

Serving the  
men and women  
of the  
United States  
Special  
Operations  
Command



# Tip of the Spear

*"Quiet Professionals"*

Vol. 6, No. 5

MacDill AFB, Tampa, Florida

May 2003



## Special Forces soldiers on point

*Army Special Forces man an observation post as they work alongside Iraqi Kurdish peshmerga soldiers battling with Iraqi government forces in newly held Kurdish territory near the town of Khazer, about six miles from the border village of Kalak, April 3. The Iraqi soldiers withdrew from their front-line positions, but engaged the peshmerga who advanced on their positions in fighting that began early in the morning and lasted all day. (Photo by Ruth Fremson, The New York Times)*

### Inside May

- |                                      |                                       |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Lt. Gen. Brown on SOF future, page 2 | Brig. Gen. Wurster leads SOIO, page 8 |
| CJSOTF: one team, one fight, page 3  | Weatherman on Today Show, page 13     |
| AFSOC takes CSAR mission, page 5     | Tampa Bay Bucs at HQ, page 16         |
| CA, PSYOP soldiers in Iraq, page 6   | Aderholt earns Bull Simons, page 18   |
| NSW DA key to OIF success, page 7    | SOF Week information, page 19         |

# Lt. Gen. Brown sets stage for SOF future

*Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample, USA  
American Forces Press Service*

Fighting global terrorism and transforming were atop the message list from a senior combatant command official to a Senate subcommittee recently.

"We have seen great change in our nation as America takes action against terrorism," said Army Lt. Gen. Bryan D. Brown, deputy head of U.S. Special Operations Command, in early April before the Senate Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities. "As you know, USSOCOM has been

a key player in that response."

Brown said the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks "clearly demonstrated" that determined terrorists will go to any lengths to inflict catastrophic losses on Americans, whether civilian or military personnel.

"Of greater importance is the fact that these terrorists have chemical, biological, nuclear and high-yield explosive weapons and the desire to kill as many Americans as possible and undermine our nation's interests and influence around the world," he continued. Brown pointed out

USSOCOM's vital role is bringing terrorists to justice or by "taking justice directly to them."

The command includes Army special operations aviation, Special Forces, Rangers, civil affairs and psychological operations forces; Air Force special operations aviators and special tactics squadrons; and Navy SEALs (sea, air and land), SEAL delivery vehicle teams, and special boat teams.

"Daily civil affairs teams and other (Special Operations Forces) continue to play an active role in Afghanistan to ensure we win the peace," Brown pointed out. "Our activities in Operation Enduring Freedom have given the world a much clearer insight into the skills, dedication and power across the spectrum of America's SOF, specifically as part of a larger joint and interagency team—each bringing their specific skills and capabilities to the team." His testimony did not include the then-emerging special operators' more recent publicized actions with coalition forces during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Along with pursuing the war on terror, Brown pointed to the command's transformation journey. "The hallmark of SOF is that they are always open to change and 'out-of-the-box' thinking," he said.

One well-documented result of such thinking was special operators' use of horses in the Operation Enduring Freedom campaign, what Secretary of

**See Future, page 10**



## Commander visits troops in Iraq

*Gen. Charles Holland (right), commander, U.S. Special Operations Command, is briefed by a Special Operations Forces member on operations conducted in Iraq. Holland's senior enlisted adviser Command Master Chief Richard Rogers is shown beside him as they travel through the Central Command AOR in May. SOF supported the CENTCOM-lead war with direct action, POW rescue, special reconnaissance and humanitarian assistance missions. (Photo by Spc. Sergio Rangel)*

## Tip of the Spear

Gen. Charles R. Holland  
Commander, USSOCOM

Col. William Darley  
Public Affairs Officer

Staff Sgt. Jurita Barber  
Staff Writer

MCPO Richard M. Rogers  
Command Master Chief

Jennifer Whittle  
Editor in Chief

Staff Sgt. Rachel Davis  
Copy Editor

This is a United States Special Operations Command publication produced monthly for the men and women of the headquarters and its components. Contents of the *Tip of the Spear* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense or USSOCOM. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the USSOCOM Public Affairs Office, 7701 Tampa Point Blvd., MacDill AFB, Fla., 33621, phone (813) 828-2875, DSN 299-2875. E-mail the editor via Unclassified LAN at whittj@socom.mil. The staff of the *Tip of the Spear* reserves the right to edit all copy presented for publication. The deadline for submissions is the 20th day of the month.

# CJSOTF-West exudes 'one team, one fight'

By Lt. Col. Scott Malcom

CJSOTF-W Public Affairs

"By leveraging the assets and capabilities unique to our sister service special forces," said Col.(P) John Mulholland, commander of Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-West, "we enjoyed complete freedom of movement throughout our area of responsibility. We could go wherever we wanted, whenever we wanted."

The Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force - West (CJSOTF-W) was built around the 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne), Fort Campbell, Ky. By the commencement of combat operations in March, the SFG—whose garrison strength is usually around 1,400 soldiers—was augmented extensively and grown to a fighting force of more than 3,500 personnel.

That this Task Force symbolized the "one team, one fight" concept cannot be overstated. U.S. Air Force and Naval Special Operations Forces were integrated into the TF from the beginning and the interoperability between the services was the primary building block for its success.

Just as important, coalition partners, as well as Army Reservists and National Guardsmen, joined the fray on equal footing. A prime example of the quality of augmentation is the value added to the CJSOTF by the Maryland Army National Guard's Special Operations Detachment - Joint Forces (SOD-JF). The total number of years of military experience for this small group (20 personnel activated) is just over 400, ranging from 8 to 34 years. Members had participated in operations in Vietnam, Iraq (Desert Shield/Storm), Haiti, Bosnia and Kosovo, along with numerous deployments to Europe, South America and the Middle East.

The soldiers of SOD-JF come from a myriad of civilian occupations which gave the CJSOTF-W commander a greatly enlarged tool bag from which to draw expertise. The J2 section members are all involved with national-level intelligence agencies in the Washington, D.C., area. Other civilian backgrounds included expertise in information technology, executive management, law enforcement, human resources, manufacturing, allied health and education. SOD-JF soldiers were incorporated into the J1, J2, J3, J3/5, J4, J6 and engineer sections and as liaison officers to Combined Forces Special Operations Combat Command (CFSOCC) and Com-

bined Forces Land Component Command (CFLCC).

However, the symbiotic relationship did not happen overnight. Honing interoperability began in October 2002 with the exercise Early Victor. Further enhancement to the joint relationship resulted from CJSOTF-W participation in Central Command's major rehearsal exercise Internal Look. The most significant of these preparatory endeavors were "live-flies" conducted at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

These exercises developed ground-air procedures for Counter-Tactical Ballistic Missile (C-TBM) operations and solidified Tactics, Techniques and Procedures (TTP) used to "deconflict" targets during combat operations. This deconfliction process was another major characteristic of the success that the CJSOTF-W enjoyed during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Deconfliction describes the process used by the integrated staff of CJSOTF-W to positively identify targets as foe and to ensure friendly forces were safely separated from the target area before it was destroyed.

The area of responsibility for CJSOTF-W included the entire western desert area and all of the landmass from Baghdad south to the border of Kuwait. In the west, the primary mission was C-TBM. The CJSOTF was charged

See CJSOTF, page 20



**A row of heavily armed Special Forces Group Ground Mobility Vehicles (GMV) await the order to move out over the Iraqi border from a neighboring country prior to the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom, March 19. OIF is the multinational coalition effort to liberate the Iraqi people, eliminate Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, and end the regime of Saddam Hussein. (Photo by Sgt. Jason Prescott)**

## Iraqi general surrenders to SOF, coalition

By Spc. Jacob Boyer  
Army News Service

United States and coalition forces accepted the surrender of the first enemy general in Operation Iraqi Freedom when the commander of all armed forces in the western district of Iraq capitulated in Ar Ramedī April 15.

Maj. Gen. Muhammed Thumayla, Western District commander, surrendered himself and more than 16,000 soldiers under his command to Col. Curtis D. Potts, commander, 4th Brigade, in a special operations compound 60 kilometers west of the city.

"This is the only official surrender of Iraqi armed forces to the coalition," Potts said. "I presented our conditions and accepted the surrender from him."

Although Thumayla had more than 16,000 soldiers under his command, he told Potts the bulk of his force had deserted five days after the beginning

See Surrender, page 9



## CA win hearts and minds in Iraq

*Sgt. Maj. Charles Smith, 308th Civil Affairs Battalion, administers first aid to an Iraqi boy April 12. The 308th joined forces with the Kuwait Humanitarian Operations Center to provide much-needed bottled water, water bladders and blankets to Iraqis. CA in Iraq are also distributing food, opening schools, teaching (shown below), digging wells and clearing unexploded ordnance. (Photo by Master Sgt. Christopher Calkins)*



## CSAR team saves two Special Forces soldiers

Air Force Print News

A U.S. Air Force combat search and rescue team saved the lives of two critically wounded Army special operations soldiers despite severe weather conditions April 7 about five miles south of Baghdad.

The soldiers were transferred to a hospital in Kuwait, where it was determined that they have a 95 percent chance of survival thanks to the joint efforts of the Air Force, Army and Special Operations Forces.

After contacting the Joint Search and Rescue Center at a desert air base in the Arabian Gulf region, the Special Operations Command Rescue Coordination Center coordinated and executed the emergency evacuation of the special operations ground troops.

Two HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopters and two A-10 Thunderbolt IIs launched from an air base in southern Iraq, and an HC-130P King refueler launched from another air base in the region. The JSRC also had two A-10s, already airborne on a separate mission, roll in to help cover the

helicopters. Additionally, U.S. Army helicopters from another nearby base were put on alert status in case backup firepower was needed during the evacuation.

As the team flew to the evacuation site, the aircrew of the Pave Hawk helicopters learned the soldiers were in critical condition. They coordinated with a special operations MC-130E Combat Talon I to meet them at An Najaf, 75 miles south of Baghdad, to set up a patient transfer transload from the helicopters to the aircraft. The MC-130E had a flight surgeon and two medical technicians on board to treat and stabilize the wounded en route to an advanced medical facility.

Everyone involved in the operation was able to overcome the blowing sand and dust, which allowed about a half-mile of visibility, and a flying ceiling of only 3,500 feet to recover the wounded soldiers and transfer them to the MC-130E at An Najaf.

The names of the wounded are not being released at this time pending notification of next of kin.

# AFSOC takes over combat search and rescue

By Master Sgt. Scott Elliott  
Air Force Print News

The Air Force will turn over functional management of the combat search and rescue mission to Air Force Special Operations Command Oct. 1.

The transition to AFSOC from Air Combat Command is meant to consolidate the management of CSAR and to take advantage of the synergies of combining like aircraft and missions, said Maj. Gen. Richard A. Mentemeyer, director of operations and training at the Pentagon.

Currently, AFSOC manages Special Operations Forces, and ACC has administrative control of rescue assets.

"There is a lot of commonality within the forces of SOF and CSAR," Mentemeyer said. "We're going to consolidate oversight and management so our men and women on the ground have the assets, training and focus they need to do their mission."

While successes in recent operations may have some wondering why change is necessary, Mentemeyer said the consolidation was in the works well before Operation Iraqi Freedom started.

"This reorganization is more about the future than the past," he said. "This consolidation is important [for the Air Force] to take advantage of all the technologies that are coming on board."

Those emerging technologies include "Blue Force Tracker," which allows rescue forces to track people on the ground through the use of radios, satellite and data links.

Another benefit of the consolidation will be a "plug and play" capability, that will allow commanders to better manage their assets, said Col. Henry Gaither, chief of the personnel recovery division here.

"On the combat rescue officer and pararescue side, we sometimes had challenges with the compatibility of

equipment," he said. "With both (rescue officers and pararescuers) moving under AFSOC, we'll be able to standardize equipment across the board between special operations and combat rescue forces."

"The equipment, capabilities and training will flow together, and it will be a seamless capability to combatant commanders," he said.

According to Col. Douglas Salmon, chief of the special operations division, some of the cross-flow has already taken place.

"One thing we've found with some of our rescue units getting folks from AFSOC, is they're able to tap into their special operations knowledge to improve our combat rescue work and vice versa" he said. "It's a win-win situation for both the individual and the Air Force."

Gaither said people in the special operations and CSAR career fields will also see benefits from the major

command switch in the form of more opportunities for career advancement.

Logistically, the transfer from ACC to AFSOC will be reasonably straightforward and with minimal impact to people at the unit level — essentially just a uniform patch change, Mentemeyer said.

However, the change will require some manning and equipment shifts, including: moving 53 positions to Hurlburt Field, Fla.; increasing positions at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., and at Nellis AFB, Nev.; and changing Moody AFB, Ga., from an ACC-owned base to AFSOC-owned.

AFSOC will assume responsibility for all base functions at Moody, including civil engineering, financial management and base operating support. Both ACC and Air Education and Training Command will retain a presence on the base through tenant units. Officials estimate the transition to cost about \$1.1 million.



## Pavelow delivers troops in Iraq

An Air Force Special Operations Command MH-53J Pave Low IV helicopter takes off after unloading soldiers and Marines at a base near the city of Mosul, Iraq, during OIF. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jerry Morrison)



# CA, PSYOP soldiers get face-to-face with Iraqis

By Spc. Zoe Morris  
Task Force Viking

Members of Company A, 9<sup>th</sup> Psychological Operations Battalion, rolled back in their compound like movie stars covered in roses.

Passing out handbills around the city is one of Co. A's missions in Kirkuk, Iraq. April 23 they went through the neighborhood around the compound. There were just a few kids out at first, but before the soldiers walked a block the street was full of families who had come to the sidewalk to see the action.

"It's very important to get out and meet the people face-to-face," said Capt. Brendan Arcuri, tactical PSYOP detachment commander, Co. A.

And the people love seeing the Americans face-to-face. Armed with red, pink and with roses plucked from the abundant bushes growing along the street and in the yards, women and children gave them, with shy smiles and bright eyes, to the soldiers.

"We are really happy the Americans are here," said a woman standing at her painted gate. The women are not afraid of the soldiers, she said, and hope the soldiers get rid of the weapons in the city and make it a safe and secure place.

Collecting weapons has been a task of some coalition forces in Kirkuk, but that afternoon Co. A was dealing with landmines. The handbills stated and illustrated the dangers of landmines, to stay away, how to mark a mine location and notify coalition forces of a mine location.

In Kirkuk, unexploded ordnance is often found and reported.

"Based on what people say, there are landmines and stockpiles everywhere," said Tom Babani, an interpreter and Kirkuk native.

One man on the street, after reading a handbill, said he knew a 12-year-old boy who was killed when he stepped on a landmine 30 miles from Kirkuk. The man said he was sad

and hopes it doesn't happen anymore.

"Most of the people understand and agree with the messages we pass around," Arcuri said.

Other than passing out landmine handbills, Co. A does the personable communication, requests leaflet drops and passes out handbills dealing with other topics, such as information on a radio station the people can listen to get further information. They also give out radios that can be used to listen to the station.

"The people here have been very friendly, welcoming us, giving us hugs and kisses and flowers," Arcuri said.



**Soldiers from the 96th Civil Affairs Battalion and the 9th PSYOP Battalion (Airborne) distribute fliers identifying dangerous mines and unexploded ordnance to local children of Kirkuk April 20. The battalions are working in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Gary L. Kieffer)**

## Shifts in SOF leadership



The Army chief of staff announced in April that Maj. Gen. Eldon A. Bargewell, director, SOOP, is assigned to assistant chief of staff for Operations, J-3/J-7, Regional Command North, the Netherlands.

Brig. Gen. (P) James W. Parker,

will be assigned to director, SOOP.

Maj. Gen. Dell L. Dailey, commanding general, JSOC, will be assigned to deputy commanding general, XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg.

Maj. Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal, vice director for Operations, J-3, the Joint Staff, Washington, D.C., will be assigned to CG, JSOC.

Brig. Gen. Richard W. Mills, director, Army Special Operations Forces Transformation, USASOC, to CG, Special Operations Command, Korea.

Col. (P) John F. Mulholland, Jr., commander, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Fort Campbell, Ky., to chief, Office of Military Cooperation, Kuwait, American Embassy, Kuwait.

# NSW direct action missions key to OIF success

## *CENTCOM FWD Public Affairs*

"Our goal was to prevent an environmental disaster," said the Naval Special Warfare Task Group (NSWTG) commander that coordinated the raid to secure Iraqi oil platforms.

The strategic consequences of preventing the military operation against Saddam Hussein from turning into an ecologic and economic disaster cannot be overstated. There was a major concern that Hussein and his Ba'athist followers would attempt to turn the tide of international political pressure by instigating a catastrophic environmental disaster in southern Iraq by dumping massive amounts of oil into the Arabian Gulf. Had such a disaster actually occurred, it is likely that the adverse political consequences, both internationally and domestically, would have been immediate and far reaching; potentially undermining the ability of the U.S. to continue pursuing the global war on terrorism.

Naval Special Warfare (NSW) intelligence specialists pieced together an enemy scenario that could cause

such a historical ecologic and economic disaster. The strategic significance securing the southern oil infrastructure was revealed through months of research, intelligence evaluation and assessment from a multitude of military and civilian intelligence sources.

As a result, the leaders of the NSWTG concluded that not only did the two off-shore oil terminals near the Al Faw peninsula need to be secured to prevent an oil spillage, but also the metering and manifold station, and the two pipeline support valves—one supplying Mina al Bakr Oil Terminal (MABOT) the other Khawr al Amaya Oil Terminal (KAAOT). If just one of the terminals rigged with explosives had indeed been destroyed, the oil spill would have been equivalent to approximately twelve Exxon-Valdez oil tankers.

"We needed to seize all five points simultaneously," said the NSWTG commander. "It went like clockwork."

On March 20<sup>th</sup> under the cover of darkness, six SEAL platoons swept down by way of helicopters and boats to secure all five targets in unison. Four

platoons, including six NSW Desert Patrol Vehicles (DPVs), quickly captured the main manifold and metering station and the two crucial pipeline support valves on the Al Faw peninsula. In less than 40 minutes the critical nodes were secured and the threat was eliminated. More importantly, the vital oil facilities were captured intact before the enemy could destroy them.

Concurrently, the skill of the Navy Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen (SWCC) operating the Mark V and Rigid Inflatable Boats (RIBs) allowed one platoon of SEALs and one platoon of Polish special forces a stealthy approach to MABOT and KAAOT achieving complete surprise to the enemy. The platoons successfully secured the two oil terminals and captured more than 30 enemy prisoners of war without firing a single shot.

By any measure, this was one of the most successful Special Operations Forces (SOF) missions conducted during Operation Iraqi Freedom. A highly complex mission planned and executed by Naval Special Warfare that not only involved Navy SWCCs and SEALs, but also Air Force Special Operations Command aircraft, and conventional and SOF fire support. NSW led the way in a mission that had one of the most strategic consequences of the war. Their intelligence, trigger discipline and situational awareness allowed them to quickly secure five disparate targets efficiently without mishap or casualty to U.S. or coalition forces, and prevented Saddam's regime from unleashing a major environmental disaster on the world.

Following the unprecedented success of the direct action (DA) missions on Al Faw and the offshore oil terminals on the first night of the war, NSWTG moved quickly to position itself to support the requirements of both land and maritime commanders (CFLCC

See NSWTG, page 15



*Naval Special Warfare operators ride in a Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB) to Iraq's Mina al Bakr Oil Terminal during an operation to secure the oil platform from being destroyed by Iraqi military in March. (Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Arlo K. Abrahamson)*

# Former SOCPAC commander takes SOIO helm

By Jennifer Whittle

USSOCOM Public Affairs

"I am an operator—and I bring an operator's perspective to help shape what we need to do as we move forward." Brig. Gen. Donny Wurster said in his new office at the U.S. Special Operations Command where he now directs the Center for Intelligence and Information Operations. "We need to shape our command intelligence and communications efforts to match the needs of our top priority—the war on terrorism."

Wurster arrived at the Headquarters in February after commanding Special Operations Command Pacific, Camp Smith, Hawaii. He is a command pilot with numerous assignments in both rescue and special operations, and he has led Special Operations Forces at all levels—from squadron to subunified command.

At SOCPAC, Wurster drove information and intelligence improvements and said he is excited about those digital and web-based technical achievements and the promise they hold to improve the way the command does business.

"We produced easy ways to move and share information," Wurster said. "I hope to continue the development of that concept here. Pieces of it are being used right now in Afghanistan and Iraq and it works well. It will be an improve-as-you-go process."

It's not just information sharing, the general said, but the protection of that information and controlling who gets it. "We have policy guidance, and we need to interoperate with all four services and each of the geographic commanders," Wurster explained. "The easiest way to share information is through the Web. If we allow access from different places while drawing information from the person who really knows the answer, wherever they are, we can get the right picture of what is going on at all levels. The ultimate intent is to have effective and functional internal and external communications—and to make it as easy as Ebay for the user."

Wurster said the concept isn't new. "We're not inventing

here. We just need to define procedures to exploit the technology we already have," he said. "My highest priority now is to develop a robust method to move compartmented traffic to the components, theaters and the TSOCs. That capability will be essential in the global war on terror."

Wurster was one of those people in the TSOCs in the Pacific area of responsibility last year during Operation Enduring Freedom - Philippines. "I had the privilege to command Joint Task Force 510," he said. "Our mission was to advise and assist the Philippine military and improve their counter-terrorism capability. We needed to balance a respect for Philippine sovereignty while operating within bounds of geography, time and rules of engagement as we helped them counter the terrorists on Basilan Island."

According to the general, it was an intense team effort that disrupted the terrorist group. "We had Army Special Forces connect with the locals, assist in military operations and squeeze out the Abu Sayyaf. Army SOF aviators

from the 160<sup>th</sup> SOAR and Air Force Special Operations Command aviators from the 353<sup>rd</sup> Special Operations Group, provided infil and exfil platforms as well as casevac and resupply missions. The Naval Construction Task Group made up of Navy SeaBees and Marine engineers worked on the country's infrastructure and improved conditions for our force. The Marine Security Element provided security in remote construction sites and protected our force from attack. We depended on the theater component of each service for the heavy lifting of logistics, airlift and sealift, and the Joint Communication Support Element from MacDill Air Force Base laid the backbone for our communications."

The strategy was simple: disconnect the bad guys from the people, connect the people to their government while gaining their respect, and assist the government as it pursued the terrorist elements. Wurster said his team did just that. JTF 510 helped the Philippine government establish presence and credibility among the population, created an environment in which the Abu Sayyaf was unable to operate effectively, and provided lasting improvements for the population that reduce the support base for terrorist operations.

"When we first arrived on the island, people would greet you with a slashing hand motion across their neck," Wurster

See Wurster, page 15



**Brig. Gen. Donald Wurster (center) scans the waters off Basilan as commander of Joint Task Force 510 during Operation Enduring Freedom - Philippines last year. (PACOM Public Affairs photo)**



## SF kill assassin

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

Coalition forces in Afghanistan believe they killed the man who murdered a Salvadoran Red Cross worker March 27, Combined Joint Task Force 180 officials said April 23.

The action occurred April 21 in Kandahar province in the southern part of the country. Coalition forces worked with officials of the Islamic Transitional Government of Afghanistan to develop the intelligence and coordinate the attack.

During the raid, Special Operations Forces killed the unidentified assassin after he fired on the forces. The team detained seven of his accomplices.

Ricardo Munguia, the worker, was an engineer specializing in water projects. He was shot on a road in southern Helmand province. Munguia was the first humanitarian worker killed since the Taliban fell.

A coalition assault team built around an 82nd Airborne Division unit took intelligence gleaned from the raid and conducted an air assault search-and-seizure mission north of Kandahar yesterday.

Between 150 and 200 personnel participated in the raid. Four Black Hawk helicopters lifted the group to the vicinity of Shurkay. The unit detained another seven personnel and seized a cache of ammunition that included mortar rounds, rocket-propelled grenades and boxes of various small-arms rounds.

Other action included the firebase near Shkin coming under suspected rocket attack April 22. Two Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt IIs responded to coalition force request for close-air support. Also, an Afghan military command post southeast of Khowsht came under attack from anti-coalition forces. Again, commanders requested close-air support and enemy forces broke contact when A-10s arrived.



## SOF direct free Iraqi soldiers

*A Special Forces soldier orders a newly trained Free Iraqi Force soldier, left, into position as they come under fire outside the Republican Hospital in Mosul, Iraq, April 13. A firefight broke out just outside the hospital gates. A Kurdish man was killed in his pickup truck outside the hospital. Arabs there blamed the Kurds for the firefight and refused to allow his body to be brought into the hospital. Two other Kurds were captured by the Special Forces and taken into custody. (Photo by Ruth Fremson, The New York Times)*

## Surrender, from page 4

of the current conflict. He controlled military forces from Ar Ramed, a town 50 kilometers west of Baghdad, to the border with Jordan and Syria.

Both Thumayla and his deputy commander were held at the compound by soldiers from the 5th Special Forces Group and other government agents.

Potts flew to the compound in a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter, and the surrender was signed in a central courtyard. After 40 minutes of discussion, Potts and Thumayla signed the documents on a small field table Potts brought to the site.

"I told him I appreciated what he was doing for his nation and the people of Iraq," said Potts, a Skokie, Ill., native. "This will limit any future bloodshed."

Potts asked Thumayla to stay in uniform for 30 days, take control of his soldiers and restore order in the Ar Ramed area.

## Combat controller KIA

A staff sergeant assigned to the 24<sup>th</sup> Special Tactics Squadron, Pope Air Force Base, N.C., was killed in combat April 8.

Staff Sgt. Scott D. Sather, an Air Force Combat Controller, was 29 years old. He was from Clio, Michigan. He joined the Air Force in 1992 and had been stationed at Pope since 1999. His previous assignments include the Special Tactics Squadrons at McChord Air Force Base, Wash., RAF Mildenhall, England, and RAF Alconbury, England.



Sather's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, four Air Force Achievement Medals, an Air Medal and the Joint Service Achievement Medal.





## HQ weatherman earns AF award

*Gen. Charles Holland congratulates Senior Master Sgt. Ralph Getzandanner, Center for Operations, Plans and Policy, for his selection as Staff Weather Noncommissioned Officer of the Year. 1st Lt. Troy Kirk from the 10th Combat Weather Squadron earned Company Grade Officer of the Year for supporting the 5th Special Forces Group and 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment. The 24th Special Tactics Squadron won the Outstanding Weather Flight of the Year. The 146th Weather Flight was named the Air National Guard Weather Flight of the Year for supporting Air Force Special Operations Command missions. (Photo by Jennifer Whittle)*

### Future, from page 2

Defense Donald Rumsfeld called the "first U.S. cavalry attack of the 21st century."

"USSOCOM is transforming intelligence and interagency capabilities not to locate and destroy large enemy combat elements," the general remarked, "but to locate and track individual terrorists across the globe and conduct small surgical operations with minimal risk to the employed force."

He pinpointed support to other combatant commanders, such as special ops' presence in European Command's Bosnia and Kosovo efforts, and part of Pacific Command's support to combating terrorism in the Philippines and taking part in exercises with South Korea. He also detailed efforts with Southern, Central and Joint Forces and Northern Commands.

Brown said his command contributes solidly to the National Security Strategy by going after the terrorists wherever they lurk. "Our ubiquitous presence as 'global scouts' serves to assure our allies and friends of the United States' resolve," he said. The intent, Brown added, is to "seize and maintain the initiative" through constant pressure against known or suspected terrorist organizations and infrastructure.

The command's expanded role "will generate changes in our manpower, organizational structure, facilities, equipment and special programs," he noted.

Global access remains vital to preserving U.S. national security, Brown stated, so SOF "must have the ability to access and operate anywhere in the world, in any mission environment—from benign to hostile."

Brown also detailed risks facing his command in opera-

tions, force management and future challenges. Keeping operational risk low, for example, includes having the right force size to conduct effective operations and to improve strike and mobility capabilities.

He said in many ways force-management risk is the most critical problem. He pointed out that SOF must retain seasoned personnel to get a good return on investment in areas such as training and education.

In the area of future challenges, he discussed improving information capabilities to support global operations across regions, such as in urban areas and for long periods in "anti-access" environments.

To meet these and other challenges to come, Brown testified that the command embraces transformation "to tap into diverse areas, such as commercial information technologies, utilization of space, biomedicine, environmental science, organizational design and commercial research and development."

His snapshot of the 21st century special operator combines "a warrior ethos with language proficiency, cultural awareness, political sensitivity, and the ability to maximize information-age technology."

The general said that his forces must be smart, fast and able to come up with creative solutions and coherent choices. He talked about other transformation actions, such as the Army's agreement to activate two more active duty and four reserve PSYOP companies. He also anticipated getting a model upgrade to the Commando Solo television and radio broadcast aircraft that has proven so useful in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The deputy commander also pointed to the fusing of a

Continued, next page



## Stars in stripes

In the enlisted spotlight for May is **Tech. Sgt. Ernest "Lou" Jimenez**, Center for Intelligence and Information Operations, Special Security Office. Jimenez, as the physical security NCOIC, is responsible for all secure locations, acts as the liaison to Defense Intelligence Agency, and will oversee the construction of the new Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility—from providing direct input on space planning to the final accreditation of the location.



Jimenez has been assigned to the headquarters for two years and hopes to stay until his current project is completed. "One of the best things about my job is being empowered to make decisions," he said. He enjoys the joint service community, the sense of camaraderie and the attitude of the "quiet professionals" with whom he works.

According to his supervisor, Senior Master Sgt. Steve Langston, Jimenez makes many contributions to the unit and is a model for others to emulate. "He provides leadership and mentors the junior personnel," Langston said. "And he can be counted on to get the job done."

Marine Corps USSOCOM detachment into a Naval Special Warfare squadron. USSOCOM and the Marine Corps have signed an agreement where a Marine force "will jointly train and deploy with Naval Special Warfare in the spring of 2004."

To carry out the command's plans, Brown offered details on the 2004 request of nearly \$7 billion. Part of the funding calls for about \$2.2 million toward better pay, allowances and special pays for the command's 47,000 military personnel, about one-third of them in the reserve component.

Brown also mentioned that, thanks to DOD's recognizing the need for more special ops personnel, USSOCOM would increase to about 50,000 during the next five years mainly to support manning requirements for the war on terror.

He said the budget request would also provide money for operations and maintenance, for procuring new equipment, and for investing in future technologies.

Upgrades are planned for the MH-53, MH-47 and MH-60 helicopters. The AC-130 gunship will also undergo thorough "survivability and capability" modifications, while the Air Force is providing the command with 10 more C-130s for conversion to MC-130s.

Improvements to both the helicopter and plane fleets will augment special operators' ability to penetrate into sensitive areas. These programs would keep, for example, the rotary-wing fleet "relevant well past 2020," Brown said.

In addition, he said the command is committed to the Air Force CV-22 model of the V-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft for special operations' use. He noted that the aircraft's long range, high speed and vertical lift "fills a long-standing mission requirement not met by any other existing fixed or rotary-wing platform."

Other plans include procuring the Advanced SEAL Delivery System, a specially designed combat submarine for special operators' undersea mobility.

Also in the mix is converting four Ohio-class ballistic missile submarines into dual-role platforms to give special ops forces "unprecedented worldwide access for both the SEAL delivery system and vehicles.

Brown said the command's research and development activities include design completion of the advanced tactical laser, a directed-energy weapon best described as a man-made bolt of lightning. The high-energy laser beam delivers intense thermal energy on targets.

The command research initiatives also include improving body armor and chemical protection. He mentioned that special operators were the first to use a new life-saving hemostatic bandage, which Brown said offers proof that "humans are more important hardware."

When applied to a wound, the dressing stops bleeding as effectively as surgical closure by causing the blood to clot quickly.

"We aim to put this technology into the hands of every soldier, hoping to end preventable hemorrhage on the battlefield," he said.

Brown concluded his testimony by acknowledging the sacrifices of the men and women killed in direct support of the war on terrorism since October 2001 and those lost or wounded in combat.

"Let us never forget those who have paid the last full measure," he said. "We face adversaries who would destroy our way of life. In response, Special Operations Forces will not rest until we have achieved victory in the war on terrorism."



## NSWG-2 revolutionizes SF communications

By Lt. John Perkins  
NSWG-2 Public Affairs

In an environment where information, intelligence and communication shapes the battlefield, United States Special Operations Command has developed,

and is now testing, a satellite system with the assistance of Naval Special Warfare Group 2 (NSWG-2)

and Army Special Forces that will enhance Special Operations Forces (SOF) ability to execute special operations missions throughout the world.

NSWG-2, 112th Signal Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group, and the USSOCOM Center for Acquisitions

and Logistics started a User Assessment Test (UAT) of the Deployable Multi-Channel Satellite (DMCS) system Apr. 10 at the NSWG-2 command building, Virginia Beach, Va.

This tri-band antenna is capable of transmitting and receiving in the X, C and Ku bands at bandwidths of greater than 10 megabytes per second.

"The DMCS will greatly enhance SOF capabilities to deploy with C4I [command,

control, communications, computers and intelligence] combat support anywhere in the world," said Senior Chief Andrew Hale, NSWG-2 communications leading chief petty officer. Hale said the system's ability to be quickly moved and be stood up is what

makes it so active for NSW and SOF.

The new system, which is smaller and lighter than existing systems, can process information and data faster and handle greater bandwidth.

Using the DMCS, the Mobile Communications Detachments that deploy with SEAL (sea, air, land) Teams will be able to provide SEALs with more information and intelligence via unclassified and classified email, phone access and web browsing. The system provides a leap in technology over what the Mobile Communications Detachments have been able to provide previously. This significantly lessens the existing burden on other SOF commands that are currently providing the vital C4I services to the deployed SOF warriors in the field.

"It's the world-wide access that puts information, intelligence and communications at their finger tips," said Hale. "We can provide these services in remote or deserted areas—anywhere in the world. It's communications gear that we've never had."



**A member of NSW Group 2 uses the DMCS system. (NSWG-2 photo)**

## Latest edition to SOF weaponry is 7.62mm MK48

By Troy Smith  
NSWC Crane

The newest small arm was officially introduced into the Special Operations Forces family of weapons March 21. Harry Schulte, director, Center for Acquisition and Logistics, approved Milestone C and entry into Full Rate Production for the lightweight 7.62mm machine gun (MK48 MOD0).



**Col. Tom Spellissy, PEO-SP, fires an MK46 machine gun. (Photo by Barry Gatewood, NSWC Crane)**

The MK48 7.62mm machine gun has become known as the "big brother" to the already fielded and combat tested MK46. The MK48 will replace the aging MK43 machine guns that Navy SEAL Teams have been carrying for the last 10 years. The MK48 provides SEALs increased reliability, reduced weight and a better logistically supported weapon when compared to their current MK43s.

The MK48 met all Operational Requirement Document (ORD) threshold requirements and the following ORD objectives: barrel life (25,000 rounds), receiver life (100,000 rounds), reliability (>8000 mean rounds between stoppage), length and weight. The MK48 weighs 18 lbs, approximately three pounds less than the existing MK43 machine gun.

The MK46/48 programs have provided USSOCOM with a minor and major caliber machine guns that fully complement and mirror each other's capabilities. The success of these two programs is paving the way for PEO-SP in a new small arms weapons program, the SOF Combat Assault Rifle (SCAR). Using the family of weapons concept garnered by the MK46 and MK48, PEO-SP will direct, beginning in FY04, the SCAR program.

# AF weather troop forecasts on Today Show

By Staff Sgt. Scott McNabb  
CFSOCC Public Affairs

The weather forecast predicted suspended dust and a slight chance of showers over the skies of Baghdad as coalition ground troops and aircraft approached the Iraq capital April 28.

For millions of American viewers who regularly start their day by watching National Broadcasting Company's Today Show, that accurate forecast was delivered with flair by Air Force Staff Sgt. Patrick Gray, a Combined Forces Special Operations Component Command weather non-commissioned officer.

"They wanted to interview a weather person from this location and I was the lucky guy they grabbed since I was in the right spot," said Gray, who is serving at Camp As Sayliyah, Qatar, on temporary duty. Gray is normally assigned to 35th Operations Support Squadron, Misawa Air Base, Japan.

Grab him they did – all 6 feet, 10 inches of him. When NBC heard about his height they had to have him.

A member of the Central Command weather shop went on the show the day before Gray's appearance and did an in-depth overview of the storm setting the groundwork for him to take a more casual approach. Gray took the call from Central Command offering someone from CFSOCC a chance to go on the show.

"I asked my boss if he wanted to do it and he said, 'You go ahead and do it.' I just volunteered," said Gray who enlisted in the Air Force more than seven years ago.

Misconceptions about military jobs can be common and Gray said weather has its share – including the idea that forecasters in uniform are accustomed to being on television.

"I guess that's where most people see their weatherman," he said. "Military weather is kind of different – it's much more in depth and is interpreted for specific military operations.

Military weather troops forecast for a very specific area unlike broadcast weather people who are responsible for entire regions.

Gray said he wasn't nervous but did concede to what felt like pre-game jitters just before the cameras rolled.

"You don't want to screw up," he joked. "You make sure you're ready."

When he got to the set he saw Today Show personality Matt Lauer already on the air. The Today Show's producer whisked Gray aside and gave him a quick run down of what they had planned. The Abilene, Texas native said he didn't feel nervous talking with Lauer before they went live. Then the TV host used some broadcast lingo that ushered in the

reality of the situation.

"Matt said, '10 seconds,' and they started counting down and then you're like, 'holy moley,'" said Gray, who never missed a beat. "It was kind of cool. That's why they teach you when you brief weather – whether it's a general or a pilot – to talk to your audience. You don't want to go over their heads or talk down to someone. So, you try to make it fun because weather can be boring. How exciting is it to say its 105 degrees?"

Lauer asked the airman about the storm, how long they tend to last and then unknowingly set personality Al Roker, also known to use humor in his forecasting, up for a zinger that proved too easy for Gray to pass up.

"So, what do you do here that's different than Al does back there?" inquired the host – to which Gray matter-of-factly replied, "We get our forecasts right here."

Roker said he thinks Gray has what it takes to become a TV weatherman.

"It's a pretty cool idea but I'm committed to the military for the next 17 or 18 years or whatever the case may be," he explained. "It would have to be after my Air Force career."

## POLAD earns ambassadorship

USSOCOM Public Affairs

Robert W. Fitts was nominated by President Bush April 16 to become the U.S. Ambassador to Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and the Republic of Vanuatu. Fitts presently serves as political adviser to commander, United States Special Operations Command.

When asked about his nomination, Fitts said he was honored and looks forward to his new assignment.

"USSOCOM is a great organization that has recently become more obvious to the American public for their great work," he said. "With that recognition comes expectations to continue that level of performance."



Robert Fitts

The State Department has announced that Marshall Adair will replace Fitts as the POLAD to Gen. Charles Holland. Adair is expected to arrive at the HQ this summer.





By Mike Sweat  
Command OPSEC Officer

This month's article includes excerpts from a very good article on OPSEC analysis concerning "black programs" and their vulnerability to detection and exploitation. This article by Steven Shaker and Mark Gembicki dispels the illusion that certain programs, simply because they are some of the most guarded or protected, are without vulnerability from detection and don't require OPSEC analysis and oversight.

#### *War Room-competitive Intelligence*

By Steven Shaker and Mark Gembicki

Immediately upon leaving the world of national intelligence and still in the process of transitioning to the embryonic competitive intelligence realm, co-author Shaker worked for a company hired to develop an OPSEC program for one of the nation's most guarded weapon systems. Even after being hired, he was not briefed as to what the program was. He was asked to guess what he was to be working on. His colleagues working on this black program consisted of a team of crack former CIA and military operational and security personnel.

Never before had such a group been assembled. The size and the scope of the effort could mean only two things. Either this was one of the major black programs that everyone already knew a great deal about or the government was in fact really good at hiding some programs so that no one without a "need to know" has an inkling of their existence. Shaker opted for the former and

guessed that it was the Stealth bomber.

After being informed that in fact it was the B-2 program, Shaker was told that he was not be given any classified data about the aircraft for the next three months. Instead, he was asked to prepare an analysis of whatever he could postulate about the bomber from open sources. This was before the Internet and the widespread use of on-line databases, so a great deal of time was spent at various libraries. He researched the possible technologies related to Stealth. He examined the technical papers and probed into the authors' backgrounds. He could detect trends by examining where the authors worked, as they moved from company to company, project to project. Sometimes the gaps in information were more telling than what was said in the publications. If a researcher had published extensively about a radar absorbing structure and was working for an aircraft company, and then suddenly his publications stopped, then it was an indicator that his research was being taken seriously.

Over time, Shaker was able to put together a pretty good composite of the B-2, including its likely configuration, materials, subsystems and operational tactics. This study was furnished to the Air Force program sponsors, who determined that approximately 75 percent of the information postulated about the B-2 was correct, although much of it did not have in-depth detail. If this is what one person could glean within three months, what could the thousands of Soviet KGB and military professionals have learned over the years?

#### *The Three Laws of OPSEC*

The First Law: If you don't know the threat, how do you know what to protect?

The Second Law: If you don't know what to protect, how do you know you are protecting it?

The Third Law: If you are not protecting it, the adversary wins!

## SOC PAC top performers

### *USSOCOM Public Affairs*

During a recent USSOCOM Inspector General inspection of Special Operations Command, Pacific, Lance Cpl. Michelle Gruber and Petty Officer Elizabeth Robles were identified as "Top Performers." Gruber was recognized for her aggressive and outstanding administration of the command's Sponsorship Program. Robles was recognized for her administration of the Awards and Records Management Program. Robles and Gruber are



Michelle Gruber

consummate professionals that set the standard for outstanding performance.

The "Top Performer" award selection is made by Col. Alfred Rodriguez, USSOCOM inspector general, during theater special operations command IG inspections. The TSOCs are inspected every two years. Inspectors of TSOC functional areas nominate individuals that manage programs and perform well above the standard. The "Top Performers" are recognized in the Official Inspector General report and are given a USSOCOM commander coin.



Elizabeth Robles

**NSWTG, from page 7**

and CFMCC). This entailed a high-degree of flexibility and planning to support the multiple requirements that forced the Task Group in two different directions: one to the north to support I Marine Expeditionary Force requirements, and the other increasingly east into Shat al Arab.

Their objective in the east was to support the needs of both CFMCC and 3 Commando Brigade (British) in safeguarding the waterway leading to the city of Basrah. Basrah was the objective of the British division and as the second largest city in Iraq, would serve a critical role in delivering much needed humanitarian assistance to the Iraqi people.

The first priority was to clear the waterway and port of Umm Qasr for the safe transit of the first humanitarian aid ship, RFA Sir Galahad. The day after the Al Faw operation every NSWTG boat asset was busy sweeping the Khor al Abdullah waterway and the port for enemy forces. For eight days, twenty-four hours a day, they traversed the waterway.



*The high speed vessel Joint Venture, a 315 foot-long, aluminum-hull catamaran that has been modified to carry gunboats, amphibious landing craft, helicopters and marine platoons, became a seaborne forward operating base for Navy SOF, who helped to clear southern Iraqi waterways of Iraqi ships and mines. (Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Arlo K. Abrahamson)*

They destroyed two mine-laying vessels and boarded 113 vessels in and north of the port of Umm Qasr.

During that time the High Speed Vessel (HSV) Joint Venture, served as a mother ship to refuel the Mark Vs, RIBs and Special Operations Craft – Riverine boats, as well as a place to feed and rest the rotating operators. Only a few months earlier, NSW units had been conducting evaluation exercises aboard the HSV off coast of the United States. The use of this transformational technology in supporting Navy SOF combat operations was an example of the close and ever growing relationship between “Big Navy” and the NSW community.

As early as February, the NSWTG staff began planning on how best to support follow-on operations after Al Faw. They devised an ingenious concept for the Task Group to support the conventional forces in their drive to Baghdad. NSW was essential in securing I MEF’s I lines of communication and logistics, which in turn allowed the Marines continued

offensive movement towards Baghdad.

Simultaneously, NSW conducted an extremely successful clearance operation using much of their boat assets with the valuable assistance of the Polish allies to secure the northern waterway of the Shat al Arab at Basrah. This not only proved vital to British forces securing Basrah, but also had the much larger strategic connotation of serving CFMCC’s security by safeguarding the northern Arabian Gulf from the ever-present threat of Iraqi suicide boats. That threat endangered the safety of the fleet, as well as the flow of the bulk of humanitarian assistance for the people of Iraq.

**Wurster, from page 8**

said. “By the time our forces left, virtually everyone smiled and waved. Our strategy and our people had succeeded.”

“We pushed the bad guys out of the area,” Wurster explained. “They surrendered, were captured or killed—or they left.” The group holding the U.S. missionaries had to depart their home territory and take their movement to another area, which set the stage for the Philippine military to track them down. Even today, the new relationship between the people and the Philippine military forces on Basilan make it dangerous for them to return.”

As for the war on terrorism, Wurster believes that the SOF focus is changing. “We are redirecting our attention to much smaller numbers of people in larger areas,” he said. “We are

experts at what we do and we’ve proven our professionalism, versatility and performance in Afghanistan, Iraq, the Philippines—and elsewhere. Our people are the most capable to adapt to the hunt for this dispersed enemy. It will require patience and ingenuity, as well as interagency and international cooperation to succeed.”

The general said he’s honored to be selected as director of SOIO and is highly aware of where the center is headed. “What we’re looking for is the way to develop the intelligence to let us know where these terrorists are and how they operate in order to prevent and preempt attacks, dismantle their organizations, and capture or kill their leaders. We will do this as part of the national team employing SOF people and methods where they can make the biggest difference.”

## From one world champion to another



Ronde Barber takes a moment to pose with '#1 Bucs fan' Judy Scalf.

**Gen. Charles Holland (center) and Command Master Chief Richard Rogers (right) 'huddle' with Super Bowl champions Tampa Bay Buccaneers, during the team's visit to the headquarters April 29. Bucs shown left to right are Ronde Barber, cornerback; John Lynch, safety; and Shelton Quarles, linebacker. Eighteen team players watched the Command Parachute Team jump on MacDill's flightline, ate MREs, fired weapons, did a casual meet-and-greet with command personnel, and received a command briefing from Lt. Gen. Doug Brown. Rogers has a grip on a Bucs helmet and Holland holds an NFL football, both autographed and presented to Holland by the Bucs. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Chisholm)**

## SEALs aid ill mariner

By Petty Officer 2nd Class Tim Walsh

Hawaii Navy News

After jumping from a C-130, Pearl Harbor-based SEALs (sea, land, air) performed a life-saving medical procedure on a foreign bulk-carrier crewman Feb. 15.

The day prior, SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team One (SDVT 1) received a call about noon from the Joint Rescue Coordination Center (JRCC) in Honolulu requesting assistance with an ill man aboard the Cypress-ship Nordrhine. The man was suffering from pending renal failure due to an enlarged prostate, according to Lt. Henry Krigbaum, SDVT 1's on scene commander.

The JRCC concluded that they had to get to the ill man as soon as they could, but the earliest the Coast Guard could reach the foreign ship, Nordrhine, was Feb. 17 with a helicopter, according to Coast Guard Lt. Danny Shaw. The doctor on duty at the JRCC thought that would be too late and the man's condition could worsen, and possibly have led to his death.

The SEALs took off on a C-130, piloted by Coast Guard Lt. Elizabeth McNamara, for the Nordrhine. The ship was approximately 350 miles east of Hilo, Hawaii.

Petty Officer 1st Class (SEAL) Erik Swanson served as the jumpmaster for the static line jump from the C-130. A "duck," a hard rubber boat, was first released. The duck landed within 50 meters of the Nordrhine. Following the boat, four SEALs jumped from the plane and were soon aboard the ship.

Petty Officer 1st Class (SEAL) Justin Knowles assessed

the ill man, Zhivko Nedev, a 49-year-old Bulgarian welder.

Upon further evaluation of Nedev's condition, Petty Officer 2nd Class (SEAL) John Munyan and Knowles performed an advanced catheter procedure.

Knowles and Munyan used a 20-inch needle to pierce through Nedev's stomach and into his bladder. They extracted approximately two liters of fluid from his bladder.

The Nordrhine continued on to Hilo and was met by a tug that transported Nedev and the SEALs on the morning of Feb. 17. Nedev recuperated in Hilo Hospital.

"You don't think about it when you are doing it; your training kicks in and you do it," explained Knowles. "But after it is done, you sit around and talk about it and that is when it hits you, 'wow, we did that.'"

## New SOCOM Library titles

The Age of Sacred Terror by Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simon

The Art of Deception: Controlling the Human Element of Security by Kevin D. Mitnick and William L. Simon

Chariots of the Damned: Helicopter Special Operations From Vietnam to Kosovo by Maj. Mike McKinney and Mike Ryan

The Conquerors: Roosevelt, Truman and the Destruction of Hitler's Germany by Michael Beschloss

Jarhead: A Marine's Chronicle of the Gulf War and Other Battles by Anthony Swofford

No Room For Error: The Covert Operations of America's Special Tactics Units from Iran to Afghanistan by Col. John T. Carney Jr. and Benjamin F. Schemmer

"Quiet Pre... nal

## War and the "golden rule"

By Col. Robert Gardner  
USSOCOM Chaplain

Have you ever heard of a fellow named Edwin Starr? Probably not.

But, I'll bet that you have heard one of his records. You heard it in Jackie Chan's movie called "Rush Hour." It has been repeated a lot lately. Edwin Starr's claim to fame is a song entitled "War." You know how it goes...

"War...what is it good for?" And the answer comes slamming back: "Absolutely nothing!"

I think that most of us (especially since waging war is our business) would agree with that sentiment. We don't go around looking for opportunities to start a war. Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman said it best: "War is hell"...and he was right! Nobody likes waging war, because people die.

When that happens, futures are cut short and families grieve. Young men and women will never be able to fulfill their potential. They'll never grow up to marry and have kids. Or, they will leave a spouse and children behind to know only memories. You may remember that Gen. George Patton said that he didn't want anyone in his 3<sup>rd</sup> Army dying for his country. His goal was to make the "poor S.O.B." that he called the enemy die for his country. Any way you look at it, war really is a form of hell, though certainly not hell itself.

I was pondering the wisdom of Edwin Starr's question the other day when I happened to come across an article by Marvin Olasky, the editor of *World* magazine. Someone had asked him, "Marvin, what is your Golden

Rule?" You may remember that rule which says "do unto others as you would have them do unto you." (By the way...that is not just a Christian principle—most major religions of the world would also espouse some version of those words.) He had been asked, "Would you want to see the U.S. treated as Americans are treating the Iraqis?" Marvin's reply was interesting, "Absolutely: If the U.S. were ruled by a totalitarian torturer who used poison gas on the citizens of Michigan and helicopter gunships to mow down Texans, I would pray for a coalition that would be willing to liberate us." That is a pretty profound response.

What Marvin Olasky was saying is that killing in self defense is biblically justified. No one who loves himself wants to be murdered, or see anyone else murdered, so if we follow the golden rule to love our neighbors as ourselves, we also try to keep our neighbors (insert Iraqis here) from being murdered. If Saddam Hussein is said to have murdered over two million of his countrymen, how many more should we let him murder—especially if he possesses weapons of mass destruction and begins to farm them out to his terrorist buddies?

So, our fight is not only to deliver Iraqi citizens, but also to, in the long run, protect ourselves. Again, Olasky says, "We can't liberate everyone—but when loving others is the same as loving ourselves, we are finally jolted out of passivity." In light of this, and other facts of Saddam's brutality, it is right to ask the question again: "War...what is it good for?" It may be wrong to conclude "absolutely nothing." Liberating the oppressed, setting people free, giving them the opportunity for self-determination, are noble causes. The fact that we protect ourselves as well is just icing on the cake. God bless those who have sacrificed so much and even given their lives for such a noble endeavor!

## Anheuser-Busch treats troops

Anheuser-Busch announced it will give one free single day admission to SeaWorld, Busch Gardens and Sesame Place parks to active duty military, active reservists, Coast Guard, National Guardsmen and up to four of their direct dependents, beginning the Friday of Memorial Day weekend through Veterans Day, Nov. 11. The offer also has been extended to OIF coalition forces.



### Preparing for the drop

**A MC-130E Combat Talon loadmaster ties down leaflet boxes that contain 120,000 leaflets to be dropped over Basra, Iraq, April 4. The leaflets send a message that coalition forces are there to help, ask that Iraqi civilians not get in the way of coalition forces, and ask Iraqi soldiers to capitulate.**  
(Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeremy T. Lock)

# Brig. Gen. Harry Aderholt earns Bull Simons Award

By Laurinda S. Burns  
USSOCOM History Office

Harry Clay Aderholt was born in 1920 in Birmingham, Ala. His father, a fireman with the railroad, died in a train crash in 1929, so the seven Aderholt children learned at an early age to work hard and to stick together. Aderholt quit school at 16 to help support the family, but his principal convinced him to return. He graduated in 1939 after becoming a star athlete and gaining the nickname of "Heinie," which he still uses. When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, all five Aderholt boys answered the call to arms. Altogether they would serve eight combat tours in three wars.

Commissioned in the Army Air Forces in May 1943, Aderholt



Harry 'Heinie' Aderholt, 1967.  
(USSOCOM History Office photo)

flew C-47s for the 49<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, a unit which earned the Distinguished Unit Citation for the Invasion of Sicily. He later flew B-17s with the Special Group of the Mediterranean Allied Air Force. Shortly after the Korean War broke out, Aderholt flew a C-47 "Gooney Bird" to his new unit, the 21<sup>st</sup> Carrier Squadron, also known as the "Kyushu Gypsies" for their nomadic resupplying of the 8th Army. Aderholt also activated and commanded a Special Air Missions detachment, which dropped agents behind enemy lines and conducted Psychological Operations broadcast and leaflet missions. One time Aderholt loaded a C-47 with napalm canisters, dropping them on targets of opportunity while returning to base.

As a major, Aderholt reported to the 1007<sup>th</sup> Air Intelligence Group, an Air Force unit attached to the CIA. He built an air training program to familiarize agents and

See Aderholt, next page

## On Bull Simons

USSOCOM History Office

In 1990, U.S. Special Operations Command began to present the "Bull" Simons Award to individuals who "embody the true spirit, values, and skills of a special operations warrior, and have exercised significant leadership and provided selfless support to the Special Operations community."

The award is named in honor of Col. Arthur D. "Bull" Simons who served for more than 34 years in U.S. Army special operations. As an officer with the 6<sup>th</sup> Ranger Battalion, Simons led a daring raid on Suluan Island in October 1944. In support of the 6<sup>th</sup> Army's invasion of Leyte, his company scaled the cliffs under the cover of darkness and overwhelmed a Japanese observation post. After the war, Simons earned a bachelor's degree before the Army recalled him to active duty. He served in various positions at the Ranger Training Camp and the U.S. Army Assistance Advisory Group in Turkey, until volunteering for Special Forces. He was assigned to the 7<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne).

Simons organized the first group of U.S. Special Forces inserted into Laos. The White Star Mobile Training Teams trained the Laotian military to fight the growing *Pathet Lao* Communist threat. Simons then went on to stand up and command the 8<sup>th</sup> SFG (A) in Panama.

Simons is perhaps most notable for his efforts Nov. 21, 1970, when he served the deputy commander and senior officer on a raid to rescue American POWs from the Son Tay prison camp. For his actions, Simons was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. He retired in 1971, but as a private citizen in 1979, helped rescue three employees of H. Ross Perot held in an Iranian prison.

Previous Bull Simons Award winners

- 2002 Not awarded
- 2001 Col. Charlie Beckwith, USA (posthumously)
- 2000 Lt. Gen. William P. Yarborough, USA
- 1999 Maj. Gen. John R. Alison, USAF
- 1998 Gen. James J. Lindsey, USA
- 1997 Honorable William S. Cohen and Sam Nunn
- 1996 Lt. Gen. Leroy J. Manor, USAF
- 1995 Lt. Gen. Samuel V. Wilson, USA
- 1994 Col. Aaron Bank, USA
- 1993 Honorable John O. Marsh, Jr.
- 1992 Not awarded
- 1991 Gen. Edward C. "Shy" Meyer, USA
- 1990 H. Ross Perot



## Aderholt, from page 15

customers such as King Hussein of Jordan with aircraft capabilities, drop zone procedures and parachute jumps behind enemy lines.

On his second tour with the 1007<sup>th</sup>, Aderholt sold the CIA director on a light, utility aircraft to extract downed aircrews from hostile territory and support partisan missions in remote areas. This short take offs and landings (STOL) aircraft, the *Helio Courier*, was adopted by the Air Force as the U-10.

In 1960, Aderholt reported to Okinawa to command Detachment II of the 1045<sup>th</sup> Observation, Evaluation and Training Group, a unit detailed to the CIA. Aderholt made significant improvements to the airlift that provided clandestine support to Tibet. The unit also supported the CIA's efforts in Laos, and Aderholt's *Helio Courier* was ideally suited for the crude jungle airstrips hacked out of the jungle by the Hmong tribesmen.

During a brief stint as commander and vice-commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Air Commando Wing, Aderholt oversaw Water Pump, an operation to train Laotian pilots which quickly expanded to include providing medical support to the indigenous population. By 1965, the Air Force had "an urgent requirement to set up a recovery operation for downed pilots in Southeast Asia," and Aderholt headed up the Joint Personnel Recovery Center in Saigon, running the Bright Light missions.

In 1967, Aderholt stood up and commanded the 56<sup>th</sup> Air Commando Wing. His prop-driven aircraft worked the Laotian and North Vietnamese portion of the Ho Chi Minh Trail at the request of the U.S. ambassador to Laos after daylight jet raids proved ineffective.

Aderholt retired as a colonel in 1973, but the Air Force recalled him seven months later, sending him to Thailand as deputy of the U.S. Military Assistance Command-Thailand (MAC-T) and the Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group-Thailand.

Aderholt pinned on a brigadier general's star in May 1974 and became commander of MAC-T the following year. After the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh fell in April, the Communist-backed Pathet Lao in Laos grew bolder. Aderholt scraped up every plane he could find and evacuated hundreds of Hmong refugees from a secret air base.

He retired for the second and final time in August 1975 but remained active in Southeast Asian business enterprises and humanitarian aid projects worldwide. Although he described a 1996 Hmong humanitarian operation as his "last major project in this lifetime," the 83-year-old Aderholt has only recently returned from guiding a tour of the Ho Chi Minh Trail and delivering school and medical supplies to Central Laos.



## Right place, right time

*Staff Sgt. Dave Sutherland, Center for Intelligence and Information Operations, accepts Gen. Charles Holland's coin in recognition for his quick reaction and first aid care to an elderly man whose fall resulted in a bleeding head wound. Sutherland called 911 and used his USSOCOM polo shirt to apply pressure to the wound before paramedics arrived. The Marine staff sergeant was representing the command at a Devil Rays baseball game in Tampa, Fla., as a member of the Joint Service Color Guard. (Photo by Jennifer Whittle)*

## SOF Week May 20-22

The **Exhibit Hall** at the Tampa Convention Center is open Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> and Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Transportation is provided departing from the base theater. The shuttle schedule is posted on the SOCWEB banner.

The **Bull Simon Award Dinner** is at the Tampa Convention Center and is a black tie event. It is open to all command personnel, not including spouses. Tickets are on sale now. The price changes after May 10.

There are two **golf tournaments**. See the SOCWEB or or contact David Sosbee at 8-9845 to register.

The **Cross Briefs** are for O6 level and above selected by their center directors to attend. This year the commander has opened up the Wednesday luncheon for anyone wishing to attend at their own expense. The secretary of defense is guest speaker via VTC. Tickets can be purchased on the SOCWEB.

The **APBI** is Thursday. The Advanced Planning Briefing to Industry is a forum where acquisition personnel tell industry what is a business opportunity within the POM and the out years. If you hold a SOCOM permanent badge you can attend at no cost. All others must register. The Thursday luncheon is open to all who wish to attend (non-APBI registrants pay \$25.00).



### Ozymandias

By Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792-1822)

*I met a traveller from an antique land  
Who said: Two vast and trunkless legs of stone  
Stand in the desert. Near them on the sand,  
Half sunk, a shatter'd visage lies, whose frown  
And wrinkled lip and sneer of cold command  
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read  
Which yet survive, stamp'd on these lifeless things,  
The hand that mock'd them and the heart that fed.  
And on the pedestal these words appear:  
"My name is Ozymandias, king of kings:  
Look on my works, ye mighty, and despair!"  
Nothing beside remains: round the decay  
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare,  
The lone and level sands stretch far away.*



### CJSOTF, from page 3

with denying the Iraqi military their ability to launch TBMs into neighboring countries or coalition formations. This mission was an obvious success: not one missile was able to launch.

The effect of conventional air support to ground special forces, particularly in the early days of combat action, allowed the CJSOTF to quickly and completely dominate the vast terrain of the western desert and quickly overwhelm the Iraqi military there. At one point or another in the early days of the operation, all of the Army Special Forces A-Teams in the western desert were in contact with the enemy. That they suffered no casualties is a testament to their training, skill, leadership and equipment. More importantly, the complete and rapid loss of so much of his country and his military must have surely made a believer out of Saddam

Hussein that his defeat was imminent.

In the southern area between the Kuwaiti border and Baghdad, the primary missions of the CJSOTF were strategic reconnaissance and unconventional warfare. A-teams were inserted deep into Iraq by their Air Force Special Operations Command counterparts and quickly found spots to put "eyes-on" key locations. This information, passed on to ground conventional maneuver commanders, was a key factor contributing to the speed and audacity of the ground campaign. Other A-teams dispersed throughout the area and began to work with Iraqi nationals sympathetic to the coalition cause. These teams identified and rooted out Fedayeen Saddam, Ba'th party members, Regime Death Squads and other terror cells.

The intelligence gathered as a result of the relationships formed by these

unconventional warriors with their Iraqi counterparts led, among other things, to successfully identifying the location of Army prisoner of war Pfc. Jessica Lynch. As the focus of combat operations moved north to Baghdad, the fruit of these SF warriors' labor was realized by quickening the pace of stability in the region. This paved the way for a successful transition to post-hostility operations.

During the heady days of Baghdad's initial fall, CJSOTF-W soldiers were on the ground facilitating the entrance of conventional forces through effective strategic reconnaissance. Shortly after the statue of Saddam fell in the center of the city, CJSOTF-W forces moved into Baghdad International Airport and, through the employment of unconventional warfare TTP, set the conditions for a more stable environment in the newly freed, capital city.