

Greetings from Demonland, Iraq! Unfortunately, this past month was a tough one for the Demon Family. As you have probably heard by now, 1LT Dan Riordan, SGT Joel House, CPL Derek Calhoun, SSG Jimmy Malone and the interpreter known as Eagle lost their lives due to a road side IED blast on the afternoon of 23 June. These great Soldiers are greatly missed within the ranks of Demon Company. Each of these individuals brought their own little piece to the personality known as Demon Company. 1LT Riordan always provided a warm patient smile in addition to undying loyalty to his Soldiers. He always ensured that they had plenty of rest, hot chow, and the proper equipment at all times even if he had to deprive himself of the aforementioned luxuries. SGT House was the Company's "quiet guy". This soft-spoken Maine native would never complain while holding both himself and his Soldiers to the highest standard. CPL Calhoun provided a signature blue-collared presence to the Demon family. His love for the Army, his bushy mustache and the Oklahoma Sooners will never be forgotten. Finally, SSG Malone will always be remembered as one of Demon Company's patriarchs. His relentless pursuit of excellence transcended to his Soldiers in addition to his superiors. To put it simply, SSG Malone inspired everybody to push themselves to another by showing every Soldier, NCO, and officer what "right looked like".

These outstanding Soldiers will always remain with us as we finish up the last half of our tour. Like our other fallen brothers, these heroes push us to finish strong by establishing a debt of honor that we will never disgrace by complacency. Even though they are not here in the physical since, every Demon knows that our fallen brothers continue to watch our backs and provide us with invaluable memories that we will cherish for the rest of our times. Please continue to keep both our fallen brothers and their families in your prayers.

On a happier note, the Demons have recently been given a new home. On 3 July 07, the Demons bid farewell to fabulous Hor Al Bash and moved north to a Traffic Control Point located by the Nassar Factory (an old Saddam SCUD construction center). Currently, the Demons have been busy working hand in hand with an Iraqi Army Recon Squadron. Our days are full of searching cars, conducting census, and improving the force protection around TCP North. Unfortunately, this new mission cost us our beloved Green Platoon. Battalion has decided that their dismounted presence was still needed in Hor Al Bash. Accordingly, 1LT Ben "CPT America" Melton and SSG Brian "Big Sexy" Montgomery's minions have been reassigned to Annihilator Company. We will miss their dismounted presence and hatred for M9s. At least the rest of the tankers can enjoy their donuts free of the judgmental glare of their Infantry brethren.

SFC Hankal recently returned back to his Red Platoon once 1SG Tramel returned from leave. After two Mountain Dews and six Newport (two hours in real time), SFC Hankal had things back normal as far as he's concerned. Recently, SSG Chad Stallings assumed duty as acting Platoon Sergeant of Red Platoon. He's still a little remorseful about the fact he couldn't bring his Bradley with him. He recently amazed the entire CP by announcing that he lettered in kickball in High School. One can't help but mention their heroic interdiction of some watermelon thieves at TCP North. Yes, things are that quite up there (thank God).

1LT Jokinen and SFC Battle continue to drive on with their mission. Recently, White Platoon had four individuals reenlist (SPC Weber, SPC Garcia, SPC Rockwell, and SPC Searcy). The reenlistment established a 75% retention within White Platoon. We think this astronomical retention rate has something to do with SFC Battle's "reenlist or I'll tear your arms off" policy. White Platoon also took part in a census last night. These censuses are conducted the same way as the Hor Al Bash censuses with one little difference- an 8K round trip through broken farm land and canals to get to the village. At least one platoon won't have to worry about the Army Physical Fitness Test when we return.

SFC Housey and the infamous Blue Platoon (aka The Punishers) continue to exceed standards. SGT Nickerson and SPC Richard "Huggybear" Teegarden have volunteered to provide an extra truck in their formation. These former HQ PLT members learned a valuable lesson yesterday: Tanks tend to get a little hot when sitting in 120 degree weather. Both of them resembled frumpy raisins upon completing their guard shift yesterday (they were fortunate enough to win free IV bags at the Medic stations). Recently, Blue Platoon engaged each other on the topic of Stock Market investing. SSG Oscar Ayala informed the Platoon that he was a regular investor. SGT James Walker then informed SSG Ayala that Karate lessons do not constitute investing in the economy. Blue PLT would also like to welcome PVI Liniyo to its ranks that came all the way from Saipan to hear SFC Housey's words of wisdom.

Demon Company would also like to announce that two Demons earned their citizenship lately. Recently, the United States drafted SGT Monivong from Laos and SPC Franco from the Dominican Republic. We couldn't be happier with the addition to two new tax payers to our proud Nation.

Well, that about raps it up for this installment of the Demon Times. Please keep our fallen brothers and their families in your prayers. Thank you for all your love and support over the past couple of months. You all don't know how much we appreciate your generosity. Take care!

PS- Nikki- one word: Vegas. I love you.