



ING Steps Up to Plate

By 1st Lt. Chris Heathscott
39th BCT Public Affairs

CAMP COOKE, Iraq—When the fighting kicked up in the holy city of Najaf, Iraq, the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment was called from Camp Cooke to assist and keep the peace in southern Iraq, while the Iraqi National Guard (ING) stepped up to the plate and assisted missions that were formerly done by Multi-National Forces in Taji, Iraq.

The commander of Company D, of the ING's 307th Battalion took on the challenge presented to him

by Lt. Col. Jim Rainey, 2-7 Cav. commander.

"When 2-7 went down to Najaf, Colonel Rainey told him, 'you're going to be one of the few guys left in sector, so we're going to rely on you,'" said Capt. Mark Leslie, commander of Headquarters Company 2-7 Cav.. "[The ING commander] took that to heart."

As Leslie arrived with his Soldiers, to assist and advise the 307th ING for a traffic control point (TCP), he found that the ING were already out on the highway and took the initiative to

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Iraqi National Guard (ING) Soldiers wave as they pass civilian traffic. The Soldiers are returning to base after a joint raid with ING advisers who are working with the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment of the 1st Cavalry Division. While the 2-7 Cav. was called away to Najaf to assist in peacekeeping operations there, the ING assumed their military operations in Taji.



Sgt. Merrion LaSonde, 122nd MPAD

Spc. Crystal Clark, a supply clerk with the 39th Brigade Combat Team, and a native of Fayetteville, Ark., catalogues the metal containers that are departing on a supply convoy.

New Arrivals Fill Vacancies at 39th BCT

By Sgt. Merrion LaSonde
122nd MPAD

CAMP COOKE, Iraq—They are coming from all over Arkansas and more arrive every month. Some volunteered and some were given orders to deploy upon completion of military school. They are Soldiers, officers and enlisted, and they are needed to fill various job slots within the 39th Brigade Combat Team.

"We have been in Iraq less than 24 hours and have already been on a mission," said Pfc. William McAnulty, a military policeman with Headquarters Company, 39th Brigade Combat Team, who calls Little Rock, Ark. home. "We delivered a detainee to the

front gate."

Upon their arrival in Kuwait, all replacement troops, who are voluntary transfers from other units, troops coming off medical hold or recent military school graduates, are given an orientation brief and a train-up period.

"We send a team to Kuwait to meet them when they come in," said 39th BCT Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Isbell. "There they collect the necessary gear and receive in-country briefs. When they arrive in Iraq, I am there to meet them, give them a quick expectations brief, arrange transportation and get them where they need to be."

During his brief, Isbell welcomes the in-coming Soldiers to Iraq and thanks them for coming.

"I tell them how much I appreciate them being here and try to put them at ease," Isbell said. "I let them know they are going to have a period of adjustment. That they are not going to get thrown into the heat of battle. We have a five-day train-up where we get them oriented to their surroundings then the individual battalions put them through their orientation program. They are then linked up with their particular units who show them where everything is such as the chow hall, shower and laundry facilities, PX, and so on."

Isbell explained that none of the new troops are sent out on their own. They are put in with a seasoned group so that they get a

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ING Takes Reigns From 2-7 in Taji

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set up their own TCP. It was a mission they had only watched the 2-7 Cav. perform in the past.

"When we first started doing this, we would set [the TCP] up and they would be in the background watching us do it," said Staff Sgt. Darrell Taylor, from Newport News, Va.. "After the changeover happened, we started pushing them to the forefront more and they

were ready to go. They were wanting to do it instead of watching us do it all the time."

The 2-7 Cav. Soldiers continue to monitor and advise their ING counterparts on various missions, with a goal of proficiency in all tasks.

"They're just as good at doing a raid as our guys are," said Leslie, who is from Cordell, Ga. "They actually do it better, I think, because they speak the language."

An Iraqi face on such a mission, seems to ease the citizens being searched, yielding more cooperation.

"We won't go in the houses first, because we're advisers," Quinines said. "We're here to show them how to do things, advise them how to do things."

Taylor said he has confidence in the ING and said their abilities.

"I think right about now, on certain tasks they can do it on their own," Taylor said. "All we should have to do is come out and monitor them doing it and make sure they are doing it to standard. We step out of the way."



By Sgt. Merrion LaSonde, 122nd MPAD

Pfc. William McAnulty, a military policeman with Headquarters Company, 39th Brigade Combat Team, and who calls Little Rock, Ark. home, prepares to depart for an early morning mission.

Troop Vacancies Filled

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better understanding of what to do and how to do it.

Isbell explained the roles the new troops would be performing and how important they are to fulfilling the brigade's mission.

"We have a large area of responsibility," Isbell said. "Every individual coming in is needed for us to maintain our operation. They are primarily filling support roles, from force protection to transportation to manning medical facilities."

By December of this

year, approximately 200 troops will arrive to fill vacancies within the 39th BCT and even though they are arriving in country more than halfway through the deployment, the replacement troops will depart country with the rest of their brigade.

"I have been very pleased by the attitude of the replacements," Isbell said. "The Soldiers coming in are well trained and highly motivated. Everyone one of them is a true American patriot. They are dedicated Soldiers making a great sacrifice."



By 1st Lt. Chris Heathscott, 39th BCT
A member of the Iraqi National Guard's 307th Battalion halts traffic as they approach a traffic control point set up and ran by the Iraqi Soldiers.

Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

medicine
da WAA

Saturday

High: 109
Low: 78



Sunday

High: 109
Low: 78



Monday

High: 106
Low: 76



Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

Commanding General: Maj. Gen. Peter Chiarelli

Public Affairs Officer: Lt. Col. James Hutton

122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment Cmdr.: Maj. John Fuhrman

Public Affairs Supervisor: Master Sgt. Dave Larsen

1st Sgt. 122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment: 1st Sgt. William Kuhns

Editor: Spc. Andy Miller

Staff Writers: Sgt. 1st Class Tony Sailer, Sgt. Susan German, Sgt. Merrion LaSonde, Sgt. Dan Purcell, Sgt. Christina Rockhill, Cpl. Benjamin Cossel,

Cpl. Bill Putnam, Spc. Jan Critchfield, Spc. Marie Whitney, Pfc. Al Barrus, Pfc. Erik LeDrew, Pfc. Brian Schroeder, Pfc. Matthew McLaughlin.

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News Notes

Tiger Search on at Fort Polk Army Base

NEW ORLEANS (Reuters) -- A massive search is underway at Fort Polk military base in western Louisiana for a Bengal tiger running loose in the base's pine-covered hills. The tiger is wearing a collar. How it got on the base is a mystery, said Fort Polk spokesman Maj. Ron Elliott. The tiger was first spotted on Friday and has been seen at least seven times since, he said. Capt. Karla Fees, located at a command post for the search, said the hope is to tranquilize and capture the tiger.

Phila. University Gets Army Contract

PHILADELPHIA (Philadelphia Inquirer) -- Philadelphia University has received a \$1.7 million contract from the U.S. Army to set up a research center for the development of advanced protective garments for the military and civilian first responders. The Laboratory for Engineered Human Protection will be housed in a former textile mill in Philadelphia's Manayunk neighborhood, David Brookstein, dean of the university's School of Textiles and Materials Technology, said today. The initial focus of the laboratory is on chemical protection. Longer term, Brookstein said his goal is for Philadelphia to "become the knowledge hub for the protective materials and garments industry."

First Team Family Readiness Group Celebrates Halfway Point

KILLEEN, Texas (Fort Hood Sentinel) -

More than 100 spouses and children of the 1st Squadron, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division joined members of their rear detachment command Aug. 28 for games, food, prizes and good old fashioned summer fun.

Hosting a big wheel race, tug-a-war, moon bouncer and plenty picnic fare, the family fun day, held at 1-12 Cav. rear detachment headquarters on Fort Hood, was a celebration of the waiting families who have almost made it to the halfway point of the squadron's year-long deployment to Iraq.

"Everyone here is my son, my daughter, my sister," Laura Meredith, the 1-12 Cav. Family Readiness Group leader said while watching the squadron's children race around on big wheels. "We have become a family."

Evolving from Meredith's idea for a simple picnic and big wheel race, the event grew its own legs when the rear detachment was contacted by a Killeen VFW who wanted to donate items to make the picnic perfect. Killeen VFW Chapter 9192, which is linked to 1-12 Cav. through Fort Hood's Adopt a Unit program, provided food, sodas, ice and books for the children to help make the end of summer event a true party.

Saturday's event also offered the 1-12 Cav. rear detachment the opportunity to check in with their families and offer encouragement to help them make it through the second half of



Photos courtesy Fort Hood Sentinel

the deployment. More than 100 spouses and children of the 1st Squadron, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division joined members of their rear detachment command Aug. 28 for games, food, prizes and good old fashioned summer fun.

"This will help get everyone working together as a team and, hopefully, get more people involved in the FRG," Capt. Audie Cavazos, 1-12 Cav. rear detachment commander said.

While the FRG gets together at least once every month for a meeting, Meredith, wife of 1-12th

commander Lt. Col. Tim Meredith, said that having something like the picnic offers a much more casual setting for the spouses and kids to get to know one another.

Meredith, a military spouse for more than 26 years, said being a part of the 1-12 Cav. FRG and being supported by all of the "wonderful" families and rear detachment Soldiers has truly helped her make it through her own deployment trials.

"They think that I am helping them but, really, they are helping me," she said. "I have the best families and the best rear detachment and I am very protective of all of them. I made a commitment to look out for these [spouses] and children and that is what I am trying to do."

The Soldiers of 1-12 Cav. should return to Fort Hood around March or April of 2005.



The 1-12 Cav. Family Readiness Group's mid-tour picnic included a big wheel race, tug-a-war and a moon bouncer.

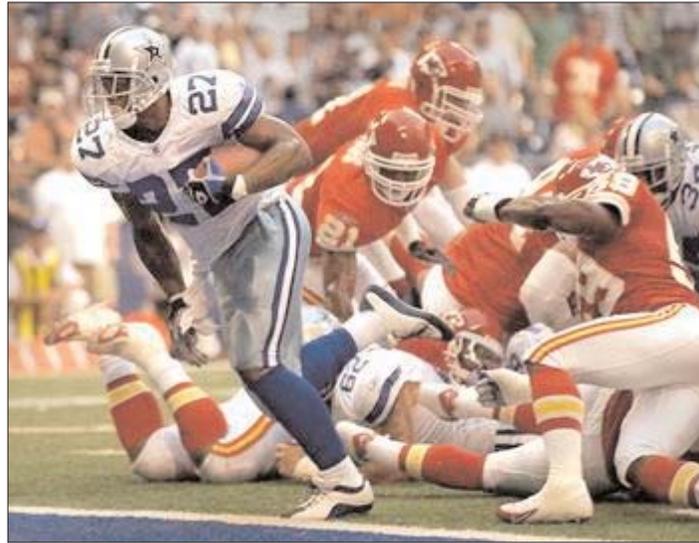
Cowboy Starters Struggle in Victory

IRVING, Texas (AP) -- After seeing the way his aging running back, even older quarterback and questionable group of cornerbacks closed the pre-season, Bill Parcells considers the Dallas Cowboys still a work in progress.

"I'm going to be looking at the waiver wire, that's for sure. I'm going to be looking pretty close," Parcells said following a 24-20 victory over the Kansas City Chiefs on Thursday night. "We've got to try to improve our talent level a little bit. Anybody can tell from looking at us."

Dallas' starters were unimpressive, with Vinny Testaverde hitting nearly as many defensive backs as receivers and Eddie George having more carries than yards. Kansas City was slowed early by penalties, then had consecutive touchdown drives by throwing at the Cowboys' right cornerbacks.

Once both teams started taking out their starters,



Dallas' Eddie George breaks through to score a touchdown on Thursday against the Chiefs.

Dallas backup quarterback Tony Romo led three straight scoring drives and the defense made it hold up. The Cowboys finished the preseason 3-1, Kansas City went 1-3.

Romo likely won the second-string spot, especially since Drew Henson went 0-for-4 with an interception on his first pass.

Even in defeat, Chiefs coach Dick Vermeil felt

good because starting quarterback Trent Green completed 7-of-9 passes for 72 yards and a touchdown, then backup Todd Collins went 5-for-5 for 104 yards with a 53-yard TD pass.

"They put in a pretty good day's work," Vermeil said. "Both quarterbacks can keep performing the way they have been and I will stay happy."

King Kong Remake in Works

WELLINGTON (Reuters) -- Speaking to reporters Thursday at his studio in the New Zealand capital, Peter Jackson, the "Lord of The Rings" director said his first attempt to film "King Kong" was as a youngster. It involved a Super 8 camera and a cardboard model of the Empire State Building.

"It's great to be able to finally get the film made. It's a film which I've loved ever since I was a child. It really inspired me to want to become a filmmaker," he said.

A screaming, vine-

swinging special effects extravaganza, Jackson's "King Kong" will also be a character-driven psychological study of a monster - and, of course, a love story.

Jackson says he will pay homage to the original and retain the "mystery and romance of a bygone era." However, the characters - including Ann Darrow (Naomi Watts), Carl Denham (Jack Black) and Jack Driscoll (Adrien Brody) - will not be carbon copies of those in the original film.

Sports Shorts

U.S. Winless at Hockey World Cup

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) - With some NHL stars opting not to play, Team Russia was considered vulnerable in the World Cup of Hockey. The Russians sure didn't play like it against one of their old rivals. The Americans got off to a slow start for the second straight game and fell to 0-2 in the tournament. Team USA lost to Canada 2-1 on Tuesday night in Montreal. "We're really embarrassed with the way we came out and played this hockey game," St. Louis Blues forward Keith Tkachuk said. "We've got to turn this around."

Utah Throttles Texas A&M

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) -- A&M used 14 fresh-

men in its first season-opening loss in four years. The last time the Aggies opened

with a loss was also the last time they started the season on the road, a 24-10 loss at Notre Dame in 2000. The Aggies, who last season lost their last three games and five of their last six, continued to struggle on defense. Utah scored five times on defensive blunders in which the Utes were all but untouched on their way into the end zone.



Reuters

Oscar-winning director Peter Jackson will relive a childhood dream when he starts filming a remake of the 1933 classic "King Kong" next week.

