



# VICTORY TIMES



Vol. II, Issue 81

Telling the Multi-National Corps - Iraq story

October 20, 2008



**Navy birthday,  
See Pages 4 and 5**

Photo by Spc. Christopher M. Gaylord, 13th Public Affairs Detachment

From left: Lt. Cmdr. John Henderson, foreign disclosure officer, CJ2, Multi-National Force - Iraq and the eldest member of the Navy present; Cmdr. Al Carver, officer in charge, Iraqi Army section, Iraqi Assistance Group, Multi-National Corps - Iraq and the guest speaker for the ceremony; and Petty Officer 3rd Class Michael Wright, theater linguist manager, C2, MNF-I and the youngest sailor present, cut a large cake Oct. 13 during the celebration of the Navy's 233rd birthday at Al Faw Palace.



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**Poker tournament,  
Page 8**

# Confronting conflict creates personal peace

By Pfc. Eric J. Glassey

13th Public Affairs Detachment

“If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.” Romans 12:18.

As children of Adam and Eve, we all have sin. So, it is human nature to cause problems. That is why we strive for discipline in the military; to reduce strife and work effectively as a team.

We can achieve peace in our lives. I’m not talking about the storybook version of peace, but the realistic peace achieved through the choices we make on a daily basis.

You must decide for peace in your life. If you do not decide where your goals and standards are, the world will decide for you.

You must develop a set of morals to live by. Many find the values they need for life in their faith, but we also have pre-established standards in our respective military services. If you have any questions about your service’s standards, ask a noncommissioned officer who you respect.

Conflict, by definition, causes a break in peace, and we all have it in our lives. When something bad happens, we tend to attack the person and not the problem.

While it is true that people can bring problems into a unit, they may not know they are doing it. Confronting an individual is often the most overlooked but effective means of solving a problem.

Through settling the differences you have with others you will start to see peace settle down on your life. You won’t achieve enlightenment or ascend to a higher plain of existence, but you will have calmer days. You may even get more accomplished during the day. Less energy will be directed towards each other, and your combined focus will be towards the mission.

## Chaplain’s Corner

### *Being rushed can often put ethics on back burner*

By Chaplain Mark Frederick

MNC-I Operations

Do you remember the story of the good samaritan? A man was injured by bandits and left on the road to die. Two religious authorities passed by and did nothing, while an outsider stopped to help. What would you do?

Psychologists John Darley and C. Daniel Batson conducted an experiment to replicate the conditions of the parable using 40 seminary students. They told some students to give a sermon on the good samaritan and others to give a lecture on employment opportunities for seminary students.

Some from each group were told to hurry because they were already late, while others had plenty of time.

On the way to his destination, each student passed a man slumped over in a doorway, head down and eyes closed, obviously in distress. As the student passed, the man would cough and groan. Would the students stop? Darley and Batson wanted to know what the difference was between the group that stopped to help and the group that did not.

Their results were surprising. Only 40 percent of students stopped to help the man (Only 10 percent of those told to rush stopped to

help). It didn’t matter what topic the students were to speak about. In fact, some of the students who were to preach about the good samaritan literally stepped over the person in need to get to their destination. The only thing that mattered was they were in a hurry.

When it came to predicting whether a subject would stop to help a person in need, the only piece of information that mattered was knowing how rushed the person was. The two psychologists concluded that as our lives become more and more rushed, ethics become a luxury. Don’t be too rushed to help.



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The Victory Times welcomes columns, commentaries, articles and letters from our readers. Send submissions or comments to [joy.pariante@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:joy.pariante@iraq.centcom.mil). The editorial staff reserves the right to edit for security, accuracy, propriety, policy, clarity and space.



## Fort Bragg-based unit replaces 62nd Medical Brigade

*44th Medical Command takes reigns in Iraq as Army's lead commanding medical unit*

**By Pfc. Eric J. Martinez**

*13th Public Affairs Detachment*

The U.S. Army's sole medical brigade in Iraq transferred authority Oct. 9 at the Al Faw Palace on Camp Victory.

The 44th Medical Command, Fort Bragg, N.C., replaced the 62nd Medical Brigade, Fort Lewis, Wash., as the Army's medical commanding unit in Iraq during the ceremony.

"Across the globe, they [62nd Medical Bde. servicemembers] have been counted on to get the mission done and have upheld the brigade's long history of professionalism and dependability," said Maj. Gen. Paul Lefebvre, deputy commanding general, Multi-National Corps-Iraq. "On behalf of all of us, welcome to the mighty 44th and welcome to General Austin's team."

Col. Patrick D. Sargent, commander, 62nd Medical Brigade, expressed his assurance in the abilities of the 44th MEDCOM.

"I am pleased to be relinquishing the responsibility of this noble

mission to Colonel Maul and the Dragon Medics," Sargent said. "I am confident they will continue to preserve the sacred trust that exists between the combatant commander and the medical task force."

The command will provide medical care and support to more than 320,000 members of U.S., Coalition and Iraqi forces, as well as care for the more than 120,000 civilian contractors across the theater.

"We provide the full spectrum of combat health care support, services, as well as facilitate the development of the Iraqi healthcare system," said Col. Ronald Maul, commander, 44th MEDCOM.

The 44th MEDCOM plans on building upon current programs and facilities set in place by the 62nd Medical Bde.

"We intend to expand the quality assessments program that we have started in our seven hospitals to our ambulatory, dental and veterinary clinics," Maul said. "We



Photo by Sgt. Major. William Byrd, 44th MEDCOM

Command Sgt. Maj. Edwin Perez (left), sergeant major, 44th Medical Command, and Col. Ronald Maul, commander, 44th MEDCOM, unfurl their unit's colors during a transfer of authority ceremony Oct. 9 at Al Faw Palace.

will build on the survivability of our casualties and lower our disease and non battle-related injuries, which are at an all time low but can still be improved."

This will be the 44th MEDCOM's second deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Their previous deployment was from 2004 to 2005.

# Navy celebrates rich heritage d



Sailors present the heritage of the Navy to the reading of Old Glory Oct. 13 during the service's 233rd birthday ceremony at Al Faw Palace. An American flag was handed off from sailor to sailor and finally placed on a table in honor of fallen shipmates.

**Story and photos by Spc. Christopher M. Gaylord**  
*13th Public Affairs Detachment*

Servicemembers and civilians celebrated the 233rd year of the Navy's rich military history Oct. 13 with a ceremony at Al Faw Palace.

During the ceremony, attendees listened to a birthday message from the Chief of Naval Operations and watched a presentation of the service's heritage to the reading of Old Glory; telling of the wars sailors have fought

and the operations of which they have been a part.

The event gave sailors chance to reflect upon the history of their service, learn of its great accomplishments and honor fallen shipmates.

[The celebration] was to share from one generation to the next, our heritage and our legacy," said Cmdr. Al Carver, officer in charge, Iraqi army sec-

tion, Iraqi Assistance Group, Multi-National Corps – Iraq.

The celebration of the Navy's history took on special importance in a deployed environment, reminding sailors of their roots.

"This is especially meaningful here because not a single sailor here is doing what he normally does," Carver said. "So, it's a chance to embrace our identity."

"There are a lot of sailors who are here and



Sailors present the Navy colors at A

don't feel like sailors because they're out with the Army and there's no water around," said Capt. Philip Strozzi, officer in charge, cryptologic support

# During 233rd birthday ceremony



*at the White House Oct. 13 during the singing of the National Anthem as part of a ceremony celebrating the service's 233rd birthday.*

group, CJ2, Multi-National Force – Iraq. “This reminds them where they came from.”

The ceremony also reiterated the importance of

sailors’ missions here in Iraq and the flexibility of the Navy as a whole.

“I think it’s important we’re evolving to the war [our country] is fighting

instead of staying at sea,” Strozzi said.

In the end, deployed sailors left with a better understanding of their service’s significance in

current operations and admiration for the history of their Navy, while embracing the traditions the Navy is known for and on which the military prides itself.

# Get to know a Marine...

**Interview and photo by**  
Staff Sgt.  
Jason R. Krawczyk

**Sgt. Blanton Holliday**

**Unit:** 1st Combat Engineer Battalion

**Job title:** Team non-commissioned officer

**Age:** 26

**Time in service:** 9 years

**Family:** "Mother, Betty Holliday, father, Richard Holliday, brother, Richard Hol-

liday and Sister Richelle Holliday."

**Hobbies:** "Shooting."

**Person you admire the most:** "Gunnery Sgt. Carlos Halfcock."

**Why you joined:** "To serve my country."

**If you weren't in the military you would be:** "Working as a police officer."

**One thing you'd change about the Marine**

**Corps:** "Longer combat tours."

**One thing you'd never**

**change about the Marine Corps:** "Tradition."

**Describe your job in one sentence:** "Exciting."

**Unusual facts about you:** "I can't dance."

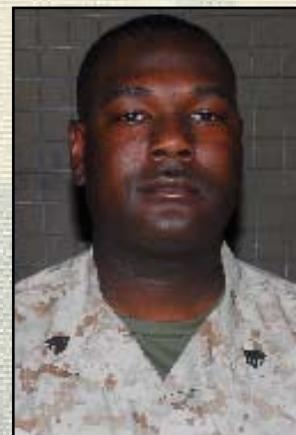
**Goals:** "Become an E-9."

**Something you wish everyone would do:** "Use common sense."

**Words of wisdom:** "Pain is weakness leaving the body."

**The best thing about being deployed:** "Saving money."

**Most exciting thing you**



**have ever done:** "Rappelling down a 200-foot rock face."

**Best basic training memory:** "A drill sergeant put the head of a recruit through a window."



## Safe driving vital in inclement weather



**By Jesse Martin**

*Corps Safety Office*

Winter is coming, and in Iraq, that means rain is likely. Rain makes road conditions especially dangerous for vehicles. Mud and film from a mixture of water and oil on roads cause tires to lose traction. Rain also reduces driver perception and decreases visibility, and was a contributing factor in many accidents throughout the theater of operations, all of which were preventable.

Poorly maintained roads, soft shoulders, erosion and a driver's limited experience increase the likelihood of an accident. Limited visibility, and vehicle weight and size affect the

driver's control of the vehicle.

Strict situational awareness is the key to mission accomplishment. In order to minimize risks, we must apply composite risk management to all operations. Some steps that should be followed include assessing weather and environmental conditions during mission planning, conducting route reconnaissance and briefing personnel on how to prevent a potential accident. If roads appear impassable, the driver and passengers should dismount and conduct assessment prior to crossing or transitioning.

Tips for mission planning include travelling at slower speeds when the roads are wet, allowing for more stopping

distance between vehicles, braking earlier and with less force and staying toward the middle of the road when possible.

If you see large puddles, slow down and drive around them if possible. After crossing, tap lightly on the brakes to remove excess water. If you start to hydroplane, don't brake suddenly or turn the wheel. Instead, release the gas slowly and steer straight until the vehicle regains traction.

Other tips for safety include turning on headlights in low-visibility conditions, defogging your windows and keeping windows and headlights clean.

Don't take chances. One mistake can cost you or others their lives.

## Announcements

### Legal Services

Cooley Law School is offering servicemembers free legal consultations via video-conference with an attorney regarding answers to civilian legal matters from 8-11 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month. For more information contact Kathryn D. Hudacek at khudacek@freedomcalls.org or (973) 290-7886

### Story ideas for Victory Times

Do you know of a good story on Camp Victory that you think should be covered for the Victory Times? Please submit your ideas to Staff. Sgt. Joy Pariente at joy.pariante@iraq.centcom.mil. Please include any interesting facts about the topic and point of contact information.

### R&R Briefings

Reunion and Suicide Intervention Briefings are at the Victory Chapel, Monday at 3 p.m., Wednesday at 9:30 a.m., Saturday at 3 p.m. All servicemembers going on leave or redeploying must attend this briefing.

### ISC (2) Exams offered

CAP, SSCP, CISSP, ISSAP, ISSMP, and ISSEP exams are being offered for interested military and civilian personnel. Contact Michael Kahler at 822-2002.

### Toastmasters

Improve your public speaking skills while having fun with creative – goal oriented people. No speaking experience necessary. Capt. Armin Reyes 318-822-7627 Armin.reyes@iraq.centcom.mil.

### Operating Hours

Coalition Cafe  
 Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.  
 Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 Dinner 5 - 8 p.m.  
 Midnight Dining 11 p.m. - 1 a.m.  
 Sports Oasis  
 Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.  
 Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 Dinner 5 - 9 p.m.  
 Education Center  
 8 a.m.-midnight  
 Camp Liberty Post Exchange  
 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
 Fitness Center  
 Open 24 Hours  
 Victory Main Post Office  
 Monday-Sunday 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.  
 Saturday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
 Sunday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
 MNC-I STB Mailroom  
 9 a.m. - noon  
 5 - 7 p.m.  
 Al Faw Palace Post Office  
 Wednesday and Sunday  
 1-6 p.m.  
 Golby Troop Medical Clinic  
 Sick Call  
 Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon  
 Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon  
 Dental Sick Call  
 Monday - Friday 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
 Saturday 9 - 10:30 a.m.  
 Mental Health Clinic  
 Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
 Saturday 9 a.m. - noon  
 Post-Deployment Health Briefings  
 Monday, Wednesday and Friday 1 p.m.  
 Pharmacy  
 Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon;  
 1 - 4:30 p.m.  
 Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon  
 Legal Assistance/Claims  
 Saturday-Monday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## The Corps Report

The "Corps Report" is a 15 minute monthly television newscast highlighting the stories and events happening in the Multi-National Corps-Iraq area of operations. The program airs Sunday at 8:15 pm and Monday at 11:15 a.m. on the Pentagon Channel here in Baghdad. The October edition of the newscast will feature stories on the Task Force 62nd Medical Brigade transfer of authority, 9/11 memorial 5k run, Armenian end of mission ceremony and Air Force birthday, to name just a few. Be sure and catch the latest edition of "The Corps Report" and contact the broadcast team at MNC-I if you have a story idea at 485-4652.

### Worship Hours

Victory Chapel (Bldg. 31)  
 Thursday  
 7:30 p.m. .... Latter Day Saints Seminary  
 Friday  
 6:30 p.m. .... Jewish Shabbat Service  
 Saturday  
 11 a.m. .... Seventh Day Adventist Service  
 8 p.m. Catholic Mass  
 Sunday  
 7 a.m. .... Liturgical Protestant Service  
 2 p.m. .... Latter Day Saints Service  
 4 p.m. .... Episcopal/Lutheran Service  
**Mini Chapel (Bldg. 24F)**  
 Tuesday  
 7:30 p.m. .... Latter Day Saints Service  
 Wednesday  
 7 p.m. .... Men's Fellowship  
 Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
 11:30 p.m. .... Roman Catholic Mass  
 Friday  
 1 p.m. .... Muslim Prayer Service  
 8 p.m. .... Women's Fellowship  
 Sunday  
 8 a.m. .... Eastern Orthodox Service  
 10 a.m. .... Protestant Sunday School  
 3 p.m. .... Church of Christ Service  
 7:30 p.m. .... Latter Day Saints Service  
**Hope Chapel (Bldg 24B)**  
 Monday  
 12 p.m. .... Charismatic Prayer Meeting  
 Sunday  
 8:30 a.m. .... Collective Protestant Service  
 10 a.m. .... Roman Catholic Mass  
 12 p.m. .... Gospel Service  
 6:30 p.m. .... Contemporary Protestant Service  
**Warrior Chapel (Camp Liberty)**  
 Friday  
 6:30 p.m. .... Victory Base Open Circle

MNC-I Chaplain's Office:  
 822-7358

### AFN Freedom Radio

Al Asad ..... 107.3	Fallujah ..... 105.1	Taji ..... 107.3
Ali Base ..... 107.3	Kirkuk ..... 107.3	Tal Afar ..... 107.3
Ar Ramadi... 107.3	Kirkush ..... 107.3	Taqquadum.. 107.3
Baghdad .... 107.3	Mosul ..... 105.1	Tikrit ..... 100.1
Balad ..... 107.3	Q-West ..... 93.3	All stations are FM

### Camp Victory Bible Studies

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Women's Bible Study 7 p.m. Bldg 24F; Gospel Protestant Bible Study 7 p.m. Hope Chapel	Women's Bible Study 7 p.m. Bldg 24F 7:30 p.m. Purpose Driven Life Bible Study (Victory Mayor's Cell, Black Forge Conference Room)	Young Adult Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Hope Chapel	Men's Bible Study 7 p.m. Victory Chapel; Spanish Bible Study 7 p.m. Bldg 24F 7:30 Book of Matthew Bible Study (Victory Mayor's Cell, Black Forge Conference Room)	Foundations Bible Study, Mini Chapel 6:30 p.m.	SeventhDay Adventist 10 a.m. Victory Chapel	

Do you have an announcement about an event of interest to the Camp Victory community? Contact Spc. Christopher M. Gaylord at chris.gaylord@iraq.centcom.mil with the information. Information for community announcements needs to be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event to allow for timely publication.

## SPORTS

# Top poker players gather for championship tournament



Sgt. Marlon Lonebear, light wheel vehicle mechanic, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment and Maj. Kirk Waibel, battalion surgeon, 230th Infantry Battalion, play the final hand in Victory Base Complex's first championship poker tournament held on Camp Slayer Oct. 10.

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### Story and photo by Pfc. Eric J. Martinez

*13th Public Affairs Detachment*

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Representatives from eight Morale, Welfare and Recreation locations around Victory Base Complex gathered to participate in the first championship poker tournament held on Camp Slayer Oct. 10.

"Over 72 players from MWR sites around VBC came to our Texas Hold'em tournament," said Jeff Kay, liaison officer, Multi-National Corps-Iraq and tournament organizer. "We decided to put on this tournament because we knew they would all want to play."

"All of Victory Base Complex got together and each sent their top eight players up here to play for the big prizes," said Camp Victory poker night coordinator Sgt. Nicholas Luncheonbill, multi-channel systems operator, MNC-I. "The grand prize is worth about 1,200 dollars, so it's pretty big."

Maj. Kirk Waibel, battalion surgeon, 230th Infantry Battalion, battled all other poker enthusiasts to claim the donated grand prize of an all expenses-paid, two-person, two-night stay at the Foxwoods Resort Casino in Ledyard, Conn.

Prizes for the tournament and regular poker nights are all donat-

ed from various casinos and poker retailers from across the United States.

"I've received almost 8,000 dollars in prizes for tournaments like these," Luncheonbill said. "Texas Hold'em is getting bigger, and I just wish we had more room in MWRs to fit more people."

Texas Hold'em nights are held at MWR locations around VBC and another championship tournament is scheduled to happen in the near future. On Camp Victory, poker night is held Monday nights at 8 p.m. at MWR 124.

"This tournament will lead to another event of its kind," Kay said.