

Soldiers Working Themselves Out of a Job

By Cpl. Bill Putnam
122nd MPAD

AL RASHID, Baghdad, Iraq- Sgt. Shawn Poole looked down the road at the hustle and bustle of the Abu Dashir market place July 8. Even at 9:30 p.m. it was still busy and loud. Cars raced up and down the brightly lit streets. The sidewalks and edges of the road were packed with people out shopping, socializing or trying to beat the heat.

"The lights are fixed, finally," someone in the group of Soldiers said of the streetlights around the market. In many ways the scene around them was as frenzied as a summer evening around New York City's Time Square.

It might be one of the last times Poole or the other

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By Cpl. Bill Putnam, 122nd MPAD

Sgt. Shawn Poole, a tank crewman in Company C, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, watches traffic along the Abu Dashir market road the evening of July 8. His patrol stopped to pull security while Soldiers accompanying the patrol talked to the area's residents.

Funding Found for New Gas Station in Baghdad



By Spc. Jan Critchfield, 122nd MPAD

Local Iraqi laborers build a security wall around a new gas station being built in Baghdad's Karadah district. It's the first new station here since 1967.

By Spc. Jan Critchfield
122nd MPAD

KARADAH DISTRICT, Baghdad, Iraq – A groundbreaking ceremony took place July 11 for a gas station to be built on Baghdad University property given to the Ministry of Oil. It will be only the sixth gas station in the Karadah district of Baghdad, which is home to a million people.

"It'll be the first gas station that's been built in Karadah since 1967," said Col. Kendall Penn, commander of 1st Battalion, 153rd Infantry Regiment, a part of the 1st

Cavalry Division's 3rd Brigade Combat Team in Central Baghdad. "It will increase by 20 percent the amount of gas available to the citizens of Karadah."

The number of vehicles in Baghdad drastically increased after the end of major combat operations last year, and so has the demand for fuel.

"The initial roadblock was finding a piece of land. Baghdad University was gracious enough to donate land here on the campus. We've since gotten the Ministry of Oil

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Crime & Punishment

Soldiers Sentenced by Courts Martial in Iraq; at Hood

Although deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, the division continues to process judicial actions, both in Iraq and back in the rear. The following is a summary of some recent 1st Cavalry Division cases:

Aggravated Assault

On June 18, 2004, at Victory Base, Iraq, Spc. Luric Fiffie pled guilty to aggravated assault with the intention to inflict grievous bodily harm in violation of Article 128 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Charges arose out of an April 3 incident where Fiffie stabbed another soldier in the upper back, buttocks, and leg with a knife. The court sen-

tenced him to be reduced to the grade of E-1, confined for four years and a dishonorable discharge.

Dereliction of Duty

On June 19, 2004, at Victory Base, Iraq, Sgt. Matthew Smith pled guilty to dereliction in the performance of duties in violation of Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. This charge arose out of an April 14 incident where Smith chose to ignore his duties as a sentry so that he could receive sexual favors



from an Iraqi national, thereby endangering the lives of his fellow Soldiers. The court reduced him to the grade of E-1 and ordered him confined for six months.

Desertion

At a recent court-martial at Fort Hood, P v t . Michael Zavala, a 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment Soldier was convicted of desertion with the intent to avoid important service and missing his unit's movement to Iraq. Although he was only gone four months, the military judge sentenced him to 21 months confinement, total

forfeiture of pay and allowances, reduction to E-1 and a bad conduct discharge.

Missing Movement

Pvt. Brian Lloyd, another 1-5 Cavalry Soldier, was convicted of one specification of shirking important service (deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom) from January 6 through January 11.

This was in violation of Article 85. He was also convicted of one specification of missing his unit's movement to Iraq. The military judge sentenced the accused to confinement for 30 months, total forfeiture of pay and allowances, reduction to E-1, and a dishonorable discharge.

IIF To Take Over Patrols, Security of Abu Dashir Neighborhood

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Soldiers in his unit, Company C, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, patrol through this area. A unit from the new Iraqi army, the Iraqi Intervention Force (IIF), will soon take over patrolling and securing the area. Poole's company will start patrolling through a different area, he said.

"People are enjoying us here and now we're leaving," he said.

His platoon was out on a patrol through their area, the Abu Dashir neighborhood, or

muhalla. The platoon drove through the area earlier that evening. They stopped to talk to the people, play with the kids that inevitably appear when Soldiers are around, or just "scope" the area out.

A lot has changed in the area the last few months, Poole said. The biggest change has been the people's attitude. It didn't start that way. Their company was ambushed its first day in the area. Now, the people wave and socialize with them, he said.

The patrol eventually

stopped at muhalla's main market, the first of their three stops. The Soldiers wanted to talk to the locals about how things were going in the area since the hand over of sovereignty last week.

A group of young men, riding precariously on a truck bed, waved and cheered at the Soldiers as they guarded Humvees parked in the middle of the road. They cheered back.

At the patrol's last stop, near a bread market, Poole reflected on the hand over to the IIF. The company has worked to install lights, soccer

fields and collect trash in the area. Friendships with the locals have been built and Poole and his fellow Soldiers look around the area with a bit of nostalgia. That's a little disappointing for Poole. All the relationships they have build with the residents will, more than likely, be gone.

But they know that this is the first step toward true Iraqi sovereignty, where Iraqis are helping their own, but it still saddens him that after all is said and done he and the Soldiers in his company have worked their way out of a job.

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Projects Help Improve Economy, Get People to Work

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to donate other parcels of land in Karadah," Penn said.

Three additional gas station projects are planned for the Karadah area, continuing Karadah District Council efforts to improve fuel distribution in the area.

"[These projects] will definitely help improve the economy," Penn said, "It gives people more ability to travel to and from their places of work."

Brig. Gen. Sandy Davidson, Multinational Force Iraq Director of Civil Military Operations, provided the \$300,000 needed to build the station from a pool of Commander's Emergency Relief Funds at his disposal.

"We would like to build seven," said Maj. Danny Hassig, leader of a 478th Civil Affairs Team assigned to the 153rd's 1st Battalion. The 478th CA Team works with the Karadah District Council to organize projects such as the gas station currently underway.

"Fuel distribution and infrastructure in Baghdad is a priority, so hopefully we'll be able to get those funded as well," Hassig said.

"Everyone understands the need for fuel, and everyone understands the frustration of sitting in a fuel line," he said. "It's an excellent way to show the local community that the new government is working hard to meet their needs."



By Spc. Jan Critchfield, 122nd MPAD

Brig. Gen. Sandy Davidson, Multinational Force Iraq Director of Civil Military Operations, packs some concrete into a column of a new gas station in Baghdad's Karadah district. Davidson's organization funded the \$300,000 needed to build the station from the pool of Commander's Emergency Relief Funds.



ACCIDENT PREVENTION



- o Prevent accidents by enforcing standards.
- o Leaders should know their high-risk Soldiers and counsel them on correcting their behaviors.
- o Don't walk by; make on-the-spot corrections of unsafe actions.
- o Apply the risk management process to reduce mission hazards.

Thursday
High: 110
Low: 81

Friday
High: 112
Low: 82

Saturday
High: 113
Low: 82

Iraqi Word of the Day

grenade ru-mman-eh

Today in History

July 15

► From historychannel.com

1606 The great Dutch master Rembrandt van Rijn is born in Leiden on July 15, 1606, the son of a miller. His humble origins may help account for the uncommon depth of compassion given to the human subjects of his art.

1953 Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, starring Marilyn Monroe and Jane Russell, opens at New York's Roxy Theater. Monroe played fortune hunter Lorelei Lee in this lightweight comedy.

1971 During a live television and radio broadcast, President Richard Nixon stuns the nation by announcing that he will visit communist China the following year. The statement marked a dramatic turning point in U.S.-Chinese relations.

► Young Businesswomen at Work



Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

Young entrepreneurs Cherita Allen (left) and Khadeja Jones make potpourri pouches Tuesday during a sale at the River Market in downtown Little Rock. The girls were participating in a UALR-Share America program called "Mind Your Own Business" that teaches the fundamentals of running a business. The students, on vacation from Bale Elementary, made products, developed business plans and have been selling their wares at various sites in the city.

Today in Cav History July 15



1951 - Elements of the Division moved into reserve starting with 7th and 8th Cavalry Regiments.

1963 - A new Army Objective called Reorganization Objective Army Division (ROAD) restored the triangular Division and the 4th and 12th Cavalry Battle Groups were relieved from assignment to the 1st Cavalry Division.

FIRST TEAM

Fate of Downtown Motel To Be Determined by Wrecking Ball

By *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.-Demolition will begin Monday on a 43-year-old downtown Little Rock motel that developers welcomed as state-of-the-art but was eventually derided as the "poster child for urban blight."

Workers will begin preparing the Little Rock Inn for demolition Monday, two years after a Pulaski County judge closed the five-story motel and declared it a public nuisance.

The motel, located at 601 Center St., dominates half a city block in downtown Little Rock. It will take about 120 days to demolish the 150-room motel, which will be replaced with a 72-space parking lot.

The motel's demolition comes after two court orders,

ongoing police stings and neighbors' complaints about drugs and prostitution closed the building.

The demolition marks the last stage in the death of a building once heralded as a sign of urban progress and renewal in Little Rock's downtown.

The motel opened as the 140-room Downtowner Motor Inn in 1961 after the 45-year-old Arcade Building was demolished.

Splashed with vivid colors inside and out, the inn was the only motel in town with two- and three-room suites that also featured studio rooms. Among other amenities, the motel boasted that tipping was not allowed.

"The five-story building is designed for the convenience of the motoring public and the business travelers," a newspaper article said in 1961.

Over the years, the motel changed names and ownership several times, eventually becoming the Little Rock Inn.

In the early 1990s, police noticed a spike in auto thefts, breaking and entering, and other

crimes near the motel.

Downtown developers and boosters applauded the scheduled demolition of the motel, which they say has scared away development and business over the years.



Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

Demolition will soon begin on this motel building at Sixth and Center streets in downtown Little Rock. The Little Rock Inn opened as the Downtowner Motor Inn in 1961. The building will be replaced by a parking lot.

Centerfield Wall Makes Tacoma's Cheney Stadium a Pitcher's Park

By *The News Tribune*

TACOMA, Wash.- Cheney Stadium has been known as a pitchers' park since the day it opened in 1960, and Baseball America has confirmed that this season.

A survey of minor league parks released in spring shows fewer runs per game at Cheney Stadium than any other park in the 16-team Pacific Coast League.

In the 45th season of baseball there, Cheney is doing something that most PCL pitching staff's haven't: control Tacoma's offensive power.

These Rainiers are approaching the All-Star break leading all minor league teams in home runs (123 going into Friday action) and are on pace to shatter the franchise's 43-year-old home run record of 166.

However, the numbers would project off the charts if their home field were friendlier to hitters. In 37 home games this season, the Rainiers are averaging

4.9 runs. In 46 road games, they are averaging 5.9 runs.

Even at that, muttering PCL hitters can be thankful that Rosy Ryan and Horace Stoneham knew a little something about geography.

Cheney Stadium was constructed to house the San Francisco Giants' Class-AAA farm team, which relocated from Phoenix.

In Arizona, the team played at a ballpark built for thin desert air, with outfield walls looming 350 feet down the lines.

Ryan (the Phoenix general manager) and Stoneham (the San Francisco owner) rightly figured a baseball wouldn't travel as far in the marine climate of Western Washington.

"Rosy came from Phoenix where you had to have that 350 down the line," said Clay Huntington, owner of KLAY-AM (1180) and one of the original advocates for creating a stadium to lure minor league baseball to Tacoma. "But (Ryan) thought, and I remember specifically when he said, 325 would

be a very good distance down both lines. And center field: You're not going to hit it over center field anyway, so it is a spacious outfield."

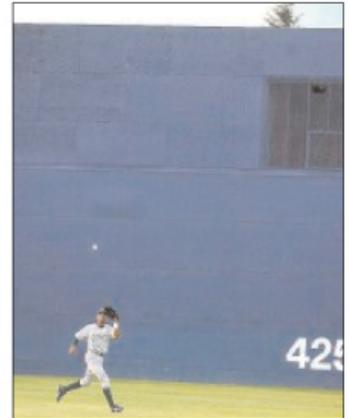
Now, that reputation has been documented.

Baseball America inventoried 10 minor leagues from Class AAA to low-A. It revealed the California League as the highest-scoring minor league and the Florida State League the lowest.

Also surveyed were the parks within each league. Topping the list of PCL pitchers' parks was Cheney Stadium, which surprises few who have played there.

Cheney's center field wall is 425 feet away - second deepest in the PCL - and marked by a 32-foot-high batter's-eye wall that no one has ever cleared in a game.

Class AAA is a classroom where players learn the lessons that may one day make them major leaguers. The forgiving nature of Cheney can teach lessons that won't apply in most American League parks.



The News Tribune

Edmonton's Brandon Watt tracks down a fly ball in the wide-open spaces of Cheney Stadium, where runs can be scarce.

Hemingway Has High Hopes of Jumping Into Athens Olympics

By *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark.- Ernest Hemingway's classic novel *Old Man and the Sea* told the story of a fisherman who toiled his whole life before finally catching the big one.

Matthew Hemingway, a former Arkansas Razorbacks All-American high jumper and a distant relative of the author, is trying to write a different version of that story this summer.

Just call it "Old Man and the Olympics."

Hemingway, who turns 32 in October, isn't old and wrinkled, but competing in his third Olympic track and field trials and in an event that involves great spring, he knows he won't have too many more chances at qualifying for his big one — the Olympics in Athens, Greece, on top.



Matthew Hemingway

Olympic High Jump Hopeful

Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

TV GUIDE	AFN ATLANTIC	AFN PACIFIC	AFN Sports	AFN Spectrum
6 p.m.	Yu-Gi-Oh!/ Jackie Chan Adventures	Tonight Show with Jay Leno/ The Late Show with David Letterman	ESPN Great Outdoors Games	Inspector Morse 5 p.m.
7 p.m.	Jeopardy/ Headline News	Access Hollywood 7:30 p.m.	SportsCenter	The Wild Thornberrys/ Spongebob Squarepants
8 p.m.	ESPNNews/ Headline News	Ghostbusters	British Open Golf Tournament - First Round	The Simpsons/ Happy Days
9 p.m.	Everybody Loves Raymond/ Scrubs 9:25 p.m./ Reel Time 9:50 p.m.			One Tree Hill
10 p.m.	Extreme Makeover	Young Man With a Horn		The West Wing