

Mahdi Militiamen "Hurt No One but the Iraqi People" in Eastern Baghdad Fighting

BAGHDAD, Iraq—Members of the Mahdi Militia attacked multinational forces and civilian targets in the eastern Baghdad district of Sadr City Friday. There were no casualties to Task Force Baghdad forces in the skirmishes.

Military leaders in eastern Baghdad note that the violence initiated by militiamen could seriously impact work on essential services and infrastructure improvements in the area.

"The biggest casualties of the attacks are the innocent people, mostly chil-

dren, of Sadr City who become sick and die from standing sewage and contaminated drinking water," said Col. Robert Abrams, commander of the 1st Cavalry Division's 1st Brigade Combat Team. "We were just starting to gain momentum on projects to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Sadr City. Everyday that the Mahdi Militia attacks, causing work on essential service to halt, is another day people can become fatally ill from not having these services."

Task Force Baghdad

Soldiers continue to secure roadways from improvised explosive devices, placed by anti-Iraqi forces. Due to the heightened IED threat, the task force in conjunction with the Iraqi police, closed the main road through the Oubaidi Market.

"Closing this road will hurt the business in the market," Abrams noted. "The Mahdi Militia attacks hurt no one but the Iraqi people. They have made the road unsafe for their own people to conduct business."

Abrams said that work

stoppage on area improvement projects due to the onset of violence will have a ripple effect on the local economy in Sadr City, with more than 14,000 jobs in jeopardy. Major projects put on hold during the fighting include restoring a viable sewage system, providing clean water, supplying electricity and removing trash from Sadr City streets.

"They (militiamen) are depriving the good people of Sadr City not only over 14,000 very necessary jobs, but the essential services that those jobs were building," Abrams added.

Gunner's Gate Soldiers Guard Against Heat

By Sgt. Merrion LaSonde
122nd MPAD

CAMP COOKE, Taji, Iraq—Spc. Brian Anderson, a gate guard at Gunners Gate, recently found out just how important hydration is in the harsh desert climate and rising summer temperatures of Iraq.

"Shortly after I got to work, I started feeling upset to my stomach," Anderson said. "About 15 minutes later I was dry heaving and dizzy and went to see the medic."

The day before had been the Lisbon, Ohio native's day off which he spent sleeping.

"I did not drink enough
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By Sgt. Merrion LaSonde, 122nd MPAD

Spc. Julio Standridge, Company C, 1st Battery, 206th Field Artillery, stays hydrated while standing his watch as perimeter gunner at Camp Cooke.

Beating the Heat

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water so when I got to work, I was already dehydrated," Anderson said.

The medics administered intravenous fluids, monitored Anderson for a while to make sure there was nothing more serious wrong with him and sent him home for the rest of the day.

"These Soldiers that work the gate are on duty from six in the morning to two in the afternoon," said Capt. David Stapp, commander, Battery C, 1st Battalion, 206th Field Artillery, 39th Brigade Combat Team. "They are on their feet exposed to the sun the entire time."

A resident of Morrillton, Ark., Stapp explained that the unit covering the watch at Gunner's Gate tries to mitigate the effects of the exposure to the sun and heat in many ways.

"At the beginning of every watch, the supply sergeant makes an ice run," Stapp said. "We get enough ice to keep the water cool until our shift change. We also try to create shade wherever we can by using camouflage netting."

In addition, the Soldiers are rotated five at a time to an air conditioned building behind the gate for an hour of their shift.

"We give them an opportunity to take a break from the heat," Stapp said.

"We also rotate the Soldier who monitors the radio traffic out here. That person sits in the air conditioned building for their entire shift and maintains our communication with headquarters."

For some of the areas without air conditioning, the Soldiers are using swamp coolers. It is a fan with a water-fed screen filter that blows water-cooled air. It is capable of dropping the temperature in the immediate area up to 20 degrees.

With temperatures above 110 degrees on a regular basis and expectations of hotter days to come, Spc. Loreen Davenport, a Company C medic and preventive medicine representative, is surprised at the lack of heat injuries that have been seen at "Charlie Med".

"Most cases that we have seen have been of mild dehydration," Davenport said. "I'm guessing there are more cases out there just not seeking medical attention. Some Soldiers may have a severe heat illness, but they are just writing it off to being tired so as not to hamper their mission."

Davenport, of Little Rock, Ark., explained the importance of knowing how to identify a heat casualty.

"Once a heat casualty; always a heat casualty," Davenport said.

463rd MPs Providing Security for 10th Mountain's Commandos

By Pfc. Brian Schroeder, 10th Mtn. Div. Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq - When the 2nd Brigade Combat Team Commandos rolled into Baghdad with their pooled resources of 14 units from eight different military posts, one of those resources had to provide security for the task force of more than 3,000 Soldiers. The choice was one of the smallest attachments of the brigade, a platoon of approximately 30 Soldiers.

The 1st Platoon, 463rd Military Police Company, Law Enforcement Command, has been attached to the 2nd BCT to provide a wide spectrum of security tasks for the Commandos.

"We are trained for everything," said Pfc. Andy Piazza, 1st Platoon driver. "All of the training we had before we left was so diverse; convoy security, main supply route patrol. We did a lot of refresher training on how to deal with enemy prisoner of war and how to deal with the locals. Everybody jokes that MP stands for multi-purpose, not military police."

One of the main tasks given to the 1st Platoon is to assist the local Iraqi police with establishing their own methods of law enforcement.

"We will work together and do some training with the Iraqi police," said Sgt. 1st Class Marcus Ferguson, 1st Platoon, platoon sergeant. "We will work with them on methods of doing traffic control points, setting up checkpoints and riding along with them during patrols. We will be giving them a different perspective on law enforcement as far as doing it in a military fashion."

Piazza said he is anxious to get out and have some interaction with the local Iraqis. He said handing out candy and water to Iraqi children was the first taste of how appreciative the Iraqi people are of U.S. Soldiers.

Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

Welcome

AHlen wa SAHlen

Saturday

High: 110
Low: 84



Sunday

High: 112
Low: 84



Monday

High: 112
Low: 86



Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

Commanding General: Maj. Gen. Peter Chiarelli

Public Affairs Officer: Lt. Col. James Hutton

122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment Cmdr.: Maj. John Fuhrman

Public Affairs Supervisor/Interim Editor: Master Sgt. Dave Larsen

1st Sgt. 122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment: 1st Sgt. William Kuhns

Staff Writers: Sgt. 1st Class Tony Sailer, Sgt. Susan German, Sgt. Merrion LaSonde, Sgt. Dan Purcell, Cpl. Benjamin Cossel, Cpl. Bill Putnam, Spc. Jan Critchfield, Spc. Andy Miller, Spc. Michelle Newbold, Spc. Marie

Whitney, Pfc. Al Barrus, Pfc. Erik LeDrew

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New Temple Students Get Sneak Peak with Project 2008

From *Temple Daily Telegram*
TEMPLE, Texas -- Temple High's newest students got acquainted at Project 2008.

They were everywhere. On the steps of the building, milling in lines inside

the building and they were all talking at the same time.

The din to an outsider not used to the constant chatter would be maddening.

They are the class of 2008. Thursday, ninth-graders from across Temple

school district attended a daylong orientation at Temple High School. The students received their schedules and got to know other students from other middle schools.

Andrea Ballew, coordinator of Project 2008, said, "My No. 1 goal is to see that the students become more acquainted with other students from the other middle schools."

Several of the students walked in and chatted with their cliques from their middle schools. But then they were assigned family groups, which separated them from the students they knew. This started them building relationships with new people.

"I want them to get acquainted with the school, get the dress code, but mostly I want them to knit together closely as the Wildcats," Ms. Ballew said.

Interim Superintendent Dr. Pam Harrison spoke to the new Wildcats once they were settled in the cafeteria. Dr. Harrison wanted the teens to know about the support that is available to them in school and in the district.



Temple Daily Telegram

Temple freshman Adam Swift lets out a laugh Thursday as he and Heather Gallagher (left) and Michael Knoebel (top) work to prevent a balloon from hitting the floor without using their hands during Project 2008 at Temple High School.

Cruise Back on the Big Screen this weekend

Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel

Despite the fact that films like "Collateral" - a



Promotional photo

Jamie Foxx stars with Tom Cruise in 'Collateral.'

flawed but captivating crime thriller - usually rely on intricate plot and narrative developments, director Michael Mann's latest is lean on story and rich in dialogue and characterization.

The film's plot development is familiar to other films that riff off the moral rather than the sensational

aspects of organized crime.

Tom Cruise plays Vincent, a professional assassin whose latest commission in Los Angeles involves bumping off five low-level operatives in an international drug ring. S

Stylistically, Mann ("Heat," "Ali," "The Insider") captures the lurid pathology of nighttime L.A.

News Notes

Hangar in Temple?

With the economic success of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command's (AMCOM) presence at the Draughon-Miller Central Texas Regional Airport, the city of Temple is seeking to construct a second hangar that could bring in another 100 well-paying jobs. That's in addition to the 100 well-paying jobs that AMCOM already brought with the last hangar deal. The City Council Thursday approved to submit a loan application, not to exceed \$3.5 million, to the Texas Military Preparedness Commission requesting funding from the Texas Military Value Revolving Loan Fund for the additional hangar.

Sales Tax Holiday Weekend in Texas

Sales tax holiday begins Youngsters preparing for school and bargain shoppers looking for deals will converge on Texas shopping malls this weekend during the state's annual sales tax holiday. From just after midnight Thursday until midnight Sunday, most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 will be exempt from sales taxes, saving shoppers about 8 percent. State Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn predicted consumers will save \$46 million in state and local taxes this year. She said Texans have saved \$193.5 million over the past five years.



Getty Images

Carlos Boozer (left) and Dwayne Wade battle Serbia-Montenegro's Petar Popovic for a loose ball during Team USA's 78-60 victory.

Convincing Win for USA

BELGRADE, Serbia-Montenegro (AP) - The U.S. Olympic men's basketball team did Larry Brown proud.

Following his mantra of "playing the right way," they dominated the defending world champions with defense in an impressive 78-60 exhibition victory over Serbia-Montenegro on Friday night.

The Americans took a partisan crowd out of the game by holding Serbia-Montenegro to just nine points in the second quarter, and their defense never relented. They showed none of the faults that hampered them in earlier games against Italy and Germany while shutting down an opponent that appeared equal parts overconfident and incompetent.

Tim Duncan led the U.S. team with 16 points, LeBron James added 11 and the entire team played with a level of determination

that should go a long way toward re-establishing them as one of the favorites for the gold medal in Athens.

When the evening began, they weren't even picked to win the game. Local betting parlors listed the Serbian team as a 4-point favorite.

A 14-0 run to begin the second quarter put the Americans in control, and their defense the rest of the way kept the home team from making any kind of extended rally.

A crowd of about 18,000 showed their respect by standing and applauding the Americans as the game ended.

Rather than playing a zone as Italy and Germany did almost exclusively in the Americans' earlier exhibition games, the Serbian team went with a man-to-man scheme.

The U.S. team also played man-to-man

defense, and two of the game's best one-on-one moves were made by Dejan Bodiroga - often called the best player in Europe - against Carmelo Anthony.

The Americans bounced back after missing their first five shots and led 20-17 after one quarter.

The game got away from the Serbs early in the second quarter, and the big run brought the American players and coaches off the bench in jubilation. One of the most impressive stretches was a blocked shot by Shawn Marion that led to a breakaway, Marion sprinting downcourt to finish it with a dunk off a pass from Stephon Marbury.

It was 42-26 at half-time.

Lamar Odom was the American team's best player in the final quarter, stopping the Serbian team's momentum with clutch shots each time they tried to rally.

Sports Shorts

LA Ships Payton, Fox to Celtics

In a deal first reported by Fox Sports Net's Jack Haley, the Lakers sent point guard Gary Payton and Rick Fox to Boston for Chucky Atkins, Marcus Banks and Chris Mihm. According to the report, the Celtics also received a conditional first-round draft pick and cash in the deal, and sent a second-rounder out west to Los Angeles.

More Bad News for Miami's Fish

HOUSTON (AP) -- Miami Dolphins receiver David Boston injured his left knee Friday during a joint workout with the Houston Texans. Boston was running a pass route when his left knee appeared to buckle. Dolphins coach Dave Wannstedt said the initial diagnosis was a strained patellar tendon, but more testing would be done. "We'll evaluate it further and then we'll get the information to everybody," Wannstedt said.

Thomas Down

CHICAGO (AP) -- Chicago White Sox slugger Frank Thomas will miss the rest of the season because of a stress fracture in his left foot. Thomas has been on the disabled list since July 10, and the team's podiatrist recommended he spend another six to eight weeks in a cast. Thomas was hitting .271 with 18 home runs and 49 RBIs when he got hurt. The two-time American League Most Valuable Player was leading the league this season with 64 walks and a .434 on-base percentage.