

Troops won't see combat

New deployments to stabilize Iraq

BY COURTNEY BARKER
STAFF WRITER

Despite concerns about the number of troops engaged in ground warfare in Iraq, experts say troops deployed in the near future will focus on stabilizing the country rather than on hand-to-hand combat.

Many civilians and military personnel have voiced concern about having an insufficient number of troops in Iraq. The United States has prepped an additional 100,000 troops for deployment to Iraq, according to The Associated Press.

The dissenters say extra deployment will make for a better campaign, but some experts say the war is going exactly as planned.

Robert Powers, director of Asynchronous Engineering Programs at Old Dominion University, said the amount of ground warfare actually is less than anticipated.

"We've encountered extremely light resistance," Powers said.

The possible deployment of troops could have to do with Iraq's use of guerrilla tactics in the past week, said George Quester, professor of government and politics at the University of Maryland.

"Part of the reason you need a lot of troops is because it looked like, last week, that the Iraqis were going to use guerrilla warfare, which requires more troops to deal with," Quester said.

Some experts said the troops ready for deployment will be used as stabilizing forces rather than for fighting purposes.

The vast majority of the 100,000 troops would not be involved in the fighting but would be deployed for support reasons, said John Reppert, executive director of Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government/Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs.

"After the war is over, we will still have a huge job to stabilize Iraq," he said.

Retired Army Maj. Gen. William Nash, director of the Center for Preventive Action in Washington, D.C., said the 100,000 troops will take care of the pockets of resistance that will remain when the war is over.

"It will take more forces to stabilize Iraq than to take it," he said.

Powers said these troops are part of a "follow-on force."

"Any war plan has an initial force and then a follow-on force," he said. "The follow-on force is for reinforcements."

Powers also said there will be fewer troops deployed in this campaign than in the first Persian Gulf War.

He said the United States can afford to deploy fewer troops because there are fewer Iraqi forces than there were 12 years ago and because U.S. surveillance and intelligence are significantly better than they were in 1991.

Reppert also said the military has improved during the last decade and no longer requires as many troops as it did in the last Gulf War. "The military has increased its reliance on technology and standoff weapons like cruise missiles."

This enables troops to move faster on the ground toward Baghdad, he said, but does not mean the United States never again will have to face hand-to-hand combat.

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

Arboretum marks 100 years

BY TINA CHANG
STAFF WRITER

In the early 1900s, a boggy, 5-acre tract of land sat on the northern part of UNC's campus, used only as a cow pasture.

When a young William Chambers Coker, UNC's first professor of botany, suggested improving the area, the University gave him \$10 and one laborer.

One hundred years later, Coker Arboretum is observing its centennial and its rich history in a celebration to be held Friday and Saturday.

Mary Coker Joslin, Coker's niece, has written a book, "William Chambers Coker: Passionate Botanist," to commemorate the arboretum and its founder.

"As the area was drained, Coker made curving paths and planted varieties of plants and trees," she said. "By 1920 it was a really beautiful place."

Wilson Library is showcasing the arboretum's history in an exhibit called "William Chambers Coker: The Legacy of a Lifelong Botanist."

The exhibit includes Coker's handwritten key of almost 300 species of plants he planned to bring to the arboretum as well as an initial blueprint. Today, the arboretum houses more than 500 species of flora from North

Carolina and Asia. Charlotte Jones-Roe, assistant director for development at the N.C. Botanical Garden, said the arboretum has become a place everyone can enjoy.

"It's an island of tranquility on the campus: a place to enjoy, particularly during spring but all year long," Jones-Roe said.

In addition to providing a recreational area, Coker Arboretum also aids Alan Weakley, curator of the UNC Herbarium, in his research.

"The arboretum provides living collection material to study taxonomy and the biology of plants," Weakley said.

He said access to live, native flora makes it easier to extract DNA and run gene sequencing to research connections between N.C. plants and Asian plants.

Biology Professor Pat Gensel regularly incorporates the arboretum in her classes, bringing students there for lab or taking small samples to study in the lab. "The arboretum is a wonderful asset, and it enhances courses a great deal," Gensel said.

The arboretum receives half its funds from the state government, and the rest come from friends of the arboretum, Jones-Roe said. During the recent budget crunch, the first items to be cut were University programs that didn't

grant degrees, so an endowment was established for the arboretum in 1997.

"We created the endowment to care for the arboretum from now on so it can get the full staffing that it needs," she said.

Recent improvements to Coker Arboretum include the class of 1997's gift to the University. Jones-Roe said the class added an entry into the arboretum and left a stone circle with a carved leaf to remember classmates who passed away during the school year.

"We want to improve it, but we don't want to change the traditional character of the arboretum," Jones-Roe said.

For the arboretum's birthday celebration, 5,000 invitations were sent to people from all over the country, and Jones-Roe said Coker's remains will come to observe the occasion.

Coker realized the significance of the arboretum in 1916 when he wrote about it in the University of North Carolina Magazine.

"Nothing could so distinguish us as the presence of these trees, and in their possession we stand without a rival among the colleges of the country."

Contact the Features Editor at features@unc.edu.



Psychology Professor Laura Clark and her son David, 5, stroll through the 100-year-old Coker Arboretum on a bright, sunny day last week. DTH/JESSICA FOSTER

Hospital shows art of patients

Featured artists have mental illnesses

BY MICHELLE JARBOE
STAFF WRITER

For patients, it's about expressing and building self-esteem. For staff, it's about connecting with patients on a more personal level.

The Schizophrenia Treatment and Evaluation Program opens its fifth art exhibition Thursday. Among the more than 80 works in the "Brushes With Life: Art, Artists and Mental Illness" gallery are pieces by artists with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and depression.

"We're hoping that (the exhibit) will decrease the stigma toward mental illness, that it will focus on the positive and the creativity. And, in that process, we're hoping to educate people," said Paula Mayence, registered nurse and co-chairwoman of the STEP art gallery committee.

The gallery, opened in December 2000, plays host to works created by inpatients and outpatients of STEP, as well as to members of Club Nova, a Carrboro clubhouse for the mentally ill.

Located on the third floor of the UNC Neuroscience Hospital, the gallery showcases sketches, photographs, paintings, poetry and fiber art, among other works. The art on display changes every six to seven months.

A UNC professor and co-chairwoman of the STEP art gallery committee, Dr. Nancy Clayton said 42 artists are participating in the upcoming exhibit, which is funded by the hospital's facility enhancement budget.

"I think it's rewarding for (patients) to have their art displayed. I know it's boosted the self-esteem of a lot of patients," Clayton said. "It's spurred them on to be more creative and trade more artwork. ... It, for some patients, may allow more acceptance of their mental illness."

Mayence echoed these sentiments and said the display of artwork reassures patients' families that their relatives are in a nurturing environment.

"I think it's had a positive impact on the staff, too, because it reminds us that we are working

with a whole person with creative talents and abilities," she said.

Participant artist Nancy Rose Bryant has shown work in the gallery since the second exhibition. A Durham resident, Bryant has been diagnosed with bipolar disorder and has been interested in both psychology and art since childhood.

"I've always felt very connected with the field of psychology, but I've also been an artist since an early age, and the two have always gone hand in hand in expressing my interests," she said.

Bryant's paintings are in the upcoming gallery exhibit, as well as in a STEP exhibit at the Raleigh-Durham International Airport.

"I feel like I can play a part in making people realize that people with psychosis, for example, are not all psychotic killers," she said. "I feel like I can play a part to help the general public understand things that are often misunderstood."

Bryant, who also has worked on the gallery committee, said she enjoys working with people who share common interests and provide support.

"There's an environment of encouragement and inspiration and understanding and acceptance and appreciation that is very appropriate and also very honest," she said. "It's not fabricated. It's very real ... and I'm all for it."

Contact the A&E Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.

Chat aims to fix computer woes

BY LIZZIE STEWART
STAFF WRITER

The popularity of America Online's Instant Messenger and Yahoo! Messenger services has caught on at Academic Technology & Networks' Information Technology Response Center.

Computer consultants for the response center have incorporated the benefits of chatting into the troubleshooting services they offer to students and faculty at UNC.

"The neat thing for us is you don't need any special software," said Bruce Egan, associate director for ATN services. "You can get it directly from our Web site."

The chat service is available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at <http://help.unc.edu>. Users then can follow the link reading, "ITRC live chat service." A box will appear asking for the user's

name, ONYEN and PID number.

This will set up the user to chat with a consultant at the ITRC who can solve the problem. If consultants have trouble understanding a problem, they can request to see the user's screen and show the user how to solve the problem. If the user needs a Web site or a file, the consultant has the ability to make it appear on the user's screen.

The live chat service is particularly useful when consultants have trouble figuring out what's wrong while on the phone. "I see (consultants who) have their chairs back and their eyes closed trying to visualize what's wrong," Egan said.

Each session is recorded in a video log so customers and consultants can see the solution to a recurring problem. Also, at the end of a session, customers fill out a survey on how the service helped them.

ITRC consultants have used the service since December and have received positive feedback.

"The feedback I've received so far has been from technicians using the product," said Angela Self, remote services manager at the ITRC. "They ... saw it as a big timesaver."

The service also allows someone outside the country to connect directly to the center without making a long-distance call, Egan said.

The service works by using a queuing system, so as it becomes popular with users, more staff will be trained and available to use it.

The chat is a viable option to get help, said Jeremy Buenviaje, a computer consultant at the ITRC.

"It's always good to give them an alternative to reach us another way."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

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