

Mtn. Troops 'Fish' for Insurgents

By Pfc. Matthew McLaughlin
10th Mnt. Div. Public Affairs

CAMP LIBERTY, Baghdad, Iraq -- Soldiers wading through a dark, humid swamp of water and bamboo sounds more like Vietnam than Iraq. But these were the conditions Soldiers from Task Force 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment faced as they submerged themselves up to their necks in water hunting down insurgents in a densely vegetated canal.

The Soldiers captured eight insurgents and a large weapons cache without firing a shot.

It was nearly midnight when troops from the 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, spotted a weapons cache from their Kiowa Warrior helicopter. The gusts from the helicopter blew a tarp off of the cache and Soldiers spotted an insurgent running into a canal. The helicopter remained on the scene to prevent the insurgent from escaping. Task Force 2-14 Infantry, which includes elements of 1st Battalion, 509th Infantry Regiment, and 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment, soon arrived on the scene.

"The Kiowa pinned them down until our unit could weed them out," said Capt. William Prayner, Jr., commander of 2-14's Headquarters Company.

Soldiers from Task Force 2-14 then faced the arduous task of fishing the insurgents out of the canal, which was



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Spc. Nicholas Gathings and Spc. Alexander Parcover, 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, search for additional weapons days after they caught eight insurgents in the same canal.

several hundred meters long. Facing an unknown number of possibly armed insurgents, the "Golden Dragons" entered the unknown and submerged themselves in the water that at times was over some Soldiers heads.

Based on the weapons systems viewed from the air, the troops expected to find insurgents "armed to the teeth," according to one Soldier.

Regardless of the threat, Spc. Alexander Parcover and Spc. Nicholas Gathings, 2-14 Infantry, volunteered to start the search. It was impossible for the both Soldiers to hold a weapon and navigate through the vegetation, so Gathings slung his weapon

over his back and sifted through dense reeds while Parcover covered him from behind. Some parts of the canal were so deep or covered with reeds that it was nearly impossible to navigate.

"The temperature really dropped that night," said Sgt. Bryan Ruffo, 1-509th Infantry. "All the guys were freezing. There was bamboo at least 20 feet high. It was so tight and the water was about six feet deep."

"We had to get out and go back in a few times because it was so thick," Parcover said. "We were ready to leave because we couldn't find anyone. Then we heard someone speak Arabic."

The pair soon found an insurgent wading in the canal. They started yelling orders and pulled the insurgent out of the canal. Several more insurgents were captured soon after.

"After we caught the first one, all of a sudden Soldiers kept popping up saying 'We found one!'" Parcover said.

Prayner called the bloodless capture of the insurgents a huge accomplishment. His troops agreed.

"We were totally in charge," Parcover said. "I'm glad no one got hurt and we took these guys alive. A living (insurgent) is better than a dead one. Now we can gather intelligence from them."

Mapmakers Help Soldiers Find Their Way

By Cpl. Benjamin Cossel
122nd MPAD

CAMP TAJI, Iraq -In today's modern Army, Global Positioning Systems are nearly as common as a Soldier's rifle. With the touch of a screen, platoon leaders can call up digitized maps showing their precise location as well as the locations of units currently on the battlefield. But what happens when those devices fail or cannot locate the satellites needed for them to perform?

There is always a low-tech alternative: paper maps serve as the fallback when the wonders of modern technology fail. Assigned to the 39th Brigade Combat Team, topographical analysts of the 1st Cavalry Division's 123rd Engineering Detachment create maps on demand in support of the brigade's needs.

Their military occupational specialty indicator is 21U: topographical analyst. That's just a fancy way of saying they make maps.

"As long as data exists for the area in question we can create a map to any scale and size up to 36" x



By Cpl. Benjamin Cossel, 122nd MPAD

Pfc. Richard Gateley watches the progress as an Arc Digitized Raster Graphic (ADRG) map prints.

106," noted the detachment's platoon sergeant, Sgt. Eric Brown.,

Brown, who calls Upland, Ind. his hometown, went on to explain that all of the information used to create the maps comes from the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA).

"All of the topographical information and street names come from NIMA," he said. "We use the information they provide to then include things like FOB (Forward Operating Base) names, route names, brigade boundaries ... things like that."

The maps created by the detachment serve a

variety of purposes. Larger maps hang from the walls of tactical operation centers (TOCs) with overlays indicating troop movements and future battle plans. Smaller, 8" x 11" maps serve platoon leaders and convoy commanders as they use them to brief Soldiers on future missions.

"We basically create two types of maps here," said 18-year-old Pfc. Richard Gateley. "We have the Controlled Image Base (CIB) maps which are the highly detailed satellite images. We can provide maps that can contain details all the way down to a particular building and

the immediate surroundings. These types of maps are mostly used when planning raids and cordon and searches, so commanders on the ground have a visual idea of what the area they are going to look like."

Gateley said the other type of map the detachment creates, the Arc Digitized Raster Graphic (ADRG), is the one most people would recognize.

"The ADRG is your basic topographical map," he said. "This is the map that usually hangs from the walls in the TOC indicating the breakdown of zones boundaries and high level overview type information a planning staff would use."

With only one year in the Army, Gateley credited the knowledge and experience of his platoon sergeant with making the team successful in dealing with the challenges such an environment creates.

"Sgt. Brown has been doing this for over three years," he said. "So he is able to help myself and other, less experienced members of our team. We are able to meet the demands of this environment."

Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

How much is that?

kam tamanuh

Monday

High: 100

Low: 74



Tuesday

High: 100

Low: 72



Wednesday

High: 98

Low: 70



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

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News Notes

Calf Leads Police on 30-Min Chase

DUNBAR, W.Va. (AP) - This calf was really moo-ving. The calf, weighing between 300 and 400 pounds, led police, fire-fighters and animal control officers on a 30-minute chase Friday through three towns before it was captured. The calf ran through yards and alleys and over railroad tracks, and at one point jumped into and swam across the Kanawha River. The animal was first spotted in Jefferson. It was chased from Jefferson to South Charleston to Dunbar, where it was cornered. The calf kicked an animal control officer in the ribs before it was brought under control.

Man Watches Movie, Then Burns Home

CORDELE, Ga. (AP) - There was no "Day After Tomorrow" for Charles Alton Adams' mobile home, which the south Georgia man told police he set on fire after watching the disaster movie and drinking beer. Adams, 32, walked into the Crisp County Law Enforcement Center early Thursday and told deputies he had burned down the doublewide home. He told deputies that after watching "The Day After Tomorrow," a special-effects extravaganza depicting deadly natural disasters caused by global warming, and drinking nine or 10 beers, he decided to set fire to pillows on his bed.



Arkansas Democrat Gazette

Stretching the limits Leslie Baldwin, 11, performs acrobatics Friday afternoon on the Euro Bungy at the Arkansas State Fair in Little Rock. The fair continues through Sunday.

Congress Passes Fort Hood Bill

FORT HOOD (Fort Hood Sentinel) - Legislation approving \$85.2 million in funding for training and barracks facilities at Fort Hood and to provide a pay increase for troops was sent to President George W. Bush for his signature Monday.

The U.S. Congress passed the \$447 billion, fiscal year 2005 Department of Defense Authorization bill, which will also designate land for Texas A&M to construct a university here.

"Fort Hood has led the way in the war against terrorism," Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), said. "Soldiers provide an invaluable service to our nation. Improved facilities and increased pay will raise the standard of living at Fort Hood and better enable these men and women to fulfill their mission."

"We expect the president's signature within the next couple of weeks and then the Pentagon will be able to disburse the funds,"

Kevin Schweers, communications spokesperson for Hutchison's office said in an exclusive interview with The Sentinel.

As part of the total legislation package, \$49 million was approved for Fort Hood to construct a barracks complex, \$29.1 million was slated for a digital training range and \$7.1 million was marked for a command and control center.

The bill will also boost military pay by 3.5 percent, permanently raise the rate of the family separation allowance by \$150 per month and add \$75 per

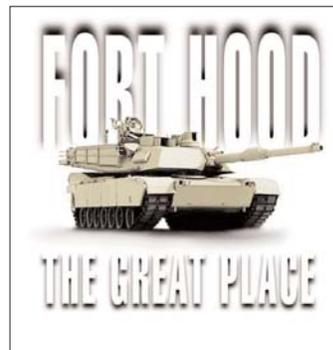
month to the imminent danger pay.

"I believe these projects will be an important enhancement for housing, training and education for Fort Hood Soldiers and their families," U.S. Rep. Chet Edwards (D-Waco) said. "This is truly a major victory for military families."

"This bill will provide much-cherished financial relief for Texas' military families," Hutchison agreed.

In addition, the legislation gives Texas A&M authority to establish an upper-level university, designated as Texas A&M University, Central Texas, on 662 acres at Fort Hood.

The bill also eliminates the cap on the Military Family Housing Privatization program and authorizes the DoD to increase the size of the Army by 20,000 Soldiers to help reduce the strain the military faces from expanded commitments throughout the world.



Game 3: NY Shames Sox

BOSTON (AP) - The Yankees kept circling the bases, embarrassing Boston's beleaguered pitching staff. By the time the long, long night ended with a devastating 19-8 romp over the Red Sox, the dreaded New Yorkers were just one game away from a shocking sweep.

Gary Sheffield, Hideki Matsui and Alex Rodriguez turned Game 3 of the AL championship series into one big round of batting practice Saturday night.

Sheffield broke a 6-all tie with a three-run homer off Curtis Leskanic in the fourth inning. Matsui had five hits, five RBIs and five runs scored, and Rodriguez homered and scored five times.

It didn't stop there.

Bernie Williams had four hits and three RBIs,



Boston Red Sox starting pitcher Bronson Arroyo reacts on the mound during the first inning against the New York Yankees

setting LCS career records for hits (47), total bases (77) and RBIs (29).

"We feel like we have a lot of momentum," Rodriguez said. "It doesn't matter who we're facing or

who is pitching."

New York, which has won six straight postseason games, had 22 hits in all, eight of them doubles. That was more than enough offense on a night Javier Vazquez relieved an ineffective Kevin Brown to get just his second win in more than two months.

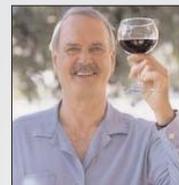
"To be up 3-0, I think we're surprised by the fact that we've done that," Torre said.

No major league baseball team has ever overcome a 3-0 deficit in a best-of-seven series, and 20 of the 25 that lost the first three games went down in four straight. The Yankees now have four tries to get the one victory they need for the seventh AL pennant in nine seasons since Joe Torre took over as manager, their 40th overall.

In Brief

Cleese Presents Python Wine Guide

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Monty Python comedy veteran John Cleese will star



in a new Food Network special "John Cleese's Wine for the Confused". "I felt it was a shame that something that is such a source of pleasure should have become restricted by all this snobbery," Cleese told The Associated Press interview from his Santa Barbara, Calif. home - which is nestled close to the state's wine country.

Bonds Used Drugs Trainer Said

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - Baseball commissioner Bud Selig expressed concern Saturday about fresh allegations that Barry Bonds used performance-enhancing drugs in 2003 and said they are further cause for a tougher policy on steroid use to avoid tarnishing the game. Selig told reporters at the American League championship series game in Boston that a San Francisco Chronicle story based on a tape recording purportedly of Bonds' trainer is "just a further manifestation of why we need a very strict steroid policy. Until we have one, we'll have this kind of situation." The Chronicle obtained from an anonymous source a 9-minute recording it said was of Bonds trainer.

Irish Beat Navy for 41st Straight Time

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) - There's no secret to Notre Dame's 41-game winning streak against Navy.

The Fighting Irish are bigger, stronger and faster - and they showed it on Saturday.

Ryan Grant ran for 114 yards and two touchdowns, and Notre Dame had little trouble extending its NCAA-record winning streak against the Midshipmen with a 27-9 victory.

Navy (5-1) came in unbeaten with hopes of finally ending four decades of futility against the Irish. Adding to the optimism for the Midshipmen were their performances against Notre Dame the past two season. The Irish needed late-game heroics in both to extend

the streak.

"We remember how close this game has been the last two years," Notre Dame linebacker Mike Goolsby. "That was the thing coach (Greg) Mattison tried to get across to us this week. It doesn't have to be close."

The defensive line coach was right. Grant and Notre Dame's dominant lines wrapped this one up early for the Irish (5-2).

Notre Dame needed two possessions to take a 14-0 lead.

"It kind of set the tone for the game and gave us confidence," said quarterback Brady Quinn, who was 11-for-20 for 130 yards.

Roger Staubach directed the last Navy win over Notre Dame in 1963, his



Navy quarterback Aaron Polanco, left, is tackled by Notre Dame safety Quentin Burrell Saturday. Heisman Trophy year. While there have been a few tight games since, this game was more typical of the series. During the streak, Notre Dame has won 34 times by double digits.