



44th ESB establishes in Schweinfurt

Story and photo by Sandra Wilson

The 44th Expeditionary Signal Battalion (ESB) has now unfurled its colors in Schweinfurt marking its official relocation from Mannheim in a ceremony at the USAG Schweinfurt Rose Garden Friday.

“Although we’ve been on the ground for a little over a month, it seems like yesterday that the command sergeant major and I



Lt. Col Dwayne Dickens, 44th Expeditionary Signal Battalion (ESB) commander (left), and Command Sgt. Maj. Earl Allen unfurl the colors to mark the relocation of 44th ESB to Schweinfurt in a ceremony on Ledward Barracks today.

arrived to start conducting our day-to-day operations out of the new building,” said Lt. Col. Dwayne Dickens, 44th ESB commander.

The work done to accomplish the move from Mannheim to Schweinfurt has been “awe-inspiring,” said Col. Gerald Miller, 2nd Signal Brigade commander.

According to Miller, the battalion has safely moved 212 pieces of rolling stock, 120 containers, and relocated 105 soldiers and their families the distance of 150 miles between the two cities.

“In all, the battalion has logged tens of thousand of accident-free miles as part of this move. You should all be proud of what you have accomplished in this very short time period,” Miller said.

In addition to the hard work of the battalion’s Soldiers, Dickens attributed the smooth relocation to the contributions of community support around them.

“It’s because of this outstanding garrison support that 44th was able to hit the ground running and never miss a step,” he said.

The 44th ESB brings a long history with it, originating in 1944 and headquartered in Mannheim for most of its years until now. It has deployed in support of numerous operations over that last two decades including, most recently, 15 months in Operation Iraqi Freedom 2007-08.

“As the battalion sets down roots here in the community, we’re looking forward to hearing about the positive impact that you will have in the military community and the new bonds of friendship ... in the great city of Schweinfurt,” Miller said.

Fear not at Vacation Bible School’s Crocodile Dock

Story and photo by Sandra Wilson

Summer vacation is not over yet, and Ledward Chapel will take advantage of that fact with a week of “Crocodile Dock” Vacation Bible School (VBS), designed for kids ages 4-10, at Ledward Chapel Aug. 17-21 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

In addition to requesting that parents pre-register their children who plan to attend, organizers seek volunteers to help pull it off. The last training session for volunteers takes place at the chapel Tuesday from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

“It requires a lot of volunteer help,” said Patricia Wiedemer, Schweinfurt VBS director.

“It’s crucial that we get enough volunteers,” she said, explaining that one leader, at least 14 years old, is needed for every five kids enrolled in the program.

This year, VBS is chock full of activities to keep the children constantly moving, interacting, and learning. Every 20 minutes,

children move to a new station for crafts, snacks, sports and games, a DVD show, or a drama.

“Each section has a different aspect, core, and element of teaching in the five sensory ways that children learn ... It offers an aspect for every child to learn the way they learn best— getting the message five different ways each time—and keeps it very fast-paced,” Wiedemer said, adding that discipline problems are non-existent because kids are so absorbed in the activities.

The “fear not” VBS motto for this year is emphasized throughout the retelling of several Bible stories which

give examples of troubling situations people have faced in the past.

“God can come in and do miraculous things in your family, in your lifestyle, in your everyday activities just as he did then,” Wiedemer said.

The theme of the week seems particularly

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From left, Vacation Bible School Director Patricia Wiedemer, Tobia Wiedemer, Louise Hurley, Frank Hanchak, and Jackie Wiedemer paint the large backdrop with a swampy scene for the upcoming “Crocodile Dock” Vacation Bible School at the Ledward Chapel Aug. 17-21.



SPRECHEN SIE FUN?

Events and activities in the local communities

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON LOCAL ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS VISIT:
www.schweinfurtserver.de/user/tourismus/Neu/stadtplan_EN_Endversion_2008.pdf

Tonight - Saturday:

Open-air theater comedy performance of



“Dracula” at An der Oberen Saline in Bad Kissingen at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are 15-18 euro. Call 0971-80701110 or go to sommerlust@stadt.badkissingen.de.

In case of bad weather, the play will take place in the Kurtheater at 8 p.m.

Wine fests:

Friday:

- Heckenwirtschaft in Ramsthal
- Dingolshausen
- Albertshofen (near Kitzingen)

Friday - Saturday:

- Frickenhausen

Saturday:

- Kolitzheim
- Heckenwirtschaft in Oberschwarzach



Sunday:

- Duerrfeld, live music by string quartet “La Finesse”

Tomorrow:

Concert by “Top 3” at castle Hallburg near Volkach at 8 p.m.

Ballroom dancing tournament

- Guests are the top 11 German dance couples and the German champions in ballroom dances at the Max-Littmann-Saal in Bad Kissingen at 8 p.m. For tickets, call 0971-8048-444.



Saturday:

Rock in the Alban Park in Schonungen beginning at 3 p.m.

Street festival in Kuetzberg. Live music starts at 6 p.m.

Orchestra concert by Henry Sibley High School of St. Paul, Minnesota at the market square in Rothenburg at 3:30 p.m.

Public knights’ dinner at guesthouse Spitaltor in Rothenburg at 6:30 p.m.



Tuesday:

Concert by “Shamrock” at castle Hallburg near Volkach at 8 p.m.

Aug. 13 - 15:

Open-air theater musical comedy “Parisian stories” performed at the An der Oberen Saline in Bad Kissingen at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are 15-18 euro. Call 0971-80701110 or go to sommerlust@stadt.badkissingen.de. In case of bad weather, the play will take place at Kurtheater, 8 p.m.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Aug. 20 - 23:

Open-air theater musical comedy “The Taming of the Shrew” by Shakespeare performed at the An der Oberen Saline in Bad Kissingen at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are 15-18 euro. Call 0971-80701110 or go to sommerlust@stadt.badkissingen.de. In case of bad weather, the play will take place at the Kurtheater at 8 p.m.



Aug. 30:

“Nabucco” opera by Verdi at 7 p.m., recreation area Sennfeld. For tickets call 09381-40112 or 0931-600199859.



Schweinfurt Dispatch

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The Schweinfurt Dispatch weekly newsletter is an unofficial publication of the U.S. Army Garrison Schweinfurt, IMCOM-Europe and the U.S. Army authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1.

The newsletter is published and distributed weekly in an electronic format. The newsletter can be viewed on the U.S. Army Schweinfurt web site at <http://www.schweinfurt.army.mil>.

This newsletter is a command information product that places emphasis on events and activities occurring throughout the Schweinfurt and Lower Franconia areas.

Information and photos included in this

newsletter are acquired from sources that highlight events, programs, and activities in Schweinfurt and Lower Franconia.

Dates, times, locations, and the events themselves might change or be cancelled without prior notice.

To be added to the Schweinfurt Dispatch distribution list, please e-mail: mail.sft.pao@eur.army.mil.

This address can also be used to submit community slides or information on upcoming events, or you can reach the USAG Schweinfurt public affairs office by calling 354-1400/6381 or (09721) 961400/966381.



This week...

Property book office relocated

The Directorate of Logistics property book office is now located in building 76 on Conn Barracks.

Bible 101 seminar

Have you ever wanted to know how the Bible was compiled? Or perhaps you want to learn how to study the Old and New Testament. Come to Ledward Chapel's Bible Basics Seminar Monday through Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free lunch and watch care will be provided. For more information, call 09721-96-1370.

Official mail room relocates

The Official Mail Distribution Center (OMDC) will be moving from the basement of Ledward building 206 to Conn building 55, the Conn Post Office Aug. 14. On this day, there will be no OMDC business conducted. OMDC will reopen at its new location Aug. 17 with regular business hours.

Evening parenting class

Discover your parenting style and learn tips on how to raise loving, respectful and responsible children. Attend Army Community Service's class on parenting with love and logic Aug. 12, 19 and 26 from 5-7 p.m. Limited child care available, call 09721-96-6933.

Football for high school

High school students are invited to join the Eastern European football camp Aug. 18-21. For more information, pick up an information packet in the Commons or call CIV 09721-96-6414.

SHIP store reduces hours

Due to a manpower shortage, the Self-help Issue Point store will provide only limited services from Monday to Aug. 21. The new hours of operation during this time are Monday through Friday noon to 3 p.m.

Conn Shoppette temporarily closed

The Conn Shoppette will close Sunday at 8 p.m. and reopen Monday at 6 a.m.

Operation Rising Star deadline Tuesday

Are you a singer? Operation Rising Star is an Army wide competition looking for the best singer out there. Come join in the fun by going to www.oprisingstar.com to register by Tuesday for the competition held at Rohr's Diner starting Aug. 14 at 7 p.m.

Deadline for community volleyball registration

Registration for community volleyball ends Monday. It is open to all I.D. cardholders age 18 and over and not in high school. This is a co-ed team that travels on the weekends. For more information or to sign up, call 09721-96-8234.

Diesel for TMPs on post

Effective immediately, drivers of non-tactical vehicles from the USAG Schweinfurt transportation motor pool must fill up with diesel fuel at the pumps behind the TMP station on Conn Barracks. Operating instructions are posted at the pump. In addition, drivers must turn in their fuel ration cards to the TMP office.

Schweinfurt



Tonight-	7 p.m.	Drag me to hell (PG-13)
Tomorrow-	7 p.m.	Harry Potter 6 (PG)
Saturday-	4 p.m.	Up (PG)
	7 p.m.	Harry Potter 6 (PG)
Sunday-	3 p.m.	Harry Potter (PG)
	7 p.m.	Harry Potter (PG)
Monday-	closed	
Tuesday-	closed	
Wednesday-	7 p.m.	Harry Potter (PG)

Schweinfurt three-day weather forecast

A.M.		P.M.	
	Friday Partly cloudy Lows 16 C / 61 F		Friday Sunny Highs 26 C / 79 F
	Saturday Mostly cloudy Lows 17 C / 63 F		Saturday Mostly cloudy Highs 26 C / 79 F
	Sunday Mostly cloudy Lows 19 C / 66 F		Sunday Mostly cloudy Highs 25 C / 77 F

Source: 21st Operational Weather Squadron



- 14 AUG --Operation Rising Star begins, Ledward Rohr's Diner, 7 p.m. Call 09721-96-6225.
--Schweinfurt wild animal park, 11 a.m. Bring kids and lunch or euro. Call 09721-942-7641.
- 16 AUG --Trip to Kleinsassen artist colony with Crafts Studio. Departs 8 a.m., returns 6 p.m. 354-6903.
- 17 AUG --Registration ends for unit-level flag football. Season begins Aug. 22. Call 09721-96-8234.
- 17-21 AUG --Vacation Bible School, Ledward Chapel, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. for ages 4 years to fifth-grade.
- 18 AUG --High-schooler rock climbing with Bamberg Club Beyond and Outdoor Rec. Call 354-8620.
--Bulk trash pick-up from Askren, Yorktown, gov't-leased housing. Put out items before 7 a.m.
- 18-19 AUG --Auditions for "The Way of All Fish," Abrams Center, 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Call 0162-296-2776.
- 18-21 AUG --Eastern European football camp open to high school players. Info. packets in the Commons.
- 19 AUG --Writing workshop with best-selling author Gary Shteyngart, Conn Community Club, 6 p.m.
--Club Beyond trip to the Silvana Schwimmbad, 2-4 p.m. For more information, call 354-8620.
--Love & Logic parenting class, Army Community Service 5- 7 p.m. Call 09721-96-6933.
--Registration opens for dodgeball tournament on Aug. 27 at 6 p.m. Call 09721-96-8234.
- 19-22 AUG --Flag football officials clinic at Finney Fitness Center, 6-8 p.m. For details, call 09721-96-8234.
- 20 AUG --Registration opens for unit-level dodgeball league. Season starts Sept. 16. Call 09721-96-8234.
--Teen magazine meeting, Ledward Library, 3 p.m. All teens invited. Call 09721-96-1740.
--Video-gamer's club, Ledward Library, 1 p.m. Call 09721-96-1740 for details.
- 21 AUG --Registration ends for Parents' Night Out childcare Aug. 31, 6:30-11:30 p.m. Call 354-6517.
- 22 AUG --Tailgate flea market, motor park across from PX parking lot, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$20 per vending slot, no tables provided. Call 09721-96-6205 to sell.
--Registration ends for dodgeball tournament at Finney gym Aug. 27 at 6 p.m. Call 354-8234.
- 26 AUG --Women's equality day two-mile fun walk, Askren Commissary parking lot, 9 a.m.
- 27 AUG --Book club meeting, Ledward Library, 5:15 p.m. Discussing "Quite a Year for Plums".
- 28 AUG --Parents' Night Out child care for ages 6 weeks to fifth-grade, 6:30-11:30 p.m. Call 354-6517.
- 31 AUG --Kindergarten readiness camp begins at School Age Services, 9-11 a.m. Call 09721-96-6090.
--School begins at Schweinfurt Elementary, Middle, and Bamberg High School.
- 2 SEPT --Registration ends for unit-level dodgeball league. Season starts Sept. 16. Call 09721-96-8234.
- 3 SEPT --Teen magazine meeting, Ledward Library, 3 p.m. All teens invited. Call 09721-96-1740.
- 5 SEPT --Splash Bash, Askren Manor, noon to 8 p.m. Concert and fun for kids and adults.
- 6 SEPT --Teen magazine meeting, Ledward Library, 3 p.m. All teens invited. Call 09721-96-1740.
- 8 SEPT --Community update forum in the multi-purpose room at the elementary school, 6 p.m.
--Lunch 'n Learn, Ledward Library, 12:15 p.m. Bring own lunch & learn about Tumblebooks.
- 20 SEPT --Trip to Lichtenfels basket market with Crafts Studio. Departs 8 a.m., returns 6 p.m. 354-6903.
- 23 SEPT --Hispanic heritage month lunch, Ledward Library, 12-1 p.m. Free food.

Community 6 week outlook calendar



Focus groups evaluate Covenant delivery

Story and photo by Mark Heeter

A four-person team from U.S. Army Europe, the Installation Management Command-Europe, and the Europe Regional Medical Command conducted focus groups to assess the success of the Army Family Covenant (AFC) in Schweinfurt July 30 and 31.

“What we’re trying to do is make sure we’re not just doing the assessment where we get information, but we give information to these people in the focus group sessions, so they become more aware of the Army Family Covenant and what it is,” said Berry Patrick, IMCOM-Europe project officer for the AFC.

While many customers recognize free and reduced-fee child care as AFC benefits, some do not see the covenant in other projects, such as fitness center upgrades, improvements to other facilities and what Berry calls “common marketplaces” -- streets, shopping areas and other spaces where members of the Army family gather.

“A lot of people are familiar with the

program and the improvements that are taking place, but they didn’t actually understand that it’s linked to the covenant itself,” said Leslie Mehall, special



Construction workers build what will become an exercise room at the Finney Fitness Center on Conn Barracks. The project is a facility improvement that grew directly out of Army Family Covenant, currently under review at garrisons throughout Europe.

assistant to Gen. Carter Ham, USAREUR commanding general, who ordered the review of the covenant as it nears the end of its second year.

By mid-August, the team will have facilitated four focus groups – employees,

single Soldiers, company-grade leaders, and Soldiers and family members – in each of nine garrisons across Europe. While explaining the AFC to the groups, the team is primarily looking to see how the program is being delivered around Europe.

“(Ham) wanted to know, do we focus on one community too much or not enough on another. Or do we give a balanced approach across Europe that everybody got equal emphasis on the covenant,” Patrick said.

“Lastly, he wants to know, what did we get right, what did we get wrong, how we can do it better, what recommendations would he need to take back to DA at the two-year mark,” he said.

The assessment will not end with the focus groups, according to Mehall and Patrick but will be immediately followed by a month long web-based survey. All members of the Army family in Europe are encouraged to log on and take the survey, which will be available from Aug. 15 to Sept. 15.

Cub Scouts enjoy the scouting tradition: camping

Story and photo by Mark Heeter



Diane Schmidt, right, Webelos den leader with Pack 630, helps Anne Ike put the finishing touches on 10-year-old Godson Ike's camping gear.

Wearing the same bright orange T-shirts as their adult leaders, 15 Cub Scouts from Schweinfurt Troop 630 piled into cars and vans in Askren Manor Monday to begin their journey to their four-day summer camp.

“It’s a beautiful camp,” said scouting committee chairman Fred Gordon, referring to the area near Bad Windsheim where the scouts are camping until tomorrow.

The local Cub Scouts are part of a larger group of 102 Cub Scouts from throughout Europe at the camp, which was used earlier in the summer by Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

“We finish out the camping season,” Gordon said.

“They’ll be swimming, doing archery, all kinds of sports. They’ll be learning how to build a campfire,” Gordon said.

While parents put the final checks on the kids’ luggage and camping gear, Diane Schmidt, Webelos den leader, joked that the adults would be the tired ones at the end of the trip.

“I think it’s going to be great for the kids. They’re going to have lots of fun,” she said.



Army institutes QMP for senior NCOs

U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army press release

HEIDELBERG, Germany -- All active-duty and Active Guard and Reserve Soldiers in the ranks of sergeant first class and above with 20 or more years active service will soon be considered for discharge or retirement based on duty performance, according to a July 23 letter from Thomas Lamont, assistant secretary of the Army for manpower and reserve affairs, to senior Army personnel and human resources command (HRC) officials.

The letter outlines the provisions for the reinstatement of a revised version of the Qualitative Management Program (QMP) under which eligible Soldiers may be denied continued service based on indicators of marginal or poor performance.

The program is being reinstated to "ensure senior noncommissioned officers serve in a manner consistent

with good order and discipline, and that those serving in positions of authority perform in an exemplary manner," the letter states.

It also outlines the guidelines for the revised program.

Eligible NCOs may be denied continued service under the QMP if HRC receives any of the following documents pertaining to the Soldier since the date of his or her last promotion:

- a general officer letter or memorandum of reprimand
- a conviction by court martial or punishment under Article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice
- a relief for cause NCO Evaluation Report (NCOER)
- an NCOER with a rating by the senior rater of fair or poor in the overall performance or potential blocks
- an academic evaluation report indicating the Soldier has failed a NCO education system course

Only command sergeants major and sergeants major with 30 or more years of active service and senior NCOs with approved retirements will be exempt from QMP consideration.

If HRC receives any of the listed documents for filing in an eligible senior NCO's official military personnel file, the command will notify the Soldier through his or her chain of command and inform the Soldier that he or she will be considered for denial of continued service in conjunction with an upcoming promotion selection board.

Those Soldiers will be given an opportunity to submit mitigating evidence to the president of the board. If a Soldier is selected for denial of continued service, he or she may appeal only on the grounds of material errors, newly discovered evidence or subsequent removal of documents from official files.

NCOs identified for denial of continued service will be given the option to submit a voluntary request for retirement in lieu of involuntary discharge. If retirement is approved, all other provisions of the law for which the Soldier is eligible will remain in force. The Soldier may request any retirement date -- subject to Army approval - - not later than the first day of the seventh month following approval of the QMP results. Affected Soldiers who do not opt to request retirement will be given orders directing their involuntary discharge on that date.

The program will be implemented in phases, starting with the most senior NCOs. The accompanying chart outlines those phases. Once a pay grade comes into consideration under the QMP, all Soldiers in that grade may become eligible for QMP consideration when they reach 20 years of active service.

SKIES ballet dances the summer away



From left, Shannon Alexander, Sydney Miller, Deja DeBorja, and Morgen Hopson practice for the end-of-summer ballet performance July 30. School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration, and Skills offers ballet classes for youth ages 3-9, held at Schweinfurt Elementary School. Classes will resume in Sept. (Photo by Sandra Wilson)

CHAPEL

pertinent to the Schweinfurt community, with so many Soldiers and families in the middle of the deployment cycle, Wiedemer went on.

"Military kids have to deal with a lot of fear ... on a usual daily basis. Their dads and moms are away in Iraq and Afghanistan, and I think there's just about everybody who knows somebody who has lost someone in the war," she said.

Addressing fears is a common reality in today's world, she said. The children who attend VBS will learn how to deal with those emotions, all the while being surrounded by a fun, family-type atmosphere.

"We want to provide an opportunity for the kids to enjoy spiritual growth in a safe and comfortable environment," said Donna Hilley, USAG Schweinfurt religious education coordinator.



Vice says mental health more than stopping suicides

Army News Service press release
By C. Todd Lopez

WASHINGTON -- The Army must go beyond preventing Soldier suicides, and take a look at addressing other symptoms of a force struggling with eight years of persistent conflict, said the service's vice chief.

During testimony July 29, before the House Armed Services military personnel subcommittee, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Peter Chiarelli told lawmakers the Army is concerned with not only suicides but also acts of violence, increased use of alcohol, drug abuse, infidelity and reckless driving.

"We've been at war for nearly eight years," Chiarelli said. "That has undeniably put a strain on our people and our equipment. Unfortunately, in a growing segment of the Army's population, we have seen increased stress and anxiety manifest itself through high-risk behavior, including acts of violence, excessive use of alcohol, drug abuse, and reckless driving."

In the most extreme cases, however, Soldiers commit suicide. And the Army

has seen an increase in Soldiers taking their own lives. In 2008, 140 Soldiers in the active-duty Army took their own lives. That puts the 2008 active-duty suicide rate at 20.2 per 100,000 -- the highest ever for the Army and, for the first time, higher than the civilian rate.

In order to better understand the rise in suicides, the Army asked the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) to study its causes in the ranks. The study commissioned by the Army will focus on behavioral health, psychological resilience, suicide risk, suicide-related behaviors, and suicide deaths across the active and reserve components.

"There is no doubt in my mind that this reduced dwell time is causing a tremendous amount of stress on the force, on Soldiers, and on families," Chiarelli said.

Chiarelli also told lawmakers the Army has several initiatives to improve the psychological wellness of Soldiers.

"Secretary of the Army Pete Geren and Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. George Casey consciously made the decision to expand our efforts to improve the overall

behavioral health and well being of the force," Chiarelli said.

Part of the proactive approach to Soldier well being is the Army's Comprehensive Soldier Fitness (CSF) program, Chiarelli told legislators.

"We recognize people come into the Army with a very diverse range of experiences, strengths and vulnerabilities in their mental as well as physical condition," he said. "Studies have shown that mental and emotional strength are just as important as physical strength to the safety and well being of our Soldiers."

Chiarelli said he believed that there is an uptick in substance abuse problems in the Army as a result of ongoing stressors on the force. The Army has responded to that with an increase in substance abuse counselors, and recently, a pilot program at one installation allows Soldiers to self-identify for alcohol abuse without the knowledge of their command.

To read the whole story, go to <http://www.army.mil/-news/2009/08/03/25400-vice-says-mental-health-more-than-stopping-suicides/?ref=home-headline-title3>.

Babil nurses and midwives receive new skills from Americans

By Pfc. Bethany Little
172nd Infantry Brigade

AL-HILLAH, Iraq— The 172nd Infantry Brigade medical team Soldiers came together with members of the 10th Combat Support Hospital (CSH) and the 115th CSH to train and educate Iraqi nurses during a four-day medical symposium at the Babil Maternity Hospital, here July 26-29.

Midwives, emergency room, ward and premature intensive care unit teams worked with 40 Iraqi nurses and midwives to help them gain knowledge about infection control, patient assessments and other skills that American nurses deem as basic knowledge.

"We're trying to provide education for the nurses and midwives who don't have the

opportunity to further their education outside of Iraq," said Capt. Sharon Owen, brigade nurse, Charlie Company, 172nd Support Battalion.



Maj. Pamela Dipartrizio, chief of clinical operations, Task Force 1st Medical, teaches two Iraqi nurses how to resuscitate an infant mannequin. (Photo by Pfc. Bethany Little)

The symposium began by separating the Iraqi nurses into smaller groups and touring the different work areas.

"I'm so excited to learn all the things the American nurses have to share with us," said Neda'a Wahab, midwife and health researcher, Babil Maternity Hospital. "They have new information and they're here to support and help us to grow in our profession."

After the medical team saw the different areas of the hospital, the structure for the symposium began to change.

"We focused the second day of the symposium on applied training such as patient assessments and bedside assistance," said 1st Lt. Betty Moore, general medical surgeon nurse, 10th CSH

On the third day, the teams split up in the morning to perform rounds and train in the hospital wards. However, the midwife team stayed in a large conference room to learn how to prevent postpartum hemorrhaging.

"Deaths from postpartum hemorrhaging is a major problem here in Iraq," said Dr. Sundus Karam Ali, head emergency obstetrics care nurse, Babil Maternity Hospital.

The last day of the symposium, the medical team instructed them on neonatal resuscitation.

"I think that we're showing them that there are more opportunities as a nurse and leaving them with a broader knowledge of skills," Owen said.



Pentagon weighs social networking benefits, vulnerabilities

By John Kruzel
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—A Defense Department review is weighing the benefits of social networking and other Web 2.0 platforms against potential security vulnerabilities they create.

In a memo issued last week, Deputy Defense Secretary William Lynn III directed a study of social media sites like Twitter, Facebook and YouTube in hopes of establishing a policy by October, Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman told reporters today.

“We’re addressing the challenges from a security standpoint but also the impact and the value that they have to the department to be able to communicate in a 21st century environment,” Whitman said.

Per his deputy’s memo, Defense Secretary Robert Gates is slated to receive a report on the threats and benefits of Web

2.0 tools before the end of the month. Both Gates and Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, have embraced the new technologies.

The Pentagon’s chief information officer is taking the lead on the review, which was catalyzed by concerns raised at U.S. Strategic Command, Whitman said. Stratcom is responsible for overseeing the use of the “dot-mil” network.

In the meantime, there are no department-wide orders banning the use of social networking and other Web 2.0 applications, Whitman said, adding that standard local restrictions to such sites may occur due to bandwidth or security concerns.

“But as a department, we recognize the importance of taking a look at this issue because there are legitimate security concerns,” he said.

In an interview with a blog site yesterday, Price Floyd, the principal deputy assistant

secretary of defense for public affairs, emphasized the importance of maintaining operational security, or Opsec, in an era of Web-based social networking.

“Opsec is paramount. We will have procedures in place to deal with that,” Floyd told Wired’s “Danger Room.”

“The [Defense Department] is, in that sense, no different than any big company in America. What we can’t do is let security concerns trump doing business. We have to do business ... Companies in the private sector that have policies like us don’t dare shut down their Web sites. They have to sell their products and ideas -- and this is how it’s done.

“Opsec needs to catch up with this stuff. This is the modern equivalent of sending a letter home from the front lines,” he added. “Opsec needs to be considered on this stuff, but the more our troops do this stuff, the better off we are.”

Escort to internet cafe provides security for reconstruction team

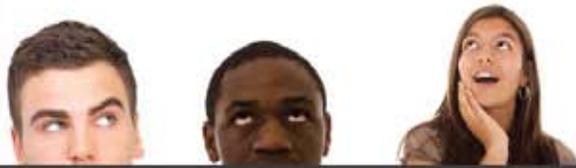


U.S. Army Sgt. Ryan Swann provides security while other Soldiers escort members of the Wasit Provincial Reconstruction Team into a local internet cafe in Al Kut, Iraq, Sunday. Swann and his fellow Soldiers are assigned to Battery A, 1st Battalion, 77th Field Artillery Regiment. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Brien Vorhees)



What does
ARMY Family Covenant
mean to you? Check out the website to find the answers!

ARMYOneSource.com



 **SOLDIERS • FAMILIES • ARMY CIVILIANS**
ARMY STRONG. 

 **An Evening of the Arts**
 Conversations with **Gary Shteyngart**

Gary Shteyngart, best-selling author of *Absurdistan* and *The Russian Debutante's Handbook*, is coming to Schweinfurt!

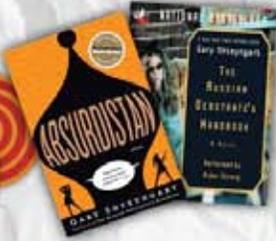


August 19

On the Patio of the Conn Community Club

- 5:30-7 p.m. Writing Workshop
- 7-8 p.m. Mr. Shteyngart reads from his books

For more information, call 09721-96-1740/DSN 354-1740.



Enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres and a Poetry Slam Session before the workshop.  Army Europe Libraries

 **KESSLER FITNESS**
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All classes are FREE!
 For more information, call **AUGUST 2009**
 CIV 09721-96-6735/DSN 354-6735.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
	Bootcamp Spinning: 12 - 12:30 p.m. Pilates: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. 3	4	Bootcamp Spinning: 12 - 12:30 p.m. Yoga: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Aerobics: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. 5	6
10	Pilates: 9 - 10 a.m. Bootcamp Spinning: 12 - 12:30 p.m. Aerobics: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. 11	12	Yoga: 9 - 10 a.m. Bootcamp Spinning: 12 - 12:30 p.m. 13	
17	Bootcamp Spinning: 12 - 12:30 p.m. Pilates: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Aerobics: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. 18	19	Bootcamp Spinning: 12 - 12:30 p.m. Yoga: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Aerobics: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. 20	
24	Pilates: 9 - 10 a.m. Bootcamp Spinning: 12 - 12:30 p.m. Aerobics: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. 25	26	Yoga: 9 - 10 a.m. Bootcamp Spinning: 12 - 12:30 p.m. Aerobics: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. 27	

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