

Serving the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities

3/7 Inf. earns DoD maintenance award

Pfc. Benjamin T. Brody
Staff Writer

Soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment earned the most coveted maintenance award in the Department of Defense at the 2003 Secretary of Defense Maintenance Awards and Symposium in Philadelphia Oct. 25.

The soldiers travelled there to be recognized as the top maintenance organization in the Department of the Army. They found a higher honor waiting for them at the ceremony when they received the Phoenix Award, which recognizes exceptional field-level military maintenance within DoD.

The award is described as 'The Holy Grail of Maintenance Awards.' Praising the Marne Soldiers' outstanding readiness rate and dedication to duty, event organizer Chuck Field presented the Phoenix to the 3/7 Soldiers before a standing ovation.

The award honors the unit's performance during fiscal year 2002, when the Cottonbalers' motor pool boasted a 97 percent readiness rate for their equipment, which includes Bradley Fighting Vehicles, hmwv, and heavy trucks. The unit demonstrated continuous preparedness operating in forward

bases, checkpoints, base camps, and in the midst of ongoing operations. During one deployment, the unit performed more than 100 vehicle recoveries, many in known minefields.

The Phoenix Award has been awarded annually since its inception in 1985. This is the fourth time the Army has won the award, and 3/7 is the first Army combat unit to do so.

The Phoenix was selected as being symbolic of the relationship between maintenance crews and the damaged equipment being brought back into service.

"The secret of our military success is you individuals and those who work with you," Army Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4 (Supply), Lt. Gen. Claude Christianson told the 3/7 Soldiers during the ceremony.

The entire symposium and exhibition took place over four days and featured dozens of booths staffed by defense contractors promoting their latest products and services, from fighter jets to screwdrivers. Senior leaders from the military and Department of Defense were also present to congratulate the award winners and discuss the future roles of military maintenance organization.



Pfc. Benjamin T. Brody

Lt. Gen. Claude Christianson, Deputy Chief of Staff, G4 (Supply) presents 3/7 Inf. Commander Lt. Col. David Funk with a Challenge Coin in recognition of his battalion motor pool's outstanding work.

See PHOENIX, Page 6A

Marne Soldiers' sacrifice honored at memorial

Spc. Jacob Boyer
Staff Writer

The Marne family gathered at Cottrell Field Oct. 29 to remember six 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) and 24th Corps Support Group Soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Sgt. 1st Class Randal L. Scott Rehn, 1st Battalion, 39th Field Artillery Regiment, Sgt. Todd J. Robbins, 1/39 FA, Spc. Donald S. Oaks, Jr., 1/39 FA, Spc. Ryan G. Carlock, 24th CSG, Spc. Jeremiah D. Smith, 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, and Pfc. Charles M. Sims, 549th Military Police Company, were honored at the ceremony, which was held in the late afternoon as the sun began to set.

Following the National Anthem and an invocation by the 24th Corps Support Group Chaplain (Maj.) Thomas Waynick, Col. Roberta Woods, 24th CSG's commander, delivered the commander's message. She said the more than 350 Soldiers lost since the beginning of OIF came from all across the Army, and they have all died doing their duty in the war on terror.

"These were Soldiers serving exactly as we asked them to do," Woods said. "They were dedicated to their country, their units and their fellow Soldiers. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for the sacrifices made by these Soldiers when their country called."

Master Sgt. Henry Blair sang "America the Beautiful" after a moment of silence was held in the Soldiers' memory. Command Sgt. Maj.



Spc. Jacob Boyer

Command Sgt. Maj. Luis Garcia, 24th CSG, reads the names of six fallen Marne Soldiers during a memorial ceremony held in their honor Oct. 29 at Cottrell Field.

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Improvements added for med-hold Soldiers

Spc. Robert Adams
Staff Writer

Col. Joe Barthel, Winn Army Community Hospital commander and members of his medical staff talked to media about medical service improvements being provided to medical hold Soldiers at Troop Medical Clinic 4 Friday.

These improvements have been in response to National Guard and Reserve medical hold Soldiers' complaints about medical treatment and barracks living conditions.

Soldiers claimed they weren't receiving proper or prompt treatment for their illnesses and injuries.

In response, TMC 4, which was initially built for preventive medicine services, has been specifically designated for National Guard and Reserve medical hold Soldiers.

"We have evaluated our resources, our needs and the needs of our patients and Soldiers, and from that we were able to open the TMC 4 location," Barthel said. "TMC 4 can accommodate a larger staff, where we can put our case managers and primary care physicians, who are dedicated to the mission in one location."

A permanent location for TMC 4 is in the process of being contracted and built within the

next three months, Barthel said.

Fifteen case managers are now available to hear cases from medical hold Soldiers. These case managers will review each Soldier's case and coordinate the care needed through the medical system.

New standards have been put into place to speed up the process for Soldiers in need of medical care, Barthel said.

"The new system allows Soldiers to be seen within 72 hours by medical specialists," he said. Patients needing diagnostic testing to include magnetic resonance imaging and ultrasounds will be cared for within a week. Also the time it takes for Soldiers to see a medical board has also been cut from 90 to 60 days, he added.

Soldiers in need of surgical care are also being provided quicker treatment.

Surgeries will be performed within two weeks, and an additional staffing is being organized to add an additional operating room within the next week bringing the total to four at Winn, Barthel said.

With this addition, an additional 60 to 80 personal cases will be treated per month. In addition, 40 Soldiers have been sent to Eisenhower Medical Center in Augusta, Ga., to be treated for specific medical needs and an additional 10 will

be sent within the next week.

To deal with the housing situation, National Guard and Reservists with the most difficult cases are being moved out of the barracks at the Georgia National Guard training site and into improved living conditions, said Col. John M. Kidd, Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield garrison commander.

"Today we are moving 80 medical hold Soldiers to Hunter Army Airfield where they will be living in or sharing barracks currently occupied by Headquarters U.S. Army garrison at Hunter and components of the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized)," Kidd said. "These Soldiers will continue to receive treatment at Fort Stewart, but they will be billeted at Hunter."

"We also have plans to move an additional 70 Soldiers over the next few days into some housing we have contracted for them on the post," Kidd said. "These are hotel type accommodations, and we are working in conjunction with the hospital to determine the Soldiers that will be billeted at Hunter."

Barthel said, "Our goal is to take care of our Soldiers, and we are definitely making efforts to expedite mobilizing and demobilizing Soldiers with medical needs through our system as quickly as possible."



Spc. Robert Adams

Col Joe Barthel speaks to media on the services and treatment being provided to medical hold Soldiers at Troop Medical Facility #4.

Weather Forecast

FRI	High 82°	Low 56°
SAT	High 75°	Low 47°
SUN	High 69°	Low 54°

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Let the games begin ...



Photos by Pfc. Emily J. Danial

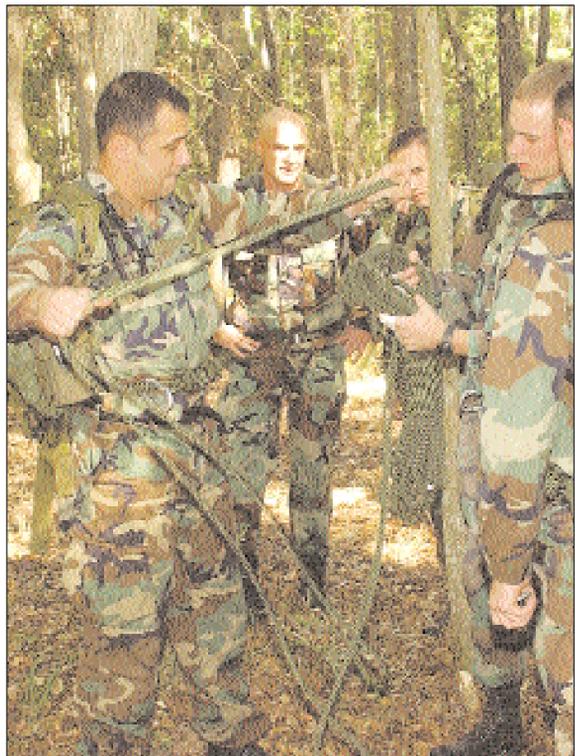
Fort Valley University cadets carry a teammate on a litter as part of the Seminole Challenge portion of the Ranger Challenge Oct. 24 at Hunter Army Airfield.



Cadet Steve Abram of Florida Southern College assembles an M-16 as part of the Ranger Challenge Oct. 25.



(Above and Below) Georgia Southern University cadets construct a rope bridge during the Seminole Challenge portion of the Ranger Challenge Oct. 24.



Col. (Retired) Danny McKnight presents the Fort Valley University team with the Ranger Challenge "Spirit Stick," which is awarded to the most motivated team throughout the competition.

Ranger Challenge teaches teamwork

Pfc. Emily J. Danial

Staff writer, Hunter Public Affairs

Two hundred and forty Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets flooded into Hunter Army Airfield for the Ranger Challenge Oct. 24 through 26.

"What I want to happen by the end of Sunday is for you all to have gotten to know each other a little better, for you to have made some friends, for you all to have gotten a lit bit of a feeling for what teamwork is all about, a little bit of camaraderie, a lot of fun ... and I want you to be tired."

These words, spoken by Col. Scott L. Armbrister, 6th ROTC Brigade commander, to the cadets proved to be less of a spoken desire than they were a prediction of what the weekend's activities would bring.

The Ranger Challenge, an annual competition between cadets from regional colleges and universities, consists of nine main events and a few additional ones, which vary from year to year.

The main events were a Leadership Exam, an Army Physical Fitness Test, an M16 Rifle Range, Weapons Assembly, Orienteering, a Hand Grenade Assault Course, a Rope Bridge and a 10-kilometer Foot March.

Extra events included the Seminole Challenge — a demanding physical course that combines a rope bridge event, a casualty litter carry event, relay races, and a small obstacle course — and the Commander's Cup — a team boat race across and back an approximately 200-meter pond.

Units from Hunter and Fort Stewart participated in the design, setup and execution of the Ranger Challenge, including 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment; 1st Battalion, 39th Field Artillery Regiment Field Artillery Salute Battery; the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) Band, Division Support Command; Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Division Artillery; A Troop, 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment; Engineer Brigade and Aviation Brigade.

The Challenge pitted cadets from 20 different schools against each other, with teams of 12 competing for tro-

phies, ribbons and plaques to proudly carry home with them.

The cadets on each team fought hard throughout the weekend to be known as "the best of the best," according to one cadet, as he said his team had been preparing for the Ranger Challenge for quite some time.

"We practiced in the morning, practiced in the evening, practice, practice, practice getting ready for the Ranger Challenge," Cadet Xavier Kimbro of Fort Valley University said. "It's like the biggest event for us."

Even with all that practice, the Challenge was aptly named, as a cadet from the University of Tampa confirmed.

"I consider myself pretty physically fit, and I was smoked," Cadet Thomas Billig, team captain, said. "I think it's a good character-builder; it teaches good team cohesion."

That, according to Armbrister, was the weekend's chief aim.

"Bonding and camaraderie come most when you are suffering together as a team, when you can look beside you and see your friends and your partners going through the same experience you are, and you're succeeding," he said. "That's what it's all about."

"On a personal level, this has been great," Kimbro said. "I have always wanted to be a soldier, now it's just me putting my talents to work and getting ready to become an Army officer."

However, the other goal of the Ranger Challenge — winning it — was definitely not the farthest thing from anyone's mind.

"I'm a really competitive person and I like to win," Billig said. "This is my thing. I like to compete."

Schools participating were Columbus State University, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Florida A&M University, Florida Institute of Technology, Florida International University, Florida Southern College, Florida State University, Fort Valley State University, Georgia Military College, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia Southern University, Georgia State University, North Georgia College, University of Central Florida,

University of Florida, University of Georgia, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez, University of Puerto Rico-Piedras, University of South Florida and University of Tampa.

Teams were organized into three tiers — red, white and blue. Each tier was awarded three trophies, and the overall winner was awarded the largest trophy, as well as a 6th ROTC Brigade coin and certificate and a plaque for each cadet on the team. The team with the most "spirited" performance was awarded a "spirit stick."

The overall winner of the Ranger Challenge was Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, whose team also won the red tier. Blue tier winner was the Florida Institute of Technology, and Georgia Southern University took home the white tier's trophy.

Georgia Institute of Technology was victorious in the Commander's Cup competition, North Georgia University was the champion of the Seminole Challenge, and Fort Valley University was the honored recipient of the "spirit stick."

Col. (Retired) Danny McKnight, of "Black Hawk Down" fame, was the guest speaker at the event's closing ceremony, and he took some time to address the weekend's competitors.

"You are part of the greatest Army in the world," he said. "You are the future. You're here because you're committed, you believe in leadership."

"To see all of you for the last few days, the words that come to my mind are 'refreshing,' 'invigorating.' ROTC is about leadership, teamwork and commitment ... I don't think anybody could set a better example (of that) than what we've seen here over the past few days."

McKnight, with Armbrister, helped to present the awards to each winning team, encouraging each team as he did.

"You are special, you are very special, as we have seen over the past couple days," McKnight said. "Take what you have learned with you ... I'm proud of what you have done and what you are going to do."

That is, after they go home and take a well deserved nap.

20 years later...

Rangers past, present remember Grenada

Sgt. Craig Zentkovich

Hunter Public Affairs Office

In the early morning hours of Oct. 25, 1983, Army Rangers, spearheading a U.S. joint forces assault on the Caribbean island of Grenada, conducted a low-level parachute jump to seize an airfield at Point Salinas.

Their mission was to protect the lives of Americans and restore democracy to the island nation.

Operation Urgent Fury was a five-day fight covering most of the 120-square-mile island. 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment seized the airfield, rescued American citizens and eliminated pockets of resistance. Five Rangers from 1/75. made the ultimate sacrifice, never to step foot on U.S. soil again.

On Oct. 24, 1st Bn. Rangers at Hunter Army Airfield paid tribute to those fallen soldiers and commemorated the 20th anniversary of Operation Urgent Fury.

Guest speaker for the ceremony, retired Command Sgt. Maj. William H. Acebes, was one of 30 OUF veterans in attendance.

“(OUF) was the first advertised mission a Ranger unit had been on,” Acebes, the first sergeant for C Company, 1/75, during operations, said. “It was also the first joint mission



Sgt. Craig Zentkovich

Rangers of C Company, 1st Bn., 75th Ranger Regt., observe the 20th anniversary of the battalion's Oct. 25, 1983, assault on Grenada. Five Rangers lost their lives in Grenada.

between Rangers and other branches of service.”

He added, “The soldiers performed amazingly for five days, fighting at the airfield, out-

lying areas, and the medical campus.”

The weapons, boots and black berets of the five fallen Rangers were displayed at the ceremony — a reminder of freedom's cost. Some of the veterans wept as “Taps” was played.

During his remarks, Acebes pointed out a number of veterans in attendance and recalled their roles in Urgent Fury.

“Today is like any other day,” Acebes said, modestly. “Those here have and will make their own history — time will tell. Keep being who you are — soldiers.”

Acebes concluded his remarks by thanking 1/75 for remembering Urgent Fury veterans, and added that when the time comes, they'll be remembered for their service.

“This is a day to honor the great men that fought and served before us,” said Staff Sgt. Toshimi Itoh, squad leader with 1/75. “To honor those who have done what we as Rangers try to do everyday — living up to honor and the Ranger Creed.

Reflecting on the bravery and actions of the Urgent Fury Rangers, Itoh was humbled. “We have big shoes to fill.”

According to Acebes, 1/75 have already filled those shoes and began writing themselves into history.

Stewart teaches suicide intervention at Marne Chapel

Spc. Jonathan M. Stack

Associate Editor

Suicide is an epidemic in the world and Fort Stewart did its part to intervene by offering an Applied Suicide intervention Skill Training class at Marne Chapel Thursday and Friday.

“ASIST is the most widely used suicide intervention training program in the world,” according to the ASIST workbook. “ASIST prepares caregivers of all backgrounds to provide emergency first-aid, life-assisting interventions to persons at risk of suicide. Intervention attitudes, knowledge, skills and resources are presented in two days of practical training, conducted in both small and large groups.”

Chaplain (Maj.) Timothy Sowers, family life chaplain, spoke to the class and stated, “I'm positive that you will gain in growth from this training.”

The class watched a movie giving three scenarios of people committing suicide. Afterwards, the class broke up into three groups and discussed what they had watched, how it made them feel emotionally and what could have been done differently to prevent the suicides. Later on the class role-played and intervened when a person who was thinking of

“I would like to see a lot more people take it.”

Chaplain (Maj.) Thomas Waynick
24th CSG chaplain

committing suicide confronted them.

The class was made up of a variety of people, said Chaplain (Maj.) Thomas Waynick, 24th Corps Support Group chaplain. It consisted of noncommissioned officers, commanders and chaplains.

Waynick said, He enjoys the class tremendously and people should leave the class with a sense of comfort that they can play a part in the prevention of suicides.

He also conducted the program in Fort Polk, La. for a group of first sergeants and commanders who later told him, “(The program) gave us something we can use.”

Waynick added, “I would like to see a lot more people take it.”

If a person doesn't have the skills to deal with a suicidal

person he might avoid the situation by overlooking it and allow the individual to commit suicide, Sowers said. By completing the training a person can hopefully understand a suicidal person and be able to make an assessment of the situation and get that person help.

There isn't a specific trait in a person that can be accountable for being suicidal.

Suicide rates increase with age and are highest among Americans age 65 years and older, according to www.cdc.gov/ncipc/factsheets/suifacts.htm. Men accounted for 84 percent of suicides among persons age 65 years and older in 2000.

Suicide took the lives of 29,350 Americans in 2000, according to the Web site. More people die from suicide than from homicide. Overall, suicide is the 11th leading cause of death for all Americans and is the third leading cause of death for young people ages 15 through 24.

It is important for people to want to help a person who is suicidal instead of ignoring the problem and allowing the individual to go through with it. ASIST is held quarterly at Stewart and people are urged to consider attending to help make a difference within the community.

Look Before You Leap...

Observe swimming safety, year-round!



Marne Six Sends

Maj. Gen. William G. Webster Jr.

3rd Inf. Div. commanding general

MISSION, SOLDIERS AND TEAMWORK!

The Marne division is a superior team of teams with small competent well drilled Soldier teams at its heart!

Our teams at every level are critical to our success and that of the Army. Team leaders and members have to know each other and automatically understand each others reactions during hard training drills and exercises. Maximize your training time and don't waste time. Ensure your teams can build on each Soldiers strength and minimize your known weakness. Our teams must continue to remain prepared in order to respond for any mission we may be called on to perform.

TEAMWORK. We want to build and maintain the qualities of good, strong teams at all times. First, it is every Soldier's responsibility to maintain his or her personal attributes through study, practice and hard work. Know your job

and do it well. Don't let your teammates down. Don't make someone else do your job. Second, we will take care of each other, help each other and each team succeed, and not let each other down. Accomplish your mission and help other teams accomplish theirs where you can. Soldiering is a team sport, an outdoor sport, a contact sport. We must work hard to maintain our sharp edge in the field while enforcing the highest safety standards. Accidental loss of life is preventable, and every leader and Soldier must help to prevent it. We will fight to train as often and as hard as we can, and we will train to fight. Good teams have trusted leaders who reflect success upon their Soldiers, and take responsibility for setbacks. Use "we" and "us" instead of "I" and "me". There is no "I" in the word **TEAMWORK.**

Next week...

Leadership Teams and the duties of my senior noncommissioned officer.

MARNE SIX OUT.

The Frontline Interview: Col. (Ret.) Danny R. McKnight

Sgt. Craig Zentkovich

Hunter Public Affairs Office

Col. (Retired) Danny R. McKnight is a Soldier, a Ranger, who has been there and done that. McKnight, who retired in January, 2002 after 28 years of service, saw combat duty in Panama (Operation Just Cause - 1989) and Somalia (1993). His first-hand experiences while commanding Task Force Ranger during the Battle of Mogadishu were the basis for the best-selling book and blockbuster movie, "Black Hawk Down."

From Oct. 24 to 26, McKnight visited Hunter Army Airfield to observe Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets participating in the 2003 Ranger Challenge, speak at the closing ceremony and present awards. The Frontline and Marne TV had a chance to talk to McKnight. Here's what he

had to say.

How does it feel to be asked to come here to be a guest speaker?

I'm an ROTC graduate, myself. I can relate to what they're doing and why they're doing it. I couldn't touch what these (cadets) are doing now when I came out of ROTC 30 years ago because the programs are better, the (professors of military science) and the noncommissioned officers who train them are better than ever. It's amazing — I'm glad to be here.

What words of wisdom and lessons from your time in combat could you pass on to cadets as well as Soldiers?

If you're in a leadership position, you lead by example, lead from the front, and always be willing to do all of the things your Soldiers do. If you're a Soldier, always be committed to achieving success, whatever that may be. That commitment comes from (the heart) more than anywhere else. If our Soldiers have that commitment, and that's what we're seeing everyday in places like Afghanistan and Iraq, as they always do, we'll continue to be the greatest country in the world with the greatest military in the world.

What have you been doing since retiring?

I work in Brevard County, Fla., where the Kennedy Space Center is, as the homeland security coordinator for that county — the same one I grew up in.

How has the change of

lifestyle been from military to civilian?

In all honesty, I was very fortunate. It hasn't been much of a change because when I retired, I started speaking a lot — it was when the movie came out — "Black Hawk Down." I didn't take the job I have now until October 2002. I have that and the speaking thing, so it keeps me busy.

Speaking of "Black Hawk Down," did it do Task Force Ranger and it's Soldiers justice?

Yeah, I think it did. As a matter of fact, I have great respect for Mark Bowden and the book he wrote that caused the movie, (as well as) Ridley Scott and Jerry Bruckheimer. The movie is probably 75 percent accurate, which I think is phenomenal for a movie made for Hollywood that's not a documentary. What it did was make people realize what happened. It was not a bad thing. It was Soldiers doing great things as Soldiers always do, and that's what the people wanted to know. I can tell you from talking to many of the Soldiers who were there — they feel good about it because they did what was right.

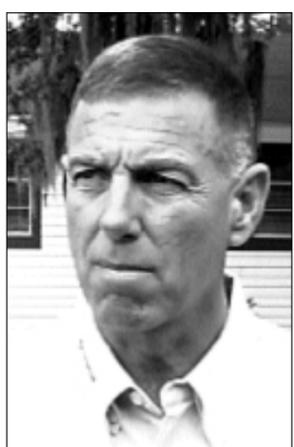
How did combat operations in Somalia differ from those in Panama?

Totally different. It was a different kind of people we were fighting. They were much more organized — more military types in Just Cause in Panama under Noriega. We just overwhelmed them with the force that not only we had, but the 82nd (Airborne Division) and

other units involved. In Mogadishu, it was very specific what we had to do — capture a warlord. It was very different.

What are your most memorable experiences in your 28 years of service?

Without a doubt, it's the Soldiers. The camaraderie — seeing young men who are 18, 19 years old in a situation like Somalia able to do what they



did. I tell people, and I sum it up by saying, 'It was the best of times and the worst of times.' And people look at me and say, 'How can you say best of anything?' It was the best of times because it was Soldiers doing what they had trained to do and doing it better than anyone else in the world. Worst of times because some Soldiers got killed — that makes it bad. But at the same time, they were doing what they wanted to do. The Soldiers — that's what I miss.

Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

What does Veterans Day mean to you?

"If not for veterans, where would we be today? They're the reason we have the freedoms we have today."

**Sgt. 1st Class Betty Neely
Det. Four STARC
Fla. Nat. Guard**

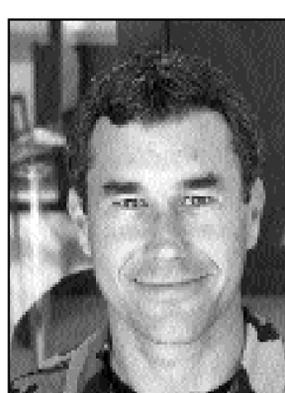


"We've fought wars. It doesn't happen every day — so it's important to recognize veterans for what they did."

**Spc. Chris Shipley
C Co., 1/64**

"To recognize the sacrifice of the men and women who served this country."

**Dehon Rigney
Family member**



"To recognize the men and women who served before us."

**Air Force Tech. Sgt. James Rigney
15th ASOS**

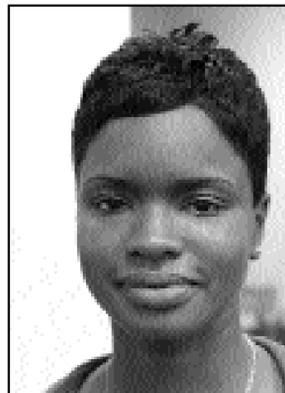
"To honor those who fought valiantly in combat."

**Larry Hudson Jr.
Boot technician
Big Boys Shoe Shine**



"To celebrate what the veterans have done."

**Sgt. Latovia Eaves
HHC, 3rd Inf. Div.**



Diary of an addict Smoking downs outnumber ups

Spc. Kimberly Nelson

Marne TV

I am addicted to cigarettes. I want to quit, but I cannot do it on my own. They are stronger than me. They hurt me and I don't like them, but I still want them. My body feels like it can't go on without them. My brain knows that's not true, but it feels so real.

Somewhere along the line, I became convinced that smoking a cigarette would make me feel "better." When I think back on all the cigarettes I've had today, I realize a good 95 percent did not make me feel better. In fact, I felt worse. My throat hurt, my stomach felt queasy, my eyes and lips felt very dry, and I stunk.

In fact, almost every cigarette I smoked had me stopping, right around halfway, to think, "Why am I doing this?" I don't like it; it causes me pain, yet I keep on puffin'. Over and over I ask myself why, and over and over I pull that butt to my lips. I don't know, maybe I do it because I don't want to. I consider

Commentary

myself to be fairly strong-minded. So the idea of a cigarette being able to beat me has always been unacceptable. I've been smoking for the last ten years. Ten years! I didn't think I was that old. I'm not; it's the cigarettes.

I know everything that is bad about them; nicotine, carcinogens, cyanide, tons of toxins, tar in my lungs, severely weakened respiration, Emphysema, chronic Bronchitis, lung Cancer, throat Cancer, stained teeth, fingernails, clothing, bad breath, bad taste, bad smell, carbon monoxide, birth defects, wrinkles, discoloration of skin, holes burned in clothing, furniture, cars, skin, the money, pimples, smoke up my nose, smoke in my eyes, film on my contacts, smell in my hair, in my car, clothes, couch, and

when it's done, finding a place to toss the butt.

But what about all the good things about smoking? They, uh, make you ... um ... look like ... a ... uh ... smoker. And, uh ... (sigh) ... they have ... they can ... um ... they're really ... isn't anything good about them. They have control over me. I am ashamed that I am a smoker. I hate it. I wish I didn't feel like I needed it. I wish I could quit, but I don't think I can. I know I can't. I've tried more than a dozen times. They always call me back. Just like they're doing right now. I am their slave ... (flick.)

Editor's Note: *There is help for smokers and tobacco addicts. There are many programs aimed at helping people kick the habit. But quitting is hard ... and unnecessary. Refraining from picking up the first cigarette can save years of hard work, cravings, and health side effects.*

Winn Army Community Hospital offers tobacco cessation classes for people hoping to quit. For more information call 370-5071.



Vopinion!
Write a letter to the editor!
Send to:
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DUI-free units submit for awards

Spc. Adam Nueklen

Staff Writer

Has your designated driver program worked? Has your command worked hard to teach its soldiers safety and responsibility after a few drinks?

If you answered yes to the above questions and your unit has been free of a Driving Under the Influence Violation, for 365 days or more, now is the time to submit nominations to be awarded for your efforts.

The Army Substance Abuse Program is now accepting the nominations for the January 2004 DUI Free Awards. All units eligible to self-nominate must submit by Nov. 21.

"It's important to recognize units that stay DUI free," said Selina Bland, ASAP

program coordinator. "We'd like to hope the recognition helps. Soldiers like to have a streamer for their guidon, and they like showing them off."

The awards have been given out since April 1998, and in that time, 259 units have received awards. Last year, ASAP gave out 281 awards, most of them to units with previous years of being DUI free, according to Bland.

"We're hoping for at least 300 awards this year," she said. "We always try to exceed our numbers."

The prevention of DUIs is an on-going effort of both ASAP and commanders, and giving units awards is only a small step to prevention.

"We have of course the prevention and education classes, some commanders like to give

awards like time off," she added. "I'm sure each unit provides its own individual award system."

Even with the recognition of awards, the most important means of preventing DUIs is education and information, according to Bland.

"Getting information out and education is the key. The award system is just an added bonus," she said. "We want them to know it's not hard to abstain from drinking and driving, and it's a good thing."

All units assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield are eligible for the award.

ASAP will not be able to accept any nominations after close of business Nov. 21 for the January awards.

Any nominations received after Nov. 21 will be awarded next quarter in April.

ASAP's awards certificates to eligible units on a quarterly basis. Future awards are scheduled in the months of April, July, and October unless posted otherwise.

To nominate your unit, ASAP will need the name of the unit being nominated spelled out exactly how you will like to see it on the certificate, the last accountable date a DUI was given to your unit, which award it will be (1st, 2nd, etc.), the contact and telephone number for the unit.

"DUI Free means zero blood alcohol level indicated on official police blotter reports," Bland said. "Any alcohol-related incident involving any type of wheel vehicle, boat, or jet skis are disqualifiers for the award."

International recognition



Pfc. Emily J. Danial

Lt. Col. Eric C. Schwartz, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment commander, explains Operation Iraqi Freedom maneuvers to British Air Chief Marshal Sir Anthony Bagnall Oct. 22 at Fort Stewart. Observing the event was 3rd Inf. Div. Assistant Division Commander (Support) Brig. Gen. Jose Riojas.

Volunteers needed to serve community

Compiled by Spc. Robert Adams

Staff writer

The Armed Forces Emergencies Services and the American Red Cross are in search of volunteers from the Fort Stewart Community for projects including, blood drives, disaster services and health and safety services.

The Stewart American Red Cross office needs volunteers for special projects Nov. 14 to 16 and Dec. 17. This is a great way to help a good cause and isn't a long term commitment.

The American Red Cross is an important service for emergency messages link military members and their families in time of crisis. Another way to contribute is by giving blood at one of the upcoming drives in the area:

Nov. 10 Richmond Hill High School 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Nov. 24 Ft. Stewart Youth Challenge Academy 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Soldiers who served in Iraq are now deferred from

blood donations for one year following redeployment.

Another way to make a difference is volunteering for disaster services. Volunteers would make sure that members of the Fort Stewart community and the surrounding areas are provided food, clothing and shelter when disaster strikes. Hurricane damage and wild fires are big news and require the whole community's help.

Volunteers assisted over 35 families last year for smaller disasters like single family fires. The training is free, and the experience is priceless.

The health and safety services are also providing classes in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and First Aid. Knowing CPR can save a person's life and situations can occur where a life can be saved with the proper training before medical personnel arrive.

Adult CPR classes cost \$25 and are available on the following dates:

Nov. 18 Liberty

Emergency Medical Agency 6-10 p.m.

Dec. 8 Coastal Care Center, Richmond Hill 6-10 p.m.

Dec. 16 Liberty EMA 6-10 p.m.

Infant/Child CPR classes cost \$25 and is available:

Dec. 1 Liberty EMA 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

First Aid classes cost \$10 and are available:

Nov. 20 Liberty EMA 6-10 p.m.

Dec. 9 Coastal Care Center, Richmond Hill 6-10 p.m.

Dec. 18 Liberty EMA 6-10 p.m.

Community CPR (adult, infant and child) and first aid classes cost \$55 and are available:

Nov. 15 Black Creek Fitness Center, Ellabel 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Dec. 6 Long Library, Hinesville 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Dec. 13 Black Creek Fitness Center, Ellabel 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Together we can save lives.



Pfc. Benjamin Brody

Soldiers from 3rd Bn., 7th Inf. at Stewart, Ga., pose with the Phoenix Award during the Secretary of Defense Maintenance Awards Oct. 29. The prestigious award is given annually to the highest-performing military maintenance organization.

Phoenix

from page 1A

Christianson led an informal discussion with the 3/7 Soldiers before the awards ceremony. The discussion centered on the impending re-organization of 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) from three brigades to five brigade maneuver teams.

"You are in a perfect position to frame the future of modulation," Christianson told the Marne Soldiers. "We need your input, because simply dividing the sum of the division by five is probably the wrong answer."

The 3/7 Soldiers shared some of their experiences with Christianson, recalling difficult situations that they were able to make the best of.

"We were traveling in Iraq when one of the Bradleys was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade that destroyed the entire wire harness," said Staff Sgt. Javier Mojica, a Bradley mechanic. "Sgt. (Michael) Galloway pieced it back together wire by wire, and eight hours later it was back in the fight. The brigade wouldn't have been so successful without that Bradley."

"Having parts on hand saved us all the time," said Sgt. 1st Class Gregory Coleman. "We brought extra maintenance components along on modified side racks on our vehicles."

U.S. Army Material Command commander Gen. Paul Kern was on hand to congratulate the Soldiers on their achievement, as was 3rd Inf. Div. Assistant Division Commander (Maneuver) Col. Robert Caslen. Kern discussed the future of the Army's logistics and supply train, focusing on lessons learned during Operation Iraqi Freedom by units like 3/7.

"Pre-positioning equipment was a successful strategy to keep units supplied in Iraq," Kern said. "But one third of our entire distribution network was tied up moving bottled water."

During a round-table forum, mediated by Assistant Deputy Undersecretary of Defense Robert Mason, the audience asked a panel of general and flag officers questions about distribution and maintenance, particularly about designing vehicles for easier repair through the use of quick-release components and other time-saving technologies.

"We need to be able to connect into a network where logisticians can see supply needs on the battlefield in real time," Christianson said during the forum. "Then we can develop a distribution system that is as fast and precise as our warfighters are."

Memorial

from page 1A

Luis Garcia, 24th CSG, read the names of those being memorialized.

"They gave their lives so we could be free and safe," he said. "Gold bless them. We'll never forget them."

Trees were dedicated along Warriors Walk for each of the fallen soldiers following the ceremony.

The families were escorted to them by Maj. Gen. William G. Webster, Jr., 3rd Inf. Div. commanding general.



Spc. Jacob Boyer

Master Sgt. Henry Blair sings "Amazing Grace" at a memorial ceremony for six fallen Marne Soldiers Oct. 29.

Winter Special Olympics Volunteers are Needed

Dec. 5

8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The event will be held at the Marne Lanes. Approximately 40 to 50 volunteers are needed. What a difference your hugs and cheers can make to these outstanding athletes!

If you don't have time to volunteer on a regular basis, this is the volunteer activity for you.

If you cannot stay the entire day, you can come for a portion of the day and be a cheerleader for all of the athletes.

To pre-register or for any questions call 767-5058/5059.

**"CELEBRATE THE AMERICAN SPIRIT,
VOLUNTEER!"**

Flu shot...

Best weapon against winter illness

Laurie Kemp

Winn Public Affairs Officer

It's that time of year again. Your head aches, your body aches and you are running a fever – it must be the flu.

“Influenza is a vaccine-preventable illness one can do something about in the fall before the season peaks, typically in January and February,” said Dr. (Maj.) Christopher Littell, chief of Preventive Medicine at Winn Army Community Hospital. “(The shot) offers a unique opportunity for most to avoid the risk of illness or even hospitalization, and while some people do experience mild side effects after receiving the vaccination, you can't get the flu from the vaccine.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Influenza, or the flu, is far more dangerous than a bad cold or other upper respiratory infections. It's a disease of the lungs, which can lead to pneumonia.

The best way to prevent the flu is by getting the shot now, and even

December is not too late. According to Littell, the flu shot offers protection within about two weeks of administration, and is safe for most patients. The vaccine is approved for use in anyone six months and older, and is recommended in particular for those with a variety of chronic diseases, their close contacts and anyone over the age of 50. Vaccination of small children ages 6 to 23 months is also encouraged, due to their increased risk of hospitalization should they get the flu.

For those who miss out on the flu shot this season and end up catching the flu, self-treatment using over the counter medication is a viable option.

Self-treatment options include taking Tylenol or Motrin and staying well-hydrated by drinking water, juices and Gatorade-like substances. Other recommend home treatments include using a saline nasal spray to moisten nasal passages; using a cool-mist humidifier to increase moisture in the air; constantly washing hands to rid the body of germs; and avoiding smoking, which can prolong symptoms.

However, an important issue with the flu and other upper respiratory infections is to watch out for signs of a more serious illness.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 114,000 people in the U.S. are hospitalized and 36,000 people die every year because of complications from the flu virus. Research has shown that in otherwise healthy people age 18 to 50, getting an annual flu shot can reduce workdays missed due to flu-related illness.

While there are home treatments for flu symptoms, the best way to protect against influenza is to get the flu vaccination.

Flu shots will be available 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 10 and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 18 at the PX and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 13 and 20 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 15 at the commissary. Flu shots will be available at Winn's immunization clinic 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. beginning Nov. 19. For more information, call the immunization clinic at 370-6878.

Stewart offers Army Family Team Building en Espanola

Special to The Frontline

Para mejor satisfacer las necesidades de nuestra familias militares se ofrece clases, en espanol de el programa “Army Family Team Building” (AFTB). AFTB es un programa educativo que ayuda el desenvolvimiento propio para miembros de las familias militares.

El entrenamiento aumenta el conocimiento y mejora la habilidad para elevar el crecimiento personal, la independencia, y la confianza en un mismo. Esto ayuda delantar el propenso de la familia.

En Noviembre 20, de 6:30pm hasta 8:30pm, voluntarios de AFTB estaran ofreciendo tres clases del primer modulo. Las clases encumbre temas en recursos de la comunidad; costumbres, cortesias, y tradiciones; acronimos; como leer horas militares; y como determinar la estructura dentro de la coman-

dancia militar.

Las clases que el programa AFTB ofrese es designado y ensenado, para y por, miembros de familias, soldados activos, personal civiles, y militares retirados. Este programa es sorportado por el Comandante de Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield, el Directorio de Actividades y Servicios (DCAS), y el Servicio de la Comunidad Militar (ACS).

Para registrar en la s clases llamen a StacyThompson, 767-AFTB (2382).

Twins awarded Silver Stars for Iraq actions

Lt. Col. Stan Heath

Army Human Resources Command PAO

WASHINGTON — Following a Silver Star and Purple Heart award ceremony last week for Capt. Dave Hibner at the U.S. Army Human Resources Command, he and his identical twin Capt. Dan Hibner wear the Army's 4th highest medal.

The awards recognize the twins' actions during the 3rd Infantry Division's (Mechanized) assault on Baghdad.

The brothers have been together for most of their careers. They both attended Kemper Military Academy Reserve Officers' Training Corps. Following their graduation and Reserve commissioning in 1993, they attended Purdue University and both served with the 423rd Infantry Regiment U.S. Army Reserves where they earned their Expert Infantry Badges. Upon Graduation from Purdue in 1996 they entered active duty.

Their initial active-duty assignments parted them, but they linked up at the Captain's Career Course at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. Their assignment following the career course sent them both to Fort Stewart where Dave would command D Company, 10th Engineer Battalion, and Dan would command A Company, 11th Engineer Battalion.

It was their assignment and their units' missions in April that brought new meaning to the Hibner twins.

When 3rd Inf. Div. conducted the final attack on Baghdad, the 1st Brigade Combat Team attacked from the west along Highway 8 from Baghdad International Airport and the 2nd Brigade Combat Team attacked from the south along Highway 8.

Dave's company was assigned to Task Force 1-64 Armor. After the armored task force blitzed through Baghdad April 5, the Iraqis bolstered their defenses outside the city emplacing two large minefields. They laid an 1100-meter deep minefield in the 1st BCT's avenue of approach and a 550-meter deep minefield in front of 2nd Brigade Combat Team.

Dan's Task Force, 3-69 Armor, led the 1st BCT from the west and TF 1-64 lead from the south. As the attack began in the early morning hours of April 7 the brothers' units found themselves lead elements for the division attack into Baghdad by breaching the obstacles on the only avenues of approach.

Dave's company, with infantry and scouts attached, conducted a covert breach in the south, three miles into enemy territory, while Dan's company conducted a deliberate breach from the west.

Dave's Company "provided the combat power of a fourth maneuver force. He displayed tremendous valor during the



Courtesy Photo

Captains Dave and Dan Hibner, identical twins, take a break following the fall of Baghdad.

battle of Rams, Najaf, Karbala, and Baghdad," said Lt. Col. Eric Schwartz, commander, Task Force 1-64. "Though wounded in the final hours of fighting to seize Baghdad, he never left his unit."

The brothers saw each other in Kuwait prior to their attack. Six weeks later they met in Baghdad when Dave's

task force went to Baghdad International Airport to rearm following their "Thunder Run" through the Iraqi capitol.

Dan Hibner received his Silver Star in June for combat actions leading to the assault on Baghdad. He is currently assigned at the New Orleans district office of the Corps of Engineers.

AOAP helps prevent unexpected failures

Joe Sanchez

AOAP

Imagine yourself in the heat of battle; your buddy on the left flank is in desperate need of suppressive fire support. As you make that left turn to provide the needed fire suppression your Bradley Fighting Vehicle comes to an abrupt stop. The enemy is now pounding your position mercilessly; you desperately try to crank the engine, just to find that your engine is dead.

This situation can very well happen on the battlefield, the command not only loses a valuable combat vehicle but another asset is required for recovery of the inoperative vehicle.

There is good news. The Army Oil Analysis Program is there to help the warfighter prevent these kinds of unexpected failures. How do we do this?

The AOAP is one of several maintenance tools available in the maintainer's toolbox that provides maintenance diagnostic support to the War-fighter for aeronautical and non-aeronautical components through routine analysis. Oil analysis can mean the difference between your equipment running or failing.

The objectives of the AOAP are to improve operational readiness of Army equipment, promote safety, detect impending component failures, and conserve lubricating and hydraulic oils by applying on-condition oil changes. The main AOAP purpose is to identify pending internal component failures through a prescribed on-condition monitoring program.

The AOAP is effective only when it is

fully integrated into the maintenance system. The AOAP is preventive maintenance. Commanders use oil analysis as a maintenance diagnostic tool to determine the physical condition of used oil and the internal condition of engines, transmissions, hydraulic systems, and other fluid-wetted components.

The AOAP does not minimize the need to employ good maintenance practices and strong maintenance discipline. Industry studies have shown that contaminated oil in oil-wetted components has a direct negative impact on the overall flight safety of aircrafts through degradation of the internal components operations, which may lead to premature in-flight failures.

AOAP includes various condition-monitoring techniques; such as spectrometric and infrared oil analysis and ferrography debris analysis. These tests are used to determine the internal condition of engines, gearboxes, and transmission for selected equipment in the Army inventory. In addition, commanders and the local installations gain significant savings through the on-condition oil changes by saving on oil and having less hazardous disposal waste.

In short, AOAP decreases maintenance support costs. In the long run, it improves readiness and enhances safety by reducing the number of non-mission capable end items. AOAP is one of the most important predictive maintenance tools you have available.

For more information on AOAP, contact Mr. Joe Sanchez, Email: aoap@logsa.army.mil or call: DSN 645-0869.



Courtesy photo

A Soldier takes an oil sample for the Army Oil Analysis Program.

Military prep schools now accepting applications

Special to The Frontline

Each year, approximately 150 Regular Army soldiers are offered admission to the United States Military Academy at West Point or the United States Military Academy Preparatory School at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey.

Although some Soldiers are offered direct admission to West Point, the majority attend USMAPS.

The Prep School provides the appropriate academic, military and physical instruction to qualify and motivate Soldiers for admission to and graduation from West Point, and for commissioning as Army second lieutenants.

The Prep School curriculum prepares Soldiers for success at West Point through an intensive curriculum focused on both English and mathematics. Interested soldiers must be U.S. citizens, unmarried,

with no legal obligation to support dependents, be a high school graduate, not be 23 years of age prior to July 1 of the year entering USMA (not be 22 years of age prior to July 1 of the year entering the Prep School), be of high moral character and have a sincere interest in attending West Point and becoming an Army officer.

Maj. Cliff Hodges, from the West Point Admissions Office, will be at Club Stewart (Headlight Room), on Wednesday Nov. 19 at 9:30 a.m. and

1:30 p.m. to give admissions brief to all Soldiers on the process of making application. ALL interested Soldiers are encouraged to attend regardless of high school academic performance.

This is a great opportunity for Soldiers who desire a first rate college education and officer's commission. Soldiers who meet the basic eligibility requirements listed above, have achieved SAT scores greater than 1050 or ACT composite score of

23 or higher, and achieved good grades in a college preparatory high school curriculum are especially encouraged to apply. All application requirements must be met by March 10, 2004 to be considered for an appointment to West Point or the Prep School in July 2004. Interested Soldiers should contact Maj. Hodges ASAP to request an application by telephone DSN: 688-5780 or (845) 938-5780 or Email: tc2324@usma.edu

Stewart, Hunter Soldiers support Veterans Day events

Staff Reports

3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) Soldiers will participate in 19 events between today and Tuesday to honor United States Veterans and the sacrifices they have made throughout the years.

Thursday, Nov. 6 — 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) Division Support Command participates in the Ware County High School Veterans Day Program in Waycross for a 9 a.m. ceremony. The guest speaker is 1st Lt. R. Joshua Woodruff, a former Jr. ROTC graduate now assigned to 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) DISCOM will also provide a color guard and military equipment displays.

Thursday, Nov. 6 — 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) Division Artillery Commander, Colonel Thomas Torrance, is the guest speaker at the Macon Exchange Club.

Thursday, Nov. 6 — The 24th CSG participates in the Veterans Day Assembly Program at the Springfield Elementary School with a color guard. Soldiers will eat lunch with the children after the event.

Saturday, Nov. 8 — The 24th CSG participates in the annual Jackson, Ga. Veterans Day Observance Ceremony at 10 a.m. Soldiers will attend and will be recognized during the ceremony.

Saturday, Nov. 8 — 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) DIVARTY Soldiers participate in the Baxley Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #4472 parade at 10 a.m. The 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) Band, and a DIVARTY color guard will march in the parade. DIVARTY will also provide military equipment to roll in the parade.

Sunday, Nov. 9 — Brig. Gen. Jose Riojas, assistant division commander (Support), 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.), is the guest speaker at the Annual "Massing of the Colors Ceremony" at Savannah's Southside Baptist Church. The 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) Band, a 4th Brigade color guard and two chaplains will also participate in the annual event at 4 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 10 — The 24th CSG provides a color guard for the Portals High School Veterans Day Ceremony. The 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) Band will provide a brass quintet for this annual event.

Tuesday, Nov. 11 — At 8:15 a.m. Soldiers from the 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) will serve as judges for two events sponsored by the Veterans Council of Chatham County:

- Honor Guard Competition involving honor guards from a number of Chatham County veterans organizations.
- JROTC Color Guard Competition that includes high school ROTC units.

Tuesday, Nov. 11 — Brig. Gen. Jose Riojas, the assistant division commander (Support), 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.), rides in the annual Savannah Veterans Day Parade, along with the division color guard, the 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) Band, military vehicles, and marching units at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 11 — A 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) noncommissioned officer and junior enlisted soldier will be recognized by Veterans Council of Chatham County at the annual Veterans Day Banquet at Carey Hilliard's Restaurant on Abercorn Street, at 7 p.m. These two Marine Division Soldiers were awarded medals for valor in combat during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Tuesday, Nov. 11 — The 24th CSG participates in the Beaufort, S.C. Veterans Day Parade with a color guard, armored-up humvee and a marching unit.

Tuesday, Nov. 11 — Maj. Gen. William G. Webster, Jr. commander of the 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.), the guest speaker for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #6602 in Hinesville at 11 a.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 11 — 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) Division Artillery (DIVARTY) provides a color guard and guest speaker for the Reidsville High School Veterans Day Program at 11 a.m. Maj. Benjamin Matthews, executive officer for 1st Battalion, 41st Field Artillery is the guest speaker.

Tuesday, Nov. 11 — 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) DIVARTY participates in the Claxton High School Veterans Day Program at 10 a.m. with a color guard and Maj. Terry Cook, 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery, as the guest speaker in this annual event.

Tuesday, Nov. 11 — The 24th CSG participates in the Richmond Hill Elementary School Veterans Day program with a color guard, military equipment static displays, and soldiers to eat lunch with the children.

Tuesday, Nov. 11 — 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) DISCOM (participates in the Pierce County American Legion Post #181 Veterans Day Program at 11 a.m. in Blackshear. Guest speaker is Col. Brian Layer, DISCOM commander.

Tuesday, Nov. 11 — The 24th CSG participates in The Veterans Park of Effingham County in Springfield at a Veterans Day ceremony.

Tuesday, Nov. 11 — 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) 1st Brigade Commander, Col. William Grimsley, is the guest speaker at the Carl Vinson VA Medical Center Veterans Day Ceremony in Dublin, Ga.

Tuesday, Nov. 11 — The 559th Quartermaster Battalion, 24th CSG, provides a speaker, color guard and military equipment static displays for the Effingham County Middle School Veterans Day Program. 1st Sgt. Antonio Holder is the guest speaker.

FORSCOM addresses Army's struggle with 'Medical Hold' issues

Lisa Burgess

Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Army's medical infrastructure is the latest military institution to show the strain of a large number of reservists mobilizing for overseas deployments, according to service officials.

The service is scrambling to provide adequate housing and care for Army Reserve and National Guard troops in "medical hold" status, which can be up to a year for individuals whose pre- or postdeployment examinations reveal medical issues, or those who got sick or injured while overseas.

"You'd have to be nuts to deny (that large numbers of mobilizations) don't stress the (medical) system," said Barry Morris, a spokesman for U.S. Army Forces Command at Fort McPherson, Ga. "That doesn't mean we can't handle that stress; it just means we have to work harder."

The medical hold issue was highlighted in

a United Press International article about reservists and National Guard members at Fort Stewart, home of the Army's 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), which returned from Iraq in September.

While acknowledging that the barracks where the Stewart Soldiers are staying "aren't state of the art, by any means," Morris said that reservists whose medical hold status has prevented them from deploying are often housed in the barracks vacated by deployed active-duty units.

When a unit such as the 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) returns home, post officials may scramble to accommodate their medical hold Soldiers, Morris said.

"The Army cannot afford enough infrastructure for the surge capacity of Reserve and National Guard that would be mobilized at any post," he said.

The article, which was released by the wire service, painted a bleak picture of "approximately 600 sick or injured members

of the Army Reserves and National Guard — warehoused in rows of spare, steamy and dark cement barracks in a sandy field, waiting for doctors to treat their wounds or illnesses."

Soldiers quoted in the article complained about being unable to make appointments with physicians in a timely manner, and of being treated as "second-class citizens," compared to their active-duty colleagues.

Morris also strongly objected to the notion that the troops are being ignored because they are not active-duty.

"Everybody has equal access to health care down there," he said. "Once the Reserve and National Guard are mobilized, we don't make distinctions."

"Even as Army officials took issue with many of the article's specific allegations, they were sufficiently concerned to send a team of investigators to Fort Stewart to check on conditions there," Army spokesman Maj. Steve Stover said Monday.

Army leaders were also scheduled to meet Monday with David Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, to discuss the issue, according to Maj. Steve Stover, a spokesman for Army headquarters in the Pentagon.

The meeting was to include representatives from the offices of the Army chief of staff, the Army Surgeon General, the offices of Morale and Readiness and Installations and Management, and the Army National Guard and the Army Reserves, Stover said.

The Navy, meanwhile, has experienced no backlog of sailors and Marines seeking medical attention as a result of combat operations in Iraq or Afghanistan; neither has treating medical needs from the combat zone bumped, slowed or had an adverse impact on other patients seeking medical help, said Lt. John Schofield, a spokesman for the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

Note: Stripes reporter Sandra Jontz contributed to this story from Washington.



If you accidentally discover an archaeological site on Fort Stewart:

1. Cease what you are doing immediately.
2. Notify Range Control at 767-8777.
3. Do not attempt to unearth the object or remove it.



4th Bde., 87th Div. trains National Guard for combat

Staff Sgt. Ward T. Gros

143rd Transportation Command

Following the Army's crawl, walk and run training philosophy, 4th Brigade, 87th Division Training Support Command recently put the EHSB's subordinate units through individual and squad-level training for urban terrain. The training began with basic rifle marksmanship at the small arms ranges and moved up to team and squad drills for urban warfare.

Preparing a brigade for combat is no easy task, especially when that brigade consists of combat and combat support units that have a short track record of working together.

Even so, 4th Bde., 87th Div. is up to the task of training the 30th Enhanced Heavy Separate Brigade in the first large-scale unit deployment to leave Fort Stewart to participate in stabilization and support operations in post war Iraq.

The 4th Bde., 87th Div. mission is to assist in increasing the overall unit proficiency of Reserve Component units by teaching, coaching, mentoring and evaluating Reserve counterparts in the numerous collective, leader and individual tasks that a unit must perform to the Army standard in order to be combat effective.

The 30th EHSB, headquartered in Clinton, N.C., is the largest National Guard unit in the state. Training a unit this size happens one step at a time.

"We're putting every squad in the brigade through the same training," said Capt. Joe W. Power, team chief for the squad-live fire exercise. "That includes engineers, (air-defense artillery), infantry and combat support Soldiers. Every one of them is learning how to enter and clear multiple rooms in a building.

"We have a lot of Soldiers coming through who are not infantry and have not done this before," Power added. "We're taking our time on the basics with some of the units and fine-tuning the combat arms units that have done this type of training before."

In Iraq, the reality on the ground is that every Soldier may have to enter and clear a building regardless of his or her military occupational specialty.

"We have set up targets and are asking them to distinguish between friendly and enemy," Power said. "We are asking the Soldiers going through the lanes to make a mental leap to split second decisions."

"This type of training develops confidence among individuals because they know that when they walk into a room they can engage the enemy without injuring a buddy," said Capt. Rick A. Mohr, who is also a team chief for the squad live fire exercise.

Trainers from 4th Bde., 87th Div. have seen Soldiers they have previously taught put their training into effect in Iraq, Afghanistan and in Kosovo.

"My greatest reward is in seeing on the news that the units we've trained are performing well," Power said.

Both Power and Mohr said the biggest change they have seen in the past two years at the training support battalion is the increase in operational tempo or the number of missions and units they have been called on to train.

"Units are being called up more now than they were

before," Mohr said. "We are getting requests for training back to back to back with short notice and a need for immediate planning."

4th Bde. 87th Div. trained more than 15,000 Soldiers during Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

"Based on the changing environment with the National Guard and Reserve mobilizations, we have to stay flexible," Power added.

Although 4th Bde. 87th Div.'s primary mission revolves around training National Guard and Reserve Soldiers, the brigade consists of Active Duty, National Guard, Active Guard Reserve, and Reserve Soldiers. Many of the trainers assigned to the brigade were previously assigned to other units at Fort Stewart.

One senior trainer, Sgt. 1st Class Robert C. Chandler, who is currently serving his second year with B Co. of the 1/306 one of the brigade's subordinate units, had previously served as a platoon sergeant with 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry of the 3rd Infantry Division (mechanized).

Currently Chandler is teaching small room and single room clearing as a team at Fort Stewart's Tire House training area.

"I'm getting them used to training in close quarters, up close and personal with the enemy threat," Chandler said. "As a former platoon sergeant with 3/7 I can relate better with the Soldiers going through our training."

"The main difference between the infantry and the TSB is that as an observer controller I'm more involved with the training," Chandler said. "I feel that I have a direct impact on all the units mobilizing and demobilizing. Another plus is that we have assets and resources from manuals to weapons systems that I didn't train with previously, because of all the different types of units that we train. I'm infantry and right now I'm covering down on a tank platoon."

When it comes to evaluating the trainers, many of the Soldiers going through the lanes say that the trainers can back up what they are teaching with personal experience.

"The observer controller staff from the TSB has been very informative from day one," said Sgt. 1st Class Harrison L. Hall, platoon sergeant for second platoon, E Troop, 196th Cavalry. "They are very mission-oriented as far as covering all of our tasks before we deploy to Iraq. Right now, the (mission oriented urban terrain) training we are going through, my scouts are used to, but it's all new to me as a tanker. They provide excellent feedback in a way that we can relate to.

"Anytime we have TSB support they are always experts with multi-years experience," Hall added. "They have all been top notch in preparing us as civilian Soldiers to transition to active duty and on to our deployment."

If there is an unwritten motto that seems to pervade 4th Bde., 87th Div.'s training it's "training with a purpose", each step of the way the Soldiers receiving the training get feedback that will help them prepare for the next step.

Training at the small arms ranges, to the tire house, to clearing the rooms in urban terrain all leads up to future training at Camp Blanding, Fla., where platoons and companies begin to build on what they've learned.



Staff Sgt. Ward T. Gros

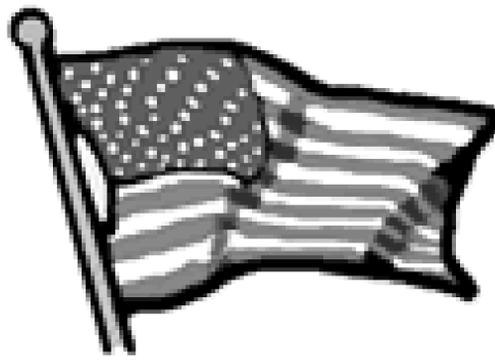
Sgt. 1st Class Robert C. Chandler, a senior observer controller of the 1/306, evaluates team training.

AAFES VETERAN'S DAY OPERATING HOURS

November 11

FORT STEWART

Main Store	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Hospital PX	Closed
National Guard PX	Closed
Main Shoppette/Class Six	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Bryan Village Shoppette	9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Brigade Troop Store	Close 9 p.m. Nov. 10 Re-open 11 a.m. Nov. 11
Victory Shoppette	24 Hours
Anthony's Pizza	Closed
Robin Hood	Closed
Wetzel Pretzel	Closed
American Eatery	Closed
Blimpie	12 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Burger King	10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Anthony's Pizza	12 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Popeyes	10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Mall Food Court	10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Mall Anthonys	10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Robin Hood	10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Cinnabon/SBC	10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Charley's Steakery	10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Taco John's	10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Car Care Center	Closed
Military Clothing Sales	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Woodruff Theater	7 p.m. Showing



Stewart Concessions

Kiosks	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Barber Shop	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Beauty Shop	Closed
Simply Perfect Nail Salon	Closed
Gift's Galore	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Petals & Blooms	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Stripes, Alterations Place	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
The Cleaners, Bldg. 71	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Optical Center	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
General Nutrition Center	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
My Force Apparel	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Urban Wear	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
John's Specialty Shop	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Shoe Shine	Closed
Alltel Wireless	Closed
MCC Phone Center	Closed
Brigade Barber Shop	Closed
Laundry/Dry Cleaners	Closed
Alterations	Closed
Sprint Barracks Phone	Closed
Economic Car Rental	Closed
E L Car Wash/Detail	Closed

HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD

Main Store	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Hunter Corner Express	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Military Clothing Sales	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Burger King	Closed

Hunter Concessions

Short Term Concessions	11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Flower Shop	Closed
Laundry/Dry Cleaners	11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Alterations	Closed
Beauty Shop	Closed
Barber Shop	11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Optical Shop	Closed
Economic Car Rental	Closed
C's Boot Shine	Closed
Sprint Barracks Phone	Closed

3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

Veteran's Day

Soldiers from the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) will participate in 19 events throughout Fort Stewart, Hunter Army Airfield and surrounding communities between today and Tuesday, Veteran's Day, to honor United States Veterans and the sacrifices they have made in service to America throughout the years.

For more information on the events, see page 10A of The Frontline.

Library

The library is always striving to provide the best educational resources for our patrons and have subscribed to several databases

Get access from Army Knowledge Online web site https://www.us.army.mil/portal/portal_home.jhtml.

Winter Special Olympics

Event will be held at the Marne Lanes 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Dec. 5. Approximately 40-50 volunteers are needed.

What a difference your hugs and cheers can make to these outstanding athletes!

If you don't have time to volunteer on a regular basis, this is the volunteer activity for you.

If you cannot stay the entire day, you can come for a portion of the day and be a cheerleader for all of the athletes.

For units or large groups call and we will fax you a group registration sheet to 767-3195.

Marne Chapel

Seeking volunteers to lead worship in Marne Chapel Contemporary Worship congregation. Need worship leader, musicians and praise team members. Musicians requested are keyboard player, guitarists, bass player, and drummer. Individuals responding to this ad must be of the Christian

faith. Previous experience in leading worship not necessary, just a desire to serve God with your talents. Congregation meets Sunday evening at 6 p.m. for worship. If interested in sharing your talents call Chaplin (Maj.) Tim Bonner at 767-8517 or 266-0477.

Singers needed

Auditions for the newly formed Marne Chorus will be conducted 3 to 5 p.m., through Friday, at the Marne Chapel, Bldg. 610. All Soldiers with singing talent are encouraged to audition.

For more information call Chief Warrant Officer Catchings at 767-2207/2694.

AAFES Food Court

The AAFES Food Court in Building 419 (old PX building) is still open for business!

Come join us Monday through Saturday at the following hours:
 • American Eatery 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 • Robin Hood 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 • Anthony's Pizza 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 • Countrytime Grill 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information call Jonathan C Miller, Human Resources Manager, Fort Stewart Consolidated Exchange 876-2494 DSN 870-8626, Fax 876-3383

Child and Youth Services

The Central Registration office located in Bldg. 443 has changed operational hours. The new hours will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday.

The office will not be closed from 1 to 2 p.m. as previously scheduled.

ICE Website

Comments? Questions? Complaints? Visit the Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) Web site at <http://ice.disa.mil>. We value your opinion!

Hunter

Annual Fall Festival

Hunter Officer Spouses Club is hosting an auction at 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21 at the Hunter Club. There will be hors d'oeuvres, cash bar and great fun. Auction proceeds benefit military welfare and scholarships.

For more information, contact the OSC Fundraising Chairman, Nicole Weaver, at 925-5593.

Military Spouse Award

Procter & Gamble Military Markets is sponsoring the new American Military Spouse Award at "The 9th annual American Veteran Awards: A Tribute to Freedom presented by Anheuser-Busch Companies."

The Military Spouse Award will be bestowed upon four recipients who have demonstrated exceptional volunteer accomplishments, selfless giving to others in the community, and the ability to sustain the home front during long deployments and times of family separation.

If you know someone who meets one or more of these criteria, we encourage you to nominate him/her. The four chosen recipients will receive paid travel accommodations to attend the TV taping in Beverly Hills, Cal. from Nov. 20 to 23.

The 9th annual American Veteran Awards (AVAs) will premiere on The History Channel in Feb. 2004 and also can be seen on American Forces Network. Pick up a nomination form at your local commissary or enter online at <http://www.avashow.com>. All nominations must be received by 12:00 a.m. PST, Sunday, Nov. 9.

Thrift Shop

The Hunter Thrift Shop is open on Wednesday, Friday, and the 1st Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with consignments accepted from military ID card holders from 10

a.m. to 1 p.m.. It has a great assortment of bargains from baby clothes to furniture. All proceeds are returned to the Hunter Community in scholarships, grants to units, and through other military organizations. Donations are accepted, and volunteers are always welcome.

For more information contact the Hunter Thrift Shop at 352-0376."

Salsa lessons

Hunter Club is under renovation, however activities are still ongoing.

There will be free Salsa lessons 7 to 10 p.m. Wednesdays. For more information call 353-7923.

Youth Services

School Age Services is open 6 to 9 a.m. and 3 to 6 p.m. during school. There are before and after school programs for 1st through 5th graders. Enjoy fun and leisure activities, educational, tutoring, computer lab, sports, fitness and more.

Join the 4-H community club, photography and technology groups. Check with your school for transportation. For more information, call 352-5708 or 352-6705.

Keystone Club

Meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. This club offers Character Counts activities as well as other activities that meet the physical, emotional and social needs and interests of girls and boys through diversified program activities in six areas:

- Personal and Educational Development
- Cultural Enrichment
- Social Recreation
- Citizenship and Leadership Development
- Outdoor and Environmental Education.

For more information call Youth Services at 352-5708/6075.

Winn Army Community Hospital

Flu Shots

Flu shots will be available 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 10 and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 18 at the PX and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 13 and 20 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 15 at the commissary. Flu shots will be available at Winn's immunization clinic 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday beginning Nov. 19.

Additional Parking

An additional parking lot on Harmon Ave., adjacent to Winn and next to the sports complex, is open for patient parking.

Pharmacy hours of operation

The pharmacy is open 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday. Hours on training holidays are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The refill pharmacy is open 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday.

Tuttle

The pharmacy is open 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday. The pharmacy is closed weekends, federal holidays and training holidays.

Intervention services

Families with children up to 3-years-old who may be at risk for developmental delays can call Educational and Developmental Intervention Services for a free screening. Services include home visits, occupational therapy, special instruction, physical therapy, speech and language therapy, vision and hearing screenings, family training, developmental screenings and assessments. For more information, call 370-6349.

OR Nurse's Week

Join operating room nurses 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Nov. 10 in the main lobby for a hands-on display to

celebrate Perioperative Nurses Week. Perform surgery on a pump-kin, work with OR equipment and learn more about how perioperative nurses keep you safe during surgery.

Physical Exam Section

The physical exams section is now located with the allergy/immunization clinic at Winn. The clinic will be open 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 370-6619.

"Take Care of Yourself"

The next "Take Care of Yourself" class at Winn will be 2 to 3 p.m. Nov. 12. Tuttle's class will be held 10 to 11 a.m. Nov. 26. The class gives an overview of how to use the "Take Care of Yourself" book. Upon completing the class, you will receive a card that allows you to get over-the-counter medications from Winn or Tuttle. To register for Winn's class, call 370-5070 and for Tuttle's class, call 1-800-652-9221.

Expectant Siblings Class

The next Expectant Siblings class will be 5 p.m. Nov. 26. This class helps prepare children ages 4 to 12 for the arrival of a new brother or sister. To register, call 370-6017/6670.

Winn seeks volunteers

Winn is looking for adult volunteers to help out in a wide range of areas from administrative specialists to chaperones to certified or licensed nurses. The next mandatory orientation will be held 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Nov. 7. For more information, call 370-6903.

Tuttle TRICARE enrollment

TRICARE enrollment briefings for Tuttle are held by appointment from 9 to 11 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday. To schedule an appointment, call 767-6633 or 1-800-652-9221.

REMINDER!

Soldiers who have not signed a Resident Responsibility Agreement (lease) for privatized housing need to do so as soon as possible.

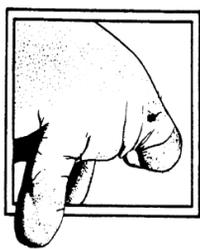
Soldiers can sign the lease at the Family Housing Office. For more information, call 238-9438, 238-5270 or 238-5603.



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Personally owned weapons

Properly registering, storing weapons important

Provost Marshal's Office

Special to The Frontline

On Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield there is a disturbing trend that is getting a lot of soldiers in trouble. It is the issue of how to properly register, store, transport, and carry personally owned weapons (POW). In accordance with Fort Stewart Regulation 190-2, here are a few rules to keep in mind when dealing with POWs:

- No POWs can be stored on Fort Stewart unless it has been registered with the Provost Marshal Office. If you are new to post, you have three working days after arrival to register all POWs to include crossbows, BB Guns, swords, and knives with blades over 3 inches long. Soldiers registering firearms must turn in the completed AFZP Form 2027 (Registration of Personal Firearms) at Police Services located in BLDG # 292, Bultman Road.

- No POWs can be stored in troop billets AT ALL. If you live in the barracks, you must turn your POW into your unit arms room. You may retrieve your POW when you are ready to use it and then it must be returned to the arms room when you are finished.

- Personnel residing in family housing, BOQs, and BEQs (not troop billets), may store legally acquired, authorized POWs and

ammunition within their quarter IAW FS Reg 190-2. These POWs must also be registered with the PMO. Remember that you are responsible for the safe storage of your POWs. Ensure that children DO NOT have access to POWs without adult supervision.

- When traveling with your POWs, ensure that your POWs are stored in one of the following manners; plain view in the passenger area of the vehicle, secured (locked) in the trunk, or stored in a rear compartment of the vehicle not readily accessible from the passenger area. The glove compartment of a vehicle is NOT an authorized



compartment for storing weapons. Weapons and ammunition

must be transported separately and you must have one of the following documents with you during transport; weapons registration form, valid state hunting license, or a Fort Stewart hunting permit.

- You cannot carry any POWs concealed on post, and you must have a Georgia Concealed Weapons Permit or a Permit that is accepted by the State of Georgia to carry a POW concealed off post. Website www.packing.org is a good reference for information on carrying a concealed weapon.

If you fail to follow the proper procedures for registering, storing, transporting, carrying your POWs, you may be subject to UCMJ and applicable State laws. Further questions may be directed to the Stewart PMO at 767-4895 or HAAF PMO at 352-6133.

— ASK THE JUDGE — Divorce and Retirement Pay: *The Uniformed Services Former Spouse Protection Act*

Maj. Kathy Giraitis

Special to The Frontline

Q: Since my wife and I have been married for over fifteen years, isn't she entitled to half of my retirement pay if we divorce?

A: No. The Uniformed Services Former Spouses Protection Act (USFSPA) allows courts to divide disposable retirement pay as marital property but it does not require courts to divide retirement pay.

Q: What does the court consider to be disposable retirement pay?

A: Disposable retired pay includes military retirement pay minus forfeitures, recoupments, most disability pay, and certain other sums.

Q: I thought that if our marriage lasted for at least ten years, my spouse would be entitled to half my retirement pay?

A: No, however, if you have been married for at least ten years that overlap with service and the court awarded a portion of retired pay, then the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) will assist in enforcement by sending, on

request of the spouse to whom it is owed, his/her court-awarded portion directly from the military finance center. Although the court may award over 50 percent to the non military spouse, DFAS limits direct payments to this amount.

Q: If the court divides my retirement pay, does my spouse automatically get half regardless of how long we were married?

A: No, retirement pay will be divided according to state law. States differ in determining how retirement pay is to be divided among the spouses. Most states use a formula to divide retirement pay, the most common formula gives the non-military spouse one half of the retirement pay for each year that the couple was married during the time of service. For example, if the soldier served exactly 20 years and was married for ten of those, then the spouse would be awarded 25% of retired pay; representing one half of the half-career he/she was married to the soldier. There are other formulas used by different courts which calculate the percentage differently and in most states the formula is only a guideline and the court can award more or less than the formula would indicate.

If you accidentally discover an archaeological site on Fort Stewart:

1. Cease what you are doing immediately.
2. Notify Range Control at 767-8777.
3. Do not attempt to unearth the object or remove it.



Combined FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

Sept. 1 thru Nov. 1

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Rumsfeld visits Soldiers, families

Gene Harper

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, — Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld visited wounded service men, women and their families Monday at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Television reporters in Texas and Washington state interviewed the secretary upon his return to the Pentagon. "I just came back from Walter Reed," Rumsfeld told KHOU-TV in Houston, "where the troops from Iraq are arriving with bad wounds, serious wounds. And I met a number of the families that were there visiting their loved ones.

"I looked them in the eye and told them how important what their sons and daughters are doing is, how much the American people appreciate it, and they're proud of what they're doing and they understand the importance of it."

The defense secretary also noted "our hearts and prayers have to go out to those families and loved ones of those people" killed in the Chinook helicopter crash Sunday.

"I say that any time you are losing wonderful young men and women in battle, it causes people to reflect and to be concerned," Rumsfeld said. "And what we have to do is recognize that it was a tough day when that helicopter was shot down.

He told KING in Washington state's Seattle-Tacoma television market that more tough days lie ahead. "It's a dangerous business," he said. "But what is taking place there is on balance, the commanders feel that they have the advantage, that they can deal with those problems.

"We're increasing the number of Iraqi security forces every day, and they are taking on more and more responsibility. And the coalition provisional authority is working to transfer governance to the Iraqi people. That's the task. It's a tough one and we hope we can complete it successfully, and I believe we can," Rumsfeld said.

He also remarked to KHOU that the search for Saddam Hussein continues. "We've got a large number of people working that problem," Rumsfeld explained. "It's a very hard thing to do to find a single individual.

"Armies, navies and air forces were organized, trained and equipped to fight armies, navies and air forces. They weren't organized, trained and equipped to go out and find single individuals.

"It's a very difficult task. Look at the number of people who stay on the FBI list for five, 10, 15, 20 years sometimes.

"I think the American people have a very good center of gravity and they know that what's being done (in Iraq) is important and it needs to be done, and they support it," he said. "Our forces do have what they need to do this job and they're well-equipped and they're well-trained and they're doing an outstanding job."



The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld,
U.S. Secretary of Defense

CENTCOM NEWS

One Soldier killed, one wounded in attack

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A 4th Infantry Division Soldier was killed and one wounded in an improvised explosive device attack while on patrol north of Tikrit at approximately 2:40 p.m. on Monday.

The Soldiers were evacuated to the 28th Combat Support Hospital. The wounded Soldier is in stable condition.

The Soldiers' names are being withheld pending next-of-kin notification. The incident is under investigation.

15 Soldiers killed, 21 wounded in helicopter incident

AR RAMADI, Iraq — Sixteen Soldiers were killed and 21 were wounded when a Coalition helicopter went down near the city of Amiryah at approximately 9 a.m. Sunday.

The helicopter, a CH-47 Chinook, was transporting personnel to the Baghdad International Airport when the incident happened.

An aerial quick reaction force was immediately dispatched to the scene and a ground force secured the site, located near Fallujah.

The wounded Soldiers were evacuated to nearby medical facilities.

The aircraft is assigned to the 12th Aviation Brigade, which was operating in support of the 82nd Airborne Division Task Force.

The CH-47 Chinook is a medium-duty dual-rotor helicopter designed to provide medium lift or to carry personnel.

The Soldiers' names are being withheld pending next-of-kin notification.

1st Armored Division Soldier dies from wounds

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A 1st Armored Division Soldier died at approximately 3:45 a.m. Sunday from wounds sustained from an improvised explosive device explosion in Baghdad.

The Soldier's vehicle struck an improvised explosive device shortly after 12 a.m. Nov 2 while responding to a separate incident.

The wounded Soldier was evacuated to the 28th Combat Support Hospital.

The Soldier's name is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Two 101st Soldiers killed, two wounded in IED explosion

MOSUL, Iraq — Two 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Soldiers were killed and two were wounded in an improvised explosive device attack in Mosul at approximately 7:30 a.m. Saturday.

The wounded Soldiers were evacuated to the 21st Combat Support Hospital.

The Soldiers' names are being withheld pending next-of-kin notification.

The incident is under investigation.