



# The Dust Devil Dispatch

September 4 -10, 2005

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## Operations Security

by SPC Jay Gfeller

**Before you click away from this page, let me just say that the information in this article is critical and you should read it. As much as I didn't enjoy writing about this subject that we hear about every day, I still did because it is important and because it could be key to your own security. Please read through this information. To make it worth your time, I've even included a secret about the date we leave to return to the United States.**

**Operational Security or OPSEC focuses on identifying and protecting information that might provide an enemy with clues to our plans or capabilities, and thereby enable them to interfere with a planned operation or activity.**

**This might sound like a complicated thing, but it's quite simple. Basically OPSEC is just like how a football team protects their playbook and Kentucky Fried Chicken guards their secret recipe. If their competitors, in either case, got their hands on this information, it could be devastating to their industry. In the Military the same is true.**

**The most common misconception about operational security is that it only pertains to classified information. This is far from the truth, in fact, OPSEC pertains mainly to unclassified information and safe-guarding this information to keep our Military and its personnel safe. Even revealing something as simple as what type of vehicles you will be using in a convoy could give tremendous information to the enemy, allowing them to cause detrimental damage to the mission.**

**To counter-act the enemy from obtaining this information, the Military has implemented the OPSEC Process. This is a risk management system consisting of five steps to help leaders view the situation from the enemy's viewpoint and determine how important information may be if leaked to the enemy. However, OPSEC is also an important issue for every member of the Military, our friends, and our family. It is everyone's job to ensure that the information they know does not fall into the wrong hands.**

**There are a number of ways in which information is leaked to sources that could possibly use that information against the**



**Military. Today we will look at the two major OPSEC leak risks.**

**The first source is telephone, e-mail, and other forms of electronic communications. Every person will catch himself or herself at one point or another, revealing information over these unsecured forms of communication. These transmissions can be intercepted by the enemy and therefore, no information about Military operations should ever be discussed via these modes.**

**The other source for leaks comes through the media. Stories and interviews with media sources, be it television, radio, newspaper, online, or any other form, is the easiest form of information the enemy can intercept. When articles appear in the Dust Devil Dispatch, they are submitted through many chains and reviewed to ensure that the information contained within them will not provide an upper hand to the enemy. However, when outside sources of media report on things, the process of review is broken. The Military has set a plan in place to safeguard against this, home-town news releases and review by the battalion and brigade Public Affairs Officers. This process not only protects the information released to the media, but it also protects the individual who is providing the information. If you go outside the system and provide information to any source, you can be held responsible and have to suffer the consequences of your actions, but when you submit the information the proper way you can rest assured that the information you have released meets the Military's requirements to safeguard sensitive information.**

**OPSEC is your responsibility. It could mean the difference between life and death. You must take steps and be proactive in practicing OPSEC. Never tell anybody information about Military operations unless they have a need-to-know about that information. A prime example of this is the date our unit will return home from our deployment. Who needs to know this information? Who would not be able to complete their current projects not knowing this? Then ask yourself, what could the enemy do with this information? The answer is, nobody needs to know this information, Soldiers or family members don't need to know this information, we may want to know, but it wouldn't change anything. On the other hand, if our enemies knew this information, it could cause prolific damage to our unit. Knowing this information could give them the means to interfere with the operation of redeployment and cause unnecessary turmoil for the entire unit.**

**In summery, protect information that you know and only give this information to people that need-to-know. Be proactive in OPSEC and help others to remain vigilant against releasing information that may be detrimental to the Military. And lastly, if you want to write something for the media or do an interview, contact the Dust Devil Dispatch or see the Battalion Public Affairs Officer so that you can release this information in a secure way and protect yourself from unneeded repercussions that may come about due to the release of information.**

**And as I promised, here is a little secret about our go-home date. Nobody knows this date. I don't know, your Company Commander doesn't know. The Battalion Commander doesn't know nor does the Brigade Commander. There are just too many factors for anyone to know this information. Nobody knows; there are only speculations and estimates used to plan for future operations, operations that could be foiled if the information used to plan them was somehow leaked to an enemy force. All we know is someday we will leave to return home, it will be a great day, but until then, we have missions to complete and a country to defend. Take pride in your work, your reward will come in time.**

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## The Callihan Connection

### Pick Your Battles

by Chaplain (CPT) John Callihan

Last week ([click here](#)) we learned about how using a system that allows one individual to speak while the other one listens will further our effectiveness in resolving disagreements with our spouses. This week, we will focus more on how to manage our time and effectiveness and resolve problems in a more efficient manner than arguing for the sake of arguing.

We can spend a lot of time in confrontation with others. We can fight with our spouse, with our kids, with our co-workers - the list could go on and on. There are times when we do need to stand up for what we believe in, but let's be honest. Sometimes we argue, just because we want to get the other person going. Sometimes we argue because we like to win; we see it as a competition.

Ultimately, trying to win all these little 'battles' in life - does it do us any good? Life is about relationships. The relationships with friends and loved ones are the really important things in life. If we are always combative and always trying to win every 'battle,' we will end up destroying those relationships.

When it comes to dealing with those you love, choose to not take part in those little 'battles.' Find ways everyone can work together to make things better. Look for ways to mediate, to reconcile, to bring folks back together. Pick your battles.

Next time you have a disagreement with anyone, look back on this lesson as a guide to help you effectively resolve the issue at hand, both sides will win!

**Next week we will look at Love - More Than a Feeling.**

Chaplain (CPT) Callihan is a member of the Kentucky National Guard and serving in Iraq with the 891st Engineer Battalion. Please visit his website at <http://callihan.home.insightbb.com> or e-mail him at [john.callihan@us.army.mil](mailto:john.callihan@us.army.mil)

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## Weather in Iraq

Date	.	Hi / Lo	Percip
Sunday September 4	<del>0000</del> Sunny / Windy	113 / 76	0%
Monday September 5	<del>0000</del> Sunny / Windy	109 / 74	0%
Tuesday September 6	<del>0000</del> Sunny / Windy	109 / 74	0%
Wednesday September 7	<del>0000</del> Sunny / Windy	112 / 75	0%
Thursday September 8	<del>0000</del> Sunny / Windy	114 / 75	0%
Friday September 9	<del>0000</del> Sunny / Windy	114 / 75	0%
Saturday September 10	<del>0000</del> Sunny / Windy	114 / 75	0%

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## Quote of the Week

**It's not whether you get knocked down: It's whether you get back up.**

**- Vince Lombardi**

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## Question of the Week

Last weeks question was, "A standard U.S. military multi-fuel engine that is used in most modern cargo trucks will run on diesel, kerosine, home heating oil, jet fuel and which other fuel? (multiple choice, see below for answers)"

The Answer -

Vegetable Oil



The multi-fuel engine is a diesel engine which has been modified to operate on any diesel based fuel or any mix thereof. Vegetable oil is a bio-diesel and any diesel engine will run on this substance as the inventor Rudolph Diesel initially intended. However, before you run out to the supermarket to fill up your tank with veggie oil, be warned that most modern diesels engines in todays cars and trucks have seals in them that disintegrate in vegetable oil to prevent them from being run on vegetable oils.

Those who answered correctly: Rachel Unruh and SSG Michael Yoho!

Thanks to all who participated!!!



## THIS WEEKS QUESTION

**"What was the Soviet Unions highest order and was presented with the star of a Hero of The Soviet Union? (multiple choice see below)**

**Please use the form below to answer this weeks question.**

**Your Name:**

**Your E-mail:**

### **Answer:**

**The Order of Lenin**

**Order of the Glory**

**The Order of the October Revolution**

**The Order of Honour**

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## Events

**If you are needing help with math or science skills, the Ali Education office has Open Tutoring Sessions every Tuesday from 1700 - 1900 hrs.**

### *What's Happening at your MWR?*

Nightly tournaments and events. Play for prizes or just bragging rights!!

<u><b>Mondays</b></u> <u><b>@ 1900</b></u>		<b>Chess Club...</b> Free your mind...or just decide to use it for a while!
<u><b>Tuesdays</b></u> <u><b>@ 1900</b></u>		<b>Ping Pong...</b> doubles and singles
<u><b>Thursdays</b></u> <u><b>@ 1900</b></u>		<b>Backgammon</b>
<u><b>Fridays</b></u> <u><b>@ 1900</b></u>		<b>Death and destruction</b> .....'nuff said!!!
<u><b>Saturdays</b></u> <u><b>@ 1900</b></u>		<b>Slap down Them Bones!!!!</b>
<u><b>Sundays</b></u> <u><b>@ 1900</b></u>		<b>Spades....Cut throat cards at it's Finest!!!</b>
		<b>Scrabble...</b> Put on your Thinking caps!
		<b>Billiards</b> 8 and 9 Ball
		<b>Who's the best?</b>

Check it out at Bldg 327 or call SSG Swan at 833-1745

**If you know of an event not listed here, contact me at [jay.gfeller@us.army.mil](mailto:jay.gfeller@us.army.mil).**

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## Notice

Don't forget the '*Life in Iraq Collage*' project. [ABOUT THE PROJECT.](#) The submissions to date have been wonderful and we are looking forward to more! We still have not recieved any submissions from any Servicemembers and these are needed! If you are a family member, we encourage you to submit, and also encourage your Soldier to do the same. I have started to compile the submissions we have recieved and also conteneue to work on a history of the entire deployment to accompany the project once completed. The submission date has been extended through the end of our deployment to allow for as many people as possible to submit information and also because we will not be able to release some of the information until the deployment is over. To submit something, you may use the form found on the project page (link above) or e-mail them to me at [jay.gfeller@us.army.mil](mailto:jay.gfeller@us.army.mil). Submissions can be photo's, video, writing, or any other thing you think may be relevant to this project.

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In efforts to support the troops serving overseas, the Ultra Flight Magazine has devoted a page in each magazine to the members of the Armed Forces. In addition, they are sending free copies of the magazine to Soldiers serving in Iraq to show their dedication to supporting those who are serving our great country. The following is an exert from the Ultra Flight Website, please stop by there and show your support to their efforts and see what they have to offer. [UltraFlight.com](http://UltraFlight.com)

"Allison Givens is the newest member of the UltraFlight team. She has been handling subscriptions, classified ads, and many other duties for several months now. She has also been forwarding a copy of UltraFlight to her husband Aaron, who is currently serving in Iraq.

*Aaron let us know how much the young men and women have*



***been enjoying the magazine. In fact, they have been waiting in line to share the copy that Aaron receives each month. Our publisher decided to send additional copies of the magazine to the forces serving in Iraq so that more service men and women could have their own copy.***

***After contacting several ranking officers in the Iraq theater and making the appropriate arrangements, UltraFlight Magazine has been making copies available to troops at no cost to them. We have already been receiving positive feedback from the troops in Iraq, and in continued support of them, we have dedicated a page in the magazine to them.***

***On this page, we are giving you all the chance to share photos of your loved ones as they are currently serving overseas. Each month, we will select three new photos of these individuals to be shown on this page. This page will be dedicated to the men and women serving in Iraq. It will not only remind us of our loved ones, but of their dedication to duty and our country.***

***Once again, it has been very exciting to hear how many troops share our love of flying, and we hope that they will also look forward to seeing who is featured in upcoming issues. We ask that you send your photos along with name, rank, and hometown, and we will be proud to display them in our magazine, and also on our website at [www.ultraflight.com](http://www.ultraflight.com).***

***We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Tim Dilliner, who helped create this page. Not only is he a talented graphic artist, he served in one of the first units to be deployed to Iraq. We are all proud to be able to given this token of our appreciation to the many men and women putting their lives on the line in the service of our country.***

***If you would like to submit your photo, [click here.](#)"***

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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 weeks Top Lead.

**The dress is on its way to Iraq, we look to have it soon and more photos will be posted as soon as it arrives!!!**

This weeks innocent people.

**There are no innocent people this week, stay tuned for more information!**

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## Shout Box

### Friday August 26th

- SPC WOOD DESPITE WHAT OBSTACLES WE ARE FACING WE CAN AND WE WILL MAKE IT WITH GODS HELP. WE CAN'T DEPEND ON MAN FOR ANYTHING.. SO ALL WE HAVE IS EACH OTHER AND GOD AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW I LOVE YOU AND I MISS YOU AND I CANT WAIT TILL YOU GET HOME ON LEAVE... LOVE LANNETTE

- DADDY WE LOVE YOU AND WE MISS YOU.. WE PRAY FOR YOU.. WE ARE PROUD OF YOU.. AND WE WANT YOU TO COME HOME SAFE.. WE NEED YOU AND NEED YO KNOW YOU ARE THERE FOR US NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS WE LOVE YOU DANNIELLE, WAYNE, LILA

- Pfc Givens- Baby I hope you know how much you are loved and missed. You are always on my mind and in my heart. I love you more today than I did yesterday. Stay safe and come home soon! Love your wife.

### Saturday August 27th

- Spc. Bill Royster, I and the kids just wanted to wish you avery HAPPY BIRTHDAY your getting over the hill, We miss you and love you always be safe GOD BLESS! And you and everyone else over there are in our prayers. Love kathy your wife and our kids COME HOME TO AMERICA SOON!!!

- To our daddy Sgt Wayne Ryba, we love and miss you/ thank you for coming home even if it was for a short time. We have started school and we love it. Mommy sure does miss you we know a doesn't go by she doesn't mention your name at least 10



times. Please come home soon. We have been waiting long enough, your little girls are waiting patiently. We will try and be good for mommy like you told us. Love you big daddy O, Rebekah, Tarra and Sydney

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### **Sunday August 28th**

- Hello Brian, how are you?, I miss you so badly sometimes it is hard to get out of bed but i keep going strong for you, knowing its one day under your belt and closer to you coming home. i hope youare safe and pray you will be returning soon to tell me that you got-er-dun

- I just want to give a shout out to all the men and women, that are overseas to give us a better life. God Bless You!!!! And THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

- DADDY WE LOVE YOU VERY MUCH AND WE NEED YOU DESPITE WHAT EVERYONE ELSE SAYS..WE MISS YOU..WE ARE PRAYING FOR YOU .. COME HOME SAFE AND SOON TO ALL OF US.. LOVE ALWAYS WAYNE DANNIELLE LILA

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### **Monday August 29th**

- SPC Umbarger, AKA my best friend---Happy birthday! Miss you tons! Hugs, Christi

- Hey Boring- We just wanted to wish you a Happy Birthday on the 4th. We miss you a lot and we are proud of you. Stay Safe and know that We Love You. Marcie, Lenzie, and Hayden

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### **Wednesday August 31st**

- To my Daddy, SSG Craig Pack: I love you so much, Daddy! You're the best Daddy in the whole world! I miss playing with you and snuggling before bed. Mommy misses you a lot, too. I wish you could be here for my 2nd birthday, but I'm so proud of you! Stay safe, Daddy! Your son, Cooper Jackson

**- SPC UMBARGER WANTED TO WISH YOU A HAPPY BIRTHDAY SEPT. 1. WE ARE THINKING OF YOU AND PRAYING FOR ALL OF THE 891ST. HOPE YOU HAVE A GREAT DAY ON SEPT 1. WE LOVE YOU MOM, DAD, CLINT, JARED**

**- Hey Will - Sorry about the 36 spankings you got following the birthday and anniversary announcement...LOL! I bet your guys had great fun with that one! Wish I could have been there to see that one, but I'm sure I'll be hearing plenty about it later. Je t'aime Mon Amour! Votre Amour~ Robin**

**- To SSG Kerby's Squad and fellow soldiers~ Thank you for stepping in for me and wishing my honey a happy birthday and anniversary. I really wish I could have seen the dog pile! You guys are the greatest! Keep your chins up and heads down... see you all soon! Robin Kerby**

**- Francesca, Just wanted to wish you a Happy Birthday on the 2nd. I hope that you have a wonderful day and we will celebrate your birthday when I get home. Love Dad**

**Post a shout in the next edition:**

**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>

