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## Emergency room and youth center open in Seddah

**SGT. MICHAEL J. TAYLOR**  
172ND INF. BDE.



SEDDAH – Community members and Coalition forces participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of a new emergency room and youth center in Seddah Jan. 13.

The facilities, built solely with Iraqi government funds and by Iraqi contractors, serve as an accomplishment and milestone for the Seddah community and the people of Iraq.

“I want to say congratulations to the Seddah district citizens,” said Jabeer Al-Hamdanie, a chairman with the city’s council. “The project was supported with Iraqi government funding and, God willing, this project will open up opportunities for more building and improvements in this district.”

According to Ali Naama Azeez Alshamrie, the Mayor of Mussayib, the Soldiers from Company B, 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment were invited to the opening out of respect from the Seddah community and to show how Iraq and its people are capable of standing on their own and rebuilding their country.



Photo by Sgt. Michael J. Taylor

**Soldiers and members of the Seddah community stand outside the new youth center prior to a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a tour of the facility Jan. 13. The youth center was one of two projects recently completed by the Iraqi government. It was funded solely with Iraqi money and built by Iraqi contractors.**

The projects, which took nearly four months to finish, cost approximately \$50,000.

The emergency room renovations included new bathrooms, additional patient rooms, an x-ray room and sanitary stations throughout the

building. It also covered the cost of beds and necessary equipment needed to treat patients.

“The emergency room was well needed for this city,” said Eman

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### Inauguration Day 2009

– Excerpt from second Inaugural Address of Thomas Jefferson, 1805

(More excerpts inside)

*“I shall now enter on the duties to which my fellow citizens have again called me, and shall proceed in the spirit of those principles which they have approved. I fear not that any motives of interest may lead me astray; I am sensible of no passion which could seduce me knowingly from the path of justice; but the weakness of human nature, and the limits of my own understanding, will produce errors of judgment sometimes injurious to your interests. I shall need, therefore, all the indulgence I have heretofore experienced -- the want of it will certainly not lessen with increasing years. I shall need, too, the favor of that Being in whose hands we are, who led our forefathers, as Israel of old, from their native land, and planted them in a country flowing with all the necessaries and comforts of life; who has covered our infancy with his providence, and our riper years with his wisdom and power; and to whose goodness I ask you to join with me in supplications, that he will so enlighten the minds of your servants, guide their councils, and prosper their measures, that whatsoever they do, shall result in your good, and shall secure to you the peace, friendship, and approbation of all nations.”*

# U.S. Inaugural history shapes present traditions

SPC. SOPHIA R. LOPEZ  
MND-C



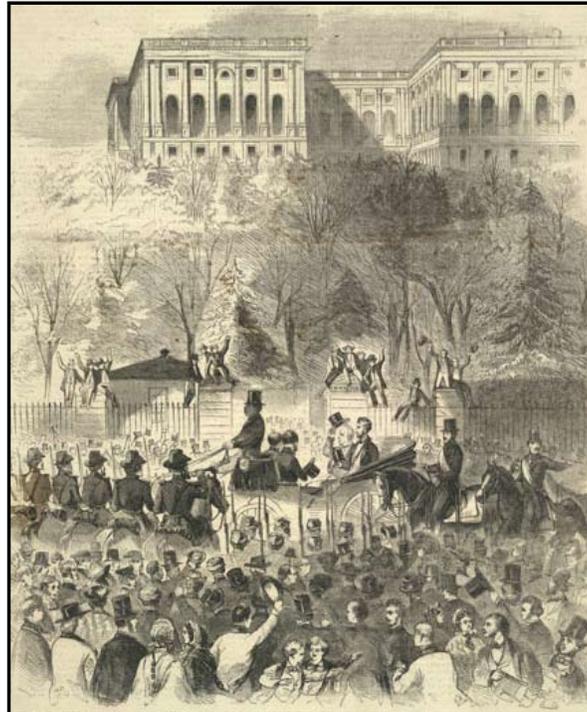
**CAMP VICTORY** – The inauguration of the U.S. president follows traditions dating back to the first inauguration of President George Washington in 1789. Today, America celebrates the 56th quadrennial presidential inauguration, a swearing-in ceremony representing both national renewal and continuity of leadership.

The first inauguration for Washington occurred April 30, 1789, in front of New York's Federal Hall. Four years later, on March 4, 1793, Washington's second inauguration took place in Philadelphia, where the government had taken up temporary residence while a permanent capital was under construction.

By March 1801, the U.S. government had moved to Washington, D.C., and on March 4, President-elect Thomas Jefferson became the first president to be inaugurated in the nation's capital city.

For most of the nation's history, Inauguration Day was March 4, which was also the final day of the congressional session. Family members and friends of senators, representatives, and both the incoming and outgoing presidents and vice presidents, as well as members of the House, the diplomatic corps, cabinet members and members of the Supreme Court attend the inauguration and its festivities.

In 1937, Inauguration Day moved to January 20 with the ratification of the Twentieth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. The amendment's primary purpose was to reduce the time between



Courtesy image

**The Inauguration Procession in Honor of President Buchanan passing through Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington City, March 4, 1857. Once arriving at the White House, the president, vice president, their wives and special guests review the parade as it passes in front of a specially built reviewing stand.**

the election of the president and Congress, and the beginning of their terms. Originally, both terms began March 4, four months after elections were held. This delay was a practical necessity during the 18th century, when a newly-elected official might need several months to put his affairs in order before beginning the difficult journey from his home to the national capital. In today's world, this period of time is no longer necessary.

The traditions of Inauguration Day progressed through the years adopting

practices started during different presidencies. The morning worship service became a regular tradition during President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Inauguration Day, March 4, 1933, and has been followed by presidents ever since.

After the worship service, the president-elect and the outgoing president proceed together to the Capitol for the swearing-in ceremonies. This tradition began in 1837, when President Martin Van Buren and President Andrew Jackson rode together in a carriage made from wood taken from the USS Constitution. Before then, it was only the president-elect who made the procession. This procession originally began with military companies, bands, the president's cabinet, elected officials and friends escorting the president-elect to the inauguration.

Once the president has been sworn in, the customary inaugural address is given, a tradition dating back to the first inauguration; every president since Washington has delivered an inaugural address.

Immediately following the ceremony, the outgoing president quietly leaves the Capitol. This tradition began in the early 20th century, though came about because of occasions like the transition between Washington and President John Adams. Several observers noted onlookers paid more attention to Washington than to Adams during Adams' inauguration in 1798. Eventually, the former presidents would quietly bow out to avoid diverting the spotlight from the new president.

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## THE Mountain View

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## CENTER

From page 1



Photo by Sgt. Michael J. Taylor

**The mayor of Mussayib, Ali Naama Azeez Alshamrie, cuts a ceremonial ribbon signifying the opening of the new youth center Jan. 13. The youth center will serve as a safe place for the children of the community to go and participate in community events and activities geared toward the youths.**

Naeem Muhammad, a doctor at the facility. “Before, the patients suffered more because they had to go all the way to the hospital in Mussayib, which is about 45 minutes away.”

The youth center renovated through this project will now serve as a safe place for children of the community; where they can go and participate in community events and activities.

“We got this project done with the help of our local government, the Seddah District and the Babil government,” said Alshamrie. “But we don’t want to forget our American brothers who helped make all this possible for us.”

The Soldiers of 1-2 Inf. Regt. monitored and helped facilitate the project. For the most part, they watched as the people of Iraq and their government took control and accomplished the mission.

*“But we don’t want to forget our American brothers who helped make all this possible for us.”*

—Ali Naama Azeez Alshamrie  
Mayor of Mussayib

## New Draft Iraqi Constitution compliments provincial elections

SPC. JUSTIN SNYDER  
MND-C



**CAMP VICTORY** – As millions of Americans are crowding into the streets of Washington D.C. to get a glimpse of President Barack Obama, millions of Iraqi’s will be gearing up for their own history.

On Jan. 31, Iraq’s very first provincial elections will be held, replacing the local councils in fourteen of the eighteen governorates of Iraq that were elected in the Iraqi governorate elections of 2005.

With the new election also comes a new Draft Iraqi Constitution; one that ensures democracy and allows political power to be exercised solely through those elected, while recognizing Iraq as an Islamic country.

Most importantly, the Constitution serves as a sign that the Government of Iraq remains committed to regular elections, squashing concerns from Iraqi voters due to the delay of the elections that were due in 2008.

The new Constitution lays out the foundation for a new, democratic political order designed to include all Iraqis, including Sunni Arabs.

During early negotiations for the Constitution, Sunni Arabs raised concerns on important issues such as religion and federalism.

Regarding their religious concerns, the draft Constitution protects all individual rights to freedom of worship, faith and religious belief and practice. It also bans any discrimination on the origin of religion and requires the

government to safeguard Iraq’s holy shrines and places, while guaranteeing the Iraqi people free practice in them.

The draft Constitution provides a strong central government, while giving the next National Assembly and the Iraqi people the freedom to decide whether or not to create new federal regions.

According to the Constitution, the central government has complete authority over national defense, foreign policy and fiscal/monetary policy. Unlike previous times where Iraq’s major resources were tied to particular regions or governorates, all of the oil and gas resources now belong to the Iraqi people.

Along with the Sunni Arabs, Iraqi women are also gaining from the new Constitution.

The Constitution states that women have the right to fully participate in public affairs and enjoy equal rights to such things as voting, the election and nomination of office. Also, the election law establishes a minimum number of women representatives, no fewer than one-quarter of the Council of Representatives.

These improvements serve as a sign of change in Iraq. The Constitution also shows that Iraq remains committed to its international obligations and pledges support for peaceful international relations.

This step in Iraq’s quest for successful democratic rule shows that the provincial councils can be trusted and held accountable by the Iraqi people.

– Excerpt from third Inaugural Address of  
Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1941

*“In this day, the task of the people is to save that Nation and its institutions from disruption from without.*

*To us there has come a time, in the midst of swift happenings, to pause for a moment and take stock—to recall what our place in history has been, and to rediscover what we are and what we may be. If we do not, we risk the real peril of inaction.*

*Lives of nations are determined not by the count of years, but by the lifetime of the human spirit. The life of a man is three-score years and ten: a little more, a little less. The life of a nation is the fullness of the measure of its will to live.”*

# HISTORY

## From page 2

The real festivities begin after the swearing-in ceremony. The inaugural luncheon follows the address and then the inaugural parade. The luncheon's tradition dates as far back as 1897, when the Senate Committee on Arrangements gave a luncheon for President William McKinley and several guests at the U.S. Capitol. Its current form is fashioned after the 1953 luncheon following President Dwight D. Eisenhower's inauguration. Eisenhower, his wife and fifty other guests of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies dined on creamed chicken, baked ham and potato puffs in the now-restored Old Senate Chamber. These luncheons often feature cuisine reflecting the home states of the new president and vice president.

After the conclusion of the luncheon, the guests of honor and the newly sworn-in president and vice president make

their way down Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House, leading a procession of ceremonial military regiments, citizens' groups, marching bands and floats.

The early inaugural parades primarily consisted of escorts for the president-elect to the Capitol. The Marine Band began playing during every presidential inauguration parade after Jefferson's second inauguration in 1805; the first of which occurred in 1809 at the inauguration of President James Madison.

A troop of cavalry from Georgetown escorted Madison to the Capitol. President William Henry Harrison's parade in 1841 featured floats, and for the first time, military companies from outside the Washington D.C. area accompanied the president-elect as well. Citizens' clubs, political clubs, several military bands and groups of college students also marched in the parade, setting future precedent. Today, the parade is organized by the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee, and participants are selected

by the Presidential Inaugural Committee.

On May 7, 1789, one week after the inauguration of Washington, sponsors held a ball to honor the new president. It was not until 1809, however, after the inauguration of President James Madison, that the tradition of the inaugural ball began. The inaugural ball quickly turned into an anticipated highlight of Washington society and held its tradition throughout the years. At times, instead of just one inaugural ball, presidents hosted multiple balls to accommodate the number of guests wanting to attend.

This year, Americans will once again hear, "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of president of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States," from the Presidential oath of office, Article II, Section 1, U.S. Constitution. As they do, history will once again be made.



– Excerpt from Inaugural Address of Lyndon B. Johnson, 1965

*"First, justice was the promise that all who made the journey would share in the fruits of the land.*

*In a land of great wealth, families must not live in hopeless poverty. In a land rich in harvest, children just must not go hungry. In a land of healing miracles, neighbors must not suffer and die unattended. In a great land of learning and scholars, young people must be taught to read and write.*

*For the more than 30 years that I have served this Nation, I have believed that this injustice to our people, this waste of our resources, was our real enemy. For 30 years or more, with the resources I have had, I have vigilantly fought against it. I have learned, and I know, that it will not surrender easily.*

*But change has given us new weapons. Before this generation of Americans is finished, this enemy will not only retreat--it will be conquered.*

*Justice requires us to remember that when any citizen denies his fellow, saying, 'His color is not mine,' or 'His beliefs are strange and different,' in that moment he betrays America, though his forebears created this Nation."*

## Soldier sweats it out for EOD memorial

**SGT. 1ST CLASS JOE THOMPSON**  
41ST FIRES BDE.



FOB DELTA – Weighing over 80 pounds, with hardly any breathing room and designed to protect its wearer from explosions, the explosive ordnance disposal bomb suit is not designed for use as a warm-up suit; let alone for running any type of distance.

Sgt. 1st Class Brian Bradley decided to don the suit and run one mile on a crisp, clear morning, Jan. 14. His goal was to raise awareness of fallen EOD technicians, as well as the EOD Memorial and Scholarship Foundation.

“I just wanted to make a little remembrance for all my brothers and sisters that have fallen out here. A lot of sacrifices have been made, not only just from the EOD guys, but from all the warriors out there,” said Bradley, platoon sergeant for 1st Platoon, 752nd EOD Company.

From the back of a pickup truck, Bradley, from Caney, Okla., put on the bottom half of his suit, drank some water and began stretching. After getting warmed-up, one of his Soldiers helped him put on the top half of the 80-pound suit, and fastened on the mask.

“There is a young lieutenant down at Forward Operating Base Echo, he’s the commander down there, and he was doing a one-mile run for the EOD memorial, and it kind of inspired me to do the same thing,” said Bradley,

Sixteen minutes and 45 seconds later, Bradley crossed the one-mile marker on the road, a little before 9:30 a.m.

“(The fallen) have come here; they didn’t ask for much; they did their job;



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Joe Thompson

**Sgt. 1st Class Brian Bradley, 1st Plt., 752nd EOD Co. platoon sergeant, gets ready to kick off his one-mile run in his 80-pound EOD bomb suit Jan. 14. Bradley finished the run in 16:45.**

and some of them didn’t go home; and I just wanted to bring a little remembrance to them,” he said.

The EOD Memorial and Scholarship Foundation is a nonprofit organization that maintains the physical EOD memorial at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., and also provides scholarships to active duty and retired EOD technicians and their immediate family.

For more information, on the EOD Memorial and Scholarship fund, visit [www.eodmemorial.com](http://www.eodmemorial.com).

– Excerpt from Inaugural Address of Zachary Taylor, 1849

“As American freemen, we can not but sympathize in all efforts to extend the blessings of civil and political liberty, but at the same time we are warned by the admonitions of history and the voice of our own beloved Washington to abstain from entangling alliances with foreign nations. In all disputes between conflicting governments, it is our interest not less than our duty, to remain strictly neutral, while our geographical position, the genius of our institutions and our people, the advancing spirit of civilization, and, above all, the dictates of religion direct us to the cultivation of peaceful and friendly relations with all other powers. It is to be hoped that no international question can now arise which a government confident in its own strength and resolved to protect its own just rights may not settle by wise negotiation; and it eminently becomes a government like our own, founded on the morality and intelligence of its citizens and upheld by their affections, to exhaust every resort of honorable diplomacy before appealing to arms. In the conduct of our foreign relations I shall conform to these views, as I believe them essential to the best interests and the true honor of the country.”

## 10th Mountain Division 10 Mile Climb to Glory Combat Relay

- Five Soldier team event (within the same organization)
- Each leg runs two miles
- Each team member will hand off the weapon and ruck to the next leg
- Uniform: patrol cap, service uniform, boots, 30-pound Ruck & Weapon (M4/M16)
- Awards given to the first three teams to finish

Feb. 15 at Lost Lake on Camp Victory  
Participants should be there at 5 a.m., starts at 6 a.m.

Registration with Master Sgt. Glynn Honts by email at [glynn.honts@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:glynn.honts@iraq.centcom.mil) or DSN 485-3841

## The 10th Mountain Division Salsa band in concert featuring



**Salsa, Merengue, Latin, Jazz**

Jan. 22 at 9 p.m. at Camp Liberty MWR C-10

# Headline Round-up

## World News:

Pakistan temporarily closed the major land supply route to U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan Jan. 19 after suspected insurgents killed a Soldier and wounded 14, adding urgency to efforts to secure alternative supply lines as more U.S. troops head to the region. Growing militant activity along the legendary Khyber Pass has prompted several temporary closures in recent months, and it was not immediately clear how long the latest suspension would last.

## Travel News:

More than 60 objects from President Abraham Lincoln's life are going on display at the National Museum of American History days before President-elect Barack Obama's inauguration, which will echo themes from the 16th president. The exhibit, "Abraham Lincoln: An Extraordinary Life," opens Jan. 23 and features the top hat Lincoln wore the night he was assassinated. Other items include his office suit and Mary Todd Lincoln's purple gown, signs from the 1860 presidential campaign and casts of Lincoln's face and hands. The gallery also includes pictures from Lincoln's inaugurations in 1861 and 1865.

## Entertainment:

Kevin James can open a movie. The late Notorious B.I.G. can pack theaters. 3-D movies can sell (expensive) tickets. And, kids, Clint Eastwood can kick your butt. Still, those were the findings from a monster weekend at the box office that was led, surprisingly, by James' "Paul Blart: Mall Cop," a \$26 million, mustache-sporting goof that grossed a serious \$33.8 million Jan. 16-18, per studio estimates compiled Jan. 19 by Exhibitor Relations. Eastwood's "Gran Torino," last weekend's No. 1 film, slipped to second, but stayed strong. Notorious, the Sean Combs-produced biopic about his friend, the slain rap star, debuted in fourth but made more money per theater than any film reporting grosses.

## Sports News:

Down and out for decades, the Arizona Cardinals have turned a bad joke into a Super Bowl-bound team. Yes, the Cardinals, founding members of the NFL but historically among the most dysfunctional of franchises, are heading for the championship game in Tampa. Capitalizing on Larry Fitzgerald's three first-half touchdown receptions, then coolly marching down field to Kurt Warner's 8-yard scoring pass to rookie Tim Hightower with 2:53 left, they beat the Philadelphia Eagles 32-25 Jan. 18 for the NFC championship.

## Quote of the Day

"When you play, play hard; when you work, don't play at all." – Theodore Roosevelt

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For the answer to today's puzzle, go to:



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WHAT DID YOU THINK OF THE AFC/NFC CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES?

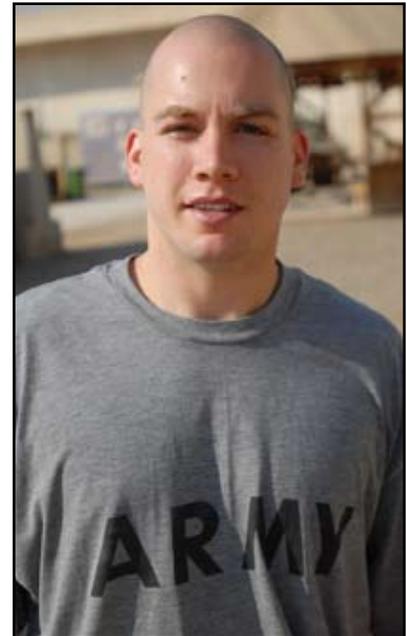


Photo by Staff Sgt. Michel Sauret  
"I'm always rooting for the underdog, so I'm glad Arizona won it against the Eagles," said Spc. Adam Tilden, of Flint, Mich., 244th Air Defense Artillery.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michel Sauret  
"I wasn't a fan of any of the four teams, but I watched the football games because it's football," said Staff Sgt. Joshua Johnston, of Houston, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division.