

Task Force C-RAM celebrates Thanksgiving Day throughout Iraq

Story by Corporal Joel Goffinet / 3rd Battalion, 3rd Air Defense Artillery / Photo 1LT David Norwood / November 2009

Camp Victory, Iraq – The Soldiers and Sailors of Task Force C-RAM celebrated Thanksgiving Day from as far north as Mosul to the southernmost portion of Basrah, Iraq and on 15 separate Forward Operating Bases (FOB) throughout the entire country of Iraq.

The battalion command team of Task Force C-RAM, LTC Randall A. McIntire and Command Sergeant Major Paris A. Williams started the holiday season by visiting several FOB's during a 10 day period to wish their Soldiers and Sailors a happy Thanksgiving.

The command team traveled to Mosul to present Combat Action Badges, certificate of achievements and battalion coins to Soldiers of A/BTRY, 3-3 ADA currently in support of Multi-National Division North. The three day visit ended with a BBQ feast which lasted long into the night. "Our Soldiers appreciate the command team visits. They let us know how much they appreciate our unit and our mission and they always motivate our young guys".-1SG Steven Flack, A/BTRY, 3-3 ADA.

The trip culminated with a visit to FOB McHenry, one the most austere locations in Iraq. The command team flew in by rotary wing aircraft and were received by SSG Scotty Hodges, section sergeant in support of FOB McHenry. SSG Hodges escorted the command team around the FOB introducing them to the leadership of the base. During the visit they came across two wild turkeys which would become tomorrow's Thanksgiving dinner.

Thanksgiving Day started off with an awards ceremony. LTC Randy McIntire awarded the Combat Action Badge to two Soldiers and presented the Joint Service Achievement Medal to SSG Scotty Hodges on behalf of The Multi-National Corps Iraq (MNC-I) Commander, Lieutenant General Charles H. Jacoby Jr.

LTC Randall A. McIntire said 'We are many miles away from our loved ones and our thoughts are with them today. The Army is a Family and we always pull together in tough times, I am so happy I can be with these great Soldiers on this day. Happy Holidays to all of our families back home'.



LTC Randy McIntire enjoys Thanksgiving Day Dinner with Soldiers with his Soldiers located at FOB McHenry, Iraq.