



The Dust Devil Dispatch

July 3 - 9, 2005

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Independence Day, 2005!

by LTC Lee Tafanelli

As Independence Day approaches, I am reminded about our own struggle as a new nation in search of the ideals of Freedom and Democracy. Today we are 7000 miles away from our home yet we find ourselves in a situation here in Iraq that is similar in some ways as they try to rid themselves of the chains of oppression in hopes for a future of freedom, liberty, and peace. As our nation's birthday approaches, so does the 6 month mark of our deployment in Iraq. During the last 6 months we saw an escalation of violence leading up to the historic elections here in January, but when it came time for the people to speak that day they spoke with an overwhelming voice for a chance for freedom and democracy. It didn't come without incident as those bent on keeping freedom from emerging tried to bomb polling places and instill terror in those who wanted to give democracy a chance. At the end of that day, hope for independence and those who wanted a better future for their children won out. Since that time, it has been a struggle every day as the insurgents try to create instability and unrest in a fledgling democracy. The road to independence here will be a long and difficult one, as was our nations own struggle to claim the rights and independence we hold today, however, the hope of independence has proven itself able to outlast any propoganda, any weapon, any dictator.

For us this Independence Day, there will be no picnics, trips to the lake or pool, or the evening fireworks that dazzle the nighttime sky. For us this year it will be another day that we conduct our normal missions. A handful of special events have been put together for our Soldiers to participate in, in hopes that it will bring a little part of the American traditions closer to them during their separation from home. While these activities will

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never replace the true love and fellowship that would be experienced back home, not one person will complain. Each Soldier knows their call and takes pride in their sacrifice to ensure that the liberties that we enjoy are guaranteed for future generations. Our Soldiers will don their gear and perform the missions that must be accomplished this day, all while combating the harsh elements of every day life in Iraq. They will do all this and more, not for fame or fortune, nor medals and ribbons. They do this because it is their obligation, as those have done for generations that preceded them. They have answered a call and will prevail until the job here has been completed.

Someday it will be written in the history books of the brave and noble Soldiers that sacrificed so much for another country so that they could live in a country with basic rights of freedom and liberty. The rights that we are guaranteed as Americans, scribed in the Declaration of Independence. The great premise upon which our Nation was founded was Freedom and Liberty. Each and every generation must be reminded of the sacrifices that others have made for our freedom and the inherent responsibilities associated with it. I read somewhere that "To be born free is a privilege. To die free is an awesome responsibility." We honor those who assumed that awesome responsibility.

The torch of freedom has now been passed to a new generation, to ensure that the United States of America will be the land of free and the home of the brave for future generations. So as you watch the fireworks tonight in their splendid glory, please take a moment as you gaze at the heavens and remember the men and women who faithfully stand watch, ensuring that freedom and liberty prevail and that America remains the beacon of freedom around the world. Happy Independence Day!

God Bless The U.S.A.

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An American Heart

by Patricia Kar - published in "A Surrender to the Moon"

**An American heart is strong and true,
 With pure love for the red, white and blue.
 An American Soldier works and trains day and night,
 And sometimes has to go to war and fight.
 But no matter what he has to endure,
 He has an American heart stron, true, and pure.
 He leaves his home, family and friends,
 And prays that this bloody war ends.**

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Weather in Iraq

Date	.	Hi / Lo	Percip
Sunday July 3	 Sunny / Windy	115 / 82	0%
Monday July 4	 Sunny / Windy	115 / 81	0%
Tuesday July 5	 Sunny / Windy	115 / 81	0%
Wednesday July 6	 Sunny / Windy	113 / 80	0%
Thursday July 7	 Sunny / Windy	112 / 80	0%
Friday July 8	 Sunny / Windy	114 / 82	0%
Saturday July 9	 Sunny / Windy	117 / 82	0%

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Quote of the Week

"None of us who have always been free can understand the terrible fascinating power of the hope of freedom to those who are not free"

- Pearl S. Buck

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Question of the Week

Last weeks question was, "Which MiG jet, originally deployed in 1968 as a response to the American XB-70 Valkyrie bomber, is still in use and remains the fastest jet fighter in the world?"

The Answer - The MiG-25 "Foxbat"

Want to fly in a Foxbat?



Incredible Adventures offers offers a number of different flight packages including a flight in a MiG-25 Foxbat.

[Click here for more information!](#)

Those who answered correctly: CPT Culbertson, Ruth Sprague, Valerie Winegar, SPC Daugherty, and CW4 Hay.

Thanks to all who participated!!!

THIS WEEKS QUESTION

Which US Military branch has the highest number of four-star generals and how many are in that branch of service?

Please use the form below to answer this weeks question.



Your Name:

Your E-mail:

Choose an answer from each column:

BRANCH:

Navy
Marine
Army
Air Force
Coast Guard

GENERALS:

20
14
11
9
2

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Events

July 1st - 4th, there will be various events and tournaments to participate in. See the MWR page on the Adder website for more information!

Please be advised that anyone participating in a 4th of July event needs to bring along a brown t-shirt with their PT uniform. Guest teams will wear brown shirts and Home teams will be in PT shirts. Civilian contractors will wear all the same t-shirts and military teams with team shirts may wear their team shirt as long as all members are in the same shirt.

These rules are for the Basketball, Football, and Soccer events. Softball is following the league uniform rules. During Volleball and Dodgeball, all players will wear the PT uniform or team shirts.

If you know of an event not listed here, contact me at jay.gfeller@us.army.mil.

**STEP BY STEP THROUGH
THE NEW TESTAMENT**

**MONDAY NIGHTS
1900HRS
AT SAPPER II CHAPEL
STARTING MAY 16TH**

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Friday, July 29th, 2005:

Free Day at Rock River Rapids!

Active duty, Guard, Reserves and family members will be admitted FREE!!! at Derby Rock River Rapids from 12:30 - 8:00pm.

You must show your military ID card at the Pass Gate to get in . Dependents without a military ID will need to be accompanied by a parent / sibling with an ID card.

***NOTE* - Don't stand in line! Show your card at the Pass Gate entrance and get in the speedy way!**

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Whose Dress?



What is Whose Dress? [CLICK HERE TO LEARN!](#)

Don't forget to post a lead, we'll need your help to track down the owner!

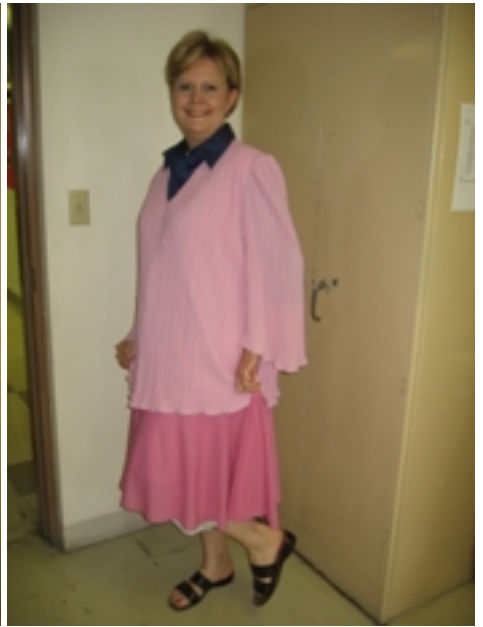
This week's Top Lead.

I saw a whole bunch of members of the 891st at a cookout at Haldex last September or October. Some of them even brought their wives. I bet one of the ladies left her dress there. She's probably looking for it.

We'll continue to follow this and every lead we get in hopes to find the real owner. Thanks for everyone's help!

This week's innocent people.

E-mail the Editor





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Haircuts!!!

High and Tight, \$2.00 - See SPC Daugherty for information!

Food!!!

Sapper II MWR

Breakfast - 0600hrs - 0830hrs

Biscuits and Gravy

- \$1.50 - Full order
- \$0.75 - 1/2 order

Pancakes

- \$0.50 each

Lunch - 1200hrs - 1330hrs

Hamburgers

\$1.50 while supplies last

Put your ad HERE!!! - E-mail us at jay.gfeller@us.army.mil!

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Friday June 24th

- SPC Durnil- We miss you and love you very much. Get-R-Done so you can come home. Love Teri, Breanna, Christopher.

- To SPC Dan Winegar: I Love you and I'm thinking of you everyday. Can't wait until you make it back home. Love you, Val

- SPC CANDICE M GRIFFITH, HAPPY BIRTHDAY CANDY. WE ALL LOVE YOU AND MISS YOU SO MUCH. WE CAN'T WAIT TO HAVE YOU HOME AGAIN. TAKE CARE. WE ARE WITH YOU IN OUR HEARTS ALWAYS. LOVE MOM, DAD, MIKE, SHANNON, AARON, & BABY APRIL

Saturday June 25th

- Sgt Wayne Ryba I just want to wish you a Happy 13th Anniv. on July 4th. Wish you were to spend it with me. The girls wanted to tell you that they love you and miss you very very many. And they liked their blankets you sent. Love you always.

- My shout is to my husband SPC Scott Beerbower. I just wanted to wish you a Happy 1st Anniversary. And even though we cant spend it together i want you to know that I love you and am always thinking of you! You are my hero. If you ever feel alone look to the stars and know that I am looking at the same star. I miss you Come Home Soon. With All My Love Happy 1st Anniversary Love Christina

- spc wood i love you and miss you so much..have a wonderful day..we are doing ok..come home safe and soon..love net

- SPC. Eaton, We miss you so much. Your girls are anxiously



awaiting your return home. Whoever thought we would miss being normal?! We love you with all our hearts, baby. Love Teresa, Morgan, and Natalie

- SPC Loden-We all Love You very much & can't wait to see you Alexis & Hevyn are going to be so excited when you come home on leave. Stay strong & be careful, see ya when you get home. Mom, Dad & the girls

Sunday June 26th

- Pfc Aaron Givens - Baby I love you so much and can't wait until you come home and we can be a complete family again! Don't ever forget that I love you with all my heart and I know that after everything we have been through there is nothing we can't handle as long as we have each other. Be safe baby and keep your head down. Love your wife, Allison

Monday June 27th

- SPC. Brian Blandamer~~We Love You & Miss You Much!!!!!! We are so PROUD of you and can't wait till you come home!! Thanks for being such an AWESOME husband and daddy to us!!!! Be safe and don't worry about us, we're doing okay. WE LOVE YOU!!!!!!~ Robyn, Savanna, Briana, & Owen

- SGT Jeremy Carriger, You will never know how much you are missed and loved! We Pray for your safe & quick return everyday! We are on the homestretch now! Love Mandy & Girls

-Sgt Dudley-Hi baby, we miss you so much. Tiff is off today to go to church camp, it will be just me and the boys. I love you so much and can't wait until you come home. Keep safe and take care of you! All my love, Angela

Tuesday June 29th

- Spc DurnilJust sitting around your house looking at pics on the computer. Tami and Ian came in last night we went and had

a picnic at the park, didn't stay real long because it is about 100 here today. Well talk to you later. Shelly

- spc ruppel, hi baby i wish you were home already. i miss you so much and can't wait to see you again. please be careful and i love you so much miss you, love you Lindsey.

- Komma Child (sorry son) - I am so very proud of you, I'm trying to be brave too. Keep yourself safe, for me AND the boys, I love and miss you. Mom

- Sgt. Dennis Dinkel We Love you and miss you We are all proud of you Love Your family

- We love you and miss you so much. I'm so proud of you Sgt. Dennis Dinkel I words can't express how much Love Mom

- To my loving husband Spc. Herter-We miss you very much and love you!!!You are our hero and we are proud of you and everyone else. The kids love you and miss you and want daddy home soon. Love you baby! COME HOME SOON!!!! Love your wife Steph and the kids Devan and Alexis

- PFC Dale Jesseph- Hey baby. I just wanted to say that I love you and I can't wait for you to come back home to us all. We miss you so much and pray that you are and stay safe. Always remember how much I love you and that I will always be here. We all love you very much. Love always: Dad, Mom, Collin, Tanika and your wife, Amanda

- Sgt Dudley-Caiden got third place in tee-ball tournaments. We all love you so much. Take care of you and God bless! With Love, Angela

- Sharon Barnhart, just wanted to say hey! You are all in my thoughts and prayers every day. Even though I'm not with you, my heart will always be with the engineers. I promise not to let KS change any until you get back. Sorry I didn't get to see you when you were home, understand bubby had a pretty short leash, as he should have. Suz and I are trying to keep things together here. Take care of you! See you soon. Love You, Diana Cole

- to my wife at home..lannette happy birthday..i love you and i

miss you..hugs and kisses. love your hubby spc wood

Thursday June 30th

- Spc.Gfeller: Jay Jay I miss you and love you Chifly

- Spc. Gfeller I am very proud of you love chi

**- Happy Birthday on July 5th to PFC Richard Freel! The big 30!
We all miss you terribly! Hope to see you soon! Love you!
Jenny, Tyler, Tanner, Tayler, & Kayla**

Post a shout in the next edition:

Due to the large amount of Shouts, the shout box will be limited to 500 characters. Please check spelling and grammar, shouts are posted exactly how they are entered. Also, note that the enter key will be replaced as a space when posted. Shouts will be accepted until 1700hrs on Thursday, any shouts after that will be posted in the next week's edition.

Type in this box exactly what you want the Shout to say.

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Published weekly by Task Force Dust Devil for troops and families of the 891st Engineer Combat Battalion, Heavy and the Alpha Company of the 230th Engineer Battalion.

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Drop us a line:

Your Name:

Your E-mail Address:

Comments:

Don't forget to check out the 891st Engineer Battalion website at

<http://www.891engineerbattalion.com>

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