

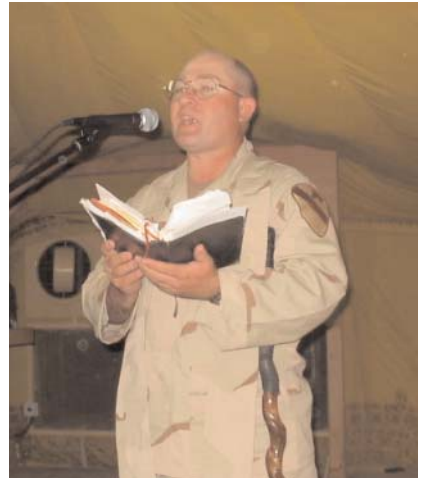


MINUTE FOR MISSION

October 1, 2004

Iraq

Presbyterian chaplains help bring faith and provide broad-based pastoral care to military personnel and their families around the world. "These soldiers know the edge of life and end of life in very real terms," writes Presbyterian Chaplain LTC Brenson P. Bishop, serving with the 353 Engineer Group and Engineer Brigade, 1st Cav. Baghdad, Iraq. "I just returned from a convoy where I visited soldiers at an isolated post and provided pastoral care to 18-26 year olds who struggle with the tensions of battle. It is no little thing to take a life. It changes you in very fundamental ways. Being a chaplain requires a strong heart, a solid faith, a strong body, good judgment, and a practice of faith that is real because if it isn't, your troops will see you for who you really are and not what you advertise yourself to be." Over 355 chaplains from the four denominations of the Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel (PCCMP) serve on active or reserve duty in the Armed Forces.



Chaplain LTC Brenson P. Bishop delivers a sermon to military personnel in Iraq.

Do you have a mission story to tell? Would you like to read inspiring stories of Presbyterians in mission? Visit the Witness Season Web site: www.pcusa.org/witness. New minutes for mission are posted on the 1st and 15th of each month.

For more information on the Witness Season mission education emphasis contact Billie Healy, Associate for Mission Education Resources (888) 728-7228, ext. 5689, or Bhealy@ctr.pcusa.org.