

Conference results ensures medical care for Iraqi soldiers

Story and photo by Sgt. Daniel

Gillespie, 425th Civil Affairs Battalion

AL HILLAH, Iraq- As the newly trained and equipped members of the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps finish repelling the insurgent attack, one man is seriously injured. His fellow ICDC soldiers take him to the nearest hospital, but they are turned away.

A group of Civil Affairs Soldiers from the 425th Civil Affairs Battalion of Santa Barbara Calif., lead by Maj. Thomas Lee and Lt. Col. John McGrath, 1st Armored Division Surgeon, met with representatives of the Central South Provinces Health Directorate.

Their goal was to arrange for and ensure medical care for ICDC soldiers.

"The meeting was designed to discuss ICDC care," said Lee, an emergency room physician in California. They arranged to have some hospital wards set aside for ICDC soldiers and asked health directorate's leaders to communicate their concerns and priorities to the CA teams.

The first half of the conference aimed at understanding the current level of medical care the corps can provide for itself. It was also aimed at identifying the planned structure of medical care for the ICDC. Eventually, each ICDC brigade will have a medical unit equipped with its own ambulances.

"The ambulances will arrive sometime between June and December," said McGrath.

"Right now we are training the ambulance drivers," said Dr. Hassan Fouad who is the head of ICDC medical support.

The second half of the conference identified problems with ICDC care in relation to the hospitals. The group was broken down into geographical areas and the discussions were lead by the CA team leaders representing those areas.

Under the current system, "ICDC soldiers who need hospitalization sometimes get turned away. The ICDC soldiers who need care just go to any hospital," said Lee. "Some hospitals are afraid to take them." Security is a big issue for the hospitals,



Maj. Thomas Lee, 425th Civil Affairs Battalion commander, Dr. Hassan Fouad, chief of Iraqi Civil Defense Corps medical support, and Lt. Col. John McGrath, 1st Armored Division surgeon, listen to discussions taking place during a recent conference on medical support for ICDC soldiers in the Central South Provinces Health Directorate.

he said.

"While ICDC soldiers go to the hospitals to find injured militiamen, members of the militia are dispatched to the hospitals to find injured ICDC," said Maj. Chuck Nelson, B Co., 425th CA commander, working in Najaf.

The new system calls for one hospital in each major city to have an area dedicated to treating ICDC.

"The ICDC compounds are meant to have a primary care clinic only," said Fouad. Any more advanced medical care needed must come from the hospitals. The hospitals identified as treatment centers for ICDC will provide security for the ICDC soldiers being treated.

However, right now, even some of the most basic primary care is being handled by the hospitals.

"The plan is to first train the medics to the (proficiency) level of (U.S. Army) Combat Lifesavers," said McGrath. "The next step is to train them to the level of an Army medic."

The Ministry of Health representatives

said they were able to train the ICDC soldiers through all levels of care.

The main problem with supporting the ICDC is a lack of medical supplies, they said.

"We are only getting 20 percent of the medical supplies that we need," said Israa Uman, Health Coordinator for the Research Triangle Institute, a non-governmental organization. Those few supplies come from the Baghdad Ministry of Health.

Through the port of Kimadia, where all medical supplies come from for Iraq, "we have been able to get up to 200 percent of some items, but those are about to expire," Uman said.

The problem of limited medical supplies is so prevalent throughout the Central South provinces that all the representatives signed a letter to the Ministry of Health in Baghdad identifying the problem and asking that it be addressed by the ministry.



Quote of the Day...

"No army can withstand the strength of an idea whose time has come."

-- Victor Hugo (1802-85), French poet, dramatist, writer



Members of the 1st Armored Division, 427th Field Artillery Regiment conduct patrols south of Baghdad. The patrols are conducted to seize unlawful weapons and gather information from locals about improvised explosive devices (IED) in the area. Once security has been established, the 1st AD will begin helping the locals build schools and other construction projects. (U.S Army photo by Spc. Katherine M. Roth)

Chaplain's Thought for the Day...

The Master verses Novice Chess Player

As a chaplain, I am often asked by concerned people for guidance in helping the unfortunate during the holiday season. They want to do something, but are not sure where to go or how to start in assisting others. A good question, 'Where does one start in making a difference in his or her community?' In answer, let me first relate a story from the Civil War. During a battle a young Union officer became detached from his regiment and could not find his way back to it. As he searched for his comrades, he met General Sheridan and asked, "Where shall I step in? I've become detached from my regiment." Sheridan roared in reply, "Step in? Step in anywhere! There's fighting all along the line." In modern times, Nike's slogan of "Just Do It" accurately sums up this idea of 'jumping in and getting started'. Opportunity to make a difference through service lies all around us in our neighborhood, community, and place of worship. And, if you choose to get involved, I am sure that you will discover, like countless others, that in giving you receive, 'pressed down and running over.' So, where can you go to help? Just step in. There are needs all around you. At this range, you can't miss.

Today in History...

(Historynet.com)

1519 Charles of Spain is elected Holy Roman emperor in Barcelona.

1535 Sir Thomas More is beheaded in England for refusing to swear allegiance to King Henry VIII as head of the Church.

1770 The entire Ottoman fleet is destroyed by the Russians at the battle of Cesme.

1836 French General Thomas Bugeaud defeats Abd al-Kader's forces beside the Sikkak River in Algeria.

1835 John Marshall, the third chief justice of the Supreme Court, dies at the age of 79. Two days later, while tolling in his honor in Philadelphia, the Liberty Bell cracks.

1854 The Republican Party is officially organized in Jackson, Michigan.

1885 Louis Pasteur gives the first successful anti-rabies inoculation.

1944 Lieutenant Jackie Robinson of the U.S. Army, while riding a civilian bus from Camp Hoo, Texas, refuses to give up his seat to a white man.

1945 B-29 Superfortress bombers attack Honshu, Japan, using new fire-bombing techniques.

1945 Operation Overcast begins in Europe--moving Austrian and German scientists and their equipment to the United States.

1982 President Ronald Reagan agrees to contribute U.S. troops to the peacekeeping unit in Beirut



Photos around the globe



Going for another title

U.S. Postal Service team leader and five-time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong trains in the Belgian countryside outside Liege July 2. The 91st Tour de France cycling race begins July 3.

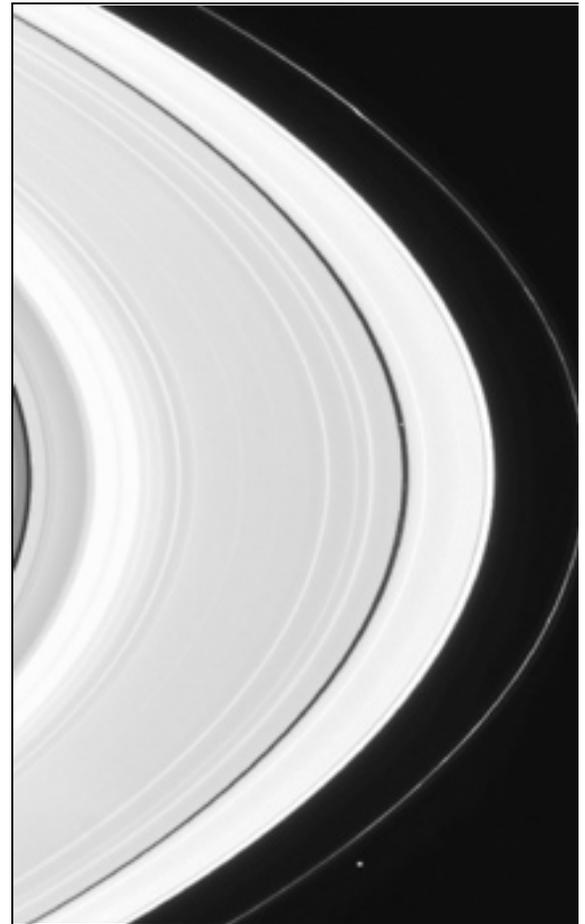
(AP Photo/Peter Dejong)



Serena falls short

Defending champion Serena Williams, lies on the ground after a fall, during the Women's Singles final, against Russia's Maria Sharapova, on the Centre Court at Wimbledon, July 3.

(AP/Rebecca Naden, PA)



In between Saturn's rings

This image from the Cassini spacecraft released July 1, shows Pan, a body only 12 miles across, which is responsible for the Encke Gap in Saturn's outer A ring. Pan is in the narrow gap at the center of the image, with the moon Pandora outside the rings at bottom.

(AP/NASA, JPL, Space Science Institute)

Reenlistment Bonus Incentives continue.

The Army continues to pay soldiers for remaining part of the team. Recently, some bonuses have been retroactive as far back as March 18, 2003.

If a Soldier reenlisted between March 18 and Sept. 18, 2003 for either option E1 (Regular Army) or E2 (Current station stabilization) and did not receive a bonus, he or she should contact their Career Counselor and see if they qualify for the bonus.

The most current update to the Selective Reenlistment Bonus program is MILPER Message 04-163 dated 05/14/2004.



The Old Ironsides Report July 6, 2004 Page 4

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: TUESDAY, JULY 06, 2004				As of: Tuesday, July 06, 2004 12:02:39 AM		
Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
00:00					HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	00:00
00:30		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD (NN)			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS (NN)	00:30
01:00	COLLEGE LACROSSE (NN) - ARMED FORCES WEEKEND - NAVY VS ARMY	MLB (NN) - NY METS @ PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - MATADI OR BUST	SESAME STREET	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT (NN)	01:00
01:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY): - MERMAID MAN AND BARNACLE BOY 4/ DOING TIME		CBS EVENING NEWS (NN)	01:30
02:00			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - FEAR OF FLYING	SAGWA	COUNTDOWN WITH KEITH OLBERMANN (NN)	02:00
02:30			HAPPY DAYS (TVG): - GOIN TO CHICAGO	WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):		02:30
03:00	ESPNEWS (NN)		ED (TVPG): - NEW CAR SMELL	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	HANNITY & COLMES (NN)	03:00
03:30	BALLFIELDS AND BATTLEFIELDS (NN)					03:30
04:00	MLB (NN) - HOUSTON ASTROS @ SAN DIEGO PADRES	BASEBALL TONIGHT (NN)	ER (TVPG): - FIRST SNOWFALL	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):	THE NEWSHOUR (NN)	04:00
05:00		HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	THE RESIDENTS (TV14): - LETTING GO	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS (NN)	BET NIGHTLY NEWS (NN)	05:00
05:30		ESPNEWS		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):	NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT (NN)	05:30
06:00		HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	LEGENDS OF THE FALL	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD (NN)	LARRY KING LIVE (NN)	06:00
06:25				GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):		06:25
06:30		HEADLINE NEWS (NN)				06:30
07:00	ESPNEWS (NN)	SESAME STREET			NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN (NN)	07:00
07:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):		07:13
07:30	TOTALLY NASCAR (NN)					07:30
08:00	SPORTSCENTER (NN)	SAGWA		ARTHUR (TVY): - SUE ELLEN GETS HER GOOSE COOKED/ BEST OF NEST	PAULA ZAHN NOW (NN)	08:00
08:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES (TVPG):	ANIMANIACS (TVG): - DE-ZANITIZED/THE MOKEY SONG/NIGHTY NIGHT TOONS		08:30
09:00	CHAMP CAR WORLD SERIES (NN) - GRAND PRIX OF CLEVELAND	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - MATADI OR BUST	LIZZIE MCGUIRE (TVG): - SIBLING BONDS	NIGHTLINE (NN)	09:00
09:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY): - MERMAID MAN AND BARNACLE BOY 4/ DOING TIME	ALL THAT!	NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS (NN)	09:30
09:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):				09:46
10:00			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - FEAR OF FLYING	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS (NN)	10:00
10:30			HAPPY DAYS (TVG): - GOIN TO CHICAGO	HEADLINE NEWS (NN)		10:30
10:35		GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):				10:35
11:00	SPORTSCENTER (NN)		ED (TVPG): - NEW CAR SMELL	ESPNEWS	CNN DAYBREAK (NN)	11:00
11:07		GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):				11:07
11:30				PACIFIC REPORT (NN)		11:30
12:00	TOUR DE FRANCE (NN) - STAGE 2	HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	ER (TVPG): - FIRST SNOWFALL	7TH HEAVEN (TVPG): - THE PRODIGAL FATHER	THE O'REILLY FACTOR (NN)	12:00
12:30		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):				12:30
13:00		TODAY (NN)	THE RESIDENTS (TV14): - LETTING GO	GET OVER IT	GOOD MORNING AMERICA (NN)	13:00
14:00	SPORTSCENTER (NN)		LEGENDS OF THE FALL			14:00
14:30				DAVID SHEEHAN'S SUMMER MOVIE MAGIC		14:30
15:00	MLB (NN) - NY METS @ PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES	ARTHUR (TVY): - SUE ELLEN GETS HER GOOSE COOKED/ BEST OF NEST		PACIFIC REPORT (NN)	HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	15:00
15:30		ANIMANIACS (TVG): - DE-ZANITIZED/THE MOKEY SONG/NIGHTY NIGHT TOONS		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):	ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING (NN)	15:30
16:00		LIZZIE MCGUIRE (TVG): - SIBLING BONDS			THE EARLY SHOW (NN)	16:00
16:30		ALL THAT!	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES (TVPG):	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):		16:30
17:00	SPORTSCENTER (NN)	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - MATADI OR BUST			17:00
17:30		HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY): - MERMAID MAN AND BARNACLE BOY 4/ DOING TIME	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD (NN)		17:30
18:00	ESPNEWS (NN)	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - FEAR OF FLYING	THE SPECIALIST	FOX NEWS LIVE (NN)	18:00
18:19	BASEBALL TONIGHT (NN)					18:19
18:30		HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	HAPPY DAYS (TVG): - GOIN TO CHICAGO			18:30
19:00	NASCAR CRAFTSMAN TRUCK SERIES (NN) - O'REILLY AUTO PARTS 250	7TH HEAVEN (TVPG): - THE PRODIGAL FATHER	ED (TVPG): - NEW CAR SMELL		FOX NEWS LIVE (NN)	19:00
19:45				SHANE		19:45
20:00		GET OVER IT	ER (TVPG): - FIRST SNOWFALL		FOX NEWS LIVE (NN)	20:00
21:00			THE RESIDENTS (TV14): - LETTING GO		HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	21:00
21:30		DAVID SHEEHAN'S SUMMER MOVIE MAGIC			INSIDE POLITICS (NN)	21:30
22:00	THE HOT LIST (NN)	HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	LEGENDS OF THE FALL	ESPNEWS: THE HOT LIST		22:00
22:30	THE HOT LIST (NN)	TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):		HEADLINE NEWS (NN)	NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS (NN)	22:30
23:00	AROUND THE HORN (NN)			TODAY (NN)	LESTER HOLT LIVE (NN)	23:00
23:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION (NN)	THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):				23:30