



The IGUANA



Volume 15, No. 21

October 17, 2003

MEDEL saves boy's leg



Photo by Spc. James-Denton Wyllie

MEDEL and 1-228 soldiers put a Honduran boy aboard a Blackhawk for medical evacuation to Escuela City Hospital Sept. 27. The youth suffered an open fracture with blood loss in the left tibia and fibula after a traffic accident. MEDEL personnel were notified and stabilized the patient before final MEDAVAC.





Bronze Star awarded to Captain Price

Article and Photo
By Spc. James-Denton Wyllie
Editor

1st Lt. Phoebe Price was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and promoted to the rank of captain Oct. 1 by JTF-Bravo Commander Col William Phelps.

Price earned the reward for her accomplishments while serving as the commander of the 403 Transportation Detachment, and as the adjutant for Logistics Task Force 264 in Afghanistan.



Capt. Phoebe Price is presented the Bronze Star medal by JTF-Bravo commander Col. William Phelps.

"Lt. Price has truly earned every thread on this medal," said Phelps.

A clean heart can be had

By Chaplain Tommy Vaughn
JTF-Bravo Command Chaplain

I remember reading Edgar Allen Poe's, "The Telltale Heart," years ago.

The main character in the story commits murder and buries the body in the basement. As he begins to drift off to sleep that night, he hears the heartbeat of his dead victim. Cold sweat pours over him as the heartbeat goes on and on, relentlessly, getting louder and louder.

Eventually, the pounding drives him mad. As it turns out, the pounding wasn't in the grave below, but in his chest. He simply couldn't escape the guilt of his deed.

Have you ever felt that way? Something in your past, something no one else knows about, yet your conscience is consumed with guilt. How do you get beyond the guilt, the shame, the fear of discovery?

I believe the answer is found in Psalm 51:10 where David says, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me."

Admit that you have a need for cleansing in your life. I heard about two bachelors who were talking one day and their conversation drifted somehow to cooking. One of them said, "I got a cookbook once, but I could never do anything with it." The other one said, "Too much work to it, huh?" The first one said, "Yeah, it sure was. Every one of the recipes began the same way - 'Take a clean dish.'"

The problem with our rela-

tionship with God is much the same. God says, "Take a clean life," and we say, "Wait a minute, that's a problem." Sin is dirty, it's filthy, it stains our lives. Like a mechanic who's been working under the car all day or the gardener who's been out digging in the dirt, we're covered with filth. And there is the need for us to be cleansed.

Acknowledge that true cleansing begins in the heart. David doesn't say, "Change the way I behave." He says, "Change my heart." It's not that how you behave isn't important. It is. But your actions, behavior, communication, and appearance (outward self) are all a direct result of what is in your heart (inward self).

That's why Jesus says in the Sermon on the Mount, "Don't sit back all proud just because you've never murdered anyone. And don't think you're somebody special just because you've never committed adultery. Let's take a look at what's in your heart." True cleansing begins in the heart.

Allow God to create the clean heart. David doesn't offer to do it himself. In fact, he knows that he can't. The word "create" used here in Psalm 51 is the very same Hebrew word used in Genesis. It means to create something out of nothing. Human beings can fashion, arrange, or remodel things, but we can never create anything in the true sense of the word.

Only God can create. Only God has the ability to take a heart of sin, purify it and cleanse

it. Only what God has done for us through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross can take away our sin, guilt and shame. Only He can create a new heart.

Adjust your attitude so God can cleanse your heart. Since God is the only one who can create a clean heart, some have the idea that we should just sit back and wait for God to do it! The truth is you must have the right attitude before God can do anything with your heart. **There must be confession.** Don't try to deny it, make excuses, blame someone else, or cover up your sin. Accept responsibility for your actions.

Some of you have suffered for years with a guilty conscience because you aren't willing to acknowledge your sin. You refuse to be honest with yourself and with God. **There must be contrition.** To be contrite does not mean merely feeling bad or remorseful about sin. It means that we have a genuine sorrow for our rebellion against God and a desire to do differently.

The most beautiful part of this story is that God answered David's prayer, cleansed his heart and is willing to do the same for all of us. God delights in forgiving. And when He forgives, He doesn't continue to hold it over our heads. "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us." (Psalm 103:12)

If you need to talk, contact Chap. (Capt.) Tommy Vaughn, JTF-B Command Chaplain, at 6844.

Don't forget to get Influenza shots



Photo by Martin Chahin

SUBMISSIONS

The Iguana is always looking for submissions. Any articles, photos or letters to be submitted to *The Iguana* should be sent to the PAO at james.wyllie@jtfb.southcom.mil or delivered to the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. D-06. If you have questions about possible submissions call ext. 4150 or 4676 to talk to the editor.

The IGUANA

EDITORIAL STAFF

JTF-Bravo Commander

Col. William G. Phelps

Public Affairs Director

1st Lt. Rob Goza

Superintendent

Tech. Sgt. Tom Mullican

Editor

Spc. James-Denton Wyllie

Photo Technician

Martin Chahin

E-mail:

PUBLIFFAIRSOFFICE@jtfb.southcom.mil

Website: <http://www.southcom.mil/home/jtfbravo>

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October 17, 2003

News

The IGUANA 3



Air Force Staff Sgt. Jessie Cadavid demonstrates the uses of emergency rescue equipment to a group of Honduran students from Zamorano University Sept. 28. The students attended a two-day seminar in which they received training from MEDEL and the fire department in basic rescue techniques and procedures.

MEDEL and Fire Dawgs train volunteers

**Article and Photos
By Spc. James-Denton Wyllie
Editor**

MEDEL and Fire Department emergency medical technicians trained Honduran college students in basic emergency rescue procedures and techniques Sept. 25.

The Zamorano University students who attended the two-day seminar will use their new-found knowledge to improve their own volunteer paramedic force.

“We came here with the specific goal of upgrading and refining our current techniques,” said Paul Stufkens, Zamorano University. “We’re eager to learn anything that can help save lives.”

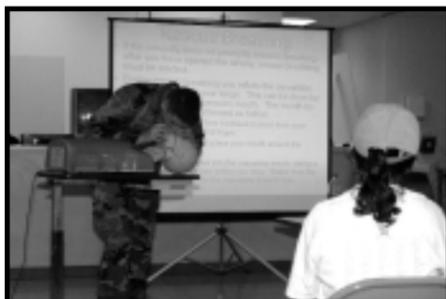
During the first day, the students learned the basics of rescue breathing and CPR from MEDEL personnel. They also received training on dressings, splints and tourniquets.

“They’re going to learn the triage fundamentals to be able to assess an emergency situation,” said Staff Sgt. Pamela Frank, EMT NCOIC. “The goal is for them to be able to sustain a patient’s condition until they can reach a hospital.”

On the second day, the students went to the fire department where they received a tour of the facility and vehicles. Firefighters also instructed the group on the purposes of various pieces of emergency rescue equipment.

The opportunity to learn from JTF-Bravo service members is one that the group will cherish for a long time, said Stufkens.

“It’s great for us to be trained by a recognized group such as the American military,” he said. “Not only do we receive better training, but the students get more confidence in themselves because they know they were trained by some of the best.”



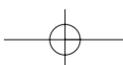
Spc. Christopher Luttmann teaches the basics of rescue breathing.

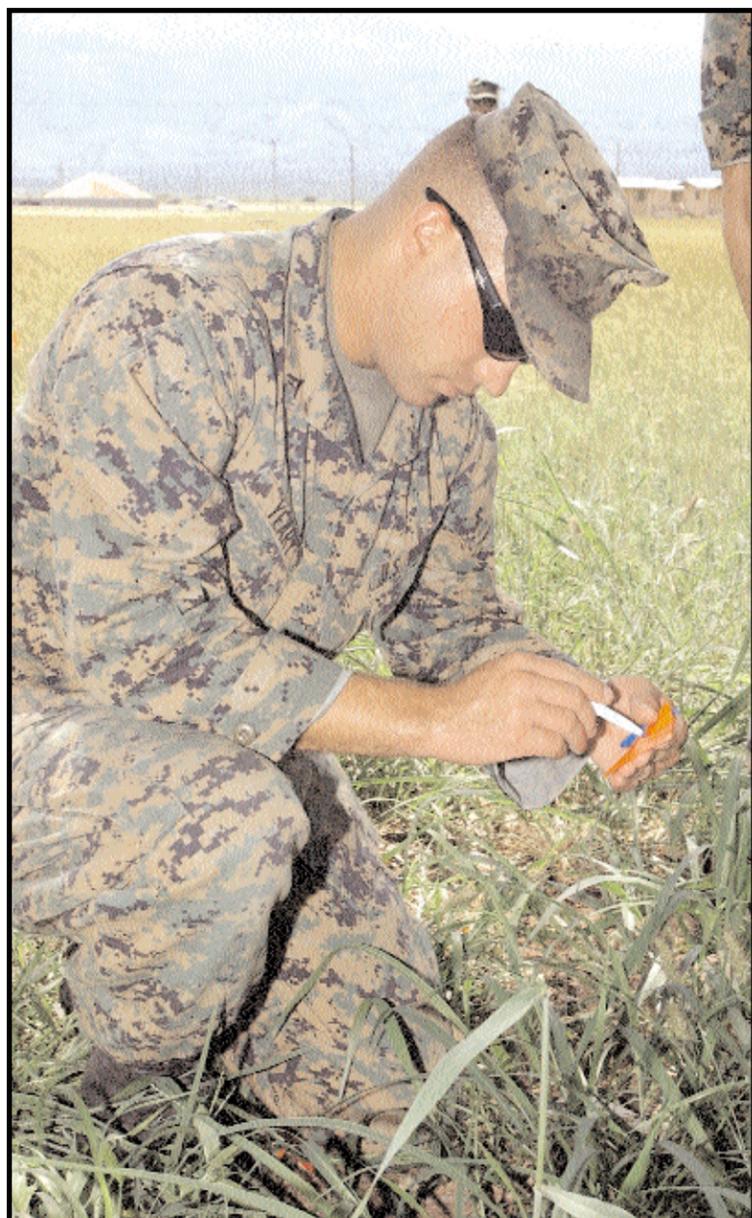


Students tour an ambulance with Staff Sgt. Jessie Cadavid.



Air Force Staff Sgt. Stephen Crandall instructs a Honduran college student on the mechanics of an air pump.





Marine Pfc. Michael Yeary writes a code designator on a location flag for a recently discovered personal effect during a JTF-Bravo mortuary affairs training practical exercise.



JTF-Bravo service member walk down a field in line formation to search for human remains and effects during mortuary affairs training Oct. 02.

Respecting fa



Spc. Erin Thomas marks a training dummy with an orange flag during JTF-Bravo m... bers in the proper way to identify, record and transport remains and personal effect

JTF-Bravo personnel gain new per... fellow service members through m...

Article and Photos
By Spc. James-Denton Wyllie
Editor

When a fatal state of affairs involving service members occurs, it is a tragedy felt throughout the military community.

Moreover, it is felt by the family and friends that person leaves behind. For those linked to the deceased, some comfort can come from the knowledge that those charged with mortuary duties handled their loved one's remains with dignity and respect.

This is the lesson that 14 JTF-Bravo service members took with them after completing mortuary affairs training at Soto Cano Oct. 02.

"I've come to realize that... unimportant, when it come... effects," said trainee Sgt. A... that person had is precious

For the three-day course... Mortuary Affairs Training... traveled to Soto Cano to tra... instruction, autopsy famili... and recovery operations. T... mortuary in the city of Teg... ies are prepared and held a... involving prosthetic limbs... and human scale mannequ...

"This training needs to b... because when the call com...





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llen comrades



mortuary affairs training Oct. 02. Instructors from Fort Lee, Va. trained service mem-
ts through classroom instruction and practical exercises over a three-day course.

erspective on responsibilities to mortuary affairs training Oct. 2

at nothing is too small or
es to someone's remains or
Angel Cruz. "Everything
to their family."
e, instructors from the
Battalion at Fort Lee, Va.
ain personnel in basic MA
arization, and MA search
The group also traveled to a
ucigalpa to see how bod-
large practical exercise
, mock personal effects
ins.
be as realistic as possible
es in the middle in the

night it's going to be a shock," said instructor Sgt. 1st
Class Randy Posey. "They need to be able to focus
on their responsibilities because the family of that
service member is depending on them to make sure
that their son or daughter gets the best treatment."
After completing training, service members were
presented with certificates recognizing their new
skills. Although he hopes never to have to use his
new-found knowledge, he is prepared if the situation
arises, said Cruz.
"Before where I would have had no idea of what to
do; I now know what my responsibilities are not on-
ly at the scene, but to the family of the servicemem-
ber back home," he said.



Instructor Sgt. 1st Class Randy Posey briefs JTF-Bravo service mem-
bers before a practical exercise during mortuary affairs training.



Sgt. Angel Cruz locates a prosthetic limb on an over hanging
tree branch during JTF-Bravo mortuary affairs training.





Doug Allen and the Mob



The members of the Doug Allen and the Chicago Mob band play a song for JTF- Bravo members Sept. 25 at the Oasis Club. The band performed throughout the week as a morale booster. (From left, Alyssa Banks, Mike Fischel, Doc Sloan, Doug Allen, Chaz Wizenreed, Timotha Reed, Jim Haase, and Sarah Marie.)



Timotha Reed, Alyssa Banks and Sarah Marie sing during a concert for JTF-Bravo personnel at the Oasis Club.



Band member Tom Clark plays a solo on his saxophone during a concert.

MWR band gives concert for JTF-Bravo personnel

Article and Photos
By Spc. James-Denton Wyllie
Editor

Musical group Doug Allen and the Chicago Mob finished off their week-long visit to entertain JTF-Bravo personnel with their last concert Sept. 30 at the Oasis Club.

The nine-member group booked by the MWR office, played a mixture of folk, blues, rock and popular music during the three-hour concert, and took requests from the audience.

"We just want to show how much we appreciate our freedom," said Doug Allen. "If it wasn't for all the hard work that the people in our military do everyday, we wouldn't all enjoy the lives we have today."

The band played several songs and wrapped up with a rendition of Kid Rock and Sheryl Crow's "Picture", that earned them a standing ovation.

"I think it was great that they came to play at Soto Cano," said Spc. April Maloney. "I had a good time."



JTF-Bravo personnel enjoy a concert.





October 17, 2003

News

The IGUANA 7



Marine Sgt. Christopher Beard instructs Pfc. Michael Yeary on the proper way to apply an intravenous catheter to Lance Cpl. Nathan Myers during Marine Corps Combat I.V. training Sept. 29. The Marines learned proper procedures and techniques for inserting I.Vs. Airmen were also on hand to take advantage of the class.

Photos by Spc. James-Denton Wyllie

Combat I.V. Marines learn life saving skills during medic course

By Spc. James-Denton Wyllie
Editor

Marines from JTF-Bravo's Joint Security Force practiced critical life-saving skills during their Marine Corps Combat I.V. course Sept. 29.

The course focused on the application of intravenous catheters, and the regulation of fluid solutions to the blood stream.

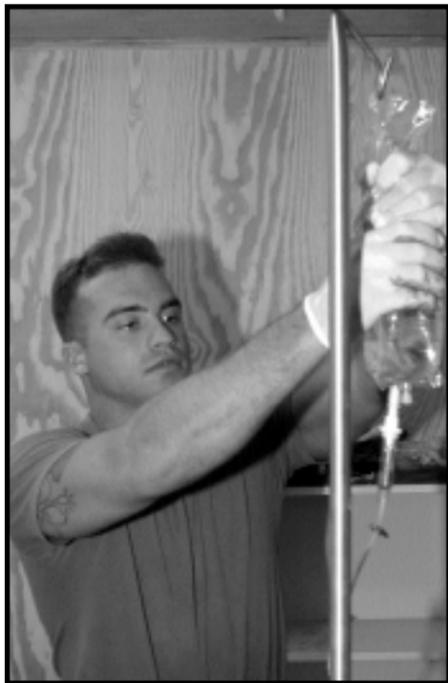
"These skills are critical to the battlefield, because each and every one of these Marines could have to administer an I.V.," said Marine Sgt. Christopher Beard, MCCIV instructor.

Throughout the course, Marines practiced inserting catheters by needle on each other. Although the repeated "sticking" wasn't enjoyable, they realize the value behind the pain, said Marine Pfc. Michael Yeary.

"It's not going to be fun when it happens in real life," he said. "Saving the life of my fellow Marine is more important than a little bleeding."

Indeed, the emphasis that this is combat training is the most important aspect of the course said Beard.

"This is tough, realistic training," he said. "It's the kind that saves lives later."



Pfc. Michael Yeary readies a saline fluid bag for use during Marine Corps Combat I.V. training.



Senior Airman Tara Fann clears the air from a catheter before use during Marine Corps Combat I.V. training.





What more could a kid ask for?



MEDEL service member Sgt. Mario Ferebee jumps rope with local Honduran children during a MEDEL-organized children's day Sept. 26 at Soto Cano. Ferebee and other MEDEL personnel treated the children of two local orphanages to food, swimming and outdoor games during the day-long celebration.



Spc. Priscilla Rogers wipes the face of a Honduran child during MEDEL's Kids Day.



A JTF-Bravo Fire Dawg sprays local children with a water hose during MEDEL's Kid's Day.



Spc. Angela Escusa holds hands with a Honduran girl during MEDEL's Kid's Day.

MEDEL show children fun

Article and Photos by
Spc. James-Denton Wyllie
Editor

JTF-Bravo's MEDEL showed that they heal more than bodies when they invited over 200 children for an organizational day Sept. 26.

The kids were orphans from Hogar Nazareth, a MEDEL sponsored orphanage.

"We really appreciate it on both sides when we get to see each other, because they don't have families to visit, and most of us are away from our families," said Spc. Angel Escusa.

Service members played games such as tug-of-war, jump rope and the water balloon toss with children throughout the day. Fire Dawgs from the Soto Cano Fire Department were also on hand to spray water from fire hoses and give fire truck tours.

The children ate hamburgers and hot dogs for lunch before heading back to Hogar Nazareth. The smiles on the faces of the kids as they left made his day, said Spc. Alessandro Moreira.

"The fact that these kids are going to sleep with smiles is the best reward for us," he said. "Today they felt like they were family."

