



THE MULESKINNER

"No Task Too Large"



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Issue 6

First Snow in Decades!! By Sgt. Jake Boswell

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – On the morning of January 11, 2008, Soldiers woke up to snow in Baghdad. According to local Iraqis, this is the first snow in living memory. In an article published by Reuters, a 60 year old man is quoted as saying "It is the first time we have seen snow in Baghdad." Although the snow didn't accumulate, the local nationals in Baghdad were amazed by the snow calling it beautiful and peaceful.

While the snow was a welcome sight to many Soldiers who believed that they would never see snow in Iraq, it ultimately meant muddy boots and muddy working conditions as they continue to support operations here in Iraq.

To read more please refer to <http://in.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idINIndia-31352620080111>



S4 Section (Logistics) Lives its Motto... "Service is Our Business" By Lt. Col. David Lowe

From acquiring ammunition and clothing for Soldiers to providing construction materials and equipment for engineering projects throughout the Baghdad area of operations, the S4 Section carries the weighty responsibility of ensuring mission success through applied logistics. Adopting the motto, "Service is our Business", which was coined by the Senior Supply Supervisor of the S4 Section, Sgt. Maj. Will Pierce, the S4 Section provides everything that is needed to enable the 35th Engineer Brigade to accomplish its mission.



Sgt. Maj. Will Pierce, Maj. Terri Roth, and Maj. Scott Zimmerman

Leading the section is Maj. Terri Roth from Sedalia who brings more than 17 years of logistics experience that includes one prior deployment to Iraq which ended in 2006.

"The S4 team we have assembled is so mature and experienced that it made coming back an easier decision," said Maj. Roth. "Even though we have been in this theater for almost five years, logistics still plays an important roll. We strive

to equip our soldiers with the latest in technology and supplies.” The noncommissioned officer in charge of the S4 Section, Sgt. Maj. Will Pierce, resides in Camden and has more than 20 years of military experience including one prior deployment to Iraq. Taking care of Soldiers is very important to Sgt. Maj. Pierce who said, “I am in a position to influence not only the right equipping of Soldiers throughout the brigade, but I also ensure that our young supply sergeants in the brigade are learning how to properly take care of their Soldiers through logistics.”

The Assistant S4, Maj. Scott Zimmerman, is from Springfield and chuckles when describing his duties. “I’m the manager of Big Lots of Baghdad!” MAJ Zimmerman oversees construction materials for the brigade engineering projects that include lumber, electrical components, plumbing, and concrete barriers. He is also the Unit Movement Officer and added, “Now all of our families know who to blame if we don’t return home on time!”

The S4 Section has 16 personnel working in five different areas. Each of these Soldiers is dedicated to upholding their section motto, “Service is our Business.”

Class IV Yard: Baghdad’s Largest Home Depot

By Lt. Col. David Lowe

The Muleskinners’ mission includes overseeing a wide variety of engineer projects such as the construction and maintenance of Joint Security Stations and Coalition Outposts in the city of Baghdad where Soldiers live and sometimes work with their Iraqi counterparts.

To accomplish this enormous task, the S4 Section is responsible for management and distribution of construction materials to include lumber, an assortment of plumbing supplies, electrical hardware, and concrete barriers. The area used for storing these construction materials is called the Class IV Yard, which is the stateside equivalent of a very large outdoor Home Depot.

The Class IV Yard is run by Chief Warrant Officer (CW3) Stephen Markway and Non Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) Master Sgt. James Bates with the assistance of Sgt. John Blair. These Soldiers

are responsible for inventory, management, and coordination for all projects supported by the 35th Engineer Brigade. Although these leaders are responsible for producing reports on the brigade’s projects, they are normally found in the Class IV Yard getting their hands dirty.

Taking over a supply yard in Baghdad has had its moments. “One of the most interesting things we have found is a 40 foot container full of expired rations that had been neglected for a long time,” said CW3 Markway. “Despite the rodents and foul smell in the hot Baghdad weather, the mess was cleaned up and life in the IV Yard returned to normal.”

Keeping plenty of supplies on hand and efficiently distributing them to the Soldiers performing construction missions is a critical job. Spec. Jamie Bax is responsible for issuing the materials and ensuring all the related documentation is accurate. He works alongside Spec. Brian Harvey who is responsible for ensuring the keeping the inventory of materials stocked and picking them up when they arrive on Camp Liberty. With their sense of humor, these Soldiers can be found making the best of every day working with a team of civilians and local nationals.

In addition to the construction materials found in the supply yard, the Muleskinners manage a huge concrete barrier yard. The barrier yard team works hard to ensure their fast-paced operation is safe and manageable. “We have moved over 16,000 barriers since taking over the barrier yard,” said Spec. Mario Campa who is in charge of the barrier yard. “The barrier yard has been consolidated from four to two plots of land in order to increase security and efficiency in inventory.” Spec. Campa, along with his assistant, Spec. Jacob Roach, have made significant improvements to the Class IV Yard in an effort to turn over the yard to the next unit in much better shape than they received it.



Spec. Brian Harvey, Master Sgt. James Bates, Spec. Jamie Bax, Spec. Mario Campa, Sgt. John Blair, and CW3 Stephen Markway (Left to Right)

In addition to working with the concrete barriers, Spec. Roach is also responsible for the local nationals that come in every day to operate the heavy equipment that is used to move the barriers. He has learned more Arabic than any other Muleskinner which has been a tremendous help in working with the Iraqis.

The S4 Section has many talented Soldiers performing a number of crucial missions in Iraq. We are thankful for their hard work in helping protect our troops and making improving our quality of life.



Spec. Jacob Roach enjoying a lighter moment with Local Nationals he works with in the barrier yard

JSS Southwest Construction Project

Below is a Joint Security Station that houses both American and Iraqi Soldiers within the city of Baghdad. Our combat engineers from the 769th Engineer Battalion built new living quarters, which provided rooms for 120 American Soldiers. The Soldiers' living standards were greatly improved with the completion of this project.



The inside of building number one



The front side of building number one



The inside of building number two



The back side of building number two

Chaplain's Corner

By LTC (Chaplain) Gary Gilmore



“Send me a Letter... the Sooner the Better!”

It turns out that this old line from pop music has some valid truth to it! During World War II researchers noticed that the number of letters a soldier sent and received from home correlated with the overall strength of the relationship and the likelihood that the couple would remain together after the separation. And even more remarkable in a day when we have telephones, voicemail, and instant chats... researchers are finding the same thing to be true in OUR day about good old-fashioned cards and letters!

What makes a card or letter so valuable?

Here are a few reasons:

- We tend to think more about what we say when we write it down. Instead of blurting out something we will later regret, we take some more time to formulate our words and message. We are “careful communicators” when we write.
 - We tend to be more positive in what we say. Because it takes some extra time, writing forces us to minimize the small talk and get to the important stuff. And what is important is the “heart to heart” words of affection and appreciation. We all love to hear those words... because we all need those words!
 - Cards and letters are something we touch. It adds something special to a message to know that our loved one once held what we are now holding and that his or her hand shaped the words we are reading.
 - Writing is more work. Knowing that our partner took the time to sit down and share their heart on paper is a gift in itself! A letter that takes two minutes to read might have taken 30 minutes to write-- and to know that your loved one was thinking of you for a half hour at a pop is pretty neat! The work involved adds to the value of the message.
- Written messages are “one-way.” No interruptions... no arguments. Just a chance to listen to the love of your partner being expressed from beginning to end.
 - Letters say the same thing every time you read them! People keep cards and letters in a special place and often open them time after time to “hear” those important words again. (A good love letter will last a lifetime!)
 - And finally, as women have known for many generations, you can put some perfume on that card and when he opens it thousands of miles away you KNOW he'll be thinking of YOU!

So here is my encouragement to you this month-- write! It doesn't have to be fancy or written on pretty stationery... and while cards are nice (since they help us guys put our feelings into words) a simple message of love from the heart will do wonders to strengthen your relationship. And this grows even more important as we move toward the reunion phase of this deployment. Letters can be written to spouses, parents, siblings, children, and friends.

For forty cents from the house (not to mention FREE MAIL from the Soldier's side), the only reason for NOT doing this is not being willing to spend the time...which says something about your relationship! Take a moment TODAY to get a card or letter in the mail!





Master Sgt. Gary Leachman, 1st Lt. Seth Nelson, and CW4 Gary Hanks (Left to Right)

S4 Maintenance: Much More Than “Nuts and Bolts”

By LTC David Lowe

The S4 Section is comprised of several teams that focus on specific segments of the logistics arena. Vehicle maintenance and readiness is crucial for the 35th Engineer Brigade to maintain operational readiness. The maintenance team consists of 1st Lt. Seth Nelson, Chief Warrant Officer Four (CW4) Gary Hanks, Master Sgt. Gary Leachman, and Spec. Thomas Rogers.

CW4 Gary Hanks from Lohman heads the Maintenance Section on his second deployment to Iraq and third deployment overall. CW4 Hanks brings seven years of active duty and 25 years of Missouri Army National Guard experience to his position as the brigade’s Engineer Equipment Maintenance Warrant Officer. “I am extremely impressed how professional the citizen-Soldiers of our brigade have performed during this deployment, said CW4 Hanks. “The Guard is our extended family and it is amazing how well our Soldiers perform within the engineer community as we bring our training and experience to the fight.”

1st Lt. Seth Nelson from St. Louis is a project manager for a commercial subcontractor is currently serving as the brigade’s Engineer Equipment Officer. His duties include tracking equipment status, unit pay agent, local national badging sponsor, ammunition officer, and voting assistance officer. “The support from the Family Readiness Group to the VFW, from local schools to local community organizations and individuals has been incredible,” Nelson said. “Troops have been here in Iraq for almost five years and the folks back home continue to pour out their support and it is much appreciated.”

Master Sgt. Gary Leachman from Walker is the Mechanical Maintenance Supervisor and is responsible for the digital tracking of parts and equipment for the Muleskinners. Master Sgt. Leachman is a technician at the FMS 15 at Camp Clark where he has been employed for the past 23 years.

On his second deployment to Iraq in the past three years, he has worked hard to increase his knowledge with the demands of a war zone. Master Sgt. Leachman’s favorite hobby is building and collecting classic trucks, which provides him the perfect opportunity to hone his mechanical expertise. “This deployment has provided me insight as to the inner workings of a brigade headquarters and has given me a greater appreciation for the demands that come along with it.”



Spec. Thomas Rogers

Spec. Thomas Rogers from Jackson is the company TAMMS Clerk which means he is responsible for ordering repair parts for equipment, tracking the on-hand inventory, and running the automated equipment system called SAMS-E. “I am impressed by what the brigade has accomplished in such a short time in theater,” Spec. Rogers said. “I am enjoying the experience that I have gained on this deployment and am proud to be serving our country. I also appreciate the tremendous support my mother and girlfriend have been as well.”



Where's the Beef?

By Lt. Col. David Lowe

Before most of the Muleskinners awaken or after they go to sleep, the Food Service team from the S4 Section is diligently working to meet the Soldiers' dietary needs. The Food Service team led by Master Sgt. Roger Morff and his assistants, Staff Sgt. Lisa Linthicum and Staff Sgt. Beverly Walters, has the critical task of managing the Café DeFleury Dining Facility (DFAC) which serves both Soldiers and civilians stationed on Camp Liberty.

The Café DeFleury DFAC serves an average of 12,000 meals each day during the course of four different serving times and has an inventory of more than \$1.5 million in food items. The Food Service team works hard to provide a large variety of culinary delights on a 28-Day menu. To meet the needs of both Soldiers and civilians serving in a combat zone, the Café DeFleury serves breakfast from 5:30 to 8:00 a.m.; lunch from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m.; dinner from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

The one meal many Muleskinners look forward to each week is Friday night steak and seafood. "I really enjoy preparing the 'surf and turf' on Friday evenings as a something special for the finest fighting force in the world," said Master Sgt. Morff who is the Senior Food Service Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) for the brigade. Master Sgt. Morff, has 29 total years of military experience in both the Army Reserves and National Guard, brings 28 years of food service experience to his position in Iraq. Master Sgt. Morff, who is from Jefferson City, works full time with the Missouri Army National Guard as the Budget NCO for the Counterdrug Program. "I sincerely appreciate all of the decorations that were donated to the DFAC by everyone back home," Morff said. "The FRG, local businesses, and members of the community really came through in order to make the holidays bright with all of the festive decorations."

Staff Sgt. Lisa Linthicum from Maryland Heights works as a patrol officer for the St. Louis County Police Department Central Precinct. "One of the best things about this deployment is getting to work in my MOS," said Staff Sgt. Linthicum. "We are not able to cook at drills anymore since they changed the MTOE." Staff Sgt. Linthicum brings 10 years

of food service experience in the Missouri Army National Guard to her job as the Relief Shift Leader for Café DeFleury where she has the challenge of tracking the schedules for cooks, janitorial workers, headcount personnel, other rotational shift changes, as well as performing other administrative duties.

Staff Sgt. Beverly "Bev" Walters from St. Louis also works full time for the Missouri Army National Guard in the Counterdrug Program. Joining the Food Service team in November, Staff Sgt. Walters has been a welcome addition as she brings four years of food service experience along with 17 total years of military service including one prior deployment to Iraq. As the second Shift Leader at Café DeFleury, she has been the perfect fit for a Food Service team that displays a positive attitude in providing a mission-essential service for both Soldiers and civilians.



Staff Sgt. Beverly Walters, Master Sgt. Roger Morff, and Staff Sgt. Lisa Linthicum (Left to Right)



Christmas décor at Café DeFleury

VIPs Visit the Muleskinners

U.S. Senators Communicate With Soldiers

By Capt. Jeff Crane
35th Engineer Brigade Public Affairs Office

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – On Dec. 12th, U.S. Senators Claire McCaskill and Kit Bond completed a video teleconference with 35th Engineer Brigade Soldiers stationed at Camp Liberty, Baghdad, Iraq. The Senators addressed the Soldiers, from the Missouri National Guard, and then answered questions from the audience regarding a variety of Army National Guard subjects.

Charlie Richardson, Benne Media (Sedalia, Mo.), embedded with the unit in Iraq, Dec. 10-14. Prior to his departure from Missouri to Iraq, Richardson was instrumental in coordinating with each Senator in order to establish the VTC during his embed. Richardson moderated the question and answer session which dealt with subjects such as retirement benefits, equipment fielding, troop surge effects, as well as short and long term troop level goals.

“It is reassuring for all the Soldiers serving here in Iraq to be able to speak openly and candidly with their Missouri Senators. It is clear to us both understand the issues and are taking the proper steps to mitigate them,” stated Brig. Gen. Pace, 35th Engineer Brigade Commander. Soldiers appreciated the Senators address as well as the answers to questions on important issues.



“It was outstanding that our two United States Senators made themselves available to address the questions from the Soldiers in a live forum,” stated Command Sgt. Maj. Ray Harding. “I was impressed with the honesty of the answers from the Senators. Every issue cannot be fixed on the spot, but to at least have the opportunity to address our Senators allowed some issues to get on the table.”

Congressional Delegation Visits Soldiers

By Capt. Jeff Crane
35th Engineer Brigade Public Affairs Office

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Soldiers from the 35th Engineer Brigade received a special visit on Christmas from a congressional delegation led by the chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, Rep. Ike Skelton (D – Mo.), congressman.

The delegation also included representatives Randy Forbes (R – Va.), Nancy Boyda (D – Kan.), Michele Bachmann (R – Minn.) and Eliot Engel (D – N.Y.). The representatives met with Soldiers, primarily from their respective districts, at the brigade motor pool and then shared a Christmas meal together.



VIPs Visit the Muleskinners Continued...

Soldiers from the engineer brigade were grateful the congressmen took time out of their busy schedules to visit them on Christmas day. "The Soldiers are extremely honored to have Congressman Skelton and his delegation visit us," stated Brig Gen. Michael Pace, 35th Engineer Brigade commander.

National Guard's Top General Visits Troops

By Capt. Jeff Crane

35th Engineer Brigade Public Affairs Office

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – Chief of the National Guard Bureau visited Soldiers of the 35th Engineer Brigade Soldiers Dec. 30 regarding their deployment.

Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum, chief of the National Guard Bureau, talked with the engineer Soldiers composed of Army National Guard units from Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Minnesota, North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia.

These citizen-Soldiers were provided the opportunity to visit with and ask questions of the senior uniformed National Guard officer. Blum saw an equipment display showcasing the capabilities of each unit and a review of the missions they perform.

It is a rare opportunity for any Soldier to meet their service's senior leader. Blum's visit provided this opportunity and was a morale boost to all who participated. "The Soldiers of this brigade have performed admirably and sacrificed a lot over the last several months," stated Brig Gen. Michael Pace, 35th Engineer Brigade commander. "It was a great honor and reward for these Soldiers to meet and visit with Lt. Gen. Blum. I can tell you it was a great honor for him as well."



Muleskinners pose with Lt. Gen. Blum



Sgt. Clyde Smith shakes hands with Lt. Gen. Blum

Muleskinner Fun



Col. Mitch Passini celebrates his 50th birthday with a cake mix sent by his wife Cathy and baked by Master Sgt. Roger Morff

Brig. Gen. Mike Pace enjoys a lighter moment while strumming a guitar and yes he can play!



Capt. Jeff Crane shows his support for the Missouri Tigers. The Tigers' football team won the Cotton Bowl this year!!

Muleskinner Promotions, Awards, and Accolades



On left—Lt. Col. John Oberkirsch (left) and Maj. Dwaine Holland (right) present the Combat Action Badge to Sgt. Maj. Chad Craft

On right - Sgt. 1st Class Paul Frey (left) is presented a coin by Command Sgt. Maj. Ray Harding (right) for assembling a Standard Operating Procedures and Manual on the maintenance and operation of the Ground Penetrating Radar used by the 35th Engineer Brigade



On left - Brig. Gen. Michael Pace swears in Sgt. 1st Class Jared Pruitt and Staff Sgt. Donna Underwood who reenlisted for another six years in the Missouri National Guard

Muleskinner Musings



2nd Lt. Christa Nieland and Staff Sgt. Donna Underwood “let themselves go” for a Halloween night of fun in Baghdad



Muleskinner have become accustomed to the infamous “brown house” (a.k.a. Porta-Jon) which, due to the absence of indoor plumbing, has become a way of life for Soldiers throughout Iraq. These brown houses are located about 50 yards from the 35th Engineer Brigade Headquarters.



Above - Master Sgt. Mary St. George lures the wrens as a food source for her “pet” chicken hawk



As the NFL playoffs kicked off and, to the surprise of all, Sgt. Maj. Craft (left) shows his support for the Dallas Cowboys by modeling a Tony Romo jersey. A long-time but frustrated Steelers fan, Sgt. Maj. Craft swallowed his pride by acknowledging to Lt. Col. Lowe (right) that his team was beaten before the Cowboys. At press time, it was reported that LTC Lowe was in mourning due to the Cowboys’ recent defeat.

Muleskinner Holidays



The Café DeFleury DFAC gets a make-over for Christmas. Many decorations were set up along with Christmas treats to enhance the dining atmosphere.

Santa Claus comes to visit Camp Liberty on a unique sleigh this year



The S1 Section (Personnel) celebrates New Years

Thank You So Much for Your Support!!!

The Soldiers of the 35th Engineer Brigade would like to extend our most heartfelt appreciation to everyone who has supported us during our deployment. Your thoughts, prayers, gifts, cards, letters, homemade treats, and other means of support are a tremendous encouragement to us all. We would like to extend a special thanks to the following individuals, groups, businesses, and organizations that have supported the Muleskinners during their deployment!!

- HHC, 35TH ENGINEER BRIGADE FRG
- PULASKI COUNTY ROTARY CLUB
- PRORehab, P.C.
- MODINE MANUFACTURING COMPANY
- SCOTT, LORI, JESSE, & KYLE GILMORE
- SHELLY KILLINGSWORTH
- HONEYWELL CORPORATION FEDERAL MANUFACTURING & TECHNOLOGIES (FM&T)
- HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS
- EMERSON CLIMATE TECHNOLOGIES
- HALLMARK CARDS, INC.
- MARINE CORPS LEAGUE 1184
- FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
- JUNCTION HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- MR. GITTO'S CLASS
- MRS. STEELE'S CLASS
- MS. HORNER'S CLASS
- MS. GEORGE'S CLASS
- MRS. HUFF'S CLASS
- KENTUCKY TRAIL ELEMENTARY
- MS. THORNHILL'S CLASS
- KAREN IRWIN
- MS. CARNAGHI'S 5TH GRADE CLASS - WEBB CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL
- MS. FULSOM'S 5TH GRADE CLASS - WEBB CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL
- MRS. HARDING'S 5TH GRADE CLASS - WEBB CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL
- MRS. HANSEN'S 5TH GRADE CLASS - WEBB CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL
- MISSIE LINSON - VOICES OF HOME
- BATTELLE – FORT LEONARD WOOD OPERATIONS
- GLORIA ROBINSON
- MISS BRINKER'S CLASS - HOLY INFANT SCHOOL
- CUB PACK 883 EUREKA, MISSOURI
- GIRL SCOUTS OF DOGWOOD TRAILS
- LUTHERAN HOME
- PENNY CAIN
- COLUMBIA ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER
- CITY OF NEW FRANKLIN
- ST JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL
- REGIONAL TITLE AND LAND SERVICE
- GREEN PINES ELEMENTARY
- ART'S TRACTOR REPAIR
- MRS. JUDI HENKE
- MR. STEVE MELOY MARILYN HUFFSTUTLER
- DEBBIE ATERS
- MIDCON CABLES CO.
- THE GOLF WAREHOUSE
- JACKSON CHURCH OF CHRIST
- TRACIE GOEBEL
- GIRL SCOUT TROOP 2295
- BARRY AND COLLEEN CHORUM & FRIENDS
- MRS. STARK'S 4TH GRADE CLASS
- HASTINGS & CHIVETTA ARCHITECTS, INC.
- SCHOOL OF THE OSAGE 4TH GRADE STUDENTS
- SOUTH CALLAWAY R-II 4TH GRADE STUDENTS
- LAND SURVEY REPOSITORY
- DGLS
- FULTON VFW POST #2657
- CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL
- SPRINGFIELD SOUTHEAST ROTARY
- BRAYMER ELEMENTARY SPECIAL EDUCATION
- BRAYMER 6TH GRADE STUDENTS
- DAISY GIRL SCOUTS
- MISS HILLHOUSE & 4TH GRADE CLASS 2007-2008 HAWTHORN ELEMENTARY
- MRS. SAUL'S 8TH GRADE CLASS
- OPERATION TROOP SUPPORT



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Baghdad Weather for the Week of January 14, 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						
Hi: 48 Low: 31	Hi: 50 Low: 31	Hi: 53 Low: 29	Hi: 54 Low: 29	Hi: 55 Low: 31	Hi: 56 Low: 35	Hi: 50 Low: 36

Deployment Countdown



The numbers are in and the Muleskinners are officially "over the hump" and on the downhill side. Hang in there — we'll be home before you know it!!!

Announcements

"THE MULESKINNER" is a publication focused on the Soldiers of the 35th Engineer Brigade (a.k.a. Muleskinners) and its engineer mission while deployed to Iraq in Support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The purpose of this publication is to keep our loved ones and friends at home informed about the Muleskinners in a combat environment. THE MULESKINNER will be produced exclusively by Muleskinner Soldiers to ensure accurate reporting and authentic information.

"THE MULESKINNER" is organized and edited by the Muleskinner's Command Judge Advocate, LTC David Lowe, and his cohort in crime, fellow Judge Advocate, CPT Kelly Parker. Paralegal SGT Jake Boswell provides technical assistance by overseeing the layout and design. It is our genuine desire to provide timely, insightful, and entertaining information to our readers.



Above - National Guard Soldiers Celebrate the National Guard's 371st Birthday at Al Faw Palace

Right - Muleskinners pose in front of the flag during the National Guard birthday festivities

The National Guard celebrated its 371st this year on December 13, 2007. There was a birthday party thrown for the "Guard" at the Al Faw Palace, which was once owned and inhabited by Saddam Hussein.



"FREEDOM ISN'T FREE"