the difference in standards between the armies. Their leaders are very receptive and enthusiastic that we’re so committed to helping them.”

According to Steele, the several officers and 25 NCOs in charge of training the ICDC battalion either volunteered or were handpicked by their commanders.

“The commanders of the units here were tasked to pick their best NCOs and officers to work with the ICDC,” Steele said. “The ICDC is one the fundamental pillars for a secure future Iraq and our job is to train them up to the standards of the U.S. Army.”

The ICDC’s basic training may only last a week, but 3rd Squadron will continue to train and work with them even as they begin to carry out their missions.

“After this, we’ll move up to squad-level training and then platoon-level training,” Steele said. “And eventually we’ll start giving them more advanced classes like the Combat Lifesaver’s Course as we continue to build them up to our standards of performance.”

While proper training may be the number one priority, 3-2 ACR is also making sure the ICDC is outfitted with the resources they need to be an effective security

force. These resources include basic equipment like weapons, vehicles, uniforms, and food and water.

“We’re working through 2nd ACR to ensure that those needs can be taken care of,” Steele said added.

According to Steele, building a mutual trust amongst the ICDC soldiers is just as important as providing them with the training and resources they need.

“We’re teaching them how to be a team based on trust and an understanding of the standards they have to meet,” he said.

In addition to teaching them to trust each other, the Soldiers of 3rd Squadron are also teaching the ICDC to trust U.S. Soldiers.

“One of the major keys to success is to show them that we will always be beside them to fight the good fight,” Steele said. “We are firmly committed to working with them for as long as we’re here in Iraq.”



Photo by Sgt. Elise Al-Sharif, 1AD PAO

Sgt. Matthew Kinny, a medical specialist assigned to Task Force 1st Armored Division’s 3rd Squadron, 2nd Armored Combat Regiment shows Iraqi Civil Defense Corps soldiers from the 404th ICDC Battalion how to apply a pliable aluminum splint, known as a “SAM splint,” to a fractured arm during the first day of “basic training” week at the ICDC camp in Diwaniyah, Iraq.

Quote of the Day...

"Trust men and they will be true to you; treat them greatly and they will show themselves great."

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803–1882)



Sgt. Rand Hultz (left) and Sgt. Leremy Hubler review their map during a night operation outside An Najaf, Iraq. Both Soldiers are forward observers with the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment's combat observation lazing team (COLT.) Photo by Sgt. Christopher Stanis, 1AD PAO.

From TF 1AD Civil-Military Operations (CMO)...

Recently, civil affairs Soldiers met with local farmers at a Task Force 1st Armored Division Agriculture Conference held in Al Hillah, Iraq. Brig. Gen. Mark P. Hertling, assistant division commander for support, and local sheiks also attended.

The purpose of the conference was to provide CA teams with an understanding of the agricultural system, growing seasons and challenges faced by local farmers. The conference also gave CA Soldiers the opportunity to develop a working relationship with representatives of the farmer's co-op throughout Iraq's southern-central region.

Together, the Soldiers and Iraqi farmers worked to develop priorities for jumpstarting agriculture. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is also working with the teams to provide funding for small-scale agricultural initiatives.

The conference was so successful that projects have already been started, according to Maj. Michelle Barlean, TF 1AD deputy CMO officer.

"CA Soldiers, Iraqi farmers and the USAID have formed a partnership to move agriculture forward (in central-southern Iraq)," she said.

Oddly Enough...

Bank Holdup Suspect Allegedly Calls Cab
WEST PATERSON, N.J. (AP) -- He did not take the money and run. This bank robber held the loot and waited while a bank employee called him a taxi. They could have also called him by name.

Despite the business suit, sunglasses and a wig, an employee at the bank recognized the bandit as Ernest Di Falco, who had worked in a nearby pizzeria.

Di Falco was arrested and authorities recovered the cash, a fake gun, as well as an old .22-caliber revolver with seven bullets.

Di Falco was charged with armed bank robbery, which carries up to 20 years in federal prison.

Today in History...

1754: First Blood of French and Indian War
HISTORYCHANNEL.COM -- In the first engagement of the French and Indian War, a Virginia militia under 22-year-old Lieutenant Colonel George Washington defeats a French reconnaissance party in southwestern Pennsylvania.

In a surprise attack, the Virginians killed 10 French soldiers from Fort Duquesne, including the French commander, Coulon de Jumonville, and took 21 prisoners. Only one of Washington's men was killed.

The French and Indian War was the last and most important of a series of colonial conflicts between the British and the American colonists on one side, and the French and their broad network of Native American allies on the other.

Fighting began in the spring of 1754, but Britain and France did not officially declare war against each other until May 1756 and the outbreak of the Seven Years War in Europe.

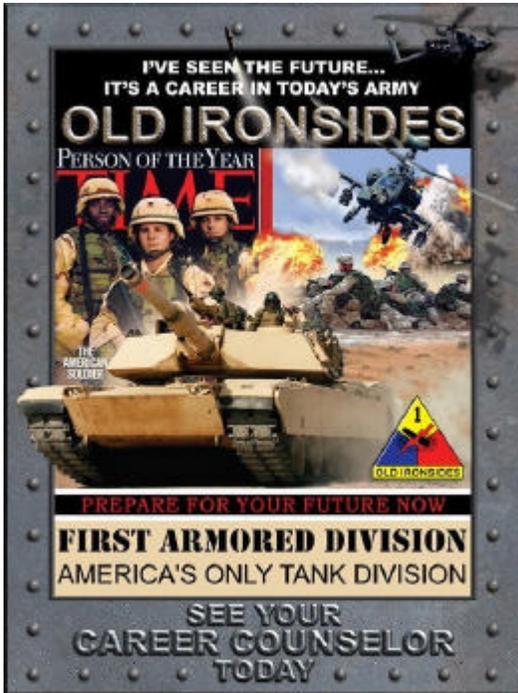
Chaplain's Thought for the Day...

Character

Sow a thought, reap an act; sow an act, reap a habit; sow a habit, reap a character; sow a character, reap a destiny.



For your Information...



Special Reenlistment ceremony...

Each year, our nation pays honor to our fallen Soldiers on Memorial Day.

This year will be no different, but as the Task Force 1st Armored Division Commanding General salutes those fallen Soldiers, a group of Soldiers shall take the Oath of reenlistment as a tribute to their comrades. This part of the ceremony is a combined effort of the Soldier's chain of command and their servicing Career Counselor.

Any Soldier who wishes to participate in this very special reenlistment ceremony or any commander wanting to showcase their fine soldiers that are currently due to reenlist, should contact their servicing Career Counselor or contact Division Retention at 551-9405.

Also from the reenlistment office....

The Army has authorized a retroactive lump sum reenlistment bonus for eligible Soldiers who reenlisted while deployed in Afghanistan, Kuwait, or Iraq between 18 March 2003 and 18 September 2003. Soldiers in grades E-4 through E-6 (including PFCs) with less than 10 years active service, and who reenlisted for either Option 1 (Regular Army) or Option 2 (Current Station Stabilization) should see their respective Career Counselor **today**.



Celebrate Asian Pacific Heritage 28 May 2004.

Events for the celebration include:

- 5K Fun Run 0600hrs at Hanger 1, sponsored by the 501st MI BN*
- Ethnic Lunch menu at Bob Hope Dining Facility.*
- Polynesian Review starting 1900hrs. Where? The "Circus" MWR tent on BIAP*
- Music by 1st AD Rock Band*

"Freedom for all, A nation we call our own"

FOB IRON'S SUNDAY RELIGIOUS SERVICES

CATHOLIC 1000 IRON CHAPEL	PROTESTANT 1115 IRON CHAPEL 1000 DMAIN SMALL CONF RM
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myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2004				As of: Thursday, May 27, 2004 7:08:48 PM		
Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
0:00	SPORTSCENTER				HEADLINE NEWS	0:00
0:30		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	0:30
1:00	MLB - OAKLAND ATHLETICS @ BOSTON RED SOX	4 QTRS	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - GIFT OF GAB	SESAME STREET	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	1:00
1:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY): - ARRGH! / ROCK BOTTOM		CBS EVENING NEWS	1:30
2:00		SPORTS SPECIAL - NBA DRAFT LOTTERY	THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - TREE HOUSE OF HORROR IV	PLAY WITH ME SESAME	COUNTDOWN WITH KEITH OLBERMANN	2:00
2:30		NBA - PLAYOFFS - EASTERN CONF. FINALS GM 3: INDIANA PACERS @ DETROIT PISTONS	THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - MOVE IT	WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):		2:30
3:00			DHARMA & GREG (TV14): - FOR PETE'S SAKE	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	HANNITY & COLMES	3:00
3:30			MY WIFE AND KIDS (TVPG): - JAY GETS FIRED			3:30
4:00	MLB - ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS @ SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS		THE WEST WING (TVPG): - GAME ON	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):	THE NEWSHOUR	4:00
5:00		HEADLINE NEWS	BECOMING AMERICANS: THE CHINESE EXPERIENCE (TVPG): - PART 3	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	5:00
5:30		ESPNEWS		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):	NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	5:30
6:00		HEADLINE NEWS		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	LARRY KING LIVE	6:00
6:25				GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):		6:25
6:30		HEADLINE NEWS	MAIL CALL (EPS 1-13) (TVPG):			6:30
7:00	NBA FASTBREAK	SESAME STREET	MASTERPIECE THEATER (TVPG): - THE WAY WE LIVE NOW (PT. 1)		NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	7:00
7:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):		7:13
7:30	TOTALLY NASCAR					7:30
8:00	SPORTSCENTER	PLAY WITH ME SESAME		DISNEY'S HERCULES (TVY): - THE TWILIGHT OF THE GODS	PAULA ZAHN NOW	8:00
8:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):		HEY ARNOLD! (TVY): - CRABBY AUTHOR / RICH KID		8:30
9:00	BALLROOM BOXING	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - GIFT OF GAB	YU-GI-OH! (TVY): - THE SCARS OF DEFEAT	NIGHTLINE	9:00
9:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY): - ARRGH! / ROCK BOTTOM	JACKIE CHAN ADVENTURES (TVY7): - AGENT TAG	ARMY NEWSWATCH	9:30
9:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):				9:46
10:00			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - TREE HOUSE OF HORROR IV	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	10:00
10:30			THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - MOVE IT	HEADLINE NEWS		10:30
10:35		GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):				10:35
11:00	SPORTSCENTER		AMERICAN IDOL (TVG):	ESPNEWS	CNN DAYBREAK	11:00
11:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):				11:17
11:30				PACIFIC REPORT		11:30
12:00	FRENCH OPEN TENNIS - TODAY AT THE FRENCH OPEN	HEADLINE NEWS		39TH ANNUAL ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	12:00
12:30		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):				12:30
13:00		TODAY	BECOMING AMERICANS: THE CHINESE EXPERIENCE (TVPG): - PART 3		GOOD MORNING AMERICA	13:00
13:30	NBA - PLAYOFFS - CONF. FINALS GM 3: INDIANA PACERS @ DETROIT PISTONS					13:30
14:30			MAIL CALL (EPS 1-13) (TVPG):			14:30
15:00		DISNEY'S HERCULES (TVY): - THE TWILIGHT OF THE GODS	MASTERPIECE THEATER (TVPG): - THE WAY WE LIVE NOW (PT. 1)	PACIFIC REPORT	HEADLINE NEWS	15:00
15:30	SPORTSCENTER	HEY ARNOLD! (TVY): - CRABBY AUTHOR / RICH KID		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):	CHANNEL ONE	15:30
15:45					ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	15:45
16:00		YU-GI-OH! (TVY): - THE SCARS OF DEFEAT			THE EARLY SHOW	16:00
16:30	NBA FASTBREAK	JACKIE CHAN ADVENTURES (TVY7): - AGENT TAG		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):		16:30
17:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - GIFT OF GAB			17:00
17:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY): - ARRGH! / ROCK BOTTOM	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		17:30
18:00	ESPNEWS	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - TREE HOUSE OF HORROR IV	THE OUT-OF-TOWNERS	FOX NEWS LIVE	18:00
18:30	MLB - FLORIDA MARLINS @ CINCINNATI REDS	HEADLINE NEWS	THE COSBY SHOW (TVG): - MOVE IT			18:30
19:00		39TH ANNUAL ACADEMY OF COUNTRY MUSIC AWARDS	AMERICAN IDOL (TVG):		FOX NEWS LIVE	19:00
19:45				OPPOSING FORCE		19:45
20:00					FOX NEWS LIVE	20:00
21:00			BECOMING AMERICANS: THE CHINESE EXPERIENCE (TVPG): - PART 3		HEADLINE NEWS	21:00
21:30	FRENCH OPEN TENNIS - EARLY ROUND COVERAGE DAY 4 (JIP)			CINEMA SECRETS (TVPG): - CATAclysmic EVENTS	INSIDE POLITICS	21:30
22:00		HEADLINE NEWS		ESPNEWS: THE HOT LIST		22:00
22:30		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):	MAIL CALL (EPS 1-13) (TVPG):	HEADLINE NEWS	ARMY NEWSWATCH	22:30
23:00			MASTERPIECE THEATER (TVPG): - THE WAY WE LIVE NOW (PT. 1)	TODAY	LESTER HOLT LIVE	23:00
23:30		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):				23:30