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Subject: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [Crimson](#) on Sun, 17 Jul 2005 23:58:53 GMT

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Hello Everyone

Yahoo is unblocked again so I'm able to get a word out. Many sites are blocked so we're unable to visit many sites that we want too ... including gaming sites

The 12-16 hour days catch up to me every once in a while but I somehow find the energy to press on. Reached the half way point so I'm hoping it's all down hill from here. The night for me starts at 7pm so I'm usually up by 5pm to get ready and find some chow and a smoke. Live in tent city so it's a small 1/4 mile walk to work, it may not be far but with 30ish lbs of gear on and 122 degrees ... it takes its toll. Get to work and regroup my relaxed focus to the mission focus and prepare for a long night. After shift is over and work is done, time for the walk again, shower, read and usually asleep again by 9-10am.

Had a near miss the other day ... A 107mm rocket fired by an insurgent landed 15ft from where I was working, fortunately it didn't go off but it did drill itself down 7ft into the ground ... talk about counting your blessings!!

The temperatures are getting hotter even at night, sometimes in the 100s at midnight ... phew! See plenty of different insects here including camel spiders, scorpions, sand flies and many weird looking critters. You have to keep good hygiene here or the bugs will find you.

Many of the Iraqi people/military/police risk their lives/families working with us, but I don't turn my back on them. As well as the US forces we have the fellow British here, Australians and other European countries all working together to help Iraq get back onto its feet. We're still loosing soldiers every day ... I really hope this dwindles to a stop. We're getting lots of support for the troops back States and it's deeply appreciated, so those who have donated something or even said a kind word ... Thanks!!

I've taken many pictures of which I'll show upon my return but here are some for now -

Take care all and keep the flag high!

Ripintou  
(Dave)

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [Renx](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 00:02:02 GMT

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Too hot for war :>

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [Jecht](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 00:12:18 GMT

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holy damn thats hot.

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [M1Garand8](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 00:26:17 GMT

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Wow... that's hotter than Singapore...

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [icedog90](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 01:03:27 GMT

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Must be hell out there... I've been to Palm Springs once and it was around 110°F, impossible for me to tolerate (since I live in Washington). I cannot imagine how hot it is over there.

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [Nodbugger](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 02:00:46 GMT

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120 isn't even that hot.

When my dad was there the hottest day was 147.

He calls us all wimps for being hot in this 95 degree weather.

:salute:

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [Blazer](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 02:08:16 GMT

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Nodbugger wrote on Sun, 17 July 2005 22:00:120 isn't even that hot.

When my dad was there the hottest day was 147.

He calls us all wimps for being hot in this 95 degree weather.

120 Isn't even that hot? What are you smoking? We have had triple digit temps here in Arizona and I can assure you it is indeed hot. As for 147, I really doubt that.

"The hottest temperature on Earth ever recorded most likely occurred in Death Valley, California during 43 consecutive days between July 6 and August 17, 1917. During those days, the temperature was over 48 degrees Celsius (120 degrees Fahrenheit). The national weather service recorded 56.7 °C (134 °F). The date reported there was July 10, 1913."

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [Crimson](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 02:09:22 GMT

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That's bullshit, and I'm saying that as someone who lives in a place with a similar climate, but more vegetation and routine 115 degree weather. 120 IS that hot and it's difficult enough to get out to your car in that heat, much less walk a quarter mile while carrying 30 pounds of gear.

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [Oblivion165](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 02:12:16 GMT

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Man we wouldnt even know if he did bite it on that one.

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [icedog90](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 02:23:41 GMT

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Crimson wrote on Sun, 17 July 2005 22:09:120 IS that hot and it's difficult enough to get out to your car in that heat, much less walk a quarter mile while carrying 30 pounds of gear.

EXACTLY. It felt the same in Palm Springs, we hated leaving our car it was so damn hot. It was pretty humid too, so I know I haven't felt anything yet, but I'm going on vacation down to Nevada in a week and it's going to be HOT.

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [Hydra](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 02:39:06 GMT

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Screw arguing about temperatures; can we get back to the subject, please?

(Crimson, if possible, please forward this message to Dave)

Dave,

I don't know if you're a religious man, but I'm praying for you and all of our overseas troops. You're going through hell so we back in the States don't have to. I can't tell you how much I appreciate it. I feel cheap in just saying these words; I only wish there was something more I could do (too young to sign up myself). If there's anything any of us back in the States can do for you or any of our troops, let us know.

Thanks immensely, and I hope you return safely.

Your friend from the RenForums,  
Nick (a.k.a. Hydra)

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [Javafx](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 03:19:28 GMT

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Heh, I remember having to spend a good 6 weeks in a tent city. Just so you can gather an image of what it's like:

Usually in the dead of morning at the break of dawn the temperature is cold enough for you to get a sweater and long pants on. It's probably comparative in Iraq, but I have little doubt the temperature drops a fair bit compared to the day time. They're dusty, they're absolutely huge (the place I was in housed something like 200 or so 8-man tents) so he isn't exaggerating when he says it's a 1/4 mile hike to get to where he needs to go.

I'm not sure about the American issue bunks, but the ones we have get a spindly wooden floor with a recycled cot and if you're lucky, new gear and netting for when you are asleep. I suppose one of the pluses for Dave is that he sleeps during the day, when the worst bugs aren't out.

The power goes out pretty frequently in those bunks. Something you grow to really appreciate should you working days and want to read at night.

If Warranto has ever been to CFB Bordon before the tent city was closed down and the barracks finally rebuilt from those Kosovor's damage, then maybe he can elaborate further on some of the conditions that Dave is dealing with.

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [warranto](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 05:02:19 GMT

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Unfortunately, I've never been to Bordon. However I have heard stories of when the barracks were being rebuilt.

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [Nodbugger](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 05:43:19 GMT

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120 isn't hot in Iraq.

Also, I can show you the mission log for my dads tour. The highest temperature they recored was 147.

<http://peopleforchange.blogspot.com/2005/02/detainees-in-iraq.html>

Quote:CAMP BUCCA, Iraq, July 18 (IslamOnline.net & News Agencies) – Under summer temperatures that can soar up to 60 degrees Celsius (140 degrees Fahrenheit), over 2,600 Iraqis are still being held, some for as long as 14 months, without trial in the US-run Camp Bucca desert camp on the outskirts of the southern port of Umm Qasr.

<http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-news/1378756/posts>

Quote:Camp Bucca is the largest prison in Iraq located in a barren desert plot where temperatures can soar to 60<>C.

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [Crimson](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 06:00:16 GMT

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Hydra wrote on Sun, 17 July 2005 19:39Screw arguing about temperatures; can we get back to the subject, please?

(Crimson, if possible, please forward this message to Dave)

Dave,

I don't know if you're a religious man, but I'm praying for you and all of our overseas troops. You're going through hell so we back in the States don't have to. I can't tell you how much I appreciate it. I feel cheap in just saying these words; I only wish there was something more I could do (too young to sign up myself). If there's anything any of us back in the States can do for you or any of our troops, let us know.

Thanks immensely, and I hope you return safely.

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Your friend from the RenForums,  
Nick (a.k.a. Hydra)

It's been sent.

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)  
Posted by [csskiller](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 06:11:17 GMT  
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That spider or bug or whatever looks scary.

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)  
Posted by [DarkDemin](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 06:26:43 GMT  
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Crimson wrote on Sun, 17 July 2005 22:09 That's bullshit, and I'm saying that as someone who lives in a place with a similar climate, but more vegetation and routine 115 degree weather. 120 IS that hot and it's difficult enough to get out to your car in that heat, much less walk a quarter mile while carrying 30 pounds of gear.

30 pounds is bad enough think about when they are going into combat with over 80 pounds of gear.

oh and those camel spiders are scary things. I know a guy who keeps spiders and milks their poison. (spiders scare the shit outta me) and he doesn't even like them.

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)  
Posted by [Jecht](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 09:11:27 GMT  
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"DarkDemin"(spiders scare the shit outta me)

Only three things on this earth scare me:

- 1.) Spiders
- 2.) Bees/Wasps/hornets
- 3.) Hillary Clinton

Guess the only things Im scared of have 6+ legs, and are ugly as hell.

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

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Posted by [Walrus](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 10:40:55 GMT

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I'm glad to hear that he's doing ok. I must admit that high temperatures do me in pretty quickly, I have no idea how he could be dealing with that and being shot at. That and being in a tent. I hate tents.

Good luck mate.

It's a pity we can't put together some sort of community care package for him.

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Subject: Re: Hello from Baghdad (word from Ripintou) (again)

Posted by [Dave Mason](#) on Mon, 18 Jul 2005 17:39:50 GMT

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Yeah, I'd donate.

I have so much respect for the people out there.

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