



# The Mountain View

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October 6, 2008

## Operation Zurich: IA, CF stop weapons trafficking



Photos by Sgt. David Turner

(Above) Iraqi Army Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 31st Brigade, 8th IA Division monitor a traffic control point in northern Babil Province during Operation Zurich Sept. 29. (Background) Specialist Malcolm Richardson, of Myakka, Fla., a Soldier with Troop B, 1st Squadron, 33rd Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, chats with an IA Soldier of the 1/31/8 IA Division as a herd of camels pass along the banks of a canal.

## Fertilizer distribution sprouts self sufficiency

BY STAFF SGT. MICHEL SAURET  
4TH BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.



FOB Kalsu – Iraqi farmers in Babil Province received 11 truckloads of fertilizer donated by the Government of Iraq and delivered by Coalition forces Sept. 30 and Oct. 1.

“We are applauding this action,” said Sheikh Hussain Ali al-Sam, who will help distribute a portion of the fertilizers.

In all, the headquarters battery delivered more than 5,500 bags, which will benefit more than 2,000 farmers in the Jabellah area and sur-



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michel Sauret

An Iraqi farmer loads a bag of fertilizer onto his motorcycle in northern Babil Province Oct. 1.

rounding regions.

“The fertilizer distribution will go to the needy farmers in the area to help them become more productive farmers,” said Staff Sgt. Jay Wheeler, gun truck noncommissioned officer-in-charge for Crusader Platoon, Headquarters & Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 76th Field Artillery Regiment.

Wheeler, of Waynesville, Mo., said the donations are meant to help bring the people to a state where they can help their own, adding that the intent

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## FERTILIZER

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was to foster self-sufficiency.

"The farmers in this area are very happy," said Adil Zambur.

"The area needs some help... I too thank the Government of Iraq and Coalition. Some people in government help bring happiness to Iraqi people," he said.

The decision to deliver the fertilizer came during a meeting to discuss ways of improving the area's agriculture and support the people of Iraq between the mayor of Jabellah and

Coalition forces. Eight of the trucks delivered the fertilizer to the Jabellah agricultural warehouse in conjunction with the local Agricultural Union, which has been helping the local area improve its crops.

In addition to the fertilizer, 75 electric and 28 diesel-powered water pumps will be distributed throughout October.

"All my farmers are happy and appreciate Coalition forces helping our farmers and our economy. This means food for our family," said Sheikh Hasim Khilfar Omar, who will distribute his share to approximately 180 farmers.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michel Sauret  
Iraqi youths unload bags of fertilizer for Babil Province farmers. The fertilizer was donated by the GoI and delivered by Soldiers of Crusader Plt., HHB, 1-76th FA Regt. Oct. 1.

## Crocheting and knitting in support of Soldiers

By **SPC. TIFFANY EVANS**  
MND-C



**CAMP VICTORY** – When Staff Sgt. Lani Yearicks was little, she learned how to crochet. Four years ago, after neglecting her skills for years, her mother invited her to take part in the prayer shawl ministry at their church.

Yearicks' crocheting came back to her. When she deployed, she began sending prayer shawls home - until she came up with a better idea.

"I was talking to my mom about the prayer shawl ministry at home and decided to start one here," said Yearicks, a member of the 10th Mountain Division Band.

Chaplain Mike Jones, Task Force Mountain chaplain, helped her to develop a power point presentation to advertise her crochet/knitting group and helped her find a location for the group to meet: the Honor Chapel on Camp Victory, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Sundays.

The shawls are being sent home to the families of fallen military personnel and service members heading home on emergency leave.

The group and one or more military chaplains pray over each prayer shawl before being sent, said Jones.

"As my brother says, 'These shawls are like a hug made out of yarn,'" said Yearicks, a native of Gwinn, Mich.

"Just the thought behind them can help to cheer up a heavy heart."

Members of the group sit around a table talking about their week, while working on the prayer shawls.

Each meeting helps the individual blow off some steam and do something productive, said Lt. Col. Melinda Jackson, 547th Medical Company.

"Most of our group shows up around 2:30 p.m. when they get out of church," said Jackson, a native of University Place, Wash.

"So don't be shy; whether you know how to knit or crochet (or not), you're welcome to come," she added. "We are willing to help teach others how to knit or crochet during the meetings."

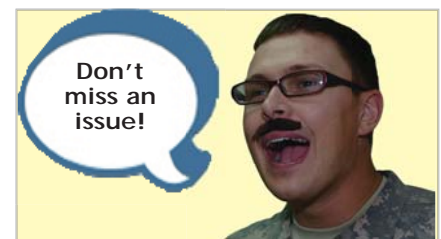
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~NIPR~

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4th BCT, 1st Cavalry Division  
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7th Sustainment Brigade  
41st Fires Brigade  
354th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment  
793rd Military Police Battalion  
Division Special Troops Battalion, 10th Mtn. Div.  
Task Force 49

# Soldiers helping those affected by Multiple Sclerosis

By **SPC. TIFFANY EVANS**  
MND-C



**CAMP VICTORY** — Task Force Mountain is sponsoring a 5k run/walk for Multiple Sclerosis at Z Lake on Victory Base Complex at 6 a.m. Nov. 2.

Sergeant Wendell Yeary, a native of Clayton, N.Y., TF Mountain actions and awards noncommissioned officer, was sitting in a Morale, Welfare and Recreation meeting in July when TF Mountain leaders asked for ideas for a Soldier run.

"I suggested we do a run for a cause. My wife suffers from MS, so I tossed out the idea for an MS run/walk," Yeary said. "Everyone liked the idea, so I ran with it."

Yeary worked through Master Sgt. Gerald Hawkins, who manages the run events on Camp Liberty, to prepare all the necessary documents.

He also wanted the race to help support the Syracuse Chapter of the MS Society, so he contacted them to request their sponsorship for the run.

"Through the Syracuse Chapter, I've created a website to help with fundraising," Yeary said.

"You do not have to go to the website to sign-up for the race. You can email or call me to sign-up for the race."

When Soldiers, service members or civilians go to the website, there is a place to donate money. Sixty percent of the money raised on the site will go to

the Syracuse Chapter, and the rest will go to the National MS Chapter.

"You do not have to pay to participate in the race. My goal is to get at least 360 runners or walkers signed up on the team," Yeary said. "Everyone who signs up to race or participates at the event will receive a free t-shirt."

Yeary also encourages those who want to help but do not want to run or

but their families.

"There is no cure for MS, but there is a medication that helps to stabilize the disease, helping the afflicted function close to normal," said Sgt. Kevin Luedtke, a native of Thiensville, Wis., TF Mountain Force Protection noncommissioned officer.

"The shot they are given once a month alone costs more than \$1,000," he added. "Plus, add in the cost for health equipment like canes and wheelchairs, or for hospital visits; this disease can cost families with or without health insurance a lot."

Luedtke has spent a lot of his free time participating in events to raise money for MS research and for families who cannot afford the medical cost. His mother was diagnosed with MS when he was two, and about 10 years ago, the disease flared up causing his mother to get worse.

"MS does not kill, but the complications can cause the smallest infection or cold to become deadly," Luedtke said. "There are constant relapses, hospital visits and medical supplies to buy. Others put them-

selves in nursing homes like my mother did.

"Please go to the website and look into what MS is and either sign-up to participate or donate," Luedtke said. "You'd be helping to make a difference in many lives."



Photo by Spc. Tiffany Evans

**Sergeant Wendell Yeary does a few sprints to warm-up before going for a run Oct. 3. Yeary is training for the MS run/walk he helped organize scheduled for Nov. 2.**

walk, to go to the site and donate. Family members back in the states are also invited to get involved in the effort. The goal on the site is \$10,000.

Multiple Sclerosis is a degenerative neuromuscular disease that not only affects those diagnosed with the disease,

## 5K RUN/WALK FOR THE CURE

**To Register, Email or Call**  
**Sgt. Wendell Yeary**

**EMAIL: wendell.j.yeary@iraq.centcom.mil**  
**DSN: 485-3531**

**To Donate or find out more info go to:**  
**<http://nyr.nationalmssociety.org>**

- Click "BIKE MS"
- Select "Pedal to the Park"
- Then click "Join a Team"
- Finally, select "10th MTN DIV"



**National Multiple Sclerosis Society**  
Upstate New York Chapter

**FREE T-shirts**

**NOV 2, 2008 6 a.m. at VBC "Z" LAKE**  
**HELP RAISE AWARENESS OF MS**



**HELP US**  
to  
**HELP OTHERS**

Staff Section Round-up

# G-1 Corner: Promotion Points

Every Soldier would like to get promoted. The best way to get promoted is to know what it takes. Take the time to know the requirements to be eligible for promotion.

For instance, know how to acquire promotion points. AR-600-8-19 provides the needed information, but here are some basics.

Starting on page 45 of the regulation, Soldiers can get detailed descriptions of what qualifies for points and how many points those items will receive.

Military awards, civilian education, military training certificates, weapons qualification scores and physical training scores are all ways you achieve your final score.

Military training includes the Combat Lifesaving Course, the Warrior Leadership Course, which is worth 16 points, the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course and correspondence courses. For every five credit hours completed in correspondence courses, Soldiers

will receive one point. These courses can be accessed at <https://atiam.train.army.mil>.

Only recognized institutions will be accepted for civilian education. These institutions are listed on the US Department of Education website at <http://ope.ed.gov/accreditation>.

Current transcripts with the institution's name and address must be in English and show courses taken by title. Each credit hour will receive 1.5 points. For each degree completed on active duty, Soldiers will receive 10 points.

Soldiers must fill out a DA Form 3355 for promotion. Instructions for completing it start on page 50 of the regulation and give documentation requirements.

Soldiers can find the points they need for promotion.

Who to contact? S-1 at <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/Active/select/MonthlyJrNcoLists.htm>, and is updated between the 20th -25th of each month.



## THIS IS JEOPARDY!

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# Headline Round-up

## U.S. News:

O.J. Simpson's luck has finally run out, and his unlucky number was 13. Simpson was convicted of armed robbery stemming from an incident that occurred Sept. 13, 2007. The verdict ended a 13-day trial that saw the jury deliberate for 13 hours, Oct. 3. The verdict came on the 13th anniversary of Simpson's Los Angeles murder acquittal. The 61-year-old Hall of Fame football star was convicted of kidnapping, armed robbery and 10 other charges for his efforts to gather five men and storm a room at a hotel-casino to seize Simpson's sports mementos. Following the verdict, Gloria Allred, who represented the family of his slain ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, was quoted as saying, "There is justice. Justice was delayed, but in this case, it was not denied. Now that he may spend the rest of his life in prison, the law, and not O.J. Simpson, will have the last word."

## Sport News:

The curse lives on. The Chicago Cubs will have to wait another year to capture the World Series Championship that has eluded them for a century, their last was in 1908. After winning a league high 97 games this season, the Cubs were defeated 3-1 by the National League West division champion Los Angeles Dodgers Oct. 5. The victory capped off a 3-0 series sweep by the Dodgers and extended the Cubs postseason losing streak to nine games.

## Military News:

The U.S. military said Saturday they have killed an al-Qaeda leader suspected of masterminding one of the deadliest attacks in Baghdad, several other recent bombings and the 2006 videotaped killing of a Russian official. Mahir Ahmad Mahmud al-Zubaydi, also known as Abu Assad or Abu Rami, was killed Friday in northern Baghdad, along with his wife, in a firefight as American troops tried to capture him.

## Odd News:

Mike Ableman, a Wyoming police officer, was greeted to a surprise during a call to shoo off what he thought was an ordinary domestic feline from a Casper, Wyo. home. Ableman arrived at the house of Beverly Hood only to find the "big cat," as reported by Hood, to be a male mountain lion weighing between 80-90 pounds. Ableman said he ran for cover inside Hood's home once discovering the cougar. A game warden tranquilized the mountain lion, and the animal was relocated.

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE QUOTE?



Photo by Spc. Tiffany Evans

"I just love the line from 'Scar Face' when he says, 'Say hello to my little friend.' His demeanor is just so calm and confident," said Sgt. Patrick Skaarup, a native of Schoharie, N.Y., Multi-National Division – Center administration noncommissioned officer-in-charge.



Photo by Spc. Sophia R. Lopez

"Go ahead punk. Make my day." Clint Eastwood said it in 'Dirty Harry,'" said Jeff Bitcom, of Manteo, N.C., international police advisor for 10th Mountain Division.

## Quote of the Day

"I submit to you that if a man hasn't discovered something he will die for, he isn't fit to live."—Martin Luther King Jr.

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For the answer to today's puzzle, go to:



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## ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

Medicine

doo-weh