

U.S. forces prepare for rotation

BY JIM KRANE
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAMP ARIFJAN, KUWAIT — A quarter-million soldiers — all but a few of them Americans — are within weeks of passing through this desert kingdom on their way to or from the war in neighboring Iraq, the largest such rotation of U.S. forces in history, according to military planners overseeing the project.

"This is a breathtaking, history-making operation," said Army Maj. Gen. Stephen M. Speakes, who runs the rotation.

Explaining the troop rotation is simple: About 130,000 U.S. soldiers in Iraq will go home and 110,000 will take their places for about a year, in Operation Iraqi Freedom 2.

The maneuver involves eight of America's 10 active Army divisions and a U.S. Marine Expeditionary Force, along with 40,000 troops from a few dozen countries in the U.S.-led coalition. Military planners have chore-

ographed the arrivals of dozens of ships and hundreds of aircraft bearing fresh troops and their gear into Kuwait, the center of the operation. New arrivals swap places with weary soldiers streaming in from Iraq on trucks and planes that, in a matter of hours, turn around and ferry newcomers north.

Already, as many as 4,000 trucks are on the road between Kuwait and Iraq at any moment, said Army Brig. Gen. Jack Stoltz, who directs movement of troops and distribution of equipment.

That number will rise as the rotation hits a crescendo in early March, when as many as 60,000 troops at a time will be passing through Kuwait, ferrying enormous amounts of gear, including tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles and helicopters.

By the time rotation finishes in May, the Pentagon will have shipped nearly 450,000 tons of equipment to the Iraqi theater and sent home even more — 700,000 tons.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KRT CAMPUS
An Israeli crime scene investigator walks past a bus.

The Army has engineered the rotation so that battle-numbered U.S. forces rarely meet their fresh replacements, even though both groups pass through Kuwait at the same time. Homebound troops stay at camps close to the seaports. New arrivals are trucked to desert camps where they assemble their gear and train to kill the rebels who may attack their convoy when it crosses the Iraqi border.

After March, from the point of view of U.S. military's transportation gurus, the U.S. operation in Iraq will wind down, demanding fewer ships, planes and trucks.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KRT CAMPUS
Rebel forces hold an anti-Aristide rally in Gonaives, Haiti.

Anti-Aristide rebels seize Cap-Haitien

BY PAISLEY DODDS
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAP-HAITIEN, HAITI — Rebels captured Haiti's second-largest city, Cap-Haitien, after just a few hours of fighting Sunday, claiming their biggest prize in a two-week uprising that has driven government forces from most of the country's north.

Revelers shot celebratory rounds into the air and people looted and torched buildings. Some of the rebels boasted that their next target was the capital, Port-au-Prince, still under the control of police and militants loyal to President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

"We came in today and we took Cap-Haitien; tomorrow we take Port-au-Prince," said Lucien Estime, 19. "Our mission is to liberate Haiti."

Rebels said their 200-man force met little resistance except at the airport, where they said eight people were killed. It took just a few hours for the force to push from the southern outskirts into the city center.

Thousands of people shouting "Down with Aristide!" marched with a convoy of about 40 rebels in eight commandeered cars.

"We're free!" people shouted, ripping Aristide posters off walls.

Some looted the pro-Aristide Radio Africa station, and rebels shot up the building while a crowd clapped. One man, said to be an Aristide supporter, lay dead in the street from a bullet to the stomach. A second man, whose allegiance was not known, was shot in the head and killed.

Earlier, about 10 armed men stormed the police station and freed about 250 prisoners. The police fled, according to witness Odril Jean, 25. It was unclear whether the attackers were Aristide militants or the rebels, who have torched a score of police stations and freed prisoners since the uprising against Aristide began Feb. 5.

"The people are happy. Finally we're free from terror," said Fifi Jean, 30, unperturbed as she stood in front of the blazing police headquarters building, where people looted everything in sight.

Teenagers paraded in police hats and body armor while rebels handed over keys of cars to residents and drank beer. People hefted away weapons, typewriters, mattresses, even doors.

Rebel commander Jean-Baptiste Joseph, formerly head of an association of ex-soldiers from Haiti's disbanded army, declared "It's the army that's in charge here. It's the army that will free Haiti."

Russell House Priority Reservations

August - December 2004



* **Lottery February 24, 2004** *

Priority Reservations Lottery
2nd Floor Lobby Russell House
February 24, 2004
9am - 1st Ballroom Date
11am - 2nd Ballroom Date

- Priority I: University Wide Events.....February 20, 2004
- Priority II: Carolina Productions.....February 23, 2004
- Priority III: Registered Student Organizations.....Feb. 24, 2004
- Priority IV: Other.....February 26, 2004

NOTE: Academic space will not be reserved until September 6, 2004

Because of the high demand for space in the Russell House a "lottery" system is used to ensure equitable distribution of space to registered student organizations. The highest level of demand is for Ballroom reservations, however, the lottery system will apply to all reservable spaces in the Russell House.

For more information, contact the Reservations Office at 777-7127 or stop by Russell House 218.

Sport Clubs

Interested in playing in one of our sport clubs or starting your own? Visit campusrec.sc.edu.

Bodybuilding & Fitness (Pres. Brian Gander - bodyfit@gwm.sc.edu)
Blatt PE 137 (Tues. & Thurs. 6-7:30 p.m.)

Mountaineering & Whitewater (Pres. Holland Vern - mwwclub@gwm.sc.edu)
Mon. 7:30-9 p.m. (Nursing 231)

Carolina Crew (Pres. Lindsey Martin - Crewclub@gwm.sc.edu)
Russell House 3rd floor lobby (Tues. 8 p.m.)

Roller Hockey (Pres. Donald Sullivan - hockey@gwm.sc.edu)
Wed. 9-10:30 p.m. (7565 St. Andrews Rd. Irmo, SC)

Carolina Cycling (Pres. Stephanie Lareau - multi@gwm.sc.edu)
Horseshoe Meeting Room (Sun. 8 p.m.)

Scuba (Pres. Michael Hickman - scuba@gwm.sc.edu)
Wed. 7 p.m. (Russell House 301)

Carolina Multisport (Pres. C. Bryan Jung - multispt@gwm.sc.edu)
Fridays (contact for times and location)

Seidokan Aikido (Pres. Pamela Ryan - akido@gwm.sc.edu)
Mon., Wed., & Fri. 4-6 p.m. (Blatt PE Center Gym 308)

Fencing (Pres. Blake Hopkins - fencing@gwm.sc.edu)
Blatt PE Center Gym 308 (Wed. 6-9 p.m., Thurs. 6-8 p.m.)

Ultimate Frisbee (Pres. Joe Junisa)
Mon. & Wed. 9-11 p.m. (Field E)

Gamecock Dance Sport (Pres. Crystal Williams - danceso@gwm.sc.edu)
Blatt PE Center Room 114 (Sun. 3:15-5 p.m., Thurs. 7:15-9:15 p.m.)

Wake Board (Pres. Banks Fair - bankshf@aol.com)
Contact for more information

Ice Hockey (Pres. John Lipscomb - ihockey@gwm.sc.edu)
Carolina Coliseum (Tues. & Thurs. 9:15-10:15 p.m.)

Water Polo (Pres. Boris Kurkitchiev - poloclub@gwm.sc.edu)
Blatt PE Pool (contact for times)

International Tae Kwon Do (Pres. Bill NG - itkda@gwm.sc.edu)
ST Wellness and Fitness Center 116 (Mon. 7-10 p.m., Wed. 7-10 p.m.)

Women's Lacrosse (Pres. Bridget Willet - wiaxclub@gwm.sc.edu)
Mon. & Wed. 7-9 p.m. (Field E)

Judo (Pres. Marget Garner - judoclub@gwm.sc.edu)
Blatt PE 306B (Mon. & Wed. 6-8 p.m.)

Women's Rugby (Pres. Elizabeth Skelly - wrugby@gwm.sc.edu)
Tues. & Thurs. 7-9 p.m. (Field E)

Karate: Self Defense (Pres. Tang-Chin Hwang - karate@gwm.sc.edu)

Women's Soccer (Pres. Jessica Roberts - wsoccer@gwm.sc.edu)
Tues. & Wed. 5-7 p.m. (Field E)

Men's Lacrosse (Pres. Nick Bozzuto - lacrosse@gwm.sc.edu)
Field E (Mon. & Wed. 9-11 p.m.)

World Tae Kwon Do (Pres. Kathryn Michaelis - wtkdc@gwm.sc.edu)
Tues. & Thurs. 8-10 p.m. (Blatt PE 306B)

Men's Rugby (Pres. Justin Czerski - rugby@gwm.sc.edu)
Field E (Tues. & Thurs. 7-9 p.m.)

Wrestling (Pres. Ryan Fontaine - rfton111@aol.com)
Navy Gym (contact for times)

Men's Soccer (Pres. Brandon Bales - msoccer@gwm.sc.edu)
Field E (Tues. & Thurs. 7-9 p.m.)

Men's Volleyball (Pres. Justin Scheidt - volley@gwm.sc.edu)
(Mon. & Wed. 8:30-10:30p.m.)

Campus Recreation
campusrec.sc.edu