



Check out the intramural football playoff action, see Page 1C

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October 4, 2007

Citizens help Soldiers in Iraq

2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div.

ARAB JABOUR – A concerned citizens group alerted Coalition Forces to the location of a weapons cache Sept. 25.

The concerned citizens approached Soldiers of Company C, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, who were providing overwatch along a main route, and told them they knew the location of a cache.

Soldiers followed the concerned citizens to the site.

The cache consisted of two 60mm mortars, one Chinese rocket-propelled grenade launcher, one 57mm projectile, a Russian PG-7M infantry anti-tank launcher, three Iraqi OG-7 RPG launchers, seven rocket-propelled grenades, three blasting caps, 24 feet of yellow detonation cord, a spool of command wire, 4 ounces of PE-4 bulk explosives, two empty fire extinguishers, one four-foot steel pipe and a blue barrel for storage.

An explosive ordnance disposal team disposed of the cache in two controlled detonations.

Stewart-Hunter invest in Family quality care

Pat Young
Frontline Staff

Although Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, the three time winner of the Army Community of Excellence Award, is prevented by policy from competing in the event a fourth year in a row, it doesn't stop the installation from striving to remain the best.

To that end, Stewart-Hunter invested the \$2 million ACOE prize money from the latest award, back into community programs, with the understanding Families are the key to readiness.

"Quality of Life is what ACOE is all about. Making it better for all folks on the post," said Paul Andreshak, Deputy Garrison Commander for Stewart-Hunter. "With Soldiers deployed we try to enhance opportunities for Families to participate in collective events

and we increase our watchfulness because we know what deployments can do to the home lives of some."

Knowing how and where to focus resources is critical in maintaining that focus on Families Soldiers, units and agencies.

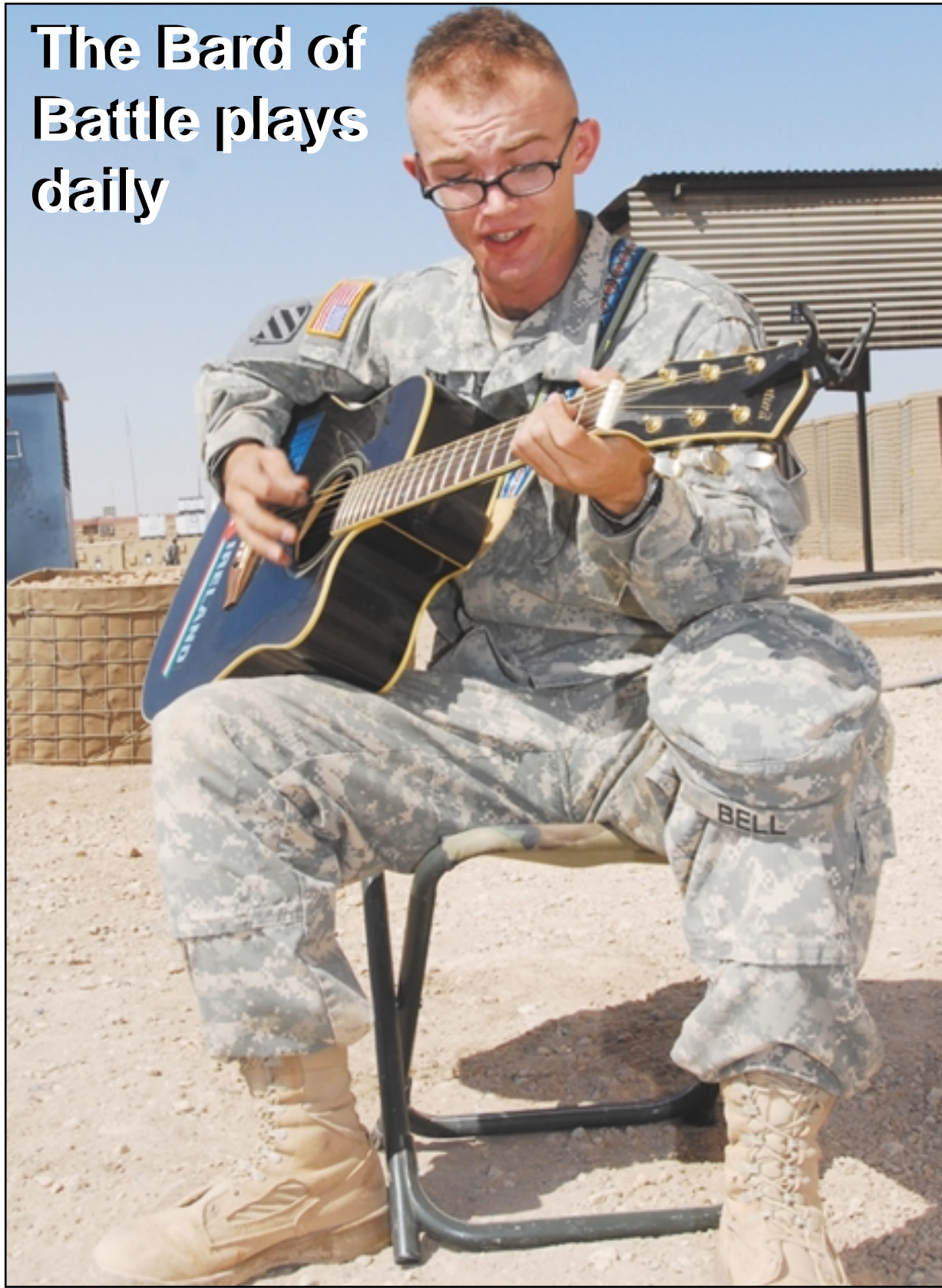
Andreshak said feedback was an important factor in maintaining good customer service. He said it was a collaborative effort by Soldiers, civilians and Family members that earned the ACOE award.

In an effort to know the "pulse" of the installation, a number of forums are held regularly to determine needs and interest. Some of those activities include the Army Family Action Plan, town hall meetings, community information sharing forums, Teen council, and the Installation Morale, Welfare and Recreation Council.

See ACOE

See Page 9A

The Bard of Battle plays daily



Spc. Ricardo Branch

Spc. Jeff Rhey Bell with his trusty guitar, is known as the bard of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Support Battalion. He plays his guitar for the Soldiers of his unit to help lighten moods, calm emotions and provides solace for anyone needing a good tune to help them through the rough times in Ramadi. See story on Page 9A.

Community Showcase

Come see what there is to do in regional communities from South Carolina to Florida 1-6 p.m. Oct. 10 at Club Stewart. Find out what communities and organizations in the local areas have to offer. For more information, call 767-7111.

Meet the WTU Cadre



Ann Erickson

Thirty Soldiers, Non-commissioned officers and Officers (cadre), assigned to the Warrior Transition Unit graduated from the cadre certification training course Sept. 28 See story on Page 9A.

CFC drive in third week

Jim Jeffcoat
Chief, Internal Communications

This year's Combined Federal Campaign for Fort Stewart - Hunter Army Airfield looks to be off to a good start with over \$50,500 after more than 550 contributions reported as of Oct. 2, according to Miguel Cruz, installation CFC representa-

See CFC

See Page 9A

MEDDAC's new commander: Soldier, family care top priority

Ann Erickson
Winn Public Affairs

He has been on the job for about two months and has already hit the ground running.

Col. John P. Collins took command of the U.S. Army Medical Department Activity, Fort Stewart, July 12 and has been working hard with improvements for the entire medical community at Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield.

In his first few weeks in command, Collins has already led the hospital through a highly successful Joint

See MEDDAC



Courtesy photo

Col. John P. Collins

Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Durr, garrison command sergeant major, said that last year the division was here in force to help exceed a CFC goal of \$425,000. This year the goal is \$125,000 less at \$300,000, "and we will more than likely exceed that goal too - even if the division is not here in force," Durr said.

Commission survey in which the hospital only received two recommendations for improvement.

"We achieved one of the, if not the, best scores throughout the Army and I give full credit to the great staff here at the hospital," Collins said. "To receive full accreditation for the next three years is a stamp of quality recognized throughout the healthcare industry, but we mustn't rest on our laurels. We still

have a number of areas that we must improve to provide better access and customer service."

See Page 9A

Vanguard equipment loads out for deployment, see Page 10A

Stay tuned to Marne Television every night at 7 p.m. to catch the Marne Bowl

Hunter Families bring home the big catch, see Page 1B



Marne 6 Sends CG returns to Iraq with thanks for Soldiers

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch
3rd Inf. Div. commanding general

Saturday I returned to Iraq. Looking back, I want to thank everyone at Fort Stewart for your warm welcome home. I saw firsthand the magnificent progress that has continued on our garrison thanks to Col. Todd Buchs and our garrison staff. It's not hard to see why Fort Stewart has consistently been recognized as an Army Community of Excellence.

The great thing about commanding this division is that it is full of talented leaders, officers and noncommissioned officers alike. In my absence operations continued. I rested with confidence that the Marne Division was in good hands with Brigadier Gen. Jim Huggins, Brigadier Gen. Ed Cardon, Command Sgt. Maj. Jesse Andrews and Col. Mark McKnight at the helm.

I was truly able to focus on family and this was personally very rewarding, an experience every Soldier in this division ought to have.

On my way back to Baghdad I stopped at our medical centers and met with real life heroes. I talked to our Soldiers, our Wounded Warriors, and I was humbled by them. They asked only one question, "General how's my unit doing?" Even now, recuperating from the wounds of battle, their thoughts were on their comrades.

See, this is the newest greatest generation. The love these heroes have for their brothers and sisters in arms was as undeniable as their valor.

Everywhere I went the senior leaders of our military and your fellow citizens would stop me and say thanks for the work we're doing here in Iraq. We should be proud of our great division for the reputation that we have earned.

Now, it's back to work and I have spent this last week traveling throughout our



area of operations. The brigade commanders have shown me progress in their areas and I has been inspired by our passionate young leaders on the front in this war.

There is a sense here that the enemy is on the run, potentially on the ropes. Concerned Citizens Groups are emerging and are throwing out the extremists in their midst. Our new allies have turned their weapons on al Qaeda and this has helped us to capture, kill and clear the enemy from areas he once had as safe havens.

There is still a lot of work here that needs to be done. In the months ahead we will likely see a shift of focus from primarily security to largely support for transition.

Now, with the Iraqi security forces growing in capability, with them taking on more responsibility, we will begin to see growth in Iraqi government capacity and

improvements in their economy. These positive steps would not have been possible were it not for the role that your 3rd Infantry Division played here.

There is no less need for our Soldiers here. Indeed I have not seen or heard any indication that our Soldiers will be deployed for anything less than a full fifteen months. Our 4th Brigade Combat Team continues to ready itself for deployment here and we are glad to have them as a part of this Multinational Division Center.

I remain grateful to our friends and neighbors in Coastal Georgia. There are no better friends to our Soldiers than the communities that surround our Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield military complex.

We do look forward to a great reunion on Cottrell Field come summer of 2008. Until that day we will focus on our mission here and give thanks for our great Families who, every day, demonstrate uncommon love, patience, and devotion.

Rock of the Marne!

Safety offers Columbus Day holiday guidance

Division Safety Office

The 3d Infantry Division and Fort Stewart Columbus Day holiday weekend Oct. 5-8 is the first long weekend of the fall season. Reduced daylight hours, changing weather and road conditions increase the potential for vehicle accidents. All members of the Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield military community must be aware of the high risk associated with a long holiday weekend. Automobile, motorcycle, and water sport injuries are the most common accidents during holidays.

Leaders discuss the following with your Soldiers:

Reducing travel risks

Leaders will use the 6-point model safety program developed by the United States Combat Readiness Center and maximize the use of the POV Toolbox when conducting safety briefings and vehicle safety inspections. Vehicles must be in good working order—Be sure to check. Commanders and leaders have a responsibility to ensure soldiers are adequately prepared for driving hazards.

All Soldiers must use TRIPS prior to driving outside of the immediate area on vacation. Soldiers will use safety belts and make sure that their passengers do likewise.

Ensure adequate rest before traveling to avoid driving while fatigued.

When you feel tired stop driving altogether, if possible, get a motel. Stack the odds in your favor, when the weather is bad, slow down.

Swim only in approved areas

Do not exceed your capabilities and use the "buddy system". Swim only where lifeguards are present. When boating, ensure everyone wears a flotation jacket and do not exceed the passenger capacity of the boat or other watercraft. Avoid drinking during these activities.

Socializing

Use caution when serving alcohol to guests at your home; remember your liability for an intoxicated guest extends beyond your front door. Plan social events to keep alcoholic drinks in moderation and offer non-alcoholic beverages.

Our goal this Columbus Day Holiday period is one unmarred by the accidental loss of life to any member of this command.

Safety guidelines

Leaders will remind everyone of the need for highway safety and encourage them to observe the following safety rules:

Don't drink and drive. It takes only one drink to mess up a life. Use a designated driver, call for a ride, or take a taxi if you're going to be drinking.

Discuss the overall need for increased alertness during this high accident exposure period. Stress defensive-driving techniques that can nullify other drivers' mistakes.

Reducing travel risks.

Leaders should inspect vehicles using AFZP Form 504 (POV Safety Inspection Checklist).

- Ensure your car is in safe mechanical condition.
- Always use safety belts and make sure your passengers do likewise, even in cars equipped with air bags.
- Ensure adequate rest before trips, avoid driving while fatigued. When you feel tired stop driving altogether, if possible, get a motel. Take frequent rest breaks and consume the caffeine equivalent of two cups of coffee.
- Stack the odds in your favor, when the weather is bad, slow down.

Watch out for others

- Be aware of the danger of swimming in unguarded areas. Use the "Buddy System"
- While swimming. Swim only where lifeguards are on duty.
- Use personal flotation devices when boating.
- Prevent heat injuries; drink water even if not thirsty.
- Use caution when serving alcohol to guests at your home; remember your liability for an intoxicated guest extends beyond your front door. Plan social events to keep alcoholic drinks in moderation and offer non-alcoholic beverages.

Reemphasize safety.

Encourage personnel to make maximum use of on-post recreational facilities, thereby reducing the risks inherent in highway travel during the Columbus Day weekend.

The goal this Columbus Day is one of maximum fun and recreation, unmarred by the accidental loss of any member of this command. For more information, call 767-7880.

A moment in Marne history: defense of the Marne

Fort Stewart Museum

Consummation of an American plan

While making the plans for American involvement in World War I, the Commander of the American Expeditionary Forces, General John J. Pershing, insisted that American troops should learn to be excellent shooters. The German enemy had been preparing for a war of movement and General Pershing concentrated on the training for open warfare, including "faith in the rifle" (Palmer).

"Thorough instruction and range practice, as prescribed in our small arms firing manual, is necessary and every new soldier should be an excellent shot." (Pershing)

Faith in the rifle meant knowledge for the individual soldier that he had the best equipment and the training to go with it.

The man in the ranks

General Pershing had plans to wait until the whole or most of a division arrived in France to send them together as divisions into battle. Arriving troops were sent to French and British training facilities, so the Germans wondered if our presence in France was a trick or "bluff".

Although the training alongside the French and British added quality to the style of the American fighting man, Pershing understood that if the Americans absorbed into the French or British Armies then; The most important unit of war, the man in the ranks, would not have developed to his maximum potential against the enemy. Why? He would not have had his own identity and distinction.

This was a unique American idea not fully comprehended by the British who, with good intentions, continued to press the President to overrule General Pershing and allow "infantry" to ship and absorb into the British forces.

At the same time, the French were known to give lively speeches filled with explana-

tions of the individualism of the Americans.

A record of those speeches suggests that they were not sure how to interpret American ideas of individual potential and how that would affect the help they needed to save France. No matter their understanding, the French enjoyed the results.

Shock of the Marne

When the battle at the Marne River ended on July 17, 1918, the 3rd Division shocked the Germans with their response. After pushing the enemy back across the river, they did not rest or stop and reflect on the brilliant defense of that "Gateway to Paris". Unique to their commander's ideas, the 3rd Division chased the Germans across the Marne to fight them again.

They stunned the observing French and gave them new hope. Realizing the opportunity he had been given, French General Marshall Foch ordered an advance by the Allied nations along the entire front on July 18, which continued for days.

By July 21, the American 26th Division had moved in for the chase. They saw evidence of a hasty withdrawal; discarded German helmets, abandoned ammunition and guns. All of this evidence of how hasty the retreat had been.

"The German was going, we knew not how far at that time." (Wooldridge)

The orders were to give them no leisure. The 3rd and the 26th Divisions pressed through the forests, hills and ravines in pursuit of the retreating Germans.

"They were tired beyond the comprehension of anyone who has not carried a pack and a rifle, but that did not matter to the defenders of the Marne who were driving the enemy away..." (Palmer)

The 3rd Division's defense of the Marne had frustrated the Germans in their plans to hold Paris, and the unexpected counterblow was destined to change the face of the entire war.

From that time until the war ended, the Germans remained on the defensive.

After the unique actions of the 3rd Division at the Marne and the following offensive chase, the commanding general of the French 6th Army, General Degoutte,

wrote to the 3rd Div. Commander, General Dickman (Communicated in General Order No. 28), "This brilliant unit thus demonstrated, after having given proof of its tenacity in the defense, the finest offensive qualities. I thank, from the bottom of my heart, General Dickman and the 3rd Division U. S. for all that they have done for France."

Direct excerpts from:

The Rock of the Marne, Jesse Wooldridge, 1919

My Experiences in the World War, John J. Pershing, 1931

America in France, Frederick Palmer, 1918 and Fort Stewart Museum archival material



The 3rd Field Artillery Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, displays their strength and pride during World War I.

photo courtesy of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division

Marne Soldiers help Iraq to its feet

Al-Huda residents get fresh-water well

Staff Sgt. Sean Riley
3rd HBCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq – Team Village, made up of 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers, spearheaded a project that provided an Iraqi village clean drinking water and jobs.

Mada'in Qada Mayor Abu Bahar and al-Huda village's Sheik Shanno cut a ribbon, marking the opening of a new fresh-water well pumping station in al-Huda Sept. 23.

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, along with the Nahia council, members of local Iraqi Security Forces, the Qada mayor and members of the village, attended the ceremony.

The project started in July and ended with the pumping station opening 72 days later. The well system is comprised of a gated building, a 40-meter well, four 5,000-gallon water storage tanks, a water compact filtration system, a 20-kilowatt-hour generator and distribution faucets.

Local leadership selected two employees to be trained on maintenance and operation of the well house. The two caretakers have quarters with a kitchen, restroom, bathroom and showers in the facility. Thirty-two people from the village were employed during its construction.

"We met with the local leaders who identified the problem of having no clean and reliable water source," said 1st Lt. Matthew Givens, leader of Team Village for 1-15 Inf. Regt. "We conducted bi-weekly updates checking on the contractor, workers and the progress of the facility."

The project was completed Sept. 20, and Givens said he thinks the project will affect the village in many ways. The largest impact, he said, is the village now has a reliable source of drinking water.

"The well will produce approximately 5,000 gallons of clean drinking water per day," Givens said. "The people are now able to bring buckets or bottles to the facility and fill up on clean water."

Water discarded from the facility will be pumped into neighboring fields for irrigation. On days they choose not to pump water residents can filter water from the water compact filtration system.

Givens also said the facility surpassed what his team expected a well-house to be. With its self-sustaining power source, air-conditioning, kitchen, bathroom, shower and garden, the facility is extremely well built, he added.

One of the village sheiks couldn't say enough about the facility and the Soldiers who helped with the project.



Courtesy photo

First Lt. Matthew Givens, 1/15 Inf., and leader of Team Village, a 3rd HBCT working group, checks out the water compact filtration system at the al-Huda fresh-water well and pump station.



Sgt. Luis Delgadillo

Spc. Timothy Eugene Sheets, an infantryman with Co. B, 1/30th Inf., 2nd BCT, catalogues a prospective concerned citizen at the Arab Jabour community center Aug. 9.

Troops help town form citizens group

Sgt. Luis Delgadillo
2nd BCT PAO

ARAB JABOUR – In the seven weeks since its inception, the concerned citizens group here has made a significant impact on its community.

Former Iraqi army Brig. Gen. Mustafa Kamil Hamad Shabib al-Juburi, more commonly known as Gen. Mustafa, and Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, organized the concerned citizens group to establish a local security force responsible for protecting the community's critical infrastructure.

In the process of defending the town's mosques, vital roads, water pump stations and electric infrastructure, concerned citizens have also had success in combating al-Qaeda.

In the past five weeks alone, they have assisted Coalition Forces in finding more than 20 weapons caches and 10 improvised explosives devices,

which prevented Soldiers from being killed or injured.

They have also been able to give valuable information to Coalition Forces concerning the locations and identities of al-Qaeda leadership in Arab Jabour.

Capt. Mike Fritz, project manager of the concerned citizens group for 1-30th Inf. Regt, said the group has been doing "really good things" for the community. Fritz, a native of El Cajon, Calif., is responsible for interacting with the concerned citizens leadership and making sure Coalition Forces know where the groups are working.

Interaction between the Coalition and concerned citizens groups is necessary to prevent incidents between Soldiers on the ground and local security forces.

The interaction also helps concerned citizens become accustomed to working alongside Soldiers in their neighborhoods. To become part of the concerned citizens group, residents enter

their vital information into a database that compares profiles of known insurgents.

Spc. Timothy Eugene Sheets, an infantryman and operator of the device used to catalog local citizens, said the system not only clears local residents to be members of the concerned citizens, but also allows them to register for future employment. Sheets said in addition to cataloging citizens, the database helps reduce identity theft.

At last count, Fritz said more than 500 Iraqi civilians in Arab Jabour and its surrounding areas have joined the concerned citizens group.

On Sept. 16, concerned citizens working at a checkpoint in al-Buaytha were ambushed by suspected insurgents. Two concerned citizens were killed and another was wounded.

Later that day, Soldiers swept neighborhoods where the suspected insurgents were, and concerned citizens were able to identify 13 people suspected of involvement in the attack.

3rd HBCT Soldiers support Iraqi police applicant processing

Spc. Ben Hutto
3rd HBCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq – The Iraqi police station in Jisr Diyala became a hub of activity Sept. 26 when 226 applicants arrived to submit their applications during a recruiting drive.

The U.S. Army's 59th Military Police Company, assigned to 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, and Company D, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, currently attached to the 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, assisted the drive by processing applicants' blood types, retinal scans and fingerprints into the Biometric Automated Tool Set and the Handheld Interagency Identity Detection Equipment Systems databases.

"I think the drive was a great success based on the number of applicants that showed up," said Staff Sgt. Aaron Eastman, of San Diego, a military policeman with 59th MP Co.

The Iraqi police in Jisr Diyala are looking to fill 157 positions to help make the area more secure.

"They hope to increase the ratio of Iraqi police to citizens to allow the police to provide better service to the community," Eastman said.

The police interviewed 180 candidates the day of the drive and hoped to finish up the interviews on Thursday. Eastman said the Iraqi police use a three-phase process to determine which applicants are most qualified.

Potential applicants go through an academic test, a physical assessment, and will have to be approved by local leaders before they can be hired.



Courtesy photo

An Iraqi policeman in Jisr Diyala helps a Soldier from the 59th MP Co., currently assigned to 3rd HBCT, 3rd Inf. Div., take a retinal scan of an applicant at the Jisr Diyala police station Sept. 26 during the station's recruitment drive.

Pitch in to help Fall clean up

Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Durr
Stewart-Hunter garrison command Sgt. Maj.

I might be preaching to the choir when I say, "It's Fall and time to clean up again." But, I have got to say it anyway. It's time for our installation-wide fall cleanup session happening Oct. 22-26 with a leadership inspection Oct. 26 and 29-30.

Fall, also known as autumn, is the time trees shed their leaves - tree leaves change color to a reddish hue, then "fall". Also, a time which days get shorter and cooler, the nights get longer, and precipitation gradually increases.

Conditions are such in the fall that if your areas are not clean the unsightliness is amplified many times. So, before it gets a little too cold to do an effective cleaning and police job, we are allocating a specific period of time to get as much done as possible, just to start things off.

Fort Stewart wants to maintain a high standard of appearance at all times. Even though fall cleanup is only a week long, we should maintain high appearance standards all year



long. We want Fort Stewart to continue to be the station of choice for Soldiers and Families. In order for it to continue to be the station of choice, it must be aesthetically pleasing to Soldiers and Families. Having an aesthetically pleasing place to live, work, play and train is an important factor in the overall quality of life.

I am challenging all units to be forward-thinking and out front to identify work order requirements for items that require replacement or repair. By now, each unit should have identified deficiencies and reported them to Directorate of Public Works. If not, please get started.

Even though housing is privatized, I highly encourage residents to work with GMH in ensuring that our housing areas

have high appearance standards as well. I encourage residents to come together and put emphasis on cleaning up in and around their quarters and common areas.

I want to make this a joint venture with everyone participating. I call upon the directorates, tenant units, resident activities, contractors as well as Department of Defense employees, Soldiers and Family members to join in on this initial phrase of the cleanup.

Ground crews will perform maintenance of lawn and flower beds while units, directorates, and resident activities pay particular attention to the areas that need most attention during cleanup week, which include grounds and motor pool maintenance and identifying areas that require work orders to repair.

I expect special emphasis on unit over-watch areas, parking lots, abandoned vehicles/boats/trailers, and unauthorized signage and damaged bus shelters.

If anyone has any questions about where we are going with this or how we are going to get to where we are going, just give me or my staff a call at 767-8434.

Updating, re-cycling to sustain Stewart-Hunter

Sholandra Roundtree
DPW Public Relations

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield is actively engaged in changing the look of the installation.

Old World War II era buildings are yielding their positions to more up-to-date, energy-efficient facilities, and new housing is being erected.

This flurry of construction is guided by the premise established under the new Army strategy for the environment to sustain the mission and secure the future.

Only a few years ago, most demolition materials ended up in a landfill. Today the rules have changed to encourage the reduction of waste through reuse or recycling.

Implementation of the Stewart-Hunter Command Recycling Policy has contributed to a more sustainable installation. This policy directs full participation by all military units, civilian employees, tenant organizations/activities, contractors and anyone living or working at Stewart-Hunter.

However, the requirement to recycle is not limited to materials generated on Stewart-Hunter. Government contractors are also required to incorporate recycling and reuse practices into every construction and demolition or deconstruction project performed on the installation.

To make way for new housing construction, the Corps of

Engineers and Fort Stewart's Family housing partner, GMH Military Housing, demolished approximately 94 structures in the Hallwood Homes housing area.

After safety concerns were eliminated, appliances and furnishings from more than 500 individual Soldier housing units were removed. Another 160 tons of recyclable scrap metals, equipment, windows, doors, and awnings were also removed and recycled from those units.

The Corp of Engineers started phase one of the demolition project by removing 28 brick structures, concrete foundations, asphalt driveways, roads, and trees. The operation crushed 19,000 tons of concrete, which was reused in the 4th Brigade Combat Team construction area along 15th Street on Fort Stewart. There were also 5,000 tons of brick and 1,200 tons of steel removed from the site.

GMH had the second phase of the project, demolishing approximately 66 brick structures and concrete foundations, as well as tree removal.

This phase of the operation generated more than 420,000 tons of construction and demolition debris, which only 15 percent was sent to off-post landfills as waste wood.

A whopping 85 percent was recycled. A total of about 24,000 tons of concrete and brick were diverted off the installation by the contractor to be reused in other construction projects.

The trees on the project site were ground up; 153,000 tons were processed as wood fuel and 184,000 tons were processed as wood chips. Additional scrap metals were removed from the structures, which included 27 tons of aluminum, 12.5 tons of copper, and 150 tons of steel. The contractor also removed three tons of carpet, two tons of scrap materials, and some glass.

Diversion from this one initiative exceeds the total tonnage of all materials in all categories recycled in the entire 12 installations that makeup the Southeast regional Installation Management Command for fiscal year 2006. If the other 11 southeast installations report the same data at the end of FY07 as they did last year, this one concrete initiative would bring the entire SE IMCOM diversion rate to about 50 percent.

The success of Stewart-Hunter's mandatory recycling program is everyone's responsibility and is a necessity for us to sustain and preserve our natural resources for future generations. The installation's commitment to being a good environmental steward is reflected in its sustainability policy: resources, optimize, compliance and keep improving - R.O.C.K. With your help and those of our partners and contractors, the Installation's resources can be preserved and optimized. For more information or any suggestions concerning the installation qualified recycling program, call James Blankenship at 767-6237 or Ron King at 912-767-8880.

DeCA adds two more items to frozen ground beef recall list

Defense Commissary Agency

FORT LEE, Va. - Two more items were pulled today from commissary shelves as part of a voluntary recall of more than 300,000 pounds of frozen ground beef by Topps Meat Company, LLC. The original recall, announced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture on Sept. 25, was set in motion after health inspectors in New York determined that a cluster of illnesses in the Northeast was linked to E. coli contamination.

Today's action brings to four the number of frozen ground beef products that the Defense Commissary Agency has pulled as part of the Topps recall, DeCA food safety officials said. Commissaries have altogether pulled the following items from its shelves:

- Added today: "Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef hamburgers," six oz. (pub burgers),

three-pound boxes (UPC: 07470100045). Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUN 22 08."

- Added today: "Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers," quarter pounders, five-pound boxes (UPC: 074701-00055). Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUN 22 08," "JUL 12 08" or "JUL 23 08."

- Announced Sept. 26: Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers," 12 quarter pounders (picnic), three-pound boxes (UPC: 074701-00025). Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUN 22 08," "JUL 12 08" or "JUL 23 08."

- Announced Sept. 26: "Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers," 20 quarter pounders, five-pound boxes (UPC: 074701-00110). Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUN 22 08," "JUL 12 08" or "JUL 23 08."

E. coli is a potentially deadly bacterium that can cause bloody diarrhea and dehydration. The very young, seniors and per-

sons with compromised immune systems are the most susceptible to food borne illness.

An investigation into a cluster of illnesses in the Northeast region carried out by the New York State Department of Health in coordination with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention led to a positive product sample collected by the New York Department of Health.

Commissary patrons who have any of these products at home should stop consuming it and return the unused product with the label to the store from which they purchased it for a full refund.

The products subject to recall bear the establishment number "Est. 9748" inside the USDA mark of inspection. The complete recall list includes the following products:

- "Butcher's Best 100% All Beef Patties," 75/25, six oz. flat, 27 pieces, 10-pound

boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 23 08."

- "Butcher's Best 100% All Beef Patties," 75/25, four oz. (4-1), 40 pieces, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 23 08."

- "Kohler Foods four oz. Flat Hamburger," Code: 60100, 40 pieces, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 23 08."

- "Kohler Foods six oz. Flat Hamburger," Code: 60200, 27 pieces, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 23 08."

- "Kohler Foods eight oz. Flat Hamburger," Code: 60300, 20 pieces, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of "JUL 23 08."

- "Sand Castle Fine Meat, 100% Premium Beef Hamburgers," 80/20, eight oz. flat, 20 count, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a packed-on date of "JUN 22 07."

See related story on Page 11A.

Marne Voices Speak Out

If you know of someone suffering from domestic abuse, how can you recommend they get help?

"They need to not be afraid to speak up and let someone know there is a problem."

Sgt. Jon Bierbrodt
HHC, 1st Brigade



"Talk to Family members about the situation as fast as possible."

Victor Fishman
Civilian employee



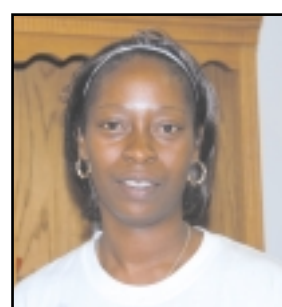
"If they are in the military, the chain of command needs to be notified, as such behavior is not tolerated."

Spc. Preston Tilden
5/7 Cav



"Some people are just too afraid to get help. We have to know that there is a problem in order to help them move on."

Kysia Neal
Family Member



"They can seek out help from Military One Source, which has counselors and will set up appointments for them."

Monica Bierbrodt
Family member



"I would tell them to get out of the relationship if it is not working."

Michelle Long
Family member



Voice your opinion!
Write a letter to the editor!

Send to:

Marne TV & The Frontline
Attn: The Frontline, Editor
112 Vilseck Rd., Suite 109
Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314
or fax it to 912-767-9366.
visit www.stewart.army.mil

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Fighting smugglers on the Iran-Iraq border

Sgt. Ben Brody
MND-C PAO

AL KUT, Iraq – Rusted rocket engines, twisted scraps of steel and demolished buildings litter the Iran-Iraq border, stark reminders of the war that started nearly 30 years ago.

Only a few shepherds and farmers live in the mountainous, heavily mined area near the border crossing in Wasit Province.

The area's quiet desolation hides the fact that newly-trained insurgents and Iranian-produced weapons often must pass through here before wreaking havoc on central Iraq.

Under the direction of the Department of Border Enforcement, a few hundred Iraqi border police live at the point of entry and other forts along the border. At the remote border forts, camouflaged police patrol for smugglers and watch their Iranian counterparts from across a sea of land mines and razor wire.

Police at the border forts claim all the smuggling takes place at the point of entry, while POE police claim all the smugglers come over the mountains in view of the forts. But for someone who has worked in Baghdad, it is clear that somewhere along the border, weapons and trained Shiite militiamen are coming in from Iran.

"The passing of responsibility is a throwback to the Saddam days, when if you admitted failure, it was off with your head," said Col. Mark Mueller, commander of the Border Transition Team, a U.S. unit that advises and supports Iraqi Border Police in Wasit Province. "The reality is, stuff is coming through – we

know because we capture it."

Because of an agreement between the Iraqi and Iranian governments, a maximum of 1,200 people may pass into Iraq per day. After the fall of Saddam, about 10,000 Iranians crossed into Iraq each day, primarily to visit Shiite holy sites in Karbala and Najaf, according to Brig. Gen. Wissam Sammi, who oversees the point of entry.

"There were too many – we couldn't search enough people or do checks on them," Sammi said. "Now the number is manageable, but with more guards we can have more control."

Shiite pilgrims still pass through the point of entry regularly, but so do huge convoys of tractor trailers, carrying goods to sell in Iraq. An enormous X-ray machine scans the trucks for contraband, but more reliable hand searches require manpower that is difficult to come by in the desert.

Recently, the BTT's Nomad Team was able to hire 20 men to unload trucks and inspect cargo for a day.

"At \$30 a worker per day, the border police can't afford to hire people to help unload trucks, so that's where we can help them accomplish their mission," said Capt. Will Trenor of the BTT. "We also bring the border forts fuel to run their generators. They get some fuel from their own supply channels, but it's not enough."

Trenor and the Nomads drive the three hours from FOB Delta to the border region regularly, and often spend the night at border police compounds.

"I'm about to qualify for my driver's badge as

captain," said Trenor, who is a transportation officer. "You don't see that too often."

Work is underway to move the BTT closer to the border, to better advise and assist the security forces there.

Near the point of entry, blue-suited construction workers driving bulldozers are leveling ground for a new Coalition Forces combat outpost.

Like a miniature version of the troop surge in Baghdad, the U.S. plan to turn security over to Iraqis here involves temporarily building up the Coalition presence.

And like the program in Anbar, Baghdad and Babil provinces, security forces here increasingly rely on nationalist sheikhs to combat Shiite militias on the border.

During a BTT visit to one border fort Sept. 28, Sheikh Fadhel Allami, captain of the Allami tribe, stopped in to discuss his plan to rid the area of militia influence.

"Our only loyalty is to Iraq – no militias or foreign governments will control us," the amiable sheikh promised. "Iran wants to destroy Iraq. God willing, we will be better and stronger."

Allami said the shepherds and farmers below Iran's mountains are always watching their property, and will alert his men if smugglers come through.

The BTT is slated to start operating from the new border outpost in mid-November.

"Just in time for rainy season," Trenor said.

Editors Note: The 3rd Inf. Div. headquarters, which deployed in March 2007 is now responsible for an area that stretches from Iran to Saudi Arabia.

The division has formed the Multi-National Division Center, which includes a brigade from the nation of Georgia, as well as a border transition team. The MNDC is stopping the flow of ammunition, explosives and extremists that travel to Baghdad from the border of Iran.

Sgt. Ben Brody, a public affairs non-commissioned officer from the division staff, reports on how the attached troops perform this very important mission.



Sgt. Ben Brody

With Iranian flags flying behind them, Shiite pilgrims headed to holy sites in Karbala and Najaf approach Iraqi customs officials at the Iran-Iraq border Sept. 28.

Controlled burn yields cache

2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div.

ARAB JABOUR – A group of Task Force Marne Soldiers discovered a weapons cache Sept. 25

Soldiers of Company A, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, were conducting a controlled burn when they discovered the cache. A controlled burn is a fire set to remove vegetation insurgents use as hiding places for themselves and their weapons.

The cache consisted of two 60mm mortars, two 60mm mortar primers, two 120mm mortar primers, 10 12.7mm rounds, 50 .50 caliber rounds, one rocket-propelled grenade, one Chinese-type RPG, one Chinese-type 69 RPG propelling charge, and five fuses.

The cache was moved to Patrol Base Murray for investigation.

Militants responsible for IED strike killed

3rd CAB Public Affairs

CAMP STRIKER, Iraq - Task Force Marne AH-64 Apache helicopters responded to an improvised explosive device strike Sept. 24, killing the four militants responsible.

An IED struck the 82nd Support Brigade, attached to 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, while the unit was traveling south on Route Tampa, a main thoroughfare to and from Baghdad from the south.

Aerial surveillance observed the four militants in a nearby canal moments before the IED detonated. The Apaches engaged and killed the militants. Coalition ground forces confirmed the militants' deaths. They found AK-47 assault rifles and ammunition at their location.

The 82nd Support Brigade is from Fort Bragg, N.C.

Overnight mission arrest 7

2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div.

BAGHDAD – Soldiers detained seven suspected insurgents in Arab Jabour during two separate overnight missions Sept. 28.

During the first operation, Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry

Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, detained six suspected of insurgent activity. The second operation, conducted by Co. B, 1/30th Inf. Regt. netted an additional suspect.

The detainee was identified as a known insurgent and was a target of the mission.

Soldiers, citizens discover caches

2nd BCT Public Affairs.

ARAB JABOUR – Task Force Marne Soldiers and concerned citizens discovered two weapons caches here over the past 24 hours.

The first cache was discovered by Soldiers of Company C, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, during operations.

The cache consisted of three 60mm mortar rounds, 12 mortar fuses, three 81mm rockets, one 120mm rocket, and 35 pounds of homemade explosives.

The second cache was discovered by members of a concerned citizens group. They brought the cache to Soldiers of Co. D, 1/30th Inf. Regt., who were conducting overwatch for a major travel route.

The cache consisted of one 155mm artillery shell, 10 feet of detonation cord, one rocket base plate and one timer with a battery.

Both caches were safely removed by an explosive ordnance disposal team and destroyed with a controlled detonation.

Soldiers arrest 3

2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div.

ARAB JABOUR – Task Force Marne Soldiers detained three suspected insurgents during two operations Sept. 26 and 27.

Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters

Company, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, detained one man Sept. 26. The Soldiers also discovered an SKS machine gun and a fake Iraqi police identification card.

Ask the Judge: Financial Liability Investigation Rebuttals and Appeals

CPT. Daniel R. D'Isidoro
Legal Assistance Office

Hey Judge, I received a Financial Liability Investigation recommending that I be charged with the cost of a lost laptop. I have some questions about this whole process.

Q: Why was there an investigation?

The purpose of the financial liability investigation is to determine responsibility and document circumstances of loss, damage, or destruction of Government property. It also documents a charge of financial liability assessed against an individual or provides relief from financial liability.

Q: What is the process for this investigation?

You must initiate a financial liability investigation to account for lost, damaged, or destroyed U.S. Government property when:

- Negligence or willful misconduct is suspected but no one admits liability;
- A Loss is discovered during inventory on change of accountable officers;
- The value of the admitted loss, damaged, or destroyed property exceeds an individual's monthly base pay; (includes loss of household furnishings and damage to Government family housing)
- Bulk petroleum handling loss is over the allowable loss and over \$500;
- Items are lost as a result of fire, theft, or natural disaster;
- There is a loss of controlled item;
- Directed by higher authority or DA directive.

Commanders must initiate and present a financial liability investigation of property loss within 15 calendar days after the discovery of the loss (USAR has 75 calendar days and ARNG has 45 calendar days) to the Appointing Authority or Approving Authority.

Q: What is the Role of the Financial Liability Officer who is recommending that I pay?

The Appointing Authority (normally a battalion (LTC) or brigade commander (COL)) will appoint an Officer whose primary responsibility is to conduct the investigation and collect evidence. This person is called the Financial Liability Officer. The financial liability officer must be a commissioned officer, a warrant officer, a noncommissioned officer in the grade of SFC or above, a civilian GS-7 or above, or a Wage Leader (WL) or Wage Supervisor (WS) and must be senior to the individual(s) subject to potential financial liability.

The financial liability officer has 30 calendar days (USAR and ARNG has 60 days) from the date of receipt to conduct the FLL. The officer must stay free of bias or prejudice.

Q: What Rights do I have?

If the financial liability officer decides to recommend financial liability, he must inform the individual of their rights to inspect and copy Army records relating to the debt, seek free legal advice from a military attorney and to submit a rebuttal statement and any other evidence to refute the financial liability officer's recommendation.

Q: I don't think I should have to pay. How long do I have to submit my rebuttal?

Individuals who receive a hand-delivered financial liability investigation of property loss packet have seven (7) calendar days from date of receipt to reply with a rebuttal statement or other additional evidence. Individuals who receive a mailed financial liability investigation of property loss packet have fifteen (15)

calendar days from date of mailing to submit a rebuttal. Individuals who receive a financial liability investigation of property loss packet in a different country from the financial liability officer have thirty (30) calendar days from the date of mailing to submit a rebuttal. Extensions of time to file rebuttals can be requested and may be obtained under certain circumstances.

Q: What has to be shown in order to make me pay for the loss?

In order to hold a soldier liable for a loss, there must be a finding that the soldier was responsible for the property, that the soldier was negligent in that responsibility, that the soldier's negligence was the proximate cause of the loss, and that the amount charged does not exceed the limits of financial liability. Sometimes, you may be able to show that even though you were responsible for the property (for example, you had signed a hand receipt for the property), you are still not liable for the loss because you either were not negligent in your actions, or if you were negligent, your actions were not the cause of the loss.

To be held accountable, there must be specific findings that there has been a breach in the standard of care (may be an act or omission). This means that you:

1. Failed to act as a reasonably prudent person would have under the same or similar conditions. Example: Failure to do required maintenance checks; leaving weapon against a tree while attending other duties; driving too fast for road or weather conditions; failing to maintain proper hand receipts.
2. Departed from the actions expected of a reasonably prudent with a reckless, deliberate, or wanton disregard for the foreseeable consequences of the act. Example: Soldier drives a vehicle 40 mph over the speed limit and tries to make a sharp curve without slowing down; or
3. Willfully engaged in misconduct. Any intentional wrongful or unlawful act or omission. Example: Soldier steals night-vision goggles.

After there has been a finding that there was a breach in the standard of care, it must be shown that it was that act or omission that was the cause of the loss. This means that the person's acts or omissions were the cause that, in a natural and continuous sequence, unbroken by a new cause, produced the loss, damage, or destruction, and without which the loss, damage, or destruction would not have occurred. Example: Soldier driving a vehicle fails to stop at a stop sign and strikes another vehicle in the intersection. The proximate cause of the accident was the Soldier's failure to stop at the stop sign.

Q: What happens once I submit my rebuttal?

If the financial liability officer receives a rebuttal statement within the time constraints, he will consider the financial liability investigation of property loss together with any new evidence or allegations of error pre-

sented by the rebuttal. After this review, the financial liability officer will attach the rebuttal statement to the financial liability investigation of property loss, make a recommendation, and forward the packet to the appointing or approving authority.

When an appointing authority is designated, the financial liability investigation of property loss will be turned into the appointing authority for review. After receiving the financial liability investigation of property loss, the appointing authority will either concur or non-concur with the financial liability officer's recommendation. The appointing authority may require further investigation. The appointing authority will forward the financial liability investigation of property loss packet along with any rebuttal or supporting evidence refuting liability to the approving authority.

If the approving authority believes financial liability is appropriate he must obtain a legal opinion as to the investigation's legal sufficiency before determining whether to assess liability.

The approving authority may adopt the recommendations of the financial liability officer or make a decision contrary to the financial liability officer. The approving authority may also direct further investigation and can appoint a new financial liability officer.

If the approving authority agrees with the findings and recommendations of the financial liability officer and receives a legal opinion that the financial liability investigation of property loss is legally sufficient, he may assess financial liability. The approving authority must notify the individual charged with financial liability through memorandum and list all of the individual's rights.

Q: I submitted my rebuttal but I was still found Liable. Is there anything more I can do?

You can submit a request for reconsideration. If you are the individual charged, you will have 30 calendar days (ARNG 60 calendar days) from the date the approving authority's memorandum was delivered or mailed to request reconsideration. A request for reconsideration must be submitted in memorandum format through the individual's commander to the approving authority. A request for reconsideration will only be reviewed on the basis of legal error. Because the facts have been established by this time, if you wish to dispute a FLIPL, you should do so when you initially received the FLIPL, rather than waiting until now.

Your request for reconsideration should include what legal error you think the approving authority has made. The request must also include a statement of reasons why you believe the approving authority's assessment of financial liability is erroneous (include facts, evidence, and summary of testimony in support of your position) and

Copies of pertinent records you wish to have considered if not already submitted to the approving authority. The approving authority will decide whether to reverse the previous decision approving financial liability

or recommend continued financial liability.

If the approving authority recommends a continuation of financial liability, he will forward the request for reconsideration to the appeal authority. Normally, the appeal authority is the next higher commander in the chain of command above the approving authority. (The appeal authority may not also be the approving authority.) The appeal authority will allow a second legal advisor (who cannot be the same legal advisor who performed the first legal review, nor provided any legal advice to the individual held financially liable) to perform another legal review of the financial liability investigation packet.

If the legal review finds the approving authority's actions legally sufficient, the appeal authority has three options:

- Direct the approving authority to reopen the financial liability investigation and conduct a further investigation to clarify certain matters.
- Grant relief of financial liability in whole or in part based on facts and evidence contained in the packet.
- Deny relief of financial liability of the individual.

The decision of the appeal authority is final unless the individual chooses to make an application to the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) under the provisions of AR 15-185.

Q: What if I know that the loss was my fault but I just can't afford to pay the whole amount?

Generally, an individual will not be charged more than one month's base pay at the time of the loss. (For ARNG and USAR personnel, base pay is the amount they would receive had they been on active duty.) Two or more persons may be held liable for the same loss. There are some exceptions to this. A soldier will be responsible for the full amount of the Government's loss if the Soldier lost, damaged, or destroyed personal arms or equipment. Certain accountable officers will also be responsible for the full amount of a loss. Further, any person assigned to government quarters is liable for the full amount of the loss to the quarters, furnishings, or equipment.

In some circumstances, if you cannot afford to pay the entire debt, a portion of the debt may be cancelled. Under AR 600-4, enlisted personnel may submit an application for remission or cancellation of their debt through their commander. The issue here is not whether the individual was responsible for the loss, damage, or destruction. The Army will only remit or cancel an individual's debt if there are still unpaid portions of the debt which create an extreme hardship. Before a soldier may request remission or cancellation, he must have submitted a request for reconsideration.

Q: Is there anything else I should know?

You may want to familiarize yourself with AR 735-5. If there are facts that could relieve you from liability, assist the financial liability officer in obtaining favorable statements or locating important information. You should also check the total value that you are being charged and review AR 735-5 to determine if the item should be depreciated. The price that was paid for the laptop you lost is likely not the cost of the item now. Additionally, if lost property is located after assessment of charges, the financial liability investigation should be reopened in accordance with AR 735-5, para. 13 49.

For more information or assistance with preparing a response to a financial liability investigation, make an appointment to speak with a legal assistance attorney. Fort Stewart - Building 621, call 7678809/8819; Hunter - Building 1154, call 352-5115.



DES Spotlight

Introducing Physical Security Specialist Carl House



Physical Security Specialist Carl House

Special to the Frontline

Carl House is currently assigned as a Physical Security Specialist for the Directorate of Emergency Services. He began his military career in 1982 as an Administrative Specialist. During his career, he performed one tour with the 331st Transportation Co at Fort Story, VA and one tour in Germany. In 1987, he changed his MOS to Signals Intelligence and performed a tour in

Hawaii, two tours in Korea, two tours at Fort Lewis and a final tour at Hunter Army Airfield, where he retired in 2005.

Upon his retirement, Carl was hired as a Department of the Army Physical Security Specialist responsible for implementing and overseeing the Integrated Commercial Intrusion Detection System (ICIDS) for both Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. His duties include system testing, system upgrades, password administration and oper-

ator training.

Step into any arms room and one of the most important pieces of equipment you will find is the Integrated Commercial Intrusion Detection System (ICIDS). Unit arms rooms are not the only facilities with an ICIDS. Many establishments, such as restricted classified information centers, the Post Exchange and the Commissary also have an alarm system. Each system is specifically designed for the area that is to be protected and close coordination with engineers on new construction ensures that the design meets security regulations.

Much like an alarm system in your home, the ICIDS has six basic components. The control unit, keypad, door and window sensors, motion detector and duress or panic switch. The alarm system must have its own dedicated power supply and encrypted phone line for transmission of intrusion data back to the local monitor station. Operators at the monitor station receive alerts from the system and are responsible for determining if the alarm is an actual alarm or a false alarm. A police patrol will be dispatched as an initial response to determine if the protected area has indeed been breached and to provide protection until an authorized user of the facility arrives.

Personnel Identification Cipher (PIC) codes are the key to alarm systems. A code is required for all soldiers with unaccompanied access to arms rooms. To receive a PIC

code, commanders must complete a Command Oriented Arms, Ammunition, and Explosive Security Screening and Evaluation Record for each soldier. PIC codes will not be shared and must be protected at all times. If a code is ever lost, a request must be submitted to the DES, ICIDS administrator to receive a new code and to have the old one deleted from the IDS control unit.

Current deployments of our soldiers have reduced the need for most of the installation arms rooms to remain in an active status. Rear detachment commanders are encouraged to have the alarm system deactivated to preclude soldiers from having to stand guard in the event of an alarm. Commanders may submit a memorandum to the DES, Physical Security Branch indicating that all sensitive items, arms, ammunition and explosives have been cleared from the arms room. The alarm system will be deactivated within 72 hours after receipt of the memorandum.

At least one month prior to units redeploying back to Fort Stewart, detachment commanders should submit requests to activate the alarm system. This will give physical security specialists time to conduct an inspection of each arms room to ensure compliance with applicable regulations. After the inspection has been completed and the arms room is in compliance with regulations, the alarm system is activated within 72 hours.

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Fort Stewart /Hunter Army Airfield Briefs

Get educated with Marriage 101

The Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Ministry Team sponsors a Marriage 101 Seminar for singles, engaged couples, newlyweds, and seasoned partners. Explore your personal strengths and weaknesses and discover secrets to more rewarding and satisfying relationships.

The seminar is held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month at Victory Chapel. The event has a catered lunch and materials are provided. For more information or to make reservations, call the Family Life Chaplain at 767-7028.

Join the OSC games

OSC members are invited to join us for our Pursuit of Bingo evening event at Club Stewart on 6 p.m. Oct. 11 We will enjoy an Oktoberfest Feast before attempting to win polish pottery and other great prizes while we play bingo! Call and reserve your spot before Oct. 8. Last names beginning with A-L please contact Paige Adgie, 912-877-2626 and last names beginning with M-Z please contact Jill Peterson, 912-492-8444. Child care is being offered at the YMCA, call Anne at 369-0663 to make reservations.

Bazaar vendors needed

The OSC Fundraising Committee is now accepting applications for vendors to participate in the Holiday Bazaar 2007. The bazaar will take place 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Nov. 3 at Club

Stewart.

For vendor applications, please contact Brenda at 448-2028 or by e-mail at solomon-mbjo@coastalnow.net. For additional information, visit online at www.thesteelmagnolia.org.

Security guard force change

Wackenhut Security International will soon assume the duties as the Installation Access Control guard force.

WSI is the United States government's largest contractor for professional security services, with 8,000 employees protecting key sites in the U.S. and abroad.

They are currently transitioning with AKAL Incorporated and will be in full operational compliance by Oct. 9. Although the contractor for security forces is changed, the local employee base and management will remain in place. This will ensure a smooth transition with no loss of service.

Stewart

FSSG holds membership drive

Are you a foreign-born spouse and interested in networking with other spouses from your cultural background? The Foreign-born Spouse Support Group invites you to meet people who are familiar with the area and with Army life and have the opportunity to network and participate in activities such as games and coffee clubs. Contact ACS at 767-

5058/5059 for dates, times and to sign up.

Relocation program offered at ACS

The Army Community Service relocation program will offer sponsorship training, to the first fifty people that call and sign up. Each unit should have a primary and alternate point of contact for their unit sponsorship program. The training is 2-4 p.m., Oct. 25 in building 87.

Sponsorship training is also offered in units for ten or more people. For more information call Linda McKnight, the relocation program manager at 767-5058.

SOTM Open House

Shop of the Marne will be hosting a Fall Open House on Friday, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Oct. 12 The public is invited to enjoy refreshments while they check out new merchandise in the redesigned Shop. Special discounts will be offered and every purchase receives a free gift! Come and meet some great people and enter to win one of the great prizes being offered. The Shop is located in Building 25 off McNeely Road behind the PX. If you miss the Open House, SOTM is open on Tuesday and Thursday from 10am-1pm.

Hunter

Walk to Iraq and Back

Join Families of deployed service members

in a display of patriotism at Hunter Army Airfield Fitness Center at 9 a.m., Sat., Oct. 27, for a patriotic ceremony, including remarks from guest speaker Pete Liakakis, chairman of Chatham County Commissioners.

A Halloween costume contest follows, and a two-mile walk behind a Marne Division Color Guard and a local high school band. Costume prizes will be awarded in the following age groups: 0-6; 7-12; 13-19; 20 and up. For additional information, contact Deb Doser, at 271-9915.

Spouses' Club plans vacation

Learn how to plan the vacation of a lifetime at the HSC luncheon, scheduled 11 a.m., Oct. 9, at Hunter Club. Lunch is \$10, except for special guest spouses from the 1/75th Ranger Battalion and 3/160th Soar, who get \$1 off.

If interested in attending, RSVP Stephanie Pettit by Oct. 5 at 459-0411.

Religion education classes

Classes are available for children, ages 3 and older, including adult Bible study and RCIA classes, held Sundays, 9:45 - 10:30 am in the Religious Ed Building.

Call Pam Perez at 315-5440 for additional information. Protestant Women of the Chapel will meeting Thursdays, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The group will read "Power of a positive woman.." For additional information, call Valarie Moore, 920,



Stewart

Be a part of Neighborhood Huddles

Come talk to us. GMH is here to listen to your ideas, issues or concerns. Help make your neighborhood a great place to live!

Huddles will meet at Marne Homes, Oct. 9, Marne Woods October 16, Bryan Village North Oct. 23 and will be held from 10:30 p.m.-11 p.m.

Candy Corn Count

Make your best guess! Stop by your nearest community center to try and guess how many pieces of candy corn are in the jar.

Closest guess wins an ultimate prize bucket! Participants can visit the Liberty Woods and Southern Oaks community Centers at their convenience starting today through Oct. 11.

Home Decorating Contest

Get in the spirit by decorating your home for Halloween! There will be one grand prize winner, and first and second place runner-ups. Homes will be judged on Oct. 23.

Halloween Havoc

Join GMH for a night of fun filled with: music and dancing, cake walks, face painting, Halloween costume contest, kids Halloween craft making, sack racing and more!

Also, bring your already carved or painted pumpkins and enter them in a pumpkin carving or painting contest. Don't forget to wear your Halloween costumes! Event will be held from 6 p.m.- 8 p.m. on Oct. 26 at the Southern Oaks Community Center.

Post-Wide Yard Sale

MWR is hosting a post-wide yard sale at Club Stewart from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Oct. 27. Housing residents are allowed to sell at their homes as well.

Keep in mind; more people are likely to stop at Club Stewart where there will be many vendors in a central location. If you would like to sell your items at Club Stewart GMH will pay the \$5 space fee for you! If you are interested, contact Amber at 210-3250 no later than October 19th.

Hunter

Candy Corn Count

Make your best guess! Stop by your nearest community center to try and guess how many pieces of candy corn are in

the jar. Closest guess wins an ultimate prize bucket! Participants can visit both GMH community centers at their convenience beginning now through Oct. 10.

Toddler Time

Bring your little ones for a play date with others and to enjoy some toddler friendly toys.

Event takes place at the Ken Heller Jr. Center (New Gannam), from 10:30 - 11:30 p.m., Oct. 12.

Kids Craft Corner

Join GMH for a fun Halloween craft from 4:30-5:30 p.m. on Oct. 18 at both GMH community centers.

Decorating Contest

Get in the spirit by decorating your home for Halloween!

There will be one grand prize winner and first and second place runner-ups. Homes will be judged on Oct. 23.

Neighborhood Huddles

Be an active part of your community by attending your huddle and sharing ideas, issues or concerns with GMH. Help make your neighborhood a great place to live!

Huddles will meet from 10:30-11 a.m. at the New Callaway Community Center on Oct. 10.

General Officer Announcement

Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates announced today that the President has nominated Army Maj. Gen. Eric B. Schoomaker for appointment to the rank of lieu-

tenant general and assignment as commanding general, U.S. Army Medical Command/Surgeon General, U.S. Army, Falls Church, Va. He is currently serving as the

commanding general, North Atlantic Regional Medical Command/Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C.

Education Matters

Distance learning college term dates

Central Texas College, Oct. 22 – Dec. 15. For information, call 767-2070 at Stewart, or 315-4090 at Hunter.

Columbia College, Oct. 22 – Dec. 15. For information, call – 767-5336 at Stewart or 352-8635 at Hunter

Embry Riddle, Oct. 16 – Dec. 17. For information, call 767-3930 at Stewart or 352-5252 at Hunter

Webster University, Oct. 15 – Dec. 13. For information, call 767-5357 at Stewart or 354-0033 at Hunter

Please contact the college directly for course schedules and enrollment information.

Military Order of the Purple Heart Scholarship

Learn about scholarship opportunities for Purple Heart recipients, visit www.purpleheart.org or scholarship@purpleheart.org.

Take a Educational coffee break

A professional counselor will discuss setting and achieving educational goals, the local Army Education programs and available funding options for active duty, family members and Department of the Army civilians. Maximize your potential as you are affected by Army mobility requirements. Army education counselors are available Monday through Friday for individual sessions. These briefings are generally the first Tuesday of each month, at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center, building 100. For more information, call 767-8331.

Learn about available federal scholarships

Learn about the Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund Scholarship at www.feea.org/scholarships.html or call 1-303-933-7580.

Take a free college course

Columbia College offers a Spouse's Opportunity Scholarship. The SOS Scholarship provides a tuition waiver for an initial classroom course with Columbia College at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center for spouses of military personnel enrolled in their school.

This opportunity is valued at \$450, which is the cost of their three credit-hour classroom courses. The program is an incentive for eligible students to embark on a degree program, while completing the financial aid process and securing ongoing financial support. For more information, call 877-3406 or 352-8635 at Hunter.

Webster offers deployed, reduced online tuition

Soldiers enrolled in Webster's graduate classes will receive a reduced rate, while deployed. Contact Marsha Sands at sands@webster.edu, or 354-0033, DSN: 912-315-5906 for additional information.

Apply for the Georgia HOPE grant

The HOPE Grant is money given by the state of Georgia to students with financial need to attend vocational/trade schools.

The grant covers certificate and diploma programs. Any Soldier or Family member of a soldier who is stationed in Georgia may be eligible.

If you are interested in attending a Georgia vocational or trade school, inquire with your school's financial advisor or visit the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center to speak with a counselor.

HOPE Grant - Great Opportunity for Spouses

Educate while you wait! Get your certificate or diploma and pursue your new career during this deployment. Certificates for Website Technician, Child Care Manager, Medical Transcription, are a few of the eligible programs offered by Savannah Technical College. Classes are available in the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center and at the Liberty

Campus on Airport Road in Hinesville.

For more information, call Savannah Tech in the SFC Paul R. Smith Army Education Center at (912) 408-2430, or the Liberty Campus at 408-3024.

Take CLEP and DANTES classes

College Level Examination Program and DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSST) are available on post. Call Columbia College at 877-3406 for more information and testing dates. The exams are free for military personnel and for non-military examinees, CLEP tests are \$85, and DSSTs are \$90.

Take free English as a Second Language courses

Beginning courses are offered 9 a.m. to noon, Tuesday and Thursday. Intermediate courses are offered 8 a.m. to noon, Monday and Wednesday. ESL class registration begins noon every Tuesday, at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center, building 100, room 227. For more information, call 368-7322.

Take GED and skills enrichment courses

Graduation Equivalency Diploma and adult education classes are offered in partnership with the Liberty County Adult Education Program. They are held at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center.

The courses prepare you to take the GED Exam or refresh your skills in basic education subjects. The courses are free of charge.

You can select from one of a number of dates and times, which are 9 a.m. to noon or 1-4 p.m., Monday through Thursday; or 6-9 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday in rooms 225 - 228. For more information, call 368-7322.

To register for the classes, you must be present for both days of the process. Registration is first come, first serve. Active duty military are registered upon request. The next registration time period is 1-5 p.m., Oct. 15-16. Call 368-7322 for complete details.

Green to Gold Briefing.

The Green to Gold briefings are held at the installation education centers every month. On Stewart the briefings are 2 p.m. the first and third Thursday. The Hunter briefings are 2 p.m. the second and fourth of each month.

Get a free 2007 Military Handbook

The Military Children's Scholarship Handbook, Getting Uncle Sam to Pay for Your College Degree is available. Go to www.militaryhandbooks.com to sign up for your free handbook.

Learning Center provide computer resources

The Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center learning center has 55 computers with internet access available. You can use the center to complete your homework, research for your classes, access the Army's basic skills automated program, "Lifetime Library" or just stop in to check your e-mail.

The center is open seven days a week. It is closed on federal holidays. The learning center is room 230, building 100. The operation hours are 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday – Thursday; 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday; and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday.

The Hunter learning center is open 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday; and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Take advantage of a variety of study resources and internet capability. For more information, call 315-6130.

Troops and Spouse to Teachers Briefings

The Georgia Troops to Teachers Program provides federal funding to qualified service members of up to \$10,000 for becoming public school teachers.

Under the Spouse to Teachers Program, eligible military spouses may be reimbursed for the cost of state required certification tests up to a total of \$600. Bill Kirkland conducts a one hour class that will include an overview of programs, registration procedures and Georgia teacher certification options.

Future meetings are scheduled for 11a.m., Oct. 17; Nov. 7 and Dec. 19 at the Sgt 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center. For more information about the program, visit online at www.tttga.net and www.sttga.net or call 1-800-745-0709 or

767-8331.

Free college course offered

Columbia College Spouse's Opportunity Scholarship provides a tuition waiver for an initial classroom course with Columbia College at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center for spouses of military personnel enrolled in their school.

This is a value of \$450, which is the cost of their three credit-hour classroom courses. The program is an incentive for eligible students to embark on a degree program, while completing the financial aid process (i.e. FAFSA) and securing ongoing financial support. Call 877-3406 at Stewart or 352-8635 at Hunter for more information.

\$4500 tuition available for Soldiers

All active duty members have \$4500 per fiscal year for education. This entitlement is separate from the Montgomery GI Bill benefits available from the Veteran's Administration. Details are available at 1:30 p.m., Monday – Friday, during a one-hour brief at the education center, room 223.

The www.goarmyed.com Web site provides 24-hours, 7-days-a-week virtual access for Soldiers. Our education counselors are available to assist in educational goal setting and advising.

Savannah Tech offers child care

Child care is available at the Hinesville Airport Road –Hinesville campus. Contact Natasha Brown at 408-3024 ext 6026 for more details.

Plan, practice your fire escape plan

Special to the Frontline

During the month of October, the Fort Stewart Fire and Emergency Services Division will be spreading the word about the dangers of home fires and teaching local residents how to plan and practice escape from a home in case a fire occurs.

During Fire prevention week, Oct. 7-13 the station will assist agencies and put on several activities throughout the community.

The fire department will provide a presentation and display 2-3:30 p.m., Oct. 3 and 10 at the Fort Stewart library.

A parade through housing area will start at 9a.m. followed by an Open House at 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Fire Station 1 on Coe Avenue. The parade is open to the general public.

The parade route starts on the corner of Austin Rd. and New Guinea St., turns left onto Hero Rd, right on Liberty St., left on Austin Rd., right on Diamondhead Ave., right onto Schofield Drive, left on Lorraine Ave, right on Argyle St. and ends on Austin Rd.

The open house will consist of station tours, fire truck demonstrations, games and activities for children of all ages, and food and drinks.

On Oct 9 and 10, the presentations and displays will be at the post elementary schools and day care centers. They move to the Post Exchange 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Oct. 12.

The station will host Liberty County school, Oct. 15-25.

1BCT bardic Soldier hones musical talent in Iraq

Spc. Ricardo Branch
1st BCT Public Affairs

CAMP RAMADI, Iraq— A bard is a poet who recites tales while playing a harp or musical instrument for the people. These musicians go out to inspire and entertain the masses and the Army is no different.

One of these musicians is a young Soldier who works as a water purification specialist with the 1st Brigade Combat Team.

He plays Johnny Cash songs, can ad lib music and has a passion for the folk music of yesterday. His name is Spc. Jeff Rhey Bell and with his trusty guitar, he's known as the bard of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Support Battalion.

Bell, 21, of Whiskey Peak, Ark., has been the bard for his unit now a little over a year. His guitar playing helps lighten moods, calm

emotions and provides solace for anyone needing a good tune to help them through the rough times in Ramadi.

The tale for this musician doesn't begin in the Army however, but on the street corners of coastal cities in Florida. Playing on the streets was his hobby, but it eventually led to him being hired to play at local establishments.

"I started out in Florida while I was at Fort Walton Beach during 2005," Bell said. "I started playing outside the bars, and eventually I was getting paid to play in the bars."

He said playing on the streets of Florida was a fun and challenging job, but people desiring to follow that path should be prepared to be hurt from critics.

"There were people who would walk by and throw cigarette butts in your guitar case," he said. "Sometimes, I would be playing

somewhere and then get pelted by beer bottles from people."

Unknown at the time, Bell eventually became a regular sight along the beaches and street corners, which led to his first paying gig at a local bar called Louie's.

"Me and my friends would sit outside on the back deck drinking beer so I started bringing my guitar to play there," he said. "I was getting decent money from it, and it was a good atmosphere to work in."

The atmosphere of Louie's helped spark many guitar riffs and was a constant source of inspiration for the young musician.

"I'd sing about whatever was on my mind," Bell said. "Mostly booze and women, but someone could say something funny, and I'd make a song out of it."

Although constantly playing his guitar, even when people are sleeping can drive peo-

ple nuts, most Soldiers don't mind.

"He's talented," said Staff Sgt. Chester Bailey, with HHC, 3rd BSB. "He made a CD when he was playing on the streets, so I asked him to make me one. When Bell gets famous, I'll be able to say I knew that guy when he was my Soldier and played guitar back in Iraq."

Although he's been in the Army a little over three years now, Bell reflects fondly of the days he'd stand on the street corners and play for anyone walking the streets.

"I miss it," he said. "You meet a lot of really interesting people out there. I've met many good friends out there and can't wait to be performing on the streets again."

For Bell, the joy of music is a gift, which he has just one reply for those wondering why he plays so frequently.

"Music calms people down, and is a nice way to pass the time over here," he said.

WTU cadre complete training, begin new phase in Soldier care



Ann Erickson

Michael David, WTU training specialist, talks to Soldiers during their graduation Sept. 28 at Fort Stewart.

Special to the Frontline

Thirty Soldiers, Non-commissioned officers and Officers (cadre), assigned to the Warrior Transition Unit graduated from the cadre certification training course Sept. 28 at Fort Stewart.

The cadre are required to take this training prior to assuming their responsibilities as a platoon sergeant or squad leader and receive any other training that subsequently comes from the Department of the Army and or U.S. Army Medical Command.

Some of the subject areas that were covered in the training included the Army Wounded Warrior Program, Veterans Affairs, Physical Disability Evaluation System, Traumatic Brain

injury, Military One Source and the American Red Cross to name a few.

The training is mandated by the Department of the Army and is required at every installation that has a WTU.

"It is imperative that the cadre receive a standard battery of training to standardize the care, leadership and administrative support that the warriors receive across the Warrior Transition Units throughout the Army," said Michael David, WTU training specialist. "To make sure at all WTUs and cadre are on the same 'sheet of music' the Army made it a requirement that all WTU cadre be trained on the same subjects."

David hopes that the cadre become thoroughly familiar with all subject areas/agencies to the point

that they will be able to communicate with the Warriors in the event that they have a question about any of the areas.

"I also hope that the Cadre realize that the Warriors are patient Soldiers and they must be treated and handled accordingly" David said. "Furthermore, that they will establish a relationship with each Warrior and their Family members to the point that there will be open communication between the parties so that the Warriors will feel free to share their problems and concerns."

According to David, this training is just the beginning cycle of training the cadre will receive so they can continue to perform their duties of taking care of wounded warriors and their Families.

MEDDAC

From Page 1A

The week after the rigorous Joint Commission survey, the hospital together with the Garrison, underwent a highly successful Staff Assistance Visit from the 25-person Army Medical Action Plan (AMAP) team.

"The implementation of the Army Medical Action Plan is a top priority for both Hospital Commanders and Garrison Commanders," Collins said. "Col. Todd Buchs and his staff have been absolutely tremendous in working together with us to create the infrastructure and programs needed to better care for Warriors in Transition and their families. The 3ID Rear Detachment Commander, Lt. Col. Brian Gale and his staff have also been tremendous in providing squad leaders as cadre for the Warrior Transition Battalion and I know it's not easy with the 3rd Infantry Division deployed."

Background

Collins hails from Massachusetts and this is his first time being stationed in the Southeast. He started out in 3rd Infantry Division during his first 37 months in the Army when 3 ID was in Germany.

"It's really nice to come full circle after so many years- to support the greatest unit in the United States Army," Collins said. "I became a Dogface Soldier in the formative years of my Army career and I'll always be a Dogface

Soldier."

Collins has earned four master's degrees and is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives. Most recently, he served as Chief of Staff, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Landstuhl, Germany.

"I am a healthcare administrator, Medical Service Corps Officer, so I bring with me a business perspective" Collins said. "I have a history of good training, education and experience through many assignments leading up to this one. This is the dream assignment that I could have and is something that you train for your whole career."

His greatest mentor and friend is his father - Dr. John P. Collins, a Korean War veteran, a paratrooper and a retired Superintendent of Schools.

"My dad and I talk or email each other almost every day," Collins said. "He's an endless source of good ideas, sage advice and moral support."

As the new commander, Collins already has his '100-day plan' in action. The plan includes learning about the organization, meeting people- both staff and in the community, as well as establishing relationships.

"I am getting a lot of great input by going to the community meetings," Collins said. "After you spend a little time learning about things- you can put together a plan for the next couple

of years."

One priority that he knows for sure is the AMAP and the Warrior Transition Unit. Medical support for deployment and redeployment of the 3rd Inf. Div.

"I need to make sure their healthcare needs are met and this includes having the resources in place when they return," Collins said.

In addition, Collins knows he needs to improve the telephone appointing system, access to care, especially Primary Care. The overriding goal is to improve patient satisfaction, he said. He also wants the patients' entire experience at Winn, from the time they call to the time they get their appointment, to improve. One way he feels he can do this is by reducing barriers in the system.

"I want Winn to be the hospital of choice," Collins said. "I want them (patients) to come here and have a good experience."

Philosophy

He would like to expand on the work that Winn and Tuttle Army Health Clinic have already done with Patient and Family Centered Care. He plans to do this by involving patients in the design and integration of Winn's processes and in how care is delivered. Collins is actively looking for patients who are interested in being part of the advisory team to help him run this organization. Collins

believes people should be treated with dignity and respect.

"My customer service philosophy simply is - go one more step," Collins said. "When someone needs some help- don't just leave it at that- if you don't know the answer find someone who knows the answer. I think, in most cases, if people go one more step they could have solved everyone's problems."

After serving at Landstuhl, Collins said he has a real sense of selfless service.

"It is all about taking care of Soldiers and their families," Collins said. "We exist for our community- purely. We have a mission and that is to take care of patients that come in the door."

Collins acknowledges there will be challenges along the way, but is optimistic for what he can accomplish here at Stewart-Hunter with community support.

"We are in a difficult geographical area to recruit for some positions, but when I got here I found a core of competent and dedicated people who care about taking care of Soldiers and families," Collins said. "My job is to provide the strategic leadership needed to make this a great place to work and a great place to visit to get health care. I'm thrilled to be the new commander. I think we can do some great things here and I welcome any feedback from the community."

CFC

From Page 1A

Durr and the rest of the Stewart-Hunter community are counting on last year's spirit, which drove the community to exceed all expectations, to be the same spirit which will drive the community to once again support this one-time chance to contribute to all or to selected agencies which vie to provide nonprofit services to Soldiers and Family members as well as to the local community and even the Nation.

Although the CFC is strictly a voluntary program, and the decision to participate and support it belongs to each and every individual in and around the community, the good that supporting the program brings to the community is simply "too much to say no to," Durr said.

The Campaign supports more charitable agencies than any other fund raising effort, According to 2007 CFC Chairman Floyd H. Harbin.

"The CFC remains as the only authorized solicitation on federal and military installations, aside from direct emergency disaster relief," Harbin said.

The CFC began in the early 1960's to coordinate the fundraising efforts of various charitable organizations so that the Federal donor would only be solicited

once in the workplace and have the opportunity to make charitable contributions through payroll deduction.

Federal employees continue to make the CFC the largest and most successful workplace philanthropic fundraiser in the world, According to campaign officials. The program continues a long-standing tradition of selfless giving. In 2006 Federal employees raised over \$271 million dollars for charitable causes around the world with Stewart-Hunter contributing a whopping \$561,204.51.

Contributors may spread their donations selectively to specific organizations or let the campaign do the spreading. They can do this in part or whole.

For example: John wants to donate \$500 to the campaign but wants to donate a portion to Army Community Service, and donate the rest for tax purposes. No problem - John just notates on his pledge form to give \$300 to ACS and leaves the rest to the discretion of the CFC.

So, \$200 of John's gift will be allocated, with other monies, to evenly support the other nonprofit organizations in the program.

Visit www.opm.gov/cfc or speak to your unit representative for more information on how you can give a gift.

ACOE

From Page 1A

"We do many survey to find out exactly what is needed from all of our customer groups, and then based upon those needs we can better prioritize to satisfy those needs," Andreshak said.

After receiving the input from community members, Soldiers, units, Family members and civilians, the installation still has to consider how to best provide the right service, at the right time.

There are five key business drivers the installation uses to ensure quality support to all its customers. Those quality business drivers are providing the best possible training support; power projection - maintaining the ability to deploy units in a quick and effective manner; the well being of Soldiers, Family members Well Being, optimizing resources to sustain well into the future; as well as providing a safe and secure environment for everyone.

Keeping the rhythm to the Army and communities drumbeat, Stewart-Hunter invested the \$2 million (For winning the event an unprecedented three years in a row) into Family support facilities and programs.

The was breakdown included

\$808,549 for a new teen center, a 4,000 square foot building near Corkan Gym; \$209,286 for roof and flooring at Corkan Gym; \$121,225 for laser tag equipment at Corkan; three climbing walls plus safety equipment at Corkan at a cost of \$112,800; two youth teen multi-purpose courts at Hunter with a cost of \$653,749 and a dance floor, lighting and sound system at Fort Stewart teen center for \$94,391.

"Being in touch an in tune with our customers let us optimize the support we can give them," said Lana Wright, Plans, Analysis and Integration. "Depending on the situation, we can shift our primary focus from one customer group to another without reducing the quality of any of our services."

Several of the forums teens were initially consulted to find out what they wanted in the way of programs, facilities and activities. The consensus was a teen center - A place to go and hang out, according to Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Linda Heifron. She said they indicated they wanted to see activities like laser tag, climbing wall, skating, etc.

"Once the concept was deter-

mined, the teens who were interested in participating, assisted in planning what the Teen Center would look like from the dance floor, sound system to snack and coffee bar," she said.

Recognizing that Family care is critical to the mission of the Army, the Department of the Army Pete Geren and Army Chief of Staff, General George W. Casey announced an additional \$100 million was dedicated to those ends last month.

During times of deployment the Army has shifted a number of resources to help the supporting and enhancing well being during deployments by providing funds for additional programs and activities to support families, according to Heifron. The 15:12 initiatives provide many resources for Child and Youth activities at no or reduced cost to the Families, such as Child and Youth Services athletic programs, hourly care, respite care, and instructional programs. In addition to the youth programs offered, funding has been provided to offer golf and bowling activities for all Family members of deployed Soldiers at reduced or no cost.

4th BCT selects Soldier, NCO of the Year

Sgt. 1st Class Tami Hillis
4th BCT Public Affairs

Vanguard Brigade announced its best of the best during its Soldier and Noncommissioned Officer of the Year Board ceremony Sept. 27 at Club Stewart here.

Pfc. Timothy A. Turner, Company A, 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, was selected as the Vanguard Brigade Soldier of the Year and Sgt. Aaron G. Vanderpool, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 76th Field Artillery, was selected as the Vanguard Brigade NCO of the Year.

Turner, a native of Huntington, Ind., has been on active duty since July 2006 and prior to that he was in the Reserves since April 2004. The fire support specialist said he knew he won the board before it was even announced.

"I knew I won as soon as I was done," said Turner. "I'm really confident for the (3rd ID board). I don't get nervous in front of others."

About two weeks prior to the board Turner said he studied for a couple of hours a day, normally by himself. However, his section sergeant, Staff Sgt. Steve Wadleigh, also assisted him.

"Sergeant Wadleigh helped me prepare for the board," Turner said. "He was my biggest factor in helping me."

Vanderpool, a native of Republic, Mo., has been in the Army for 4 and 1/2 years and is a human resources specialist.

"It was great to win, said Vanderpool. "I worked hard for it. I studied a lot, normally two to three hours a day. My wife, (Denise), is the drill sergeant of the house, and if it wasn't for her I probably would not have done as well as I did."

Vanderpool has been married for four years and said his wife has helped him study for all the boards he's gone to.

"I want to thank my wife and kids for supporting me and getting me ready for this," Vanderpool said. "Also my supervisor Staff Sergeant (Decarlos) Vincent and my section because I've been out of the office a lot here lately and they've covered down for me."

Turner and Vanderpool will represent the Brigade in the 3rd Infantry Division Board. Both Soldiers were awarded an Army Commendation Medal and a plaque.

"I want to personally thank all of you," said Command Sgt. Maj. Louis Torres, 4th Brigade Combat Team command sergeant major. "You not only prepared yourself mentally and physically, but your uniforms really looked good. It says a lot about yourself, your character, and what you're trying to do for yourself and for your unit. It's a big accomplishment."

Five Soldiers and five NCOs from each battalion participated in the board. Col. Thomas James, 4th BCT commander, presented each Soldier with a Brigade coin.

"You are known as a warrior in the United States Army," said James. "You represent the cream of the crop. As a brigade commander we have 3,400 Soldiers who we have to take out into a combat zone and fight the fight. And we need every Soldier and leader fully engaged, to be the best they possibly can. I really appreciate what you do for us every day. I'm honored to serve with you and honored to be here today at this ceremony."

The runner-ups were Pfc. Chanelle W. Siebert, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division, and Sgt. Derek L. Abbott, Company B, 4-3 BSTB.

"Everybody's a winner here," said Torres, addressing the Soldiers. "You're a winner because you're in the best brigade in the division and the best division in the Army, so you should feel good about yourself."



Sgt. 1st Class Tami Hillis

Sgt. Aaron G. Vanderpool, HHB, 1/76 FA, receives an Army Commendation Medal from Col. Thomas James, 4th BCT commander, after he was selected as the Vanguard Brigade NCO of the Year in a ceremony Sept. 27 at Club Stewart. Vanderpool will represent the brigade in the 3rd Inf. Div. NCO of the Year Board.

Seaport gets Vanguard equipment on the way

Cpt. Chris Lecron
841st Trans BN Public Affairs Officer

The Military Surface Deployment Distribution Command, known as SDDC, recently supervised the deployment of all 4th Brigade Combat Training, 3rd Infantry Division cargo by military vessel out of the strategic seaport of Savannah.

The Vanguard brigade join the rest of the division as part of Task Force Marne.

SDDC's 841st Transportation Terminal Battalion provides command and control of all military cargo moving out of East Coast strategic seaports minus Florida. It is an active duty Army SDDC unit. The 841st TTB set up the Seaport of Embarkation Operation, called "SDDC Task Force Marne Vanguard", at the Savannah Ocean Terminal seaport with support from multiple military and commercial partners including Port Support Activity, installation travel office, the Directorate of deployment operations, Military Sealift Command, the United States Coast Guard Sector - Military Outload Support, contracted stevedore labor, commercial trucking and Georgia Ports Authority.

The SDDC PSA was comprised of four separate elements to include army reserve component support, such as the 1192nd TTB out of New Orleans and 1174th TTB out of New York City, N.Y.; Army active duty support such as the 407th Port Management Team out of Ft. Bragg, N.C.; and Marines from the Marine corps reserve out of the Port Operating Group, Savannah.

This recent mission included the deployment of 1620 pieces of cargo from 4th BCT. The items included more than 350 track vehicles,

and six supercargo Soldiers that ride with the equipment on the vessel. The cargo was loaded onto a large medium-speed roll-on roll-off vessel, and operated by the Navy's MSC. The LMSR is the military's largest sealift vessel.

Some of the complexities involved in the mission include proper documentation of hazardous cargo by sea. Hazardous material traveling by sea falls under the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code whereas land hazmat falls under the Code of Federal Regulations. In addition, all of the cargo must be labeled and accounted for with military shipping labels and radio frequency tags. These in-transit visibility processes allow SDDC and the deploying unit command to track their cargo movement throughout the deployment process.

Safety and security is essential at the seaport. Sgt. 1st Class Arthur Johnson and Staff Sgt. Gerald Hough, both Military Police NCO's with SDDC, supervised the security and safety aspects of the mission.

"We believe that safety and security are the first priority in every mission being the eyes and ears for the entire operation," Johnson said. "We want to maintain proper operational security as well as keeping the operation safe during the mission. If we follow our risk assessment plan and security force protection plan during our missions, we usually do not have any issues."

The mission was a huge success as all cargo was loaded safely, efficiently, and with 100 percent accountability. The success of the mission allows the 3rd Inf. Div. to hit the ground running with their equipment once in Kuwait and Iraq.

"We enjoyed this mission because you can really see the big picture," said Master Sgt. Kevin Young, 841st NCOIC. "Everything we are doing at the port here ensures that 3rd Infantry Division's cargo makes it to OIF (Operation Iraqi Freedom) in top shape and fully accounted for. That is why we take our jobs here so seriously."

Capt. Kenneth Hoisington, 4th BCT, liaison officer attended the daily seaport operations meetings. "As a transportation officer," Hoisington said. "I know some of the lingo and complex issues involved in these types of major deployments. Mostly, we want to know the basics of the current cargo status during receipt and vessel operations. The SDDC Task Force was on top of every detail."



Courtesy Photo

Loaders assist with 4th Brigade equipment at port operations.

USDA warns of possible E Coli, recall of frozen ground beef

Kevin Robinson
Media Relations

FORT LEE, Va. – Potential E. coli contamination has prompted a voluntary recall of more than 300,000 pounds of frozen ground beef by Topps Meat Company, LLC, announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture on Sept. 25.

Food safety officials at the Defense Commissary Agency said that DeCA carries two of the recalled products:

- Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers,” 12 quarter pounders, 3-pound boxes (UPC: 074701-00025). Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUN 22 08,” “JUL 12 08” or “JUL 23 08.”

- “Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers,” 20 quarter pounders, 5-pound boxes (UPC: 074701-00110). Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUN 22 08,” “JUL 12 08” or “JUL 23 08.”

E. coli O157:H7 is a potentially deadly bacterium that can cause bloody diarrhea and dehydration. The very young, seniors and persons with compromised immune systems are the most susceptible to food borne illness.

An investigation into a cluster of illnesses in the Northeast region carried out by the New York State Department of Health in coordination with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention led to a positive product sample collected by the New York Department of Health.

Commissary patrons who have any of these products at home should stop consuming it and return the unused product with the label to the store from which they purchased it for a full refund.

The products subject to recall bear the establishment number “Est. 9748” inside the USDA mark of inspection. The complete recall list includes the following products:

- “Butcher’s Best 100% All Beef Patties,” 75/25, 6 oz. flat, 27

pieces, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUL 23 08.”

- “Butcher’s Best 100% All Beef Patties,” 75/25, 4 oz. (4-1), 40 pieces, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUL 23 08.”

- “Kohler Foods 4 oz. Flat Hamburger,” Code: 60100, 40 pieces, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUL 23 08.”

- “Kohler Foods 6 oz. Flat Hamburger,” Code: 60200, 27 pieces, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUL 23 08.”

- “Kohler Foods 8 oz. Flat Hamburger,” Code: 60300, 20 pieces, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUL 23 08.”

- “Sand Castle Fine Meat, 100% Premium Beef Hamburgers,” 80/20, 8 oz. flat, 20 count, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a packed-on date of “JUN 22 07.”

- “Sand Castle Fine Meat, 100% Premium Beef Hamburgers,” 85/15, 6 oz. flat, 27 count, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a packed-on date of “JUN 22 07.”

- “Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers,” 8 quarter pounders, 2-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUL 12 08.”

- “Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers,” 3 oz., 10 count, 2-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUL 12 08.”

- “Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers,” 6 oz. pub burgers, 3-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUN 22 08.”

- “Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers,” 12 quarter pounders, 3-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUN 22 08,” “JUL 12 08” or “JUL 23 08.”

- “Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers,” 16 hamburgers, 3-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUL 23 08.”

- “Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers,” 20 quarter pounders, 5-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUN 22 08,” “JUL 12 08” or “JUL 23 08.”

- “Topps 100% Pure Ground Beef Hamburgers,” 32 quarter pounders, 8-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUN 22 08.”

- “Topps 100% Premium Hamburgers,” 5 oz. (1/2”), 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUN 22 08.”

- “Topps Hamburgers,” 3.2 oz, 50 count, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUL 12 08.”

- “Topps 100% Premium Hamburgers,” 8 oz. (pub burger), 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUL 23 08.”

- “Topps 100% Premium Hamburgers - Homestyle,” 4 oz. (4-1), 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUL 23 08.”

- “Westside, 100% Premium Hamburger,” 8 oz. flat, 20 count, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUN 22 08.”

- “Westside, 100% Premium Hamburger,” 6 oz., flat, 27 count, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUN 22 08.”

- “Westside, 100% Premium Hamburger,” 5 oz. flat, 32 count, 10-pound boxes. Each box bears a sell-by date of “JUN 22 08.”

Consumers with food safety questions can “Ask Karen,” the FSIS virtual representative available 24 hours a day at [AskKaren.gov](http://www.askkaren.gov) <<http://www.askkaren.gov>> .

The toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline, 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854), is available in English and Spanish and can be reached from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday. Recorded food safety messages are available 24 hours a day.

Justice Served

Military Court

Private James D. Burkhart, Company B, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry, 4th Brigade Combat Team, convicted by special court-martial; desertion, larceny of AAFES property; confinement for six months and bad conduct discharge.

MAG Court

Male, 34, was fined \$500 for possession of marijuana and ordered to pay a special assessment of \$25. He will also have six months probation, and drug testing if not paid by Oct. 8.

CID offers Rewards of \$2,500

A reward of \$2,500 is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a person(s) responsible for a shooting that occurred July 15 adjacent to Rocky’s Bar, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314. Three unidentified black men were seen in a black colored sedan from which the shot was possibly fired. Anyone having knowledge of the incident, but not wishing to be identified, will be briefed on available options in maintaining their confidentiality. Those with information concerning this matter are encouraged to call the U.S. Army CID office, located at Fort Stewart, Ga., at (912) 767-5030. The point of contact for this action is Special Agent Charles Purnell or the military police desk at Stewart, 767-4895.

The reward offer expires on Sept. 24, 2008.

Legal Notices

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Spc. Christian M. Neff**, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact Capt. Tommie Andrews, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor, Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314 at 912-320-5259.

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Spc. Julia A., Diaz**, Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact 2LT. Erich Steffens, A Co., 703D Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314 at 912-435-0480/0242.

Anyone having claims against, or who is indebted to the estate of **Pfc. Travis M. Virgadamo**, Bone Troop, 3-7 Cavalry, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314, contact Capt. Kyle Hemminger, Rear Commander, 3/7 Cavalry, Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314 at 912-767-7328.

Marne Television Schedule

Tune to Channel 16 at Fort Stewart
and Channel 7 at Hunter if you have Comcast cable.

Sprint customers at Hunter must cut off the receiver then tune their
T.V. to Channel 16.

| Time | Monday through Friday |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 6-6:02 a.m. |National Anthem |
| 6:03 a.m. |OIF Briefs |
| 7-7:30 a.m. |Community Info |
| 7:30-8 a.m. |Task Force Marne |
| 8-8:30 a.m. |Marne Report |
| 8:30-9 a.m. |Community Info |
| 9-9:45 a.m. |OIF Briefs |
| 9:45-10 a.m. |Task Force Marne |
| 10-10:30 a.m. |Marne Report |
| 10:30-11 a.m. |Marne Chat |
| 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. |Community Info |
| 1:30-2 p.m. |Marne Report |
| 2-2:45 p.m. |OIF Briefs |

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 2:45-3 p.m. |Task Force Marne |
| 3-3:30 p.m. |Marne Report |
| 3:30-4 p.m. |Community Info |
| 4-5 p.m. |CES Briefing |
| 5-5:30 p.m. |Community Info |
| 5:30-6 p.m. |Marne Chat |
| 6-6:45 p.m. |OIF Briefs |
| 6:45-7 p.m. |Task Force Marne |
| 7-7:30 p.m. |Community Info |
| 7:30-8 p.m. |Marne Report |
| 8-10:30 p.m. |Community Info |
| 10:30-11:30 p.m. |CES Briefing |
| 11:30-midnight |Marne Report |

*Scheduling is subject to change.

BRIEFS

SOTM Open House

Shop of the Marne will be hosting a Fall Open House on Friday, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Oct. 12 The public is invited to enjoy refreshments while they check out new merchandise in the redesigned Shop. Special discounts will be offered and every purchase receives a free gift! Come and meet some great people and enter to win one of the great

prizes being offered. The Shop is located in Building 25 off McNeely Road behind the PX. If you miss the Open House, SOTM is open on Tuesday and Thursday from 10am-1pm.

Join the OSC games

OSC members are invited to join us for our Pursuit of Bingo evening event at Club Stewart on 6 p.m. Oct. 11 We will enjoy an Oktoberfest

Feast before attempting to win polish pottery and other great prizes while we play bingo! Call and reserve your spot before Oct. 8. Last names beginning with A-L please contact Paige Adgie, 912-877-2626 and last names beginning with M-Z please contact Jill Peterson, 912-492-8444. Child care is being offered at the YMCA, call Anne at 369-0663 to make reservations.

Recruiting team visits Stewart

The United States Army Recruiting Command Recruits the Recruiter Team will provide a presentation for all non-commissioned officers, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Oct. 16-18 at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education center in room 423. The team will brief all specialists through sergeants first class regarding the benefits, challenges, and qualifications of recruiting duty. How does more money, faster promotions and assignment preference sound to

you?

Do not miss this presentation. Attendance by all NCO's is highly encouraged. Spouses may also attend. Further, this briefing in no way obligates you for recruiting duty. A personal interview following the briefing will determine qualifications.

For more information, call (502) 626-0465 or visit online at www.usarec.army.mil/hq/recruiter.