



# PATRIOT CALL



## PROUD AMERICANS!

### FROM PATRIOT 6

As more and more months pass, we are collectively reminded of the Biblical Proverb, "Without a vision, the people perish." What is our vision, what is the vision of the Iraqi people? For the Proud Americans and our Iraqi partners the collective vision is a free and democratic Iraq, dotted with enduring organizations.

Having faith in the end result is essential to success. All great organizations or nations became great because they had absolute faith in the end result and they remained focused on their vision. I have full faith that when the Proud Americans Battalion leaves Iraq in August of 2010, we will be leaving behind a sustainable Iraq for future generations. While our shared vision may only be realized years from now we can depart knowing that we have contributed substantially to that realization of the collective vision for Iraq.



Having faith in the end result has allowed us to continue in our efforts. Since January 1, 2010, the Proud Americans Battalion has conducted several hundred patrols, over 150 key leader engagements, and concluded several significant projects. Some of those projects included schools where boys and girls will learn arithmetic, science, grammar and history; fundamentals of education that are the building blocks for the leaders tomorrow. Achievements like these will further enable a free Iraq where the grip of poverty is lessened, women are viewed as equal in dignity with men, and violence is no longer seen as a viable method for solving disputes.

Having faith in the end result, in the vision, has enabled us to provide Iraqi Security Forces with the training and means to provide for the safety of the Iraqi citizens during the upcoming National Elections. Many hours of operations, key leader engagements, and security planning has assisted the Iraqi Police in their preparation for securing the Iraqi people during a vital time in their history. The hard work of all Proud American Soldiers can't be emphasized enough. They have all done a spectacular job.

I wish all the best to and thank CPT Steele and CPT Johnson for their leadership they provided their units as they concluded their commands and I want to welcome CPT Walker to the Proud Americans family. CPT Steele and CPT Johnson did an amazing job and both will be missed. On January 15, 2010, CPT Walker took command of G Company and on January 22, 2010, CPT Welte took command of B Battery. Both

Commanders are phenomenal and will set the example for others to follow.

It is always hard being separated from those that you love. Whether it be for one day or one year, separation is never easy regardless of the cause at hand. Having faith that you will see your loved ones again, that this time of separation is not in vain, and that we are all a family participating in a cause greater than ourselves will ultimately ease the pain we all sometimes feel. We continue because we have a vision.

LTC CAIN  
Patriot 6



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## PATRIOT CALL

On February 17<sup>th</sup>, CSM Poindexter had surgery on his finger, which he is recovering from at this time. CSM Poindexter is on convalescent leave and is doing just fine. He will be returning to us very shortly. As CSM Poindexter stated before, our conditions on COB Speicher are exceptional. Our living conditions that the Army has provided us are the best that I have seen in my several tours with the Army. As CSM Poindexter stated previously, our housing, dining facility, gyms, and workplaces are superb. These outstanding living conditions have greatly contributed to high morale within our Battalion.



All of our Soldiers are now back on COB Speicher with the exception to SSG Hunt's outfit on McHenry. Regardless, we have 99% of our Battalion all together at one general location, and hopefully we will have 100% of our Battalion on COB Speicher shortly. It has now been over six months since the battalion has deployed. I believe that most of our Soldiers are past being homesick, but they will never get past missing the familiarity of family and home.

1SG Ruiz  
Patriot 77







## HELLRAISER 6

### PATRIOT CALL



Carefully, he picked his way across the rocky ground in the gloomy dimness. The howling wind was a collection of razor blades, cutting through his clothes in a non-stop barrage of chilly air. Windblown sand beat a ragged and random pattern across his face, abrading his skin. He turned the corner, and the wind struck him full in the face, the frigid air twisting his lungs in an icy fist while a piece of blowing debris bit into his calf. And that's just the trip from his room to the shower! It can be very cold and windy here!

Another month has passed, and we work steadily on. The Hellraisers have shouldered a heavy load, and carried it well! Hellraiser soldiers have been shutting down the JCC, turning in a large amount of excess equipment, caring for the health and welfare of the Proud American soldiers, and maintaining an active schedule of patrols, interacting with the utmost professionalism with local nationals in multiple communities. At home, our wives, children, and families have been shouldering a heavy load as well, and we couldn't be more proud of them!

Hellraisers are making a difference, and I would like to recognize some of them. Several Hellraisers have been promoted, including (listed with their new rank) SSG William Hinnah, SSG Timothy Williams, CPT Daniel Schipper, SPC Gregory Williams, SPC Kevin Parker, SPC Riley Rose, SSG Brendan Favre, SPC Brandon Travioli, SPC Randall Mann, and PFC George Lee.

Other Hellraisers received awards: SGT Michael Seivers, Chaplain Josh Ziegler, SGT Michael Kuehne, SGT Stephen Kirby and SPC John Simmons all received the Army Achievement Medal. CPL Daniel Stakley was selected as the Marne Hero of the North, an honor given by United States Division North, as well as being selected as the Battalion NCO of the month. SGT Darrin Schroeder competed in the Iron Dragon physical fitness challenge, and successfully completed it.

Election Day is fast approaching, and Hellraisers will be working overtime to help make sure the elections go well. Our days are long and busy. All of us, from the Commander and First Sergeant to the newest Private, are working together to accomplish our twin goals of making a difference, and returning safely.

### Promotions

**1LT Schipper to CPT**  
**SGT Hinnah to SSG**  
**SGT Williams to SSG**  
**SGT Favre to SSG**  
**PFC Williams to SPC**  
**PFC Parker to SPC**  
**PFC Rose to SPC**  
**PFC Travioli to SPC**  
**PFC Mann to SPC**  
**PV2 Lee to PFC**







## PATRIOT CALL

## Notes from ACE-6

First, as a whole the entire battery has been finding ways to relax and have fun.

All platoons have recently started taking up barbequing now that that weather is started to warm up. Also, because of the weather, the battery has been taking to flag football. The Soldiers are find ways to past the time and have fun. Everybody is just trying to make the best of the situation.

I would like to thank all the families who have sent books, movies and even Sudoku. It helps us all past the time.

Families of 2-32 FA, thank you for your support and we will be back to Kansas this year.

## January Birthdays:

- SSG Hoover (1st)
- SGT Hopkins (8th)
- SPC Bolton (11th)
- SPC Busby (18th)
- SPC Erickson (19th)
- PFC Ayers (24th)
- PV2 Womack (30th)

## ACES PROMOTIONS:

SGT Smith to SSG

SPC Long to CPL







## BULLDOG 6

### PATRIOT CALL

One word can sum up the past month for Bravo Battery: change. After moving from Patrol Base Woodcock to COB Speicher in late December, the Soldiers of Bravo battery had to adjust to the extra amenities of Speicher, including a much larger dining facility and bus routes to go to the PX and MWR. Moving to Speicher also meant longer travel time while still continuing the same missions in the same areas covered before from PB Woodcock. January also brought a new battery commander and three new platoon leaders, which meant more inventories and property layouts. Despite the new challenges, the Soldiers of Bravo

Battery have continued to excel and set the standard for the rest of 2-32 FA in work ethic and discipline. Because of that hard work, five soldiers from 1st Platoon were rewarded with a coin on behalf of a Major General to show his appreciation.



Much of the work with the locals is focused on electricity and water for the people in rural areas through projects. These farmers need electricity to be able to run their farms; if they have to rely on generators to provide electricity, they cannot afford the gas to keep the projects going. The leadership of Bravo Battery is working with

Civil Affairs Soldiers to find the best projects to help meet the needs of the people. There have also been nearly 100 requests for hoop houses, which are basically greenhouses, to allow farmers to grow a larger variety of crops for more months out of the year. Along with the ongoing

efforts to provide for the people of Ad Dawr through projects and micro grants, preparations for the Parliamentary elections in early March have also kept Bravo Battery busy. Patrols have been tasked to dismount in more populated areas to talk to the citizens about politics and local leadership. The commander and platoon leaders have engaged Iraqi Security forces about beefing up checkpoints and coming up with security plans for the elections. The Soldiers have also conducted training of Iraqi Army Soldiers to ensure they are prepared for elections. During the elections, platoons will be postured to assist ISF as needed to react to any violent activities that may threaten successful elections in the area.

The Soldiers of Bravo Battery continue to answer the call for whatever mission is needed, be it training the Iraqi Army or meeting with rural sheiks to find out the needs of the people. The March elections will be an exciting time for the people of Iraq to use democracy to elect the representatives who will fight for them in Baghdad. In the 2005 national elections, many of the Sunnis boycotted the elections and have had to live for five years with leadership that they did not feel represented them well. They have learned from that mistake, and citizens are ready to go out and vote. Citizens also trust the Iraqi Security forces, in hand with Bravo Battery

and the rest of 2-32, to make the elections safe and successful.

Thank you for your ongoing support from home. Your love and encouragement helps keep us motivated and focused on our mission.

#### January Promotions

PV2 Poeller to **PFC**

PVT Zamora to **PV2**

PFC Bass to **SPC**

PFC Cain to **SPC**

#### January Reenlistments

SSG Christian

SGT Aarons

SPC Lopez

SPC Reed

PFC Bustle

#### January Birthdays

10 Jan—SGT Archilla and PFC Barnes

11 Jan—SPC Rowley

13 Jan—PFC Delacerda

17 Jan—SPC Mack

29 Jan—PFC Rice and SPC Rodello





## PATRIOT CALL

After serving in G Company for the last fifty-six months, I've been selected to change command with CPT William Walker, and take his position as the Assistant Brigade S4. It has been an exceptional journey with the Gladiators and I appreciate all of the time we've spent together. I first joined G Company as the Maintenance Control Officer and Platoon Leader. I was still wet behind the ears and wearing a gold bar on my chest when I first stood in a Gladiator formation. However, I quickly got my feet underneath me with the help of some awesome junior NCO mechanics like SGT McNally, Schwark, and Burton. These outstanding NCOs have helped to guide and mold me into the Officer I am today. As the Executive Officer I had 1SG Ruiz to help shape my view of the Army and push me to better myself. Little did he know that I would then become his Company Commander. Since taking Command, G Company and I grew together. Initially the Company strength dropped off as Soldiers left the Company for new assignments. But just like the equipment, we slowly began to pick up new Soldiers and welcome them into the Gladiator family. We worked towards bringing the family closer together through the use of the FRG. We had meetings, bowled and BBQ'd, but I couldn't have had the time to do any of that without the help from my wife, Anne, and then Becka Schulte. I'm proud of how the FRG has helped to bring the families of our Soldiers together while we are deployed. I hope that the Gladiator FRG will welcome CPT Walker and his wife, and that they can help to bring even more families into the FRG program. I am very proud to have been Gladiator Six, and I hope the best for all of the Gladiators and their families.



There are still several more months left in this deployment, but I'm confident in the leadership that CPT Walker and 1SG Long will provide the Gladiators. Sustain the Fight!



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## PROMOTIONS

PFC Higgins to SPC

PFC Lantz to SPC

PV2 Iyechad to PFC

PV2 Vanzandt to PFC

PV2 Thomas to PFC

PV2 Hazley to PFC



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