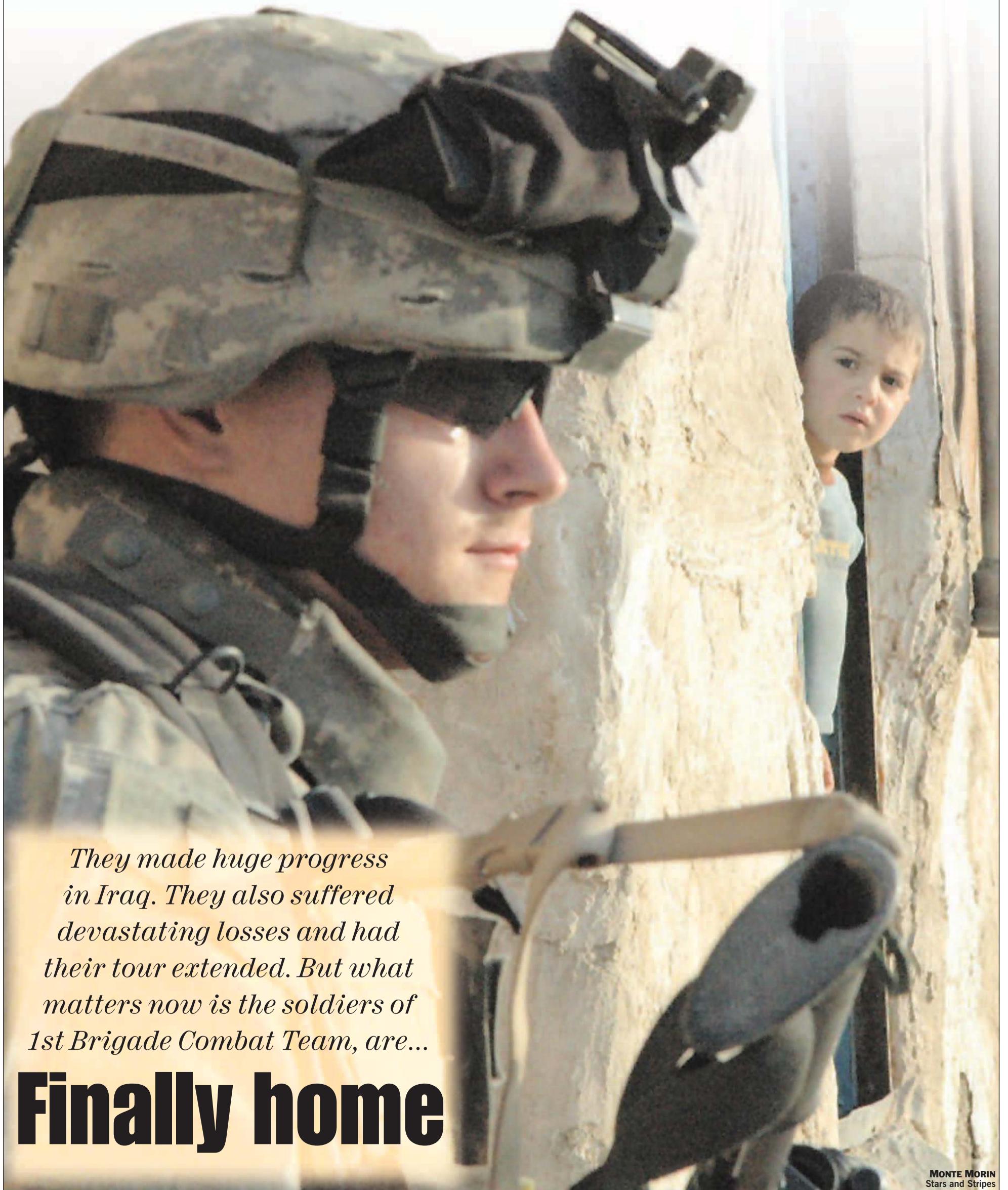


STARS AND STRIPES®

1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division — March 6, 2007



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Soldiers from Task Force 2-37, 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division patrol Tal Afar, Iraq, as part of Operation Duke Storm.

Tragedy and progress in Iraq

1st Brigade troops hit the streets to earn the trust of honest citizens

BY GEOFF ZIEZULEWICZ
Stars and Stripes

Despite the mass of forces that assemble for deployment to a combat zone, war often is described as a very personal experience. No two soldiers take in the brutal and often chaotic surroundings in the same way.

But in Iraq, similarities inevitably arise: a local population that doesn't always seem trustworthy. Local authorities who can seem even less so. Frustrating missions where a soldier's head is on a constant swivel.

The 1st Armored Division's 1st Brigade Combat Team saw a bit of all aspects of the Iraqi experience during its recently completed deployment.

Through a deployment that saw heavy action for many soldiers in Anbar province, "Ready First" soldiers also worked to win the peace in places such as Sinjar and Tal Afar, while overtly taking it to the enemy in hellish locales such as Ramadi.

Over the course of about 14 months on the ground, 31 of the brigade's soldiers were killed.

Back from war, many 1st BCT soldiers at Ray Barracks in Friedberg, Germany, last week seemed reluctant to talk about their experiences, individually or collectively.

"What else is there to say?" Sgt. Thomas Fleming, of the 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor

Regiment, said. "I wouldn't recommend that experience on anybody, or as a vacation spot."

While there's not enough space to tell the story of every brigade unit and soldier, it started for many on Jan. 5, 2006, when they officially said goodbye, 18 months after the brigade's first Iraq deployment.

The enemy had time to develop since that last deployment, and more days during the latest tour would be spent training and standing up Iraqi counterparts, brigade commander Col. Sean B. MacFarland told his soldiers on that cold, gray January morning.

"Counterinsurgencies are tough," he said. "Lawrence of Arabia likened it to eating soup with a knife."

By February, the brigade took command of Tal Afar, a city of 250,000 about 40 miles from the Syrian border that had seen some progress under the departing 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment.

On March 8, between Tal Afar and the city of Mosul, Pfc. Ricky Salas Jr., a 22-year-old attached to the 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment, became the first death of the new deployment. Four others were injured when a roadside bomb went off near Salas' vehicle.

As the months progressed, many 1st BCT soldiers worked to take a more intimate approach to Tal Afar than their predecessors.

While the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regi-

ment ground through in Bradley fighting vehicles and tanks after recapturing the city, brigade troops relied more heavily on foot patrols. The biggest challenge in Tal Afar was winning over the people, and to help them understand that the soldiers were there to help, Fleming said.

More foot patrols in the city meant less damage for locals to get angry about, and also offered troops a way to spot roadside bombs and other potential dangers.

"Foot patrols are a risk, but you will have the population talk to you," Lt. Col. John K. Tien, the 2-37 commander, said in April. "Dismounted patrols allow face-to-face contact, as opposed to contact at the end of a tank barrel. I think the people who are not terrorists also appreciate the fact that we're willing to get on the street and share the burden of risk with them. There's a psychological bonding there."

In Sinjar, an area of roughly 650,000 Iraqis near Tal Afar, a different picture emerged for soldiers from the brigade's 1st Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment. In an area with less day-to-day violence, soldiers struggled to make it clear to the locals that coalition forces were not the cure-all to their problems.

Like troops throughout Iraq, they were trying to help the Iraqis stand on their own.

"If there's a concern about people who are participating in anti-government activities — something about [bombs] or weap-

ons — that's my jurisdiction," Capt. Aaron Dixon, commander of the 1-37's "Bulldog" Company, said in April. "But if the issue is about one farmer fighting another, one man being killed by another or a robbery, that's the Iraqi police's jurisdiction."

The summer saw 1st Brigade forces battling to take control of Ramadi, which is another story in and of itself.

In late September, as "Ready First" soldiers continued to slog through, word came down that the brigade's deployment was being extended 46 days. The brigade was extended to allow a unit from the 3rd Infantry Division its minimum 12 months respite before deploying.

"Overall, I understand why the decision was made," Maj. Gen. Fred Robinson, 1st AD commander, said after the announcement. "But it doesn't lessen your concern or pain."

Instead of returning in mid-January of this year, brigade soldiers started getting back to Germany in February and early March.

In a war that has sent some soldiers on three tours already, it can inevitably get hard for some to gauge the impact their deployments have had on things overall.

The changing tides in Iraq often seem beyond the purview of a squad, platoon, company, regiment or brigade.

"I can't say how the brigade did," Fleming said. "I can't say we did any good, or that we did any bad either."

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“I think the people who are not terrorists also appreciate the fact that we're willing to get on the street and share the burden of risk with them. There's a psychological bonding there.”

Lt. Col. John K. Tien

Commander, 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment

Remembering the fallen

of the 1st Brigade Combat Team



Pfc. Ricky Salas Jr.
2nd Battalion,
37th Armor Regiment

A soldier who joined the Army to give himself and his family the chance to travel and have a better life, Salas, of New Mexico, was in the military for 18 months before he was killed March 7, 2006, in Mosul, when a roadside bomb went off near his vehicle. He was the first "Ready First" soldier killed in Iraq with this recent deployment.



Staff Sgt. Emmanuel Legaspi
1st Battalion,
36th Infantry Regiment

A native of the Philippines who boxed for his native country in the 1988 Olympics, "Manny" Legaspi, 38, had only lived in the States for one year before joining the Army. He died of injuries sustained in Tal Afar on May 7, 2006, when his unit came under fire.



Sgt. Mark Vecchione
1st Battalion,
37th Armor Regiment

Though he was in command of his own tank, Sgt. "Vecc" volunteered to fill in as gunner on another before a patrol. The borrowed ride got hit by a roadside bomb outside the wire. Vecchione jumped to safety, only to land on another makeshift explosive. The 25-year-old Arizona died from those injuries on July 18, 2006, in Ramadi.



Staff Sgt. Clint J. Storey
Troop F, 1st Cavalry
Regiment (Brigade
Reconnaissance Troop)

The kind of guy who could play cards all night long yet still be good to go in the morning with nothing but a coffee and a Red Bull, the 30-year-old called Oklahoma home. Storey was killed on Aug. 4, 2006, in Ramadi, when a roadside bomb detonated near his vehicle.



Sgt. David Jimenez Almazan
1st Battalion,
36th Infantry Regiment

A medic who was new to the 1-36, the 27-year-old called California home and was a mentor for soldiers who called him "Doc." Almazan died in a roadside blast in Anbar on Aug. 27, 2006. In November, Almazan's wife received his naturalization certificate, making him a citizen of the country for which he died.



Sgt. Michael Weidemann
1st Battalion,
36th Infantry Regiment

The son of a Navy Seabee who was drawn to the order and regimentation of the military, Weidemann, 23, of Rhode Island, counted wrenching on cars and competition shooting as hobbies. He was enthralled with the Army from a young age, and was motivated to enlist after 9/11. He died Nov. 11, 2006, in Ramadi from injuries sustained when a makeshift bomb detonated near his vehicle.



Sgt. Angel De Jesus Lucio-Ramirez
16th Engineer Battalion

The 22-year-old Californian served with the battalion during its first Iraq tour from May 2003 to July 2004. He was enthralled with the Army from a young age, and was motivated to enlist after 9/11. He died Nov. 11, 2006, in Ramadi from injuries sustained when a makeshift bomb detonated near his vehicle.



Staff Sgt. William S. Jackson II
16th Engineer Battalion

Any hour of the day, this 29-year-old Michigan native was ready to talk to his soldiers about anything. Jackson had served in Afghanistan as a Marine in 2002, but went Army after a break in service. He died Nov. 11, 2006, in Ramadi of injuries suffered when a homemade bomb went off near his vehicle during combat operations.



Sgt. Nicholas Gibbs
1st Battalion,
37th Armor Regiment

Known to various soldiers by colorful nicknames such as "Giblet" and "Little Nick," this 25-year-old North Carolinian didn't like being part of his unit's rear detachment during the brigade's first Iraq deployment. He died Dec. 6, 2006, in Ramadi from injuries sustained when he was shot while engaging the enemy from a rooftop.



Spc. Vincent J. Pomante III
Headquarters and
Headquarters Battery,
2nd Battalion,
3rd Field Artillery Regiment

At 6-foot-5 and weighing 189 pounds, Pomante, 22, of Ohio, was a high school wrestling star and arguably the best wrestler in the brigade. Pomante died Dec. 6, 2006, in Ramadi from injuries suffered when a roadside bomb detonated near his vehicle.



Pfc. Jeremy W. Ehle
1st Battalion,
36th Infantry Regiment

Known as a soldier who was destined to do great things, Ehle, 19, of Virginia, was on his first duty assignment. He died of injuries sustained on April 2 when his foot patrol came under fire near Hit.



Capt. Jason West
Headquarters and
Headquarters Company,
1st Brigade

A rising star in the Army with a future that appeared limitless, West, 28, of Pennsylvania, had a ton of friends and treated everyone as equals. He died on July 24, 2006, in Ramadi from small-arms fire.



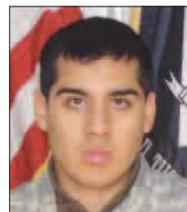
Sgt. Bradley Beste
Troop F, 1st Cavalry
Regiment (Brigade
Reconnaissance Troop)

Known as the epitome of the quiet, professional soldier, Beste, 22, of Illinois, was in the midst of his second Iraq tour. He was killed Aug. 4, 2006, in Ramadi, when a makeshift bomb went off.



1st Sgt. Aaron Jagger
1st Battalion,
37th Armor Regiment

A fantastic guitar player who bent Army rules to help one of his soldiers get his life in order, the 43-year-old Michigan resident was killed Aug. 9, 2006, in Ramadi when a roadside bomb detonated near his Humvee.



Spc. Ignacio Ramirez
1st Battalion,
37th Armor Regiment

The 22-year-old called Nevada home and joined the Army out of a sense of patriotism and duty. He died on Aug. 9, 2006, in Ramadi, after a makeshift bomb exploded near his vehicle.



Spc. Matthew E. Schneider
141st Signal Battalion

Known as an intelligent computer-whiz, Schneider, 23, of New Hampshire, was eager to learn everything he could from those around him. He died of a heart attack on Aug. 28, 2006, in Ramadi.



Spc. Andrew P. Daul
1st Battalion,
37th Armor Regiment

Daul, 21, of Michigan, was known as a gentle giant whose size, strength and good deeds were apparent to everyone. Daul died Dec. 19, 2006, in Hit, from injuries suffered when a makeshift bomb detonated near his tank.



Staff Sgt. Robert L. Love Jr.
16th Engineer Battalion

Love, 28, of Alabama, was an eight-year Army veteran who got along with everybody. He died Dec. 1, 2006, in Ramadi of injuries suffered when a roadside bomb detonated near his vehicle.



Pfc. David Dietrich
Troop F, 1st Cavalry
Regiment (Brigade
Reconnaissance Troop)

Known for his inner strength and conviction, the 21-year-old Pennsylvanian had been in the Army for less than a year. He died Dec. 29, 2006, in Ramadi from injuries caused by enemy fire.



Sgt. Edward Shaffer
1st Battalion,
36th Infantry Regiment

Though this 23-year-old Pennsylvanian had been injured earlier in his deployment, Shaffer insisted on staying. He died Dec. 27, 2006, in Texas, from injuries sustained on Nov. 13 in Ramadi, when a bomb detonated nearby.



Pvt. Jody Missildine
2nd Battalion,
37th Armor Regiment

The 19-year-old Florida native had enlisted while still in high school, where he enjoyed wrestling and track and field. Missildine told his family he truly felt like a man when in uniform. He was killed April 8, 2006, in Tal Afar, when a roadside bomb detonated near his vehicle.



Spc. Terry Lisk
1st Battalion,
37th Armor Regiment

A soldier who was said to have truly believed in the Iraq mission, no matter the difficulties, Lisk, 26, of Illinois, died June 26, 2006, of injuries sustained in Ramadi, when his unit received indirect fire from enemy forces. He was posthumously promoted to sergeant.



Spc. Shane Woods
1st Battalion,
37th Armor Regiment

The 23-year-old Alaskan had wanted to be in the Army since he was a child. In addition to his patriotism, Woods donated a portion of each paycheck to support an orphanage in India. He died on Aug. 9, 2006, in Ramadi, when a roadside bomb went off near his vehicle.



Sgt. Marquees Quick
Troop F, 1st Cavalry
Regiment (Brigade
Reconnaissance Troop)

A noncommissioned officer who loved everything military and called Alabama home, the 28-year-old Quick had re-enlisted against his family's wishes. He died on Aug. 19, 2006, in Ramadi from injuries sustained during a grenade attack.



Sgt. Mario Nelson
1st Battalion,
36th Infantry Regiment

A native of Haiti, the 26-year-old joined the Army after helping with recovery efforts as a National Guardsman at the World Trade Center after 9/11. Nelson died on Oct. 1, 2006, from injuries sustained when a rocket-propelled grenade detonated near his vehicle in Hit.



Spc. Douglas C. Desjardins
2nd Battalion,
37th Armor Regiment

Desjardins, 24, of Oregon, loved a good laugh. He enlisted to serve his country and protect those he loved. He died Nov. 5 in Ramadi from injuries sustained when a makeshift bomb detonated near his M1A1 Abrams tank.



Cpl. Jon-Erik Loney
Company A, 1st Battalion,
6th Infantry Regiment,
2nd Brigade

Assigned to the 1st Brigade but originally from the division's 2nd Brigade, this 21-year-old Alabaman had an infectious smile and sense of humor. Loney died Nov. 28, 2006, in Hit from injuries sustained after a roadside bomb detonated near his vehicle.



Staff Sgt. Misael Martinez
16th Engineer Battalion

Martinez, 24, of North Carolina, was on his third tour. While no man or woman is fearless, Martinez used that inevitable fear as fuel to overcome what he faced. He died Nov. 11, 2006, in Ramadi of injuries suffered when a bomb detonated near his vehicle.



Capt. Travis Patriquin
Headquarters and
Headquarters Company

A shaggy-haired officer known as a rebel among his peers, the 32-year-old Texan was dubbed "Warrior" by Iraqis who made him an honorary member of their tribe. Patriquin died Dec. 6, 2006, in Ramadi from injuries suffered after a makeshift bomb detonated by his vehicle.



Pfc. Evan A. Bixler
1st Battalion, 6th Infantry
Regiment, 2nd Brigade

Bixler, 21, of Wisconsin, was in the Army for about seven months. Though initially barred from the Army because of a medical condition, he received a waiver after a friend was killed in Iraq. After about two months in Iraq, he died Dec. 24, 2006, in Hit from injuries during enemy fire.

Spc. Alan Eugene McPeck
16th Engineer Battalion



The 20-year-old Arizona native was on his final mission in Iraq. As McPeck trained his successor, a heavy round struck his forward operating post and killed him Feb. 2, 2007, in Ramadi.



MONTE MORIN/Stars and Stripes

First Lt. Miguel Santana, 35, of Miami, inspects a family's AK-47 rifle during a cordon-and-search operation in Ramadi, Iraq, on an early August morning.

Awakening Ramadi

Troops, tribes find common ground and success

BY MATT MILLHAM
Stars and Stripes

In war, as in life, turning points usually are recognized only in hindsight.

Such is the case in Ramadi, according to Col. Sean B. MacFarland, commander of the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, who led U.S. troops there until late last month.

Ramadi, in the southwest corner of the so-called Sunni Triangle, has been one of the deadliest areas for U.S. troops over the nearly four-year war in Iraq. When MacFarland's brigade, the "Ready First", arrived there in May 2006, it was Iraq's most violent city, with attacks there accounting for nearly half of all attacks in Iraq on some days.

MacFarland was given two bits of guidance going in: "Fix Ramadi, and don't create another Fallujah. In other words, don't destroy it in the process," he said.

The brigade knew Ramadi was no Tal Afar, where most of the troops had spent the first three or so months of their Iraq tour. Tal Afar was an ethnically diverse city where some people greeted the Americans as liberators and made, as MacFarland called them, "built-in allies."

Ramadi, on the other hand, was dominated by Sunnis, including a large number of former Iraqi officers and Saddam loyalists.

U.S. commanders hadn't committed nearly enough forces to overwhelm the city, as had been done in Fallujah and Tal Afar. The plan instead was to take the city one piece at a time.

Less than a week after taking responsibility there, "Ready First" — aided by intelligence, special operations forces and what MacFarland called "three-letter agencies" — began establishing a ring of outposts in insurgent strongholds in a campaign to wrest key terrain from the insurgency.

They methodically routed the insurgents from the areas in which they were strongest by implementing a variation of the "clear, hold and build" tactics that had tamed Tal Afar. They rolled into al-Qaida in Iraq strongholds, seized houses and set up combat outposts in the terrorists' backyards.

"This is like the enemy putting a little safe house next to our chow hall," Capt. Michael P. McCusker, commander of Company B, 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry Regiment, was quoted as saying in an Aug. 21 Stars and Stripes article. "They don't like this at all."

"In my experience in the Army, that was probably the best working relationship I had, interagency, joint, conventional, unconventional all working together to achieve a common aim," MacFarland said.

But for the most part, the brigade made little headway in getting Ramadi's citizens to join the fight against the insurgency, MacFarland said. That is, until Aug. 21. That day, an influential sheik in a Ramadi suburb was killed by al-Qaida

in Iraq militants, who held his body for four days and prevented him from being buried in the Muslim tradition.

"That was the decisive miscalculation by al-Qaida that we were able to exploit and that will ultimately lead to the downfall of AQ in al-Anbar province," MacFarland said. "Al-Qaida had its Waterloo."

However, at the time, the sheik's slaying wasn't recognized as a possible tipping point.

But shortly after the sheik was slain, a group of sheiks — mostly from Ramadi, but some from other parts of Anbar as well — banded together to form a movement against the insurgency. They call it the "Anbar Awakening" movement.

The sheiks aligned with the movement had had enough of the insurgency. They told MacFarland they wanted to help the Americans root out al-Qaida in Iraq. The decision had an immediate impact on the battle for Ramadi.

"Wherever one of these tribes joined the awakening movement, attacks on American forces in that tribal area ceased," MacFarland said. "It was phenomenal."

Almost overnight, police recruiting shot up as sheiks recruited members of their own tribes to join the force. There were only about 140 police in Ramadi, a city of roughly 400,000, when the brigade rolled in, and those police didn't patrol. By the end of January, there were more than 4,000 police.

"You've taken away every non-altruistic reason for doing this. It's not for money. It's not because they'll be taking over a militia. It's not because they'll be getting any power out of it," Capt. Thomas Breslin, a member of the 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment, was quoted as saying in a Jan. 17 Stars and Stripes article. "They're defending their homes."

The tribes, with American backing, accomplished more in Ramadi and its suburbs since the awakening than U.S. and Iraqi government forces together had in nearly three years there.

"I saw a lot more cooperation and honesty from the tribes than I saw from the Iraqi government," MacFarland said.

One of his goals was to get the tribes to join the government, in the hope that some of that cooperation and honesty would transfer over. That process was starting when the brigade left last month.

"The objective, what you're really fighting for, is control of the people. And the tribes control the people," MacFarland said. "And when the tribes step up and say, 'Hey we want to work with the coalition,' you've won."

He acknowledges, however, that the battle there isn't over. Some of the most hard-core enemy fighters remain holed up in the city's downtown, where operations to rout them are ongoing.

"There's still hard fighting to be done," MacFarland said confidently, "but the decisive victory has already been won."

E-mail Matt Millham at: millhamm@estripes.osd.mil

A year in Iraq

Jan. 5, 2006

The 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division holds its deployment ceremony in Friedberg, Germany.

Feb. 19

"Ready First" takes responsibility for an area of northwestern Iraq that includes Tal Afar.

March 7

Pfc. Ricky Salas Jr., 22, of Roswell, N.M., is the first 1st Armored Division soldier killed during the deployment. Salas, a member of the 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment, died when a roadside bomb hit his vehicle.

March 20

President Bush points to military successes in Tal Afar, drawing insurgents' attention to the city. Attacks against U.S. troops there increase.

April 15

Operation Duke Storm rounds up some 1,200 Iraqi men in Tal Afar — roughly 5 percent of the city's population — and results in roughly 100 insurgents arrested without a shot fired.

April 21

The brigade's monthlong boxing tournament wraps up with four championship bouts in Tal Afar.

May 3

"Ready First" hands security responsibilities for the western border city of Sinjar to an Iraqi army battalion.

May 21

Col. Sean B. MacFarland arrives in Ramadi. Most of the brigade moves from Tal Afar with him around the same time. The brigade's 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry Regiment remains in Hit, while the 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment remains in Tal Afar.

June 11

"Ready First" assumes responsibility for the greater Ramadi area. Almost immediately afterward, the brigade begins a "clear, hold and build" strategy by establishing combat outposts in some of the city's toughest neighborhoods.

July 14

MacFarland tells reporters that as his unit continues to establish new combat outposts in Ramadi he's growing more confident that a Fallujah-type offensive is not going to be necessary.

Aug. 2

The brigade launches the biggest battle of its campaign to tame Ramadi. A Navy SEAL is killed in the fighting, 12 insurgents are confirmed dead, and about 15 other enemy fighters are assumed dead.

Aug. 3

Insurgents respond to U.S. forces by launching a two-hour assault on Combat Outpost Falcon. No U.S. troops are killed.

Aug. 9

A roadside bomb kills 1st Sgt. Aaron D. Jagger, 43, of Hillsdale, Mich., and two other soldiers. Jagger, who was the Company C, 1st Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment first sergeant, is the highest-ranking enlisted soldier to die during the deployment.

Aug. 21

Insurgents gun down the patriarch of the Abu Ali Jassim tribe, which makes up much of the Jazeera area's new police force. Soon after, some of Anbar's other sheiks band together to form the Anbar Awakening Movement, which allies itself with the U.S.

Sept. 1

Soldiers from the Giessen, Germany-based 16th Engineer Battalion and Marines with the Camp Lejeune, N.C.-based 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion are well into the demolition of an eight-block section of Ramadi opposite the city's embattled government center.

Sept. 11

A leaked Marine intelligence analysis of Anbar province reportedly claims military operations in the area, which includes Ramadi, are facing a stalemate. The analysis, by some accounts, is believed to contend that the U.S. has already lost in Anbar.

Sept. 25

Army officials announce that about 3,900 soldiers assigned to the "Ready First" Combat Team will have their tours extended by 46 days.

Sept. 29

MacFarland tells reporters that the situation in Ramadi has tipped in favor of U.S. forces, citing local sheiks aligning themselves with the U.S., and police recruiting since increased tenfold.

Oct. 20

The 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment hands responsibility for Tal Afar's security over to Iraqi forces. The battalion rejoins the bulk of the brigade in Ramadi.

Dec. 6

Two soldiers and a Marine are killed in west Ramadi in a tribal area that had recently aligned with U.S. forces. The tribe, Abu Alwan, takes the attack on U.S. troops personally, and within 10 days, those responsible are killed or captured.

Jan. 10, 2007

Brigade and local leaders meet at a reconstruction conference organized by the brigade.

Jan. 19

Latif Obaid Ayadah, the newly appointed mayor of Ramadi, moves into his office at the Joint Coordination Center and begins meetings with American and Iraqi troops to discuss security and reconstruction.

Jan. 29

Marine Maj. Gen. Richard Zilmer talks about progress in Ramadi and tells the press: "We control the entire city." About half of Ramadi is still dangerous, he said.

Feb. 2

Spc. Alan E. McPeck, 20, of Tucson, Ariz., a member of the 16th Engineer Battalion, is the last soldier assigned to "Ready First" to die in Iraq. He and the replacement he was training were both killed by a large-caliber round from a recoilless rifle.

Feb. 10

The first planeload of "Ready First" soldiers touch down in Germany. In less than a week's time, about 2,000 troops are back, with only a handful still in Iraq.

Feb. 18

After eight months of fighting in Ramadi, the "Ready First" hands responsibility of the area to the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, which is now on its third Iraq tour.

“That was the decisive miscalculation by al-Qaida that we were able to exploit and that will ultimately lead to the downfall of AQ in al-Anbar province.... Al-Qaida had its Waterloo.”

Col. Sean B. MacFarland

Commander, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division

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