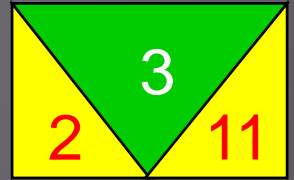




MUSTANG EXPRESS

ISSUE #4, DEC 2008



In Memory
Of
MSG Davis



MSG Davis
2/11/3 Battalion
"Mustang" NCOIC

Message from Mustang Six

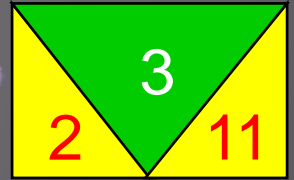
Hello to all from Iraq. As some of you may know, we have suffered a tragic loss in this past week. During a humanitarian operation with the Iraqi Army (IA) and Iraqi Police (IP) we were attacked by an IA soldier. In this attack MSG Anthony Davis (Mustang 7) and CPT Warren Frank (a Marine working with us) were killed and two Marine Officers were wounded. I lack the words to describe the pain and anguish we are collectively feeling as a team and the sorrow we have for MSG Davis' and CPT Frank's families. MSG Davis' actions during the attack saved my life and I owe him my life. CPT Frank had only been with Team Mustang for a week, and in true Marine tradition, he had already done much more than his job title entailed. My message for this newsletter was supposed to be one detailing the progress and fine work of our team over the past few months. Instead, it is one of pain, sorrow and gratitude. The pain that we feel as a team can only be described as the kind that one feels when you lose a member of the family because MSG Davis was the heart and soul of our team and we all considered him part of our family. We also feel the pain of losing CPT Frank who was an outstanding man and who was totally committed to our mission in this country. Our sorrow runs the deepest for the families of these two men. MSG Davis was the most committed father and husband I've ever met and his family's loss must seem unbearable to them. I am sure my words ring hollow at this horrible time, but I am truly sorry for their loss. CPT Frank leaves two young girls and a wife. Again, I lack words to describe my grief for their pain and loss. I ask all of you reading this to keep these families in your prayers and thoughts. I must also thank these men and their families for everything that MSG Davis and CPT Frank have done as members of our military and their role in Team Mustang's mission. These men stood tall in a confusing, protracted, and frustrating conflict against hatred. Their families endured prolonged absences and they collectively lost chunks of life that they can never recover. We all owe them our respect and gratitude.

Team Mustang will continue its mission. We do it with heavy hearts and a sense of betrayal, but we will not allow the insurgents and those with twisted hatred in their souls the satisfaction of us quitting. I assure all of the families at home that we are all doing everything we can to bring the people responsible for this despicable act to justice. Both the U.S. and Iraqi chains of command are doggedly rooting-out those responsible for this and I know they will not rest until justice is served. You have my word as well; I will ensure this is done. The progress we have made as a team over the past few months and the assistance we've received from you in the states has made a huge difference in this area. Make no mistake, hatred and treachery have been a way of life in this area for decades, and we won't erase that in a few short months. But, as I mentioned before it is our duty to push the IA and the people of this area in the right direction. MSG Davis and CPT Frank understood and accepted this mission. As always, we are grateful for your support and I wish you the best during the holidays. Now more than ever, we wish we were there with you.

Very Respectfully,
Raymond M. Mattox
MAJ, IN



CURRENT EVENTS



IA trucks with IA and IP Soldiers delivering supplies to locals.



Bi'aj Mayor assisting in the delivering of food to his local citizens.



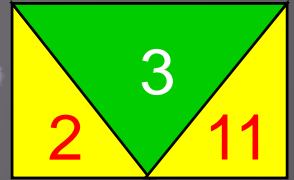
CPT King advising and spearheading food drop with IA and IP forces.

Food Drop

Team Mustang conducted their first food drops for the citizens of Bi'aj recently. It was a combined effort of Iraqi Army, Iraqi Police, and Coalition Forces. The purpose of the food drop was to reward the people of Bi'aj for cooperating with Security Forces and aiding with clearing the city of insurgent activity. Due to recent years of drought this aid could not come at a better time. We worked with eight local leaders and the Mayor to identify the neediest 200 families in the city. Once identified the local leaders mobilized their neighborhoods to receive and also help distribute the aid. In the early morning hours, the Iraqi Army and Police secured a newly constructed set of municipal buildings for the purposes of the operation. After an opening speech from Bi'aj's mayor praising and thanking American and Iraqi Armed Forces for their support, the first people started to trickle in. Under the watchful eyes of the Iraqi Security Forces, the families began to come one after another. Once the initial confusion and excitement died down, the recipients filed through to their respective neighborhood leaders in an assembly line like manner. Each family received approximately 25 pounds of flour, 15 pounds of rice, two pounds of sugar, and a pound of tea. At the end of the day, over 8,600 pounds of food were delivered to a specific group of Iraqis who were in dire need. More importantly the citizens of Biaj took away a sense that Iraqi Forces were capable of protecting their own people and the Government of Iraq could provide support for the general public.



CURRENT EVENTS



Iraqi Security Forces providing health care and supplies to Bi'aj



IA and IP Soldiers provide security while medical supplies are delivered to locals



Ladies of Bi'aj being screened prior to receiving much needed supplies

Civilian Medical Exercise (CME)

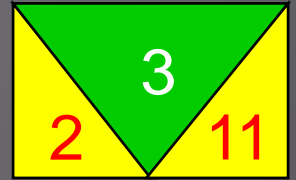
Greetings all from Mustang 8 the team medic, I hope that this news letter finds everyone enjoying the holiday season as much as possible. We just wanted to get you up to date on some of the activities that we have been supporting.

One such recent event was a Combined Medical Exercise that was conducted with the IA, IP, Team Mustang and our Division team. We were able to provide routine medical care to over 700 men, women and children in the town of Bi'aj. What makes that number even more impressive is the fact that we had 2 coalition providers, 1 male, 1 female and 1 IA doctor. Between the 3 of them and our 2 female medics they were able to see all of these patients in a span of 5 hours. We dealt with basic medical issues due to the fact that we have limited diagnostic capabilities. We treated everything from headaches and colds to dermatological issues. The patients were screened and then sent to our pharmacy to pick-up their medication. The children were provided with small toys for doing such a good job while being seen. What really made this a wonderful experience was the gratitude expressed by the patients. Another great plus was that most of the interaction was conducted by the Iraqi forces and local citizens. The police and the army provided the security and the local leaders helped in the coordination of the facilities and the townspeople. This helps to minimize our presence and puts the Iraqi government out in the forefront of such projects.

As with all first time experiences there were a few hick-ups but we were able to overcome them. This was a great stepping stone and a learning experience for our future CME projects. We want to express our thanks for your continued support and love, all of which none of this would be possible.



MUSTANG 7's CORNER



Hello once again. It has been some time since I have last spoken to the group and I send pleasant greetings to all. I wish to inform everyone reading or listening that our plans, as a MiTT team, have gone the course. We know this while we are now encouraging more than teaching, we are supporting more than leading, and we are assisting more than directing. These and other items are indicative of a transformation which we are very proud to be taking part. We have now completed two thirds of our deployment and look forward to the changing New Year. A historic election has taken place which has touched all of us in some way, and we now look forward to a coming holiday season. As we approach the end of the year, with our nation's economy in a dismal state, I ask all of you, along with the team, to take some time and reflect, pray, and consider all that our great nation has accomplished through the perseverance of its people. We miss you all dearly and thank you for all that you have done and continue to do. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

*They who dream by day are cognizant of many things which escape those who dream only by night.
Edgar Allen Poe*

MUSTANG 7