

Desert Voice



WO1 Joe Plank
Daughter, Louise
Harrogate, England



CPT Paul Henry
Flance, Kimberly
Saint Louis, Missouri



SGT Jennifer Williams
Daughters, Jamie, Jessica
& Halie
Blountsville, Alabama



SPC Blake Deimund
Sierra Vista, Arizona



LTC Fred Miller
Daughter, Chelsea
& Son, Justine
Rockford, Illinois

*"From Kuwait
to Your
Heart"*



SPC Karima Mares
Niece, Keara Kim
Anchorage, Alaska



SPC Justin Halderman
Wife, Allissa, Son, Daniel
Going home in 8 days



SSG Eric Brown
Wife, Ronda,
Daughter, Avery
Sons, Nicholas & Zachary
Fort Wayne, Indiana



LT Jacek Kuleto
"I Love & Miss You,
Vialleta"
Zary, Poland



SGT Brooke Taylor
Stepdaughter, Lindsay
Houlton, Maine

Inspiration

“And when love speaks, the voice of all the gods makes heaven drowsy with the harmony.”

-- Shakespeare.

Lending a helping hand ...



DoD photo

A paratrooper of the 173rd Airborne Brigade holds hands with an Iraqi boy he has befriended during a tour of a school in Kirkuk, Iraq. The school will be reopening soon thanks to the efforts of Coalition Forces.

**Third Army/U.S. ARCENT/
CFLCC commanding general**
Lt. Gen. David D. McKiernan

**Third U.S. Army/U.S. ARCENT/CFLCC
command sergeant major**
Command Sgt. Maj. John D. Sparks

Commander 13th PAD/CI chief
Maj. John Clearwater
john.clearwater@kuwait.army.mil

Managing Editor
Staff Sgt. Eric Brown
eric.brown2@kuwait.army.mil

Editor
Spc. Marc Loi
marc.loi@kuwait.army.mil

Journalists
Spc. Karima L. Mares
karima.mares@kuwait.army.mil

Spc. Blake Deimund
blake.deimund@kuwait.army.mil

**The Desert Voice staff welcomes your
story suggestions and photos.**

**E-mail them to us at the above e-mail
addresses or call us at 438-6256.**

**"The work of impressing
upon the soldier the fact
that his officers are
interested in his welfare
should start from the first
day he joins his unit and
be continuous thereafter."**
-- Gen. Maxwell Taylor

DESERT VISIONS



**If you would like copies of
USO photos, visit the
CFLCC PAO folder entitled
'USO' on the NIPR.**

Romantic Murphy ...



**“So in love, the heart surrenders itself
entirely to the one being knowing how
to touch it. That being is not selected,
but recognized and obeyed.”**
-- George Santayana

Photos and illustration by Maj. John Clearwater, 13th Public Affairs Detachment

**“Wind is to fire like distance is to love; it extinguishes
the small and enflames the great.” -- Anonymous**

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Forever and always: Gifts and memories that last

A song a month

What could be better than a sweet song? Pick a song a month that reminds you of your relationship and let your sweet heart listen to it. If you're here for a year, by the time you go home, you'll have a complete cd to surprise your sweetie with. If you won't be here that long, pick some other songs that remind you of your darling and add them to the cd too.

Stellar Surprise?

For a quick and unexpected surprise, turn this Valentine's Day into one that will offer the gift that will shine in the evening sky for years to come. Name a star for your special someone, an ideal gift idea that will serve as a constant reminder of your love and devotion to your special Valentine, just hop on-line and find one of many sites to meet your needs.

Advent Calendar

About a month before a special day like Valentine's Day, R&R, or redeployment, make your own 'advent calendar' with a month's worth of little doors to open. Behind each one write something you love about your honey bear, then give them the calendar so they can open one door each day!

Dancing in the streets

At night, bring her to a parking lot near where you met...outside the gym or chow hall...or where you once had a memorable encounter. Bring along a portable CD player and a cd of slow songs, and ask her to dance together in the parking lot alone. Don't care if anyone drives by or says anything...just dance and feel the love.

Digital Creation

Been together for a while? Enlist your children or close friends to help with this. Have them e-mail pictures of you and your Pookey Bear, then find yourself a computer and create a slide show, showing how much you cherish those moments with them. For extra points, e-mail the slide-show to them at work.

In the Dog House?

Buy her a special gift, she'd probably forgive you with the help of a Tiffany's diamond necklace, but, chances are, you can't afford it. Instead, find a gift that has special meaning. Find something that evokes an intimate moment you shared. I'll remind her of the special times together, and make her nostalgic...If all else fails, remind her you are deployed to a combat zone, and miss her every minute of the day...just don't use it too much!



Photo by Staff Sgt. Eric Brown

Bo Jackson stops at Camp Doha, Kuwait

Bo Jackson, football and baseball great, serves it up and shares a laugh with 1st Lt. David Hughes, F Company, 159th Aviation Regiment at Camp Doha's dining facility Jan 31. Jackson, whom some think is the greatest two-sport professional athlete

Did You Know?

The term "to wear your heart on your sleeve" originated in the Middle Ages when young men and women drew names from a bowl to see who their Valentines would be which they would then wear pinned on their sleeves for one week. To wear your heart on your sleeve now means that it is easy for other people to know how you are feeling.

OIF hero marries ...

A 10th Mountain Division Soldier recovering from injuries sustained in Iraq and his fiancée from Syracuse, N. Y., will "tie the knot" on national television Feb. 6 after a week of "courting" on Live with Regis & Kelly. Spc. Robert Fleming, 10th Mountain Division Soldier recovering from an OIF wound, and fiancée April Zehr got "the wedding of their dreams during Live's Wedding Week," on the Regis and Kelly show recently.

The nationally syndicated show airs weekday mornings on the ABC-TV network. With the week-long buildup, it is estimated more than 5 million viewers watched the couple exchanging their vows.

Melissa Zehr, mother of the bride-to-be, wrote a letter about April and Robert - soul mates who have faced challenges on their path to the altar. After being separated for months while Fleming was deployed to Iraq, they had planned to marry while he was back on leave in upstate New York in December. However, four days before the infantry Soldier was due home, anti-coalition forces - using a roadside improvised explosive device - ambushed his unit near Fallujah, Iraq. Fleming was severely wounded and eventually evacuated to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Wedding plans had to be cancelled.



Spc. Robert Fleming and fiancée, April Zehr, on the Regis and Kelly show. The couple also got married on the show and received an all-expense paid honeymoon. YAY!



SPC Josh Brady
Wife, Carrie
Augusta, Georgia

Artillery Soldier fired-up for helping children

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Nate Orme
CFLCC Public Affairs

KIRKUK, Iraq (Jan. 29, 2004)—Field artillery officers aren't typically known for their sensitive side, but when it comes to helping kids at schools they have been assigned to watch over, they can be like guardian angels.

At least that's what some Iraqi kids will surely think when they receive the tons of school supplies 1st Lt. Kyle Barden is



1st Lt. Kyle Barden holds a schoolchild named Fatima from Laylan, Iraq. An artillery officer, Barden helps out school children by supplying them with toys and school items. What started out as a helping hand has turned into a nonprofit organization for Barden.

planning to bring them, donated by Americans through the charity he and his brother started.

It all started after Barden's unit, the 173rd Airborne Brigade, D Battery, was placed in the somewhat unfamiliar position of running a town, directed and aided in their task by thinly stretched civil affairs units.

When we first got here (in northern Iraq) the environment was such that they put us in charge of a town," Barden said.

"The town is a mostly Kurdish village named Laylan with about 10,000 people. We are in charge of establishing and running the police force, electing the mayor, the city council, the utilities, and the school system. The civil affairs assets were very few and far between.

There was a CMOC (Civil Military Operations Center) in downtown Kirkuk with representatives for different types of projects.

Units would go to them and get contracts. The water rep helped us contract out and funded three water towers."

Barden said one of the biggest problems was that the town's eight functioning schools did not have any supplies for the students.

"I emailed my older brother, who is a stockbroker in Charlotte, N.C., and asked him to send some school supplies," Barden explained.

"He started by writing a letter to extended family, friends and church. Before you knew it, it was huge. The Charlotte Observer did a story on it. People from other states learned about it; the President mentioned it in his address; it's been on the news."

Barden's brother, Taylor Barden, set up a nonprofit corporation which the officer said is called Kyle's Schools, adding that he wants to change the name to get the focus off him.

"The intent was to square my schools away. In Laylan there are approximately 2,000 kids. We're going to saturate Laylan then start going to other towns," Barden said.

With the response so far, it shouldn't be hard. Barden said that both businesses, particularly Office Depot, and citizens have donated.

"My brother told me to expect 20,000 pounds of supplies. We were having a hard time getting it here, but then a pilot from Delta Airlines, James Harper, offered to fly it over here for free," Barden said.

Barden said the town has been very enthusiastic about the projects his unit has initiated.

"We have a really good relationship with the town. It's a primarily Kurdish town and the Kurds love Americans," Barden stated.

"I've told the mayor about the school supplies, but the kids have no idea. There's every type of supply you can imagine—also toys. We're just going to show up and start handing stuff out."



**PFC Johnny Thomas
Cortney, Niaomi, Brielle,
Wife, Teresa
Edmond, Oklahoma**

Effective immediately and continuing through Feb. 26, all Medieval Times dinner & tournament castles (California, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, South Carolina, Texas, and Canada) will admit two persons free for any performance (military sponsor and guest), including dinner, at any castle, Monday thru Thursday, provided at least one of those attending has returned from either Iraq or Afghanistan on R&R leave or as part of redeployment.

All the individual needs to do is to make a reservation and explain they are using the free military oif/oef admission offer.

When the Servicememberr reports to the box office to pick-up the ticket, the theatre will require the individual to produce the leave form verifying R&R leave status, or movement orders

U.S. airmen keep mission 'rolling' in OIF

Story and photo by Spc. Marc Loi
13th Public Affairs Detachment

They're just as important as everyone else involved with Operation Iraqi Freedom; but no one would be able to tell from the looks of the small vehicle maintenance shack from where they operate.

For members of the 386th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, currently deployed to an undisclosed U.S. airbase in Southwest Asia, work is rarely recognized, but they still maintain high work ethics and the pride that their work contributes greatly to OIF.

Air Force Staff Sgt. Jason Dato, special purpose vehicle mechanic, said if it weren't for the handful of airmen in his shop, many missions would be grounded – and probably literally.

"It's real important – we get the vehicles ready for duty up north," he said.

Dato himself, a native of Brooklyn, N.Y., is responsible for buying vehicle parts and replacing them for vehicles that have been grounded.

Other airmen in his shop hold other jobs, including

transporting cargos and servicemembers going home on Rest and Recuperation. Through this, they've been able to provide servicemembers with quality service as they come through the Kuwait Theater of Operations.

They themselves are away from home, but many members of the unit, the mentality is that they are like everyone else in that everyone else is also away from home

"It gets tough at times," said Airman 1st Class Summer Hegge, a native of Elk Mound, Wis. "But that's just like with everyone else."

Similar to her, Airman 1st Class Dexter Cumberbatch said just like everyone else, he is happy to work without recognition. All he wants to do is contribute.

"I am happy to contribute," said Cumberbatch, a native of Colon, the Republic of Panama. "There are a lot of people working like us in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines."

Working without recognition and not being respected for are two different things, however.

Hegge said though there have been appreciative custom-



Senior Airman Omar Matos, Air Force mechanic, works on a high-mobility multi-wheeled vehicle at an undisclosed air base in Southwest Asia. Matos is one among thousands of airmen currently deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

ers who thanked them for fixing the vehicles, there have also been sarcastic remarks from many who fail to see the intricacies and meticulous work they have to do.

"People wouldn't listen to what I have to say or make jokes of it," said Hegge.

But it probably doesn't matter that they aren't getting the recognition, because they, too, are the Warfighters of OIF.

Airman 1st Class Jessica Bannister, a native of Vanleave,

Miss., drives vehicles for the unit, and she said although there is frustration because she wishes she could serve in Iraq rather than at the Southwest Asia air base, she realizes this is her job.

She also realizes every job is integral in the war-fighting efforts.

"Sometimes, I just want to get in a convoy and go (north)," she said.

"But every job, no matter how mundane, is important." 

To the One I Love

*To my Mantha,
Princess, your daddy misses you and loves you very much. I will see you soon,
Happy Valentines Day,
Love Daddy
Staff Sgt. Shannon Boling
Marshall, Mo.*

*Roses are red, violets are blue,
I don't miss nuthin, like I miss you.
You are my heart, my truth, and my joy,
you are my Cammy,
my best little boy.
You are Momma's Valentine XXXXOOOO
Spc. Heather J. Lamb
Douglasville, Ga.*

*My Samantha,
I love you like I've never loved anyone.
A love that can never change, no matter what ever happens. You are the love of my life.
I can't wait to finish my year and get back to you, to hold you and tuck you into bed again.
I am the luckiest father in the world to have a daughter like you.
Love you forever baby.
Happy Valentine's Day!
Your Daddy
Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Grela
Cleveland, Ohio*

*To Leone,
No one can be luckier than I for the last 23 years of love and marriage. You've got my heart an soul
Love Frank
Sgt. 1st Class Frank Ryan
Desplaines, Ill.*

*To Suchy,
like cookie our special day,
Love Always
Hagen
Staff Sgt. John Haggen
Pittsburg, Pa.*

*Nancy,
Hey Sweetie, I miss you and can't wait to see you! I love you so much!
Love,
John
Sgt. 1st Class Doehler
Clinton, North Carolina*

*To Tammy,
Happy Anniversary and Valentine's Day. I can't wait to see you again,
Love Jim
Capt. Jim McCrillis
Newark, Ohio*



**PFC Ted Hurst II
Sister, Tamekia & wife, Deanna
Augusta, Georgia**

Aikido to SWEEP OPPONENTS OFF THEIR FEET

Story and photos by Spc. Marc Loi
13th Public Affairs Detachment

that aim at maiming and hurting opponents, Aikido emphasizes more on self-defense. In fact, the Japanese form of martial art does not include kicks or punches at all – it uses blocking techniques and channeling of an opponent’s energy in self-defense.

Aikido is much more different because in most other martial arts, offense, rather than defense, is usually emphasized.

One of the things Rawley found different, he said, is rather than returning a kick as a way to defend oneself, he is taught to use the opponent’s energy to throw the would-be attacker to the ground.

“It was very different,” Rawley said after one practice.

“I had to learn to keep the shoulders level – and also to remember the whole balance thing.”

Though he had difficulty grasping the basic Aikido concept at first, Rodgers said Rawley has learned well and his previous



Bill Rodgers (left) shows Robin Rawley an Aikido move during a martial arts PT session held at the Doha Gym.

Servicemembers and civilians who wish to acquire self-defense skills, but don’t want to take it too far now have a chance to do so through the Aikido instruction physical training held at the Doha gym.

The class is instructor by Bill Rodgers, who has extensive training in martial arts, including nearly 10 years of Aikido training in Washington, D.C. and Hawaii.

Though the sessions he holds aren’t considered classes, Rodgers said his aim is to pass on the skills he has acquired through the years of training.

But, he noted, unlike other martial arts

Wednesday afternoons, starting at 1 p.m.

Soldiers coming to class comprise of both previously trained martial artists and inexperienced passer-bys, trying to see what class is about.

“It’s an open forum,” said Rodgers. “Anyone with prior training is more than welcome to come – Aikido opens up people’s mind. There are many forms of martial arts that are beautiful, Aikido is one of them.”

Robin Rawley is one of the many experienced martial artists who come practice with Rodgers.

Though he received training in Kung Fu, Jujitsu and Kendo, Rawley said training in



martial arts background didn’t prevent him from learning.

“Sometimes it’s hard because previous teachings are completely different,” he said. “This is a low-key, friendly forum. But it’s effective.”



PFC Joseph Williams
Wife, Sabrina & son, Ethan
Montgomery, Alabama

HOW ROMANTIC...

The most memorable romantic thing I did while I was married occurred on my fifth wedding anniversary. My wife and I had attended a concert on Friday night, as we were driving home afterwards, I purposely missed the exit and acted as though we were lost. I told my wife that we needed to stop somewhere and ask for directions (some men actually do this!). We stopped at a very exclusive hotel in the suburbs of Chicago and both of us went in. The interior was just gorgeous with chandeliers and ice sculptures and many other items creating an exquisite decor. My wife fell in love with the place. After we went to the front desk, rather than asking for directions I told the desk attendant that we had reservations. My wife was totally amazed and in shock! I had also arranged for flowers and wine in the room, dinner and a comedy club on Saturday night, as well as, various other activities to keep us busy on our fifth wedding anniversary. I also included a new diamond ring to celebrate our first five years together. She was quite astonished that I had the capability to plan and execute this, and the weekend proved to be truly memorable.
-Lt. Col. Frank Miller

...SO SWEET

In 1979, my then girlfriend, and my favorite song was "Your in my Heart," by Rod Stewart. One day we went to the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. They have a huge life-like heart that you can walk through, so while we were in there, I looked at her and said "Now that you are in my heart, will you marry me?" She said yes, and we've been married for 23 years.
Sgt. 1st Class Frank Ryan

*To Wero,
I hope you enjoy your Valentine's and many more we may have.
Reyna
Spc. Reyna Rocha
Bevidere, Ill.*

*To Bevin,
Happy Valentine's Day! I love you and miss you.
Love Jerry
1st Lt. Jerry Landrum
Cumming, Ga.*

*To Almi,
Our first Valentine's Day. I miss you and Love you always,
Boston4
Staff Sgt. Paul McInnis
Danvers, Mass.*

*Haddy/Roro,
I know this is really hard for you. It is hard for me too, to be far from you two. It hurts not to be able to see your smiling faces and let you know how much I miss you. But it will be just three more months and I will be home CONEJITAS!!
Happy Valentine's Day Babies!
Te quiero mucho, mucho, mucho.
Mamita Lisette
Sgt. Lisette Huissein
New York City*

The drip drops on water conservation in Kuwait

Story and photos by Spc. Marc Loi

"In Kuwait, water is more valuable than oil," says a sign posted in front of a restroom – a friendly reminder that on Camp Doha, everyone must practice water conservation techniques to ensure water is available to everyone.

The problem isn't that there is no water; it is that water pressure can be inadequate at times, said Capt. Andy Pannier, Directorate of Public Works operations.

Because the water system used in Kuwait is very old and, at best, primitive, water pressure tends to drop at times – especially at the peak hours between 7 and 9 a.m.

Especially with the rotation of troops, which will go on until about May, massive amount of servicemembers will be on Camp Doha. Because Camp Doha shares the same water system as everyone in Kuwait, this can create a pressure.

A reason for this, especially on Camp Doha, is that the base wasn't intended to house as many servicemembers as it currently holds.

"The warehouses were not designed to have as many people as they have," said Lt. Col. Gary Heer, director of installation support. "It's starting to exceed the capability (it was designed for.)"

According to Col. Ulysses Brown, ARCENT commander, Camp Doha was made for only 1,200 people. To date, there are 8,000 people currently living

on Camp Doha – nearly six times the amount intended.

Another problem, said Pannier, is the location of many desert camps, such as Camp Doha, which lies at the end of the water system.

Normally, water pressure should be at about 50 pounds per square inch, but during peak usage hours, the number can decrease to 20 pounds per square inch, Pannier said.

A way to ameliorate the situation, according to DPW, is water conservation. One way to do this is to turn off water when it isn't in use.

"Don't leave the sink on when you're not in the latrine," said Pannier, who added that in many cases, when DPW had to do routine latrine maintenance, personnel have found that sinks are left running and no one is there.

Another way to do this is to turn off the water when it's not being used during brushing or shaving.

Ultimately, the best way to conserve water is to refrain from taking showers and doing laundry between peak hours, which include 7 – 9 a.m. and noon – 2 p.m., Pannier said.

This is not to say, of course, that servicemembers shouldn't showers at physical training, but that servicemembers not doing physical training before duty hours should wait until low-usage time to shower, Pannier said.

As for laundry, Pannier said servicemembers should consider sending clothes to the free laundry facility here.



SGT Craig Pryor
Wife, Melissa
Covington, Georgia

Love, no matter whom one feels it for, is still love. The object does not change the emotions; but the emotions, quite often, changes the object.

-- Peter McWilliams

Love is a perky elf dancing a merry little jig and then suddenly he turns on you with a miniature machine gun.

-- Mat Groening

If the painting of my life were the Mona Lisa, you'd be the smile.

-- Anonymous

I am falling faster than I said I would or thought I could. And aren't helping any. You're so comforting and creative and beautiful and full filling. I am falling. I will flap my arms and pretend to be flying. Help me, break my fall. Catch me with your smile.

-- Anonymous

You come to love not by finding the perfect person, but by seeing an imperfection person perfectly.

-- Anonymous

Your imperfection only draws me closer to you; they remind me you're human, and that with humans, I have a chance.

-- Peter McWilliams

Happy Valentine's Day!

Shareware... don't go there!

Using Army networks to download share and freeware is prohibited by CENTCOM Regulation 25-206 and Army Regulation 25-2 without the written approval of the Designated Approving Authority (DAA).

Failure to abide by these regulations is punishable by the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

CAMP KUWAIT LIFESTYLE & ENTERTAINMENT

Upcoming events

Camp Arifjan

Wednesday

Country Night, 7 p.m.,
Community Center

Thursday

Softball tournament sign-ups start

Friday

Salsa Dance Night, food and
photographers will be available, 7 p.m.,
Community Center

Saturday

Romantic Movie Marathon,
1 p.m., Community Center

Sunday

All-Star NBA game, tip-off TBD, Community
Center

President's Day Display, library.

Monday

Spades Tournament and Presidential
trivia. Call CC for more information

Camp Doha

Wednesday

Open Mic Night, Rappers battle
7 p.m., Uncle Frosty's

Thursday

Borrow videos, play videos games and
watch movies at Frosty's,
facility opens 2 p.m., Uncle Frosty's

Friday

Hearts Tournament, can you break
opponent's 'hearts'?
7 p.m., Uncle Frosty's

Saturday

Valentine's Day Dance,
7 p.m., Marble Palace

Black History Movie Day

Tune in to CCTV

Sunday

Spa Day,

11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Marble Palace

Spa Day, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Marble Palace

Monday

Presidents Day 5K Relay Run,
Flag Pole, 6 a.m.

Camp Doha Movies

Wednesday	2 p.m.	Beyond Borders
	5:30 p.m.	The Missing
	8 p.m.	School of Rock
Thursday	2 p.m.	Missing
	5:30 p.m.	Last Samurai
	8 p.m.	Once Upon A Time ...
Friday	2 p.m.	Matchstick Men
	5:30 p.m.	Looney Toons Back ...
	8 p.m.	Radio
Saturday	2 p.m.	Love Actually
	5:30 p.m.	Unfaithful
	8 p.m.	Honey
Sunday	2 p.m.	Master and Commander
	5:30 p.m.	Mystic River
	8 p.m.	Out of Time
Monday	2 p.m.	Run Down
	5:30 p.m.	Matrix Revolutions
	8 p.m.	Underworld
Tuesday	2 p.m.	Under the Tuscan Sun
	5:30 p.m.	Last Samurai
	8 p.m.	Gothika

CAMPARIFJAN MOVIES

Wednesday	6 p.m.	Hocus Pocus
	8 p.m.	Universal Soldier
Thursday	6 p.m.	Ghost
	8 p.m.	Medicine Man
Friday	6 p.m.	Volcano
	8 p.m.	Contact
Saturday	1 p.m.	Romantic Movies
	6 p.m.	Romantic Movies
Sunday	6 p.m.	Time Cop
	8 p.m.	Dante's Peak
Monday	6 p.m.	Back to the Future
	8 p.m.	Lonesome Dove
Tuesday	6 p.m.	The Shadow
	8 p.m.	Jackie Chan's Project A II

ARIFJAN FACILITY HOURS

ZONE I

Red Cross
24 hours
Post Office
7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
AAFES PX & shops
10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Food Concessions
10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Green Beans Café
7 a.m. - 10 p.m.

ZONE II

Dry Cleaner
9 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Food Concessions
9 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Hol-N-One
7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Club Mirage
1 p.m. - 10 p.m.
1 p.m. - 12 p.m.;
Fri., Sat.

Self-Service Center

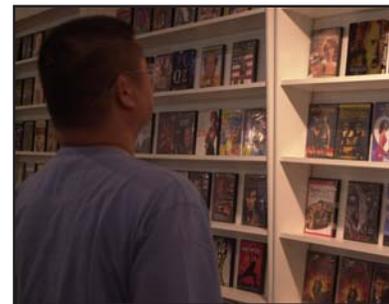
7 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
& 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.;

ZONE I & II

Laundry
7 a.m. - 6 p.m.,
closed Fri.
Gym
24 hours
Pool
10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Community Club
1 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Theater
5:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

This week's entertainment: Free video check-outs



What started out as a hobby of making copies of movies for Soldiers

years ago has turned out to be a Block-buster of sort at the Camp Doha's recreation center.

The video store here has more than 3,000 videos and DVDs of all genre, to include instructional videos and documentaries.

Videos are available for loan at no cost to servicemembers, though requirements state servicemembers wanting to check out videos must show proof they're stationed on or assigned to Camp Doha, said Jessica Lopez, MWR senior creation specialist.

Aside from the shack in which videos and DVDs are located, servicemembers can also watch newly released films on close-circuit television.

Lopez said requests for movies are honored, and she's even gone as far as designating a specific genre for each night of the week.

Wednesday nights, for example, Soldiers can get a variety of comedy movies on CCTV, including "My Cousin Vinny." Friday nights are for the tear-jerker, or as Lopez designated it, "Ladies Night," which plays movies such as "Maid in Manhattan," starring Jennifer Lopez and "The Object of My Affection," starring Jennifer Anniston.

New movies are ordered each month, based on popularity; sometimes, there might even be a waiting list for the movies, she said.

"I don't go the theater, I come here," said Staff Sgt. Wilfredo Sabino, who

Romantic
Movie
Marathon

Feb 14th, Camp Arifjan



Deployed Soldiers have 'Super' time at Super Bowl XXXVIII

Story by Spc. Marc Loi
13th Public Affairs
Detachment

The Super Bowl, whether one watches it for the commercials, the game or the halftime shows to stay abreast on pop culture, is as American as serving in the military.

Monday morning, the American tradition continue as hundreds of sleep-deprived servicemembers packed Uncle Frosty's to watch the annual National Football League championship game between the Carolina Panthers and New England Patriots.

Because servicemembers are each unique and come from different backgrounds, there was no shortage of reasons for whom to cheer.

Ryan Thompson and his friends, John Drake and Dan Fisher, are all natives of Indiana and decided they would root against the

Patriots, who defeated their home team, the Indianapolis Colts in the American Football Conference championship game two weeks prior.

Though waking up at 2 a.m. to watch what many consider an American holiday may seem like a foreign idea to some, the three said they are used to it. Together, they've been deployed overseas for seven Super Bowls. But the atmosphere for them here, even with catered food and near beers, is the same.

"For me it's no different, it's the same atmosphere. It only comes around once a year, so I might as well stay up for it," Thompson said.

One of the things he misses most, Drake said, is being able to watch the commercials.

Because the Super Bowl was broadcast on the Armed Forces Network and not a

CBS affiliate which own the rights to this year's Super Bowl, fans watching the game through the military broadcast super-giant weren't able to see the commercials, for which the Super Bowl is famed.

Instead, they received command information messages from high-ranking officers and noncommissioned officers.

Throughout the commercials, the message was the same – much like in football, everyone in the military has to work together to achieve success.

As they've worked together on the battle field to achieve success and spent the Super Bowl to cheer for a common team, the three friends also have common hopes and dreams – watching the Colts play in the Super Bowl next year, and this time, watching it from Indiana.

Tax season is here

What you need to do to ensure Uncle Sam is happy while you're deployed.

Automatic Extensions:

Servicemembers have 180 days plus whatever time they were in the combat zone between January 1st and April 1st following the tax year.

Example: A servicemember entered the combat zone on April 10, 2004 and left the combat zone after April 15. The servicemember has the 6 days from April plus the 180 days.

Therefore, the automatic extension to file and pay 2003 federal income taxes is 186 days from the day the servicemember leaves the combat zone.

What actions are covered by this automatic extension?

- \$ File federal tax returns
- \$ Pay tax
- \$ Contribute to Individual Retirement Account (IRA)

Who gets the automatic Extensions?

\$ Servicemembers deployed to a combat zone or if performing qualifying service outside of the combat zone. Those servicemembers deployed to Kuwait are eligible to get the extension.

How to protect yourself?

- \$ E-mail the IRS at (*combatzone@irs.gov*) and provide them with the following:
 1. Name
 2. Permanent address
 3. Date of birth
 4. Date of deployment and location

\$ Write "Combat Zone" on the top of your federal tax return.

For more information, log onto:
www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p3.pdf
www.irs.gov/newsroom/topic/index.html



MD Hanif
Daughters, Sarmin & Sobarna
Chandpur, Bangladesh

Falling in love is like being struck by lightning. You can no more make it strike you. than you can avoid it.

OPERATION FORWARD CUPID

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<p>FREE GIFT WRAP</p> <p>\$19.95</p>	<p>FREE GIFT WRAP</p> <p>\$19.95</p>	<p>FREE GIFT WRAP</p> <p>\$19.95</p>

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BLACK HISTORY



INTEGRATION OF THE U.S. MILITARY

In 1948, President Truman abolished racial segregation in the armed services by executive order. Starting with the Korean War, in 1950, integration proceeded rapidly, first at training bases in the United States, then in combat units in Korea, and finally at U.S. military installations around the world. Racial integration in the Army was accomplished with striking speed (the process took only five years) and thoroughness, at least on a formal level. At a time when blacks were still arguing for their educational rights before the Supreme Court and marching for their social and political rights in the Deep South, the Army accomplished integration with little outcry.

Servicemembers given gift of time when departing families

Courtesy of foxnews.com

WASHINGTON - Troops headed for Iraq can now linger a little longer over their goodbyes.

The government will allow the families and friends of troops flying to and from Iraq to escort them all the way to the airport gates, rather than getting stopped at security checkpoints.

The Transportation Security Administration sent a memo last week to airport security directors asking them to develop procedures so members of the U.S. armed forces can be accompanied to and from their boarding gates, agency spokeswoman Amy von Walter said on Tuesday.

Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, petitioned the TSA for the change that will allow family and friends to meet troops at

airport gates on arrival and wait with them until they depart.

“Our troops deserve every moment they can spend with their loved ones while home for R&R,” Hutchison said in a prepared statement.

Since the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, only ticketed passengers have been allowed past the security gates. Children, senior citizens and disabled people were the exceptions.

Hutchison pushed for the change after learning that visits with servicemen and women are often cut short because military charter flights sometimes arrive six to 20 hours late, and between midnight and 2 a.m. In a letter to the TSA, she said the exemption would give family and friends more time to spend with the soldiers between flights.

They will still undergo normal screening, von Walters said.

Army leadership story FM 22-100: Be, Know, Do

While serving in the Republic of Vietnam, Sgt. 1st Class Jackson was transferred from platoon sergeant of one platoon to platoon leader of another platoon in the same company.

Jackson quickly sized up the existing standards for the platoon. He wasn't pleased. One problem was that his Soldiers were not keeping their weapons cleaned properly. Rifles were dirty and rusty. He put out the word: weapons would be cleaned to standards each day, each squad leader would inspect each day, and he would inspect a sample of the weapons each day. He gave this order three days before the platoon was to go on the division R&R area on the South China Sea.

The next day, Jackson checked several weapons in each squad. Most weapons were still unacceptable. He called the squad leaders and explained the policy and his reasons for the implementation. Jackson checked again the following day and still found dirty and rusty weapons. He decided there were two causes to the problem. First, the squad leaders were not doing their jobs.

Second, the squad leaders and troops were bucking him – testing him to see who would really make the rules for the platoon. He sensed that, because he was new, they resisted his leadership. He new he had a serious discipline problem he had to handle correctly.

He called the squad leaders together again and said, “Tomorrow we are due to go on R&R for three days, and I'll be inspecting the rifles. We won't go on R&R until each weapon in this platoon meets the standard.”

The next morning Jackson inspected the rifles and found most of the weapons were still below standard. With a determined look and firm voice, he told them he would hold a formal in-ranks inspection at 1 p.m., even though the platoon was scheduled to board helicopters for R&R then. If every weapon didn't meet the standard, he would conduct another in-ranks inspection for the squad leaders and troops with substandard weapons. He would continue inspections until all the weapons met the standard.

At 1 p.m., the platoon formed up, surly and angry with the new platoon leader, who was taking their hard-earned R&R time. The Soldiers could hardly believe it, but his message was starting to sink in. This leader meant what he said. This time, all the weapons met the standard.

Register for classes at the Education Center today; classes for next semester include Psychology, Math and Economics. There will also be seminars on personal investment. Registration starts March 15. Don't pass up the opportunity for an education -- the Army will pay 100 percent tuition! For more information, Call Lailana Seaton or Kaylene Woolford at 438-3561



Talking of the heart: nations unite for health symposium

Maj. Philip Govia
358th Civil Affairs Brigade

KUWAIT CITY, KUWAIT - The Kuwait Humanitarian Operations Center (HOC) sponsored a joint Kuwait and Iraq Cardiology Symposium at the Islamic Medical Center recently during a two-day meeting in Kuwait City Kuwait.

The theme for the conference was "Kuwait-Iraq Partners in Health/Vision for the Future." Eighty Iraqi Cardiologists attended the conference.

It was the first symposium by cardiologists for cardiologists between the two nations in 15 years. Kuwait is the leading Arab nation assisting the U.S. and Coalition Forces in reconstructing Iraq.

The 358th Civil Affairs Brigade Public Health Team, assigned to the HOC, made the conference possible and contributed to the success of the symposium.

The 358th civil-military warrior-diplomats work at every staff level and office of this strategic-national level assignment, to include the HOC Administration, Public Health Team, Embassy Team and the Ministry Team. The 358th / HOC Public Health Team Chief, Col. Michael V. Canale and his staff developed the cardiology symposium, presented it to the Kuwait Ministry of Health via the HOC and was given approval from the highest levels of the

Kuwaiti government.

Lt. Gen. Ali M. H. Al-Mumin, the Chief Executive of the HOC opened the Cardiology Conference at the New Park Hotel, Kuwait City.

Ali welcomed all participants and guests to the land of peace. He spoke of Kuwait's mission and of its great humanitarian responsibility in coordination with Coalition Forces, international agencies, and governmental and non-governmental organizations to Iraq.

"We are honored by this gathering which reveals the profound bond of friendship, brotherhood and neighborhood between Kuwait and Iraq," he said.

Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Al-Jarllah, Kuwait's Minister of Health, served as the executive medical representative for the conference.

The Iraqi cardiologists gained access and experience from the best cardiologists in Kuwait.

Of the international health relations between Iraq and Kuwait, Al-Jarllah said, "We are indeed Partners in Health and it is my pleasure to open this healthcare conference for our esteemed Iraqi neighbors where we can share... our vision for the future of healthcare and specifically cardiac disease."

Maj. Gen. Stephen Speakes, the Deputy Commander of the Coalition Forces Land Component Command and brigadier generals David N. Blackledge, Commander of the 352nd



**CPT Christopher Collett
Sons, Henry & Palmer
Daughter, Nancy
Frankfort, Kentucky**

Civil Affairs Command and Dean G. Sienko, the 804th Medical Brigade Commander, addressed the symposium as speakers.

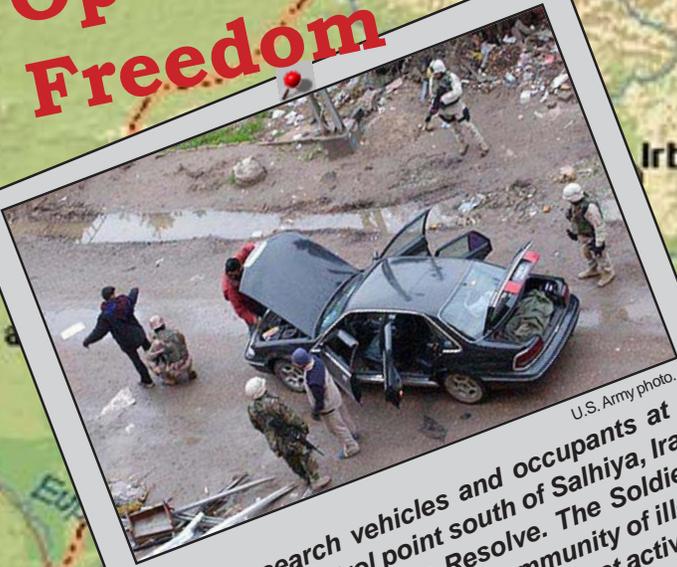
They conveyed the importance of Coalition Forces continued participation in the exchange of knowledge in the medical field between Kuwait and Iraq.

Col. Kevin J. McAleese, the HOC Director and 358th Civil Affairs Brigade member and his Director of Operations, Col. Andrzej Frank, Royal British Army, are proud of the fine job their staff has done with the Cardiology Symposium.



**Hugs and kisses to the Zone II
Day Time Dining Facility staff at Camp Arifjan.**

Operation Iraqi Freedom



U.S. Army photo.

Soldiers search vehicles and occupants at a temporary control point south of Salhiya, Iraq, during Operation Iron Resolve. The Soldiers' mission is to clean up the community of illegal weapons, terrorists and black market activities.



U.S. Army photo

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld shakes the hand of Army Chief Warrant Officer Robert Meyerhoff. Meyerhoff, a former Marine rifleman in Vietnam from '68 to '69, was wounded in an ambush in Iraq. He and two other soldiers are nominated for the Bronze Star for their actions during that ambush.



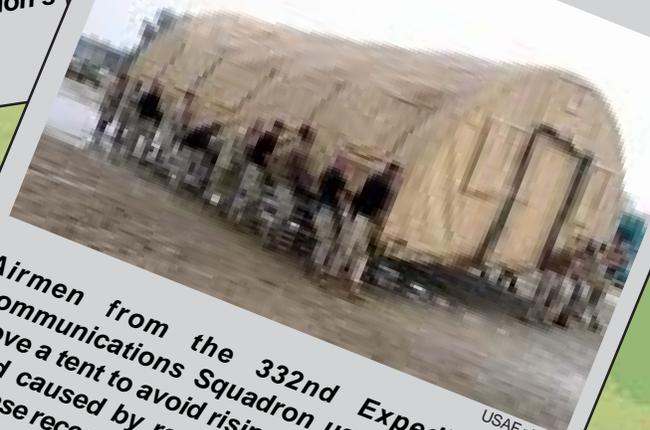
U.S. Army photo

A Soldier climbs out of an M-113 armored vehicle in Ar Ramadia, Iraq, as a fellow Soldier maintains security with a .50-caliber machine gun. The combat engineers are assigned to the 1st Infantry Division's Company A, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team.



U.S. Army photo

Soldiers burn gunpowder in an empty bunker during a mission to destroy munitions in Tai Ghaiyah, Iraq. The Soldiers are assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division's 21st Chemical Company.



USAF photo

Airmen from the 332nd Expeditionary Communications Squadron use teamwork to move a tent to avoid rising water and excessive mud caused by recent rain at an undisclosed airbase recently.

U.S. Army photo