

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

Inside The Frontline News



15th ASOS brings help from the skies 2A

CG updates community on Kuwait deployment 4A

Sports



Boxing Smoker held in Camp New York, Kuwait 1B

Engineers capture Camp New York Football title 1B

Life & Times



Construction begins on new Ed Center 1C

Soldiers celebrate the new year at Camp New York 1C

Guide

- Voices and Viewpoints 4A
- Blotters 9A
- 3ID In Brief 10A
- Marne scoreboard 2B
- Worship schedule 3C
- Pet of the Week 3C
- Volunteer Spotlight 4C
- Movie listing 4C
- Birth announcements 4C

Moving out: Fort Stewart soldiers set out for Kuwait

Rest of division soon to follow

Pvt. 2 Emily Danial
Staff Writer, Hunter Public Affairs Office

Less than two hours before flying out to Kuwait late Monday night, the first 250 soldiers from Fort Stewart to leave since receiving deployment orders talked animatedly with each other as they made last-minute adjustments to their gear and prepared to depart from Hunter Army Airfield at 10:50 p.m.

The soldiers, a small part of the 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.), stood in line for final processing and received care packages from organizations including the Savannah chapter of the American Red Cross, the United Servicemembers Organization, and Southern Smiles while they waited to board the plane.

Pfc. Samuel Winkler, a scout in E Troop, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, said he had a feeling he would deploy and until Friday just didn't know when. He said, "Everybody knows and has to accept the fact that when they volunteer into the service they will be called upon to serve their country, and that's what I'm doing."

Always being ready to go is the "hallmark of this division," said Col. Will Grimsley, 1st Brigade, 3rd Inf. Div. commander. "This is what we signed up to do when we raised our right hand. Our president's made a decision to send a signal by sending forces to train in a very dangerous theatre, and we're prepared to do that. This is a great division with a great history and our soldiers are the ones who make daily history. They're ready to do whatever we need them to do."

Staff Sgt. Jermaine Hallums, a member of the 549th Military Police Company, 3rd Military Police Battalion, said for him, "The hardest part is leaving my family." However, he said, "I know it's a job that I have to do. I know I'm well taken care of, both through the Army and my family. I know I have good support back home."

Grimsley said, "Families are always concerned when they send their soldiers off to deploy, but Fort Stewart and this division especially are exceptionally good at taking care of families through the family readiness group, through the preparedness and training that's done by the installation, the great civilian staff that we have here, and then the family volunteers who do so much on their own time with their own talents and energy to not only take care of their

See DEPLOYMENTS, Page 11A



Pvt. 2 Emily Danial

3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) soldiers board the aircraft that took them to Kuwait Monday night from the Departure/Arrival Airfield Control Group Operations Facility at Hunter Army Airfield.

Spartans move into final portion of brigade exercise

Sp. Jacob Boyer
Staff Writer, Frontline Forward

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — More than 4,000 soldiers from 2nd Brigade and other elements of the 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) moved into the final stage of their brigade-level exercise when they held their first live fire battle Dec. 21 at the Udairi Range Complex in Kuwait.

"I believe this is the largest Army exercise since Operation Desert Storm," said Maj. Gen. Buford C. Blount III, commander, 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.), Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. "An entire brigade with over 70 tanks and 70 Bradleys is here, and we have division command and control over everything."

Although other brigade-size elements have held exercises here in the past decade, the 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.)'s tactical operations center makes the force larger than normal, Blount said. The division staff recently acquired several new command and control vehicles and wanted to take the opportunity to exercise them here, he said.

Prior to the exercise, which took place 13 kilometers east of Kuwait's border with Iraq, Air Force and Army aircraft conducted shaping operations, said Lt. Col. Charles Niles, secretary for the commanding general's staff. The brigade was moving in to face a force of two battalions, and they wanted to try to knock down the opposing force's numbers a little.

"We like the odds to be three to one," he said. "So we use the attack aircraft to make the odds more to our liking."

The brigade then rolled out across nearly 600 square kilometers of open desert with several tasks before it. As they moved, Paladin howitzers from 1st Battalion, 9th Artillery Regiment opened up with preparatory fires down the range, Niles said.

After moving down range, the force came across an obstacle that included mines, concertina and a trench and bunker system. Engineers from the 10th Engineer Battalion moved in their equipment to breach through the obstacle. They fired several mine-clearing line charges into the obstacles before the first mine plows rolled through.

Soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment got into the action when the ramps were dropped on their Bradley fighting vehicles. Their task was to clear the trenches and bunkers of enemies before moving on.

"My squad was excellent out there," said Sgt. Christopher Porterfield of Ukiah, Calif., a squad leader with 3/15 Infantry. "They're highly trained. I'd have to say our specialty's probably clearing a trench."

The soldiers of 2nd Brigade have been working hard during their deployment, Blount said. But the reward is a greater level of cohesion for

See BDE LIVE FIRE, Page 11A



Sp. Jacob Boyer

Sp. Elias Vargas from Puerto Rico, stretches barbed wire to mark a breach lane with B Co., 10th Eng. Bn. during 2nd Brigade's live fire exercise Dec. 21.

Gen. Keane speaks with Marne soldiers deployed to Kuwait

Sp. Adam Nuelken
Staff Writer, Frontline Forward

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — The 2nd Brigade Combat Team got special visitors Jan. 2 who brought with them words of inspiration, truth and guidance.

Gen. John M. Keane, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, came to Camps New York and Pennsylvania to discuss possible future operations and to thank the soldiers for their hard work. Keane brought with him five professional racers who also thanked the soldiers for

their efforts.

"I am here for one reason and one reason only — to thank you for being here," said Keane.

The main topic of discussion between Keane and the soldiers was the war against terrorism and the possible war with Iraq.

"We didn't start this war on terrorism," he said. "Like any other war in the 20th Century, it came to us. We're going to do what's right for the American

See KEANE, Page 11A

Bush calls on Congress to 'Meet great dangers'

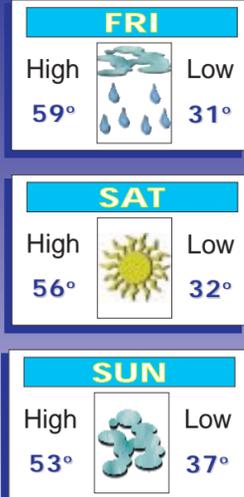
Linda D. Kozaryn
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — On the first day of the 108th Congress, President Bush said Tuesday, the nation's elected officials "have a responsibility to meet great dangers to our country wherever they gather."

Speaking in Chicago, Bush said today's threats include global terrorism, Iraq's weapons of mass destruction program and the nuclear weapons threat from North Korea. Responding to these different circumstances requires different

See CONGRESS, Page 11A

Weather Forecast





Photos by Spc. Jacob Boyer

An M-113 Armored Personnel Carrier rolls through the final portion of an obstacle as 2nd Brigade moves out to the first battle of a training exercise.

Clearing a path

Engineers breach obstacle to open exercise

Spc. Jacob Boyer

Staff Writer, Frontline Forward

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — Engineers and cavalry scouts led the way as the 2nd Brigade Combat Team moved out for its weeklong exercise Dec. 17, 2002 in Kuwait.

"During this exercise we're practicing the command and control of the brigade," he said. "It will test the brigade's whole logistics chain and put it through its paces."

Soldiers from the 10th Engineer Battalion and the 9th



M-9 Armored Combat Earthmovers bring down the final obstacle.

Cavalry Regiment worked together to breach the first obstacle of the exercise, which was expected to cover more than 100 kilometers in seven days, said Lt. Col. Mike Presnell, commander, 10th Engineer Battalion.

"(The breach) involved the reduction of the obstacle and marking it to allow for the passage of the brigade," said Capt. Kevin Jackson, engineer intelligence officer, Engineer Brigade.

The obstacle incorporated three separate sequences, Jackson said. First, the engineers' D-7 bulldozers had to make a hole through a berm and fill in a ditch immediately behind it with the dirt from the berm.

The engineers also marked each obstacle to make sure the brigade maneuvered through them properly, he said.

The scouts were the first group through the breach. Supported by combat engineers, they traveled about 5 kilometers to the second obstacle. The soldiers had to cut paths through a mass of concertina wire that would be electrified in a real battle.

"The wire obstacle had to be a covert breach," Jackson said. "The scouts and engineers had to move in and work as quietly as possible under the cover of darkness."

Following a tactical pause, the task forces moved through the first two obstacles, Jackson said. Five kilometers beyond the wire, the brigade came upon the final part of the obstacle: a berm and trench system similar to the first.

At the second berm, M-9 Armored Combat Earthmovers did the job previously performed by the bulldozers. As they completed their task, the brigade rolled out to the first battle of the exercise.

"It's always a benefit for the engineers to work with the maneuver forces and understand the number of vehicles that would be moving through the breaches in a combat situation"

Capt. Kevin Jackson
Engineer Intelligence Officer

"In conjunction with the simulation, the first berm was on the friendly side, so we were able to use the D-7s," Jackson said. "At the second one, the simulation dictated that they were on enemy lines and under threat of shot and shell, so we used the armored vehicles to do the earthmoving."

The exercise is the first time the entire brigade has worked together since deploying to Kuwait, Presnell said. Other objectives during the maneuver included attacks, defenses, breaches and seizing bridgeheads. Everything culminated in a live-fire exercise at the Udairi Range Complex before the brigade returned to camp.

"It's always a benefit for the engineers to work with the maneuver forces and understand the number of vehicles that would be moving through the breaches in a combat situation," Jackson said. "There's a real benefit to that for the soldiers."

15th ASOS brings help from the skies

Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke

Editor, Frontline Forward

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — A bone chilling desert wind blows relentlessly across the rain-spattered sands of the Udairi Range. The evening light slowly diminishes as the sun struggles to shine its last few rays through the thick cluster of clouds hanging heavily in the sky.

On the ground below, two airmen huddle around a map, studying it closely. Suddenly the shrill scream of a large aircraft in the distance breaks their concentration — "Here he comes!" one airman yells as a British GR1 Toronado flies overhead with an ear-splitting shriek.

Visual episodes such as this represent just another day on the job for members of the Air Forces' 15th Air Support Operations Squadron.

As an element that provides close air support to the 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.), the airmen are tasked to ensure Air Force airpower assets are properly employed into the overall scheme of maneuvers, according to Air Force Tech. Sgt. Craig Janke, an enlisted terminal attack controller.

"The 15th ASOS has air liaison officers and enlisted terminal attack controllers that provide airpower expertise to the Army. We provide ETACs from the battalion all the way up to the division level," he said. "But we basically serve two roles — liaison and control."

But the 15th isn't just limited to providing close air support to U.S. Army forces, Janke said. And training in the vast desert lands of

Kuwait is giving the airmen an opportunity to stretch their wings with other military forces.

"All the ETACs in the 15th ASOS can support any Army unit and work with any branch of the service — Navy, Marines, Air Force and even foreign aircraft, because all the formats and terminology we use is standard. It provides us the proficiency to work in a joint environment," he explained.

On the evening of Dec. 31, 2002, the airmen got an opportunity to test their skills with British forces during a training event at the Udairi Range.

"We've got three British Toranados out here who are doing some target training," explained Air Force Staff Sgt. James Rigney, who is also an enlisted terminal attack controller with the 15th ASOS. "This is good training for some of our younger soldiers, because back in the states we don't get a lot of CAS training opportunities."

During the exercise, the 15th's responsibility was to inform the British aircraft where simulated enemy and friendly positions were located.

"There were some simulated surface-to-air threats and armor out there," Janke said. Once the aircraft located its target, a small explosive charge was dropped, replicating a bombing.

Rigney went on to explain the significance of the 15th ASOS' mission.

"I think we're very important, because we're trying to take out the immediate threat to our forces. We're trying to get to the bad guys before they get to you," he said. "(Because of our mission) we're one of the biggest combat multipliers on the battlefield."

And if called, Janke and Rigney both agree



Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke

Air Force Senior Airman Eric Jones and Air Force Staff Sgt. Michael Cmelik of the 15th Air Support Operation Squadron study a map in preparation for a training exercise later on in the evening.

that the 15th ASOS would be prepared to go to war.

"We're ready to go — we've been out here

now for two months training, coming to the range and practicing, if we're called, we're all ready to go," he said.

Gulf War vet returns to Kuwait

Spc. Adam Nuelken

Staff Writer, Frontline Forward

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — About 10 years ago, Sgt. 1st Class Eric Olson was a 19-year-old driver on an M1A1 Abrams when he came to the Middle East to fight in the Gulf War.

Now, with the possibility of war on the horizon, he is back as a tank commander and platoon sergeant with A Company, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor.

"When I first came back, I was kind of fearful about being back in a place we actually liberated," he said. "Now, I feel more confident about being back here. I feel stronger this time than last time."

"More than anything I thought some of the sights I saw during the gulf war, I would have relapses of," he added.

But with his experiences of war and being back in the desert, Olson provides a certain "know-how" to his soldiers.

"I think more than anything it's trust," he said. "They know that I've been here, and I know what I'm doing. I don't know if my past will give them an edge, but it will definitely give them insightfulness of what may be ahead," Olson said.

Olson's experiences during the war only make up a portion of what he has learned. Olson also accredits his knowledge to Army schools and the brigade live-fire exercise.

"Along with lessons learned by going to war, I feel (better trained) by going through Army schools," he added. "(The live-fire) is the most realistic training I've gotten apart from coming over here to liberate Kuwait the first time."

With possible war a concern on the soldiers' minds, Olson feels they are better off then ever.

"If we ever roll north, there is a high probability we will be the lead platoon," he added. "That's a lot of trust that all the processes and people are moving in the right direction, but these guys are probably more ready then ever before."

"The first time we came here to liberate Kuwait. Now, if the country asks us, it is to liberate Iraq," he said.

Olson's crew feels ready and has confidence in his leadership not because of his wartime experience but also from training.

"I have a lot of confidence that my leaders know what they are doing, and we will return safe," said Pfc. Andrew Burt, Olson's driver. "I think above all we have to be confident in our jobs. You're always a little bit on the edge, but the training has made me feel a lot more confident in what we do and how we do it."

"I'm glad to be a part of 2nd Platoon, and we're going to get home soon," Burt said.

Olson has returned to Kuwait this time to participate in Operation Desert Spring, but he knows and is ready for what may lie ahead.



Sgt. 1st Class Eric Olson

SMA checks in at Camp New York

Spc. Jacob Boyer
Staff Writer, Frontline Forward

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — The sergeant major of the Army stopped by Camp New York to talk to some of the 2nd Brigade soldiers deployed to Kuwait Dec. 20, 2002.

"We're just here to say merry Christmas and happy New Year's to all of you here," Sgt. Maj. Of the Army Jack L. Tilley said.

Tilley brought World Wrestling Entertainment wrestler Bradshaw with him when he spoke to the soldiers at the camp.

Tilley's visit to Kuwait was the first of four to soldiers deployed to the Middle East, said Master Sgt. Richard Puckett, Tilley's public affairs advisor. He was also scheduled to visit Kandahar and Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan and Uzbekistan. He brought Bradshaw, country singer Darryl Worley, actresses Karri Turner and Kathi Griffin, members of the Jacksonville Jaguars' cheerleading squad and the U.S. Army Band along with him to help spread the holiday

spirit to soldiers.

Bradshaw also took the time to talk to the soldiers and thank them for their service.

"I just wanted to come out here and thank you guys for protecting our country," Bradshaw said. "It means a lot to me and a lot of folks back home."

Tilley said he was visiting the Spartan Brigade to show his appreciation to the soldiers for the work they are doing here.

"Sept. 11 changed a lot of things," Tilley said. "But when the decision's are made, we're ready, we'll do what we're told, we'll do it right and we'll do it as fast as we can."

Tilley took a few questions from the soldiers, but it was clear that his visit was geared more toward fun with the soldiers. He challenged a couple soldiers to a one-armed pushup competition and allowed anyone to get his picture taken with either Bradshaw or himself.

One soldier asked Tilley about the current stop loss situation.

"We're all concerned about stop

loss," Tilley said. "The active Army is roughly 480,000 soldiers strong. Right now we're at 490,000 because of stop loss. We're trying to sort this stuff out, but we've got to make sure we're ready to do whatever we've got to do."

Another soldier asked Tilley about the EarmyU program, a \$1.3 billion project that covers 100 percent of soldiers' tuition for higher education and supplies computers for its participants. It is currently being tested out on select posts.

"We're trying to take it Army-wide, but there is a funding problem," Tilley said. "We've already had to stop giving soldiers printers with the computers, and we're probably not going to be able to stay at 100 percent for tuition assistance. But we want to expand the number of soldiers who are able to participate."

Tilley told the soldiers that it is his job to lobby for them and their families. He also asked the soldiers what they thought of January's upcoming pay raise, which most in the room seemed to approve of.



Spc. Jacob Boyer
Spc. Michael Riley, M-88 operator, 26th FSB, Germantown, Ky., and Spc. Larry Black, light wheel mechanic, 26th FSB, Newport News, Va., try to outdo each other in pushups as Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley encourages them.

Protocol soldiers keep dignitaries on schedule during visits to Camp New York



Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke

Undersecretary of the Army, Les Brownlee, is one of many dignitaries that have been assisted by the soldiers at the Marne Visitors' Bureau.

Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke
Editor, Frontline Forward

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki. Undersecretary of the Army Les Brownlee. Army Central and Coalition Forces Land Component Command commander Lt. Gen. David McKiernan.

V Corps and U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army Commander Lt. Gen. William S. Wallace.

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — These are just some of the dignitaries who have recently crossed the doorstep of Camp New York's Marne Visitors' Bureau. And it's up to the soldiers who man the bureau to ensure they and other distinguished guests have an organized and informative experience while visiting the soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division (Mech).

"The mission of the Marne Visitor's Bureau is to receive distinguished visitors — in our case it's mostly general officers and people that are high within the Department of Defense and the government," explained 1st Lt. James Leathers, deputy protocol officer.

"They are coming here to see the 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) training and to see the command group and the soldiers." After the bureau receives a notice from Coalition

Forces Land Component Command at Camp Doha, they begin organizing what each guest's visit will consist of, from watching soldiers in a training exercise to meeting with specific members of the command group.

Making sure each visit is thoroughly planned takes a lot of coordination and resources, even though some necessities are not always readily available, according to Staff Sgt. Crecencia Jeter, bureau noncommissioned officer in charge.

"I make sure that all the itineraries are prepared, that the general officers know where they're going and I also perform most of the administration duties here," she said. "Here at Camp New York my job is a little harder because we don't have the equipment and resources like we do back at Fort Stewart. But we try to do as much as we can with what we have and what we brought with us."

The bureau's mission is significant because it serves as a liaison between guests and the soldiers who are currently deployed in this area, Leathers said.

"It's important because when we find out that they want to come here, we're going to find out what their intent is," he explained. "So we have to work with the offices that they're coming from and with our own command group to determine what is going to be most beneficial to them — how they're going to get the most out of their visit and get the information that they need."

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

CG: Soldiers ... trained, ready

Maj. Gen. Buford C. Blount III
3rd Infantry Division (Mech.), Fort Stewart and
Hunter Army Airfield Command General

The 2nd Brigade Combat Team with elements of the division headquarters, recently completed the largest maneuver training exercise since the end of the Gulf War. We were able to work on the hard task of synchronizing all our combat power while working with our new command and control communication systems. The Spartan Brigade operated over long distances day and night during force on force and live-fire exercises. Units and soldiers did very well. I feel confident that the division is probably the best trained division in the world.

The Udairi Training Complex offers us outstanding training opportunities. Every battalion task force worked their way up from small unit training to a battalion live-fire exercise before putting all the pieces together for the brigade live-fire exercise. Watching the brigade live fire unfold was an amazing sight. The 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery Battle Kings' prep fires were extremely accurate. The 10th Engineers breached obstacles safely and in record times to allow the maneuver forces of Task Forces 1-64, 3-15 and 4-64 to reach the objective. Our combat support soldiers from the 103rd Military Intelligence Bn., 3rd Military Police Company, 1st Bn., 3rd Air Defense Artillery and 123rd Signal Bn. sustained us throughout the exercise. We are now well into recovery ops and the logisticians throughout the task forces and in 26th Forward Support Battalion are working long hours to keep our units supplied and equipment running.

I am extremely proud of the training accomplishments of our soldiers. Our soldiers are the finest Americans you will find anywhere — disciplined, proud, tough, and compassionate. They

are on — **Commentary** — point for the Nation and in the face of significant challenges, they are training hard every day to be ready as our president asked us to do shortly after Sept. 11. Marne soldiers are dedicated to their mission and most importantly they understand their job.



We took a couple days for Christmas and each unit celebrated in their own way. TF 3-15 got in the spirit and went caroling in HMMWVs and five-ton trucks. They can't sing pretty but they sure sung loud. Soldiers from Headquarters received stockings that looked amazingly similar to sandbags. (At least they were (ever)green). Thanks to our neighbors in Richmond Hill Elementary and Middle Schools, soldiers received candy and other goodies in their stockings. As a result — and as a result of the generosity of our families and friends — we are now working overtime on PT. Ft. Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield are truly blessed with communities that care for our soldiers and family members. Our Christmas meal had all the trimmings including turkey, ham, dressing, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, green beans and egg nog. Nobody went hungry.

While everyone would probably have preferred being home with their loved ones, the soldiers are very proud of the job they are doing. We stand guard in a world that continues to pose significant threats to our country and to our Allies. Marne soldiers realize that it is their turn to be away from families on Christmas, just as their brothers and sisters, fathers, uncles and grandfathers did before them in other far off places. In many instances Marne soldiers are

away from home for the second, third or even fourth time in their career. We accept as our inherent duty the protection of all people. If being here offers safety to our families, then we would rather be here.

Thanks to our families who have inherited part of the mission and hardship through the long separation. Our thoughts are never far from you during this holiday season. You have assumed the burden of maintaining loving households and keeping families together. You are self-reliant, supportive and as accepting of Army values as your loved ones in uniform. As families have experienced trouble you have rallied to their aid for support. We have some of the best family readiness groups and installation programs in the Army.

Thanks to all the soldiers and civilians of the Garrison command. You continue to be the unsung heroes of our operations. You have kept the planes, trains and vehicles running on time with the right people and equipment on board. Additionally, and most importantly, you continue to take care of families while we are away. Thanks for all you do every day, most often behind the scenes.

The challenges of the future won't be any simpler than those of the past. The demands on those of us who defend our nation and secure peace for others continues to be difficult. January looks to be another month of tough, demanding and realistic training. Soon more soldiers from the division will deploy to the region to support the president's ongoing war against terrorism. We are not looking to go to war. Hopefully deterrence works. But make no mistake, we are poised and leaning forward and are prepared to do what the president asks.

Our soldiers are proud, professional, trained and ready. Hope that you all have a blessed New Year. "Rock of the Marne!"

Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

What are you doing to prepare yourself and your family for deployment?

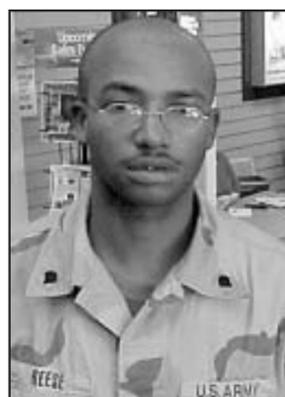
"The main thing was to make sure my wife has everything she needs until I return."

Staff Sgt. John Elliott
103rd MI Bn.



"Keeping a strong mindset and realizing what the real mission is."

Spc. Shynolan Reese
HHC, 4th Bn., 64th
Armor



"Packing equipment, buying stuff for the house and making sure legal and financial affairs are in order."

Capt. Jonathon
DeJesus
HHC, 31D



If we take the good, we gotta take the ugly. Right?

Casey Craig

Volunteer

I was excited watching all the news coverage on the 2nd Brigade Combat Team in Kuwait during the holidays. For weeks, you could count on several interviews with different 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) soldiers each day on all the major networks! I kept trying to read the nametags, hoping I would memorize the names, in case I met their spouses in the next few weeks.

I asked a 10th Engineer Battalion spouse what the television focus on 2nd BCT meant to her. She said, "I thought the coverage was wonderful. I was at a friend's house one night when a couple of our soldiers were interviewed, and we were so excited just to see 'our guys' on there! Personally, my daughters and I were really blessed because they actually interviewed my husband. My girls were so excited to see Daddy and just wanted to watch that little clip over and over. Even though he wasn't talking about us, I was happy that he was able to be on TV so that we could see him."

I really paid attention to the terrain where soon, all 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) soldiers will be training, their living conditions, and the inside of the dining facility. I am one of those spouses who like to know what it looks like where my husband will be spending time.

My soldier falls under the 1st BCT umbrella.

I have to ask the rest of you in the 1st BCT, how did you feel when you opened the newspaper one Saturday, drinking your morning coffee and you read in black and white "3rd ID(M)"s 1st BDE and 3rd BDE have received 'deployment orders'?"

And they gave a date?! Or were you at home during leave when a television network news anchor read our brigade had received deployment orders? That happened to a friend while grandma was just putting her pot roast on the dining table. Suddenly the meal was forgotten as someone grabbed the remote to turn up the volume.

True, we all knew it was in our future, but hearing or reading, "3rd Infantry Division ordered to Persian Gulf- **Army Times.com**, 2 Jan. An infantry division from Georgia has been ordered to the Persian Gulf region", military officials said Tuesday ..." or another article written by AP's Russ Bynum, 1/2/03, reporting from Hinesville, "10,000 soldiers, 1/3 the population of Hinesville, are moving out of apartments and filling up storage units ..."

The public has the right to know. But do they have to know about deployment orders before we know? That did not sit well with me. And evidently, did not with a lot of you.

I question if we need to be telling the world, ok, terrorists and Saddam, the units of the military heading towards the Persian Gulf and the types of weapon, aircraft, equipment and number of troops going.

I worked in television news. I know journalists, news agencies, live and die getting an exclusive over their competitors. However, I'd like to think with the term "possible war" floating around, if asked, the public might not want to share such detailed information; the kind that might give the bad guys an edge over us.

Maybe to get the great news coverage we had on our 2nd Brigade Combat Team soldiers, detailed information was the price we pay.

ACS — support group for soldiers, family

Susan Wilder

ACS

Deployments can be extremely difficult on families. Not knowing where to turn for answers can be frightening. Army Community Service is one of the oldest support agencies for you and your soldier during times of deployment and stability.

Making a decision to remain at your installation during a long deployment can be a difficult decision to make.

Here are some things to consider when you are deciding.

During a deployment, information from the forward deployed theatre is essential. Your family readiness group leader and members, along with your rear detachment commander and non-commissioned officer can provide you with fact based, timely and accurate information. Your family readiness group leader and members can also assist you with resolving problems, be a shoulder to lean on, and are essentially just like you, they are experiencing the same feelings of loneliness. Family readiness groups also provide social support, coming together and having potluck dinners, occasion based parties, and provide an excellent opportunity for you to establish new friendships.

Your rear detachment personnel in your soldiers chain of command are the persons who can assist you with official military actions such as pay inquiries, movement into government quarters, and official information regarding your soldier.

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield offers a myriad of programs designed to support families both during deployments and during garrison activities. Army Community Service offers the Waiting Spouses Program, Army Family Team Building, Stress Management, Anger Management, Financial Management, as well as Hispanic and German Support Groups. Programs for children include Pre-School Craft, Story Time, and Children's Playgroup.

External to ACS is TRICARE, Winn Army Community Hospital, Division Mental health and a wealth of support programs designed to assist you.

This Installation hopes you will go home and visit family, but you are encouraged to stay at the installation where your support is.

If you decide to leave the area for any length of time during your soldiers deployment, The Division asks that you contact either your rear detachment personnel or your family readiness group leader and leave a number where you can be reached in case of an emergency.

Voice your opinion!
Write a letter to the editor!

Send to:
Public Affairs Office
Attn: The Frontline, Editor
101 W. Bultman Ave.
Suite 101
Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314-4941

THE FRONTLINE

MILITARY NEWS: 767-3440
ADVERTISING: (912) 368-0526
Volume 19, Number 1

Publisher

3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) Commander —
Maj. Gen. Buford C. Blount III

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the Frontline are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or U.S. Forces Command. It is published weekly using offset printing by the Public Affairs Office, Fort Stewart, Georgia

Consolidated Public Affairs Office

Director — Maj. Michael G. Birmingham
Deputy Director — Richard Olson
Chief Command Information Branch — Sgt. 1st Class Mike Brantley
Editorial Staff
Managing Editor — Jim Jeffcoat
Editor — Sgt. Raymond Piper
Associate Editor — Spc. Mason T. Lowery
Staff Writer — Sgt. Craig Zentkovich
Staff Writer — Spc. Natalie Schlotman
Staff Writer — Spc. Katherine Robinson

31314-5000. Phone number: 912-767-3440 or 767-8072
Printed circulation up to 22,000. All editorial content of the Frontline newspaper is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Public Affairs Office of Fort Stewart, Georgia and the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) and is printed by Morris Newspaper Corporation of Hinesville, Inc. a private firm

Staff Writer — Spc. Jacob Boyer
Hunter Public Affairs Office
Chief — Steven Hart
NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Brian Sipp
Staff Writer — Pvt. 2 Emily Danial
Staff Writer — Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke
Advertising Staff
Advertising Manager — Connie Parker
Advertising Account Executive — Maryann Wilson
Frontline Production Manager — Leslie Miller

in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with Fort Stewart, Georgia. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising. Subscription rates are \$9 for three months, \$16 for six months and \$30 for 12 months. Rates are for third class mail, inside the continental U.S.

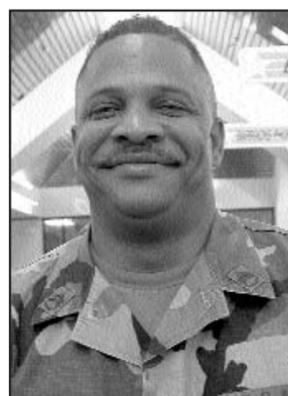


"Staying focused."

Spc. Lawrence
Hayden
B Co., 159th Avn. Bde.

"Getting mentally prepared, I'm ready to do my duty."

Staff Sgt. Curtis Paige
333rd Medical Co.,
Dental Services



"It's just my husband and me, so we're taking care of financial issues and getting vehicles up to date for when he goes."

Terri Ridener
Manager of
Samantha's Flowers
at the Hunter PX

At the company level

3/7 puts skills to the test during live-fire

Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke

Editor, Frontline Forward

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — After about three weeks of company and battalion-level training in the Kuwaiti desert, soldiers of A Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment proved their mettle during 2nd Brigade's live-fire exercise, held Dec. 21 to 23, 2002.

The unit's mission consisted of eliminating the threat of enemy ground troops to the armored units, according to Capt. Chris Carter, A Co. commander.

But before the soldiers could demonstrate their proficiencies at the brigade live-fire, they had to test their skills at the lower-echelon levels first.

"We've been out here for about three weeks. We started out doing some company-level training and situational exercises mainly focused on maneuver," Carter said. "We have had some great infantry action getting the infantry squads down on the ground and destroying strong points."

Carter said the event was a good opportunity, mainly because there were no disruptions to prevent the soldiers from focusing on the exercise.

"It's been a wonderful training opportunity, because we don't have the distractors here like we do in the rear. There's

no TV to interfere, or people worrying about going back to eat at Popeyes," he said. "We're able to focus solely on training, and even the time that we're not training, the squad leaders have ample time to sit their soldiers down and go over individual level training. So it's a great opportunity and we're taking advantage of it."

Carter went on to explain the specific details of his company's role in the live-fire.

"Since we're an infantry unit attached to an armor battalion, we're mainly focused on taking away the infantry threat to the armor," he said. "We will destroy enemy strong points and take away the threat that is posed by shoulder-fired or other wired-guided missiles fired from enemy infantry on the

"We have had some great infantry action getting the infantry squads down on the ground and destroying strong points."

Capt. Chris Carter
A Company, 3rd Battalion,
7th Infantry Regiment commander

ground."

Spc. Dean Bryant, a Bradley driver with A Co., said the training was a unique experience.

"I've never experienced any training like this before," he said. "I've talked to a lot of guys and they say that this training is a lot better than (the National Training Center), because here you've got the company, battalion and the brigade training all at one time. At NTC it's a lot smaller and you can't do that."

Overall, Carter said he was pleased with the soldier's performance during the training event.

"Our company was picked to come over here with 2nd Brigade for the specific reason that we are a great company — we have great soldiers, great noncommissioned officers and great platoon leaders in this company," he explained. "I feel very confident in their ability to fight. Once we got over here, the level of training soared tremendously. I'm extremely proud of them."

Carter further pointed out that if called, his soldiers would be prepared to go to war.

"The infantry soldiers in my company joined the Army to get on the ground and to fight and win our nation's wars, and they're ready to do it — they're motivated, and we'll do the job we came here to do," he said.

Desert Rogues take part in brigade live-fire

Spc. Adam Nuelken

Staff Writer, Frontline Forward

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — The 2nd Brigade Combat Team moved out to the desert to conduct a brigade live-fire from Dec. 20 to Dec. 23, 2002.

During this live-fire exercise, the brigade utilized AH-64 Apaches and Division Artillery fires to accomplish their goals in what was declared the biggest exercise since the Gulf War.

"Out here we've gotten a whole lot of assets. Really it's getting a whole lot of team players out here we don't normally get to work with," said Capt. Andy Hilmes, commander of A Company, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor. "These guys don't always get a chance to do this. The training we've done out here is probably more than what most units get in two years."

Hilmes commands a company that is made up of two tank platoons and a mechanized infantry platoon. This arrangement gives the company more assets and more lethality on the battlefield.

"If I'm a tank company pure, I will have a

difficult time clearing trenches," he added. "If they're an infantry company pure, and they run into a tank, they're gonna' have a hard time."

During the live-fire, the brigade performed a daytime live-fire and a nighttime live-fire. Each mission was on a different lane and had different obstacles.

"The difference between the two for us is the day fire had a breach," Hilmes said.

The night fire was a longer distance and had turning maneuvers and flanking attacks.

"They require different levels of coordination. Night-fire coordination becomes more important, he said."

The training was a great asset for both the tankers and infantrymen who participated in it, according to Sgt. James Kelly, a squad leader with C Company, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry.

"This training is very important. It tells whether or not the guys got the training if we go north," he said. "If I take them to combat, and if I get hit, they can continue on without me. It's played a very big factor to see if they can get down range and fire live rounds over their buddy without hitting them. It builds



Spc. Adam Nuelken

An M-1 tank from the 3rd Infantry Division fires during an exercise at Udairi Range Complex in Kuwait.

trust and confidence."

While the infantry played a big role in clearing trenches, the tankers provided cover and used their weapons advantages to overwhelm the enemy.

"I tried to engage (the enemy) at my max effective range. I know I have better equipment than them, and I am going to try and use that to my advantage," Hilmes said.

Although the training for the brigade proved invaluable, they still had to face the

hardships of the desert on their equipment throughout the exercise.

"The dust gets through the seals. It can get into your engine oil if you're not careful," he added. "You have to constantly monitor your friction points and make sure they don't dry up or get contaminated."

A Co., 1-64 Arm. returned to Camp Pennsylvania after the exercise where they began performing maintenance on their equipment to ready it for the next mission.

National Guard fuel testing unit trains with Hunter soldiers

Pvt. 2 Emily Danial

Staff Writer, Hunter Public Affairs Office

For the first time since receiving their mobile laboratory during Desert Storm, National Guardsmen from the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 540th Quartermaster Battalion in Lenoir, N.C., got a chance to put the lab to use and get hands-on training with HHD 260th QM Bn. at Hunter Army Airfield Dec. 6 through 19, 2002.

The portable laboratory is used for fuel analysis and purification, said Sgt. Reginald F. Frierson, lab noncommissioned officer-in-charge of 260th.

"We test aviation fuel, regular gas and diesel fuel for levels of sediment, water and contamination," said Frierson. "The fuel has to be pure."

The two weeks of training has been the 540th's first opportunity to cross-train with active-duty soldiers, said 1st Lt. Samueta L. Butler, 260th's petroleum lab officer-in-charge.

"Everything is working out well," Butler said. "It gives them the opportunity to run tests and gain experience in the event that they would have to deploy."

Staff Sgt. Ralph L. Jones, 540th's lab NCOIC, said that previous to this training, the soldiers in his unit had not been able to work in the lab. He said his expectations for the two weeks of training were to get his soldiers "real practical experience."

This is the first time the unit has come to Hunter to train since 1990, said Jones.

Sgt. Holly J. Laws, lab technician with 540th, said the last two weeks "has helped refreshed my memory. I learned about (fuel testing) before, but I never really got to do my job."

Laws said the active-duty soldiers at Hunter welcomed the five National Guard soldiers. "They really know their jobs," she said.

One of those jobs is determining the amount of fuel system icing inhibitor is in aviation fuel, said Spc. Paulina D. Cortazar of



Pvt. 2 Emily Danial

Sgt. Holly J. Laws demonstrates the procedure for detecting the amount of fuel system icing inhibitor in a specific amount of aviation fuel. Laws, from National Guard unit Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment 540th Quartermaster Battalion in Lenoir, NC, has been a lab technician with the unit for five years.

260th as she and Laws demonstrated the procedure.

Other tasks of the lab technicians are finding the viscosity of the fuel and identifying the temperature at which fuel vapors ignite, said Pvt. 2 Lionel J. Ortiz of the 260th.

Overall, said Jones, his unit worked well together with 260th. He said now that the soldiers have had a chance to actually use the mobile lab, "We're going to try to use our two days of training each month for lab work."

Giving support ...



Spc. Emily Danial

Georgia governor-elect Sonny Perdue shakes hands with deploying soldiers Tuesday afternoon at Caro Gym at Fort Stewart. The governor-elect addressed the soldiers briefly, giving them his support and encouragement.

Keep America Beautiful **DON'T LITTER!**

Organ & Tissue
DONATION
Share your life. Share your decision.™

For a free brochure about Organ & Tissue Donation, call 1-800-355-SHARE.

Ad Council

Coalition on Donation

HHC, 4/64 keeps warfighters fighting

Spc. Adam Nuelken

Staff Writer, Frontline Forward

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — While tankers are sending fire down range and maneuvering through lanes, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Battalion, 64th Armor is not only participating in the training but also supplying and supporting it.

“HHC is like no other company in the battalion,” said Capt. Jeff Powell, the unit’s commander.

The unit not only is responsible for support, but they also offer slice elements that add to the combat effectiveness of the battalion.

HHC supplies scouts and the mortar platoon to the battle while supporting it with needed items such as food, fuel, ammunitions and mail.

“I think my best job is keeping the mail going and keeping the soldiers’ morale up,” said Staff Sgt. Dameon “Smoke” Simmons, a personnel noncommissioned officer with HHC. “If they get their mail every day like they’re supposed to, they’ll stay motivated and geared up to fight.”

HHC stays spread thin with supply runs and maneuver elements moving with the battalion, but it doesn’t prevent them from accomplishing their mission.

“HHC is spread from the very front to the very back of the battlefield. Back here we probably have some of the hardest working guys in the battalion,” Powell added. “Here we supply everything — food, bullets, sodas and Ding-Dongs.”

With the supplying of all the items, the company gets many requests and demands, which requires lots of manpower. Almost 300 people are assigned to the company.

“You can’t do this job by yourself,” Powell said. “We’re try-

ing to execute everything everyone wants.”

The efforts of HHC also help bring more lethality to the battlefield by providing the ammunitions needed by the maneuver units and fires from the mortar platoon.

“I would say the lethality part we add is we supply all the Class V ammo they need,” Powell said. “We also have the maneuver element that supplies indirect fires, which is the mortars.”

The unit also has to monitor the battle and be ready to re-fuel and re-arm the other companies quickly and at any given time.

“During the battle, we’re in charge of tracking the battle and figuring when to re-arm and re-fuel them,” Powell said. “I

imagine if we have it down, it will take about one hour to take care of the entire battalion.”

During battle tracking, the company’s personnel section has to be prepared to send in reinforcements and replacements.

“Our main job is to pretty much to keep track of the battle,” said Sgt. Carmine Fratelli, a battlefield tracker for the battalion. “We use maps to keep track of the battle and use status reports to keep track of personnel and equipment.”

“I think it’s real important (to track the battle) because if we lose some people, we need to replace them quickly, so we can maintain battlefield strength,” Simmons said.

Whether it is supplying mortar fire, sending the scouts out, or supplying beans and bullets to 4/64 Arm., HHC is prepared.

New courses to help cope with stress

DCAS press release

Beginning in February, the Directorate of Community Activities’ Army Community Service, DCAS, offers two free courses for soldiers and their families. They are sponsored by the Georgia Chapter of the National Alliance for Mentally Ill, NAMI-GEORGIA, and taught by Laura Arisohn, a certified Army Community Service special needs family project educator.

Family-to-Family is a comprehensive 12-week course designed specifically for families of adults and teens with major depressions, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, panic disorder or obsessive-compulsive disorder. The class offers information, self-care, coping skills and emotional support. They begin Feb. 6, 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Classes continue each Thursday of the 12-week period.

Visions for Tomorrow is a comprehensive 8-week course designed for families of children with ADD/ADHD, PDD/Autism, Toursette’s disorder, Conduct Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, Depression, Eating Disorders, Anxiety Disorders, and Early Onset Schizophreniz/Schizoaffective. This class will offer information, problem management, empathy, sharing, coping and self-care advocacy, judicial and stigma. It begins March 4, 2003, and continues every Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. throughout the 8-week period.

Due to space limitations and confidentiality issues, pre-registration is required for both courses. Contact Laura Arisohn, Special Needs Family Project Educator, at 912-767-3032 for more information.

Military W-2s Available On-line

Armed Services Reserve personnel are currently able to download their 2002 W-2s from their Intranet site. These downloaded W-2s are considered standard. Returns prepared using these W-2s can be filed electronically. The client will need his or her PIN previously issued by the military. A tax associate preparing someone’s taxes may not enter the information on behalf of the client and may not ask for or learn the client’s PIN.

The website includes a process (in the FAQ section) for obtaining a new PIN if the client does not know his or her PIN. It may take several days for the taxpayer to receive the new PIN.

Website:
<https://emss.dfas.mil/mypay.asp>

Access:
Social Security Number of the service member

Requirements:
Military-issued PIN

Forms W-2 for active duty personnel will not be available on line until the end of January. Active duty personnel will receive their hard copies of forms W-2 around the time that W-2s are available on-line.

Returns prepared using a Leave and Earnings statement cannot be filed electronically. IRS rules continue to prohibit transmission of a tax return that includes W-2 income until the client provides an actual W-2.

Fat-Free Sewers

Fats, Oils, and Greases aren’t just bad for your arteries and your waistline; they’re bad for sewers, too. Sewer overflows and back-ups can cause health hazards, damage home interiors, and threaten the environment.

The results can be:

- * Raw sewage overflowing in your home or your neighbor’s home;
- * An expensive and unpleasant cleanup that often must be paid for by you, the homeowner;
- * Raw sewage overflowing into parks, yards, and streets;
- * Potential contact with disease-causing organisms; and
- * An increase in operation and maintenance costs for local sewer departments, which causes higher sewer bills for customers.

What we can do to help

The easiest way to solve the grease problem and help prevent overflows of raw sewage is to keep this material out of the sewer system in the first place. There are several ways to do this.

✓ Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets.

✓ Scrape grease and food scraps from trays, plates, pots, pans, utensils, and grills and cooking surfaces into a can or the trash for disposal (or recycling where available).

✓ Do not put grease down garbage disposals. Put baskets/strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps and other solids, and empty the drain baskets/strainers into the trash for disposal.

✓ Speak with your friends and neighbors about the problem of grease in the sewer system and how to keep it out.

Neutralizing the threat

92nd Chem reinforces decon skills during training exercise

Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke

Editor, Frontline Forward

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — Keeping the soldiers on the battlefield — when it all comes down to it, that's the overall mission of the 92nd Chemical Company.

The unit's soldiers are trained in every necessary procedure to insure soldiers who have come in contact with chemical agents are quickly and thoroughly decontaminated and returned to their positions on the battlefield.

And that's exactly what they practiced during a decontamination training exercise held Dec. 15, 2002 near Camp New York.

"The object of this exercise is to get soldiers familiar with decontamination procedures," explained 1st Lt. Stanley Lay, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment's chemical officer. "The soldiers take this very seriously, and it's important that they have the opportunity to maintain their skills."

The exercise consisted of five main stages, each significant to the overall decontamination process, according to Staff Sgt. Joseph Baptista, a chemical operations specialist with the 92nd.

After receiving a briefing at the pre-staging area, soldiers move their vehicles to the first

stage, which consists of checking the vehicle with a chemical agent monitor. The vehicle is then sprayed down and checked for additional contamination. If there is any residual contamination left, it is scrubbed off and the vehicle is sprayed once more.

At station two the vehicles are sprayed with DS2, a chemical neutralizing agent.

The interior of the vehicle is decontaminated at station three. After waiting for 30 minutes — the amount of time needed to neutralize chemicals inside the vehicle, soldiers then move to the fourth station, where the vehicle is thoroughly rinsed with water.

Station five consists of a final check with the chemical agent monitor. If the vehicle is deemed contaminant-free, the soldier is released to the post-decon staging area. If not, it is recycled back to stage two, where the process starts over again.

Although the soldiers of the 92nd have rehearsed this drill a number of times at Fort Stewart, it is important to keep practicing, according to Sgt. Theresa Edwards, chemical operations specialist.

"It's good training for the other units because they may not be used to chemical training at this level, but it's also good practice for us too," she said.



Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke

Pfc. Kimberlyee Carridice, a chemical operations specialist with the 92nd Chemical Co., checks a Bradley for contamination with a chemical agent monitor.

"We have to be very knowledgeable about what we do here, because we're the last line between the soldier getting back to the battle," Baptista said. "If we can't do our job here,

then those soldiers lose time on the battlefield. So we have to make sure we're properly trained and that everyone here knows his or her job."

Scouts lead the way on the battlefield

Spc. Jacob Boyer

Staff Writer, Frontline Forward

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — On the modern battlefield, information is vitally important. The more a commander knows about the forces arrayed against him, the better he will be able to make the right tactical decisions when his unit rolls out to fight.

One platoon in Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment is tasked with making sure the battalion commander has the valuable reconnaissance he needs before the battle begins.

The casual observer may never notice the Scout Platoon on the battlefield. In fact, most people never see them, because most of their work is done at night. Hours before the simulated battles in the deserts of Kuwait begin, the platoon takes its Humvees into the training area to gather information on enemy positions for the battalion's benefit, said Capt. Trey Lawrence, platoon leader.

"We are solely the eyes and ears of the battalion commander, Lt. Col. Stephen Twitty," he

said. "Reconnaissance is our primary mission. He gives us the primary information report telling us what he wants, and we go get it."

The Scout Platoon from 3/15 Infantry is one of the many units deployed to Kuwait in support of Operation Desert Spring.

"We fill in the gray areas of information for the commander," said Staff Sgt. Tylerchyski McMillan, section sergeant. "To do that, we conduct recon missions on the enemy to find out their strengths and weaknesses."

The Scout Platoon for 3/15 Infantry has more than just scout assets, Lawrence said. They also have three sniper teams, a ground surveillance radar team and an engineer reconnaissance team attached to their unit.

"The attached units have done very well since we've been (in Kuwait)," he said. "We've all had a chance to get out here, get our boots on the ground and conduct our mission. The training has been good, because there aren't any distractions or details at Fort Stewart. That is the determining factor."

There are several different ways the scouts accomplish their mission, Lawrence said. The reconnaissance can be accomplished in two ways.

In a zone recon, the vehicles are given a specific area and they check things out and send back a terrain analysis. They can also conduct a route recon to accomplish this task. The platoon also conducts screen operations — going forward to keep watch while the task force prepares for battle in the tactical assembly area.

Several tasks fall to the Scout Platoon, Lawrence said. Destroying the enemy's counter-reconnaissance, establishing non-firing areas, locating enemy tank elements, verifying breach points and passing up suspected or known enemy positions are all jobs that fall to the men of the unit.

"A scout has to be a jack of all trades," McMillan said. "Without attachments, you've got to do it yourself. Every scout has to know his own job and at least some of another MOS (military occupational specialty), from breaching obstacles to calling for fire."

Scouts have to learn quickly to go on little sleep, McMillan said. They stay on the move constantly, allowing only intermittent periods of rest. Nevertheless, they do their best to keep their heads in the game.

"A scout has to be mentally sharp," he said. "He has to be the best. Everybody else is going

off of his information, and bad info can get everybody killed. The commander is relying on us. It's one of the most glamorous jobs, but it can also be the most stressful."

The platoon has many new soldiers, and this deployment to Kuwait is the first time many of its teams have worked together, McMillan said.

"They've done an outstanding job of coming together," he said. "They've picked up on things pretty quickly. There's definitely a drive to learn and ask questions. My soldiers are picking my brain every day, asking something new. That's good. It keeps the NCOs sharp, because we're always going back to our manuals to explain things to our soldiers."

The scouts recognize the importance of their jobs, Lawrence said. But it is even more important that the commanders who make use of them understand how to use them.

"The lethality that a scout platoon can bring to the battlefield is unbelievable," he said. "But it can only be done through proper attachments and commanders knowing what our job is. Lt. Col. Twitty is truly concerned with the Scout Platoon, and he knows how to use us to our fullest potential."

10 Things You Can Do to Help the Environment



1. Use water-based paints.
2. Recycle your house- hold trash.
3. Compost yardwaste.
4. Plant trees.
5. Conserve energy.
6. Buy non-aerosol products.
7. Carpool.
8. Keep your car engine tuned.
9. Recycle used motor oil.
10. Choose less packaging.

POLICE REPORTS

- **Subject:** Private First Class, 27-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
 - **Charges:** Larceny of NAF property
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private, 22-year-old male, 24th Support Group
 - **Charges:** Simple assault consummated with a battery
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 28-year-old male, Division Support Command
 - **Charges:** Simple assault consummated with a battery
 - **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, Division Support Command
 - **Charges:** Driving under the influence, driving on suspended license, failure to show proof of insurance, wrongful possession of marijuana, failure to obey lawful order, failure to register weapon, carrying a concealed pistol
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 24th Support Group
 - **Charges:** Driving while license suspended or revoked
 - **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Sergeant, 22-year-old male, 1st Brigade
 - **Charges:** Disorderly conduct, obstruction of justice
 - **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, Engineer Brigade
 - **Charges:** Simple assault
 - **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
 - **Charges:** Driving under the influence, driving while license suspended or revoked
 - **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 21-year-old female, separate battalion
 - **Charges:** Contempt of court
 - **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Private 2, 18-year-old male,

- separate battalion
 - **Charges:** Failure to appear
 - **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Civilian, 85-year-old male
 - **Charges:** Improper left turn
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Petty Officer 2, 34-year-old male, separate battalion
 - **Charges:** Criminal trespass
 - **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Civilian, 20-year-old male
 - **Charges:** Larceny of NAF property, shoplifting, simple assault consummated with a battery
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 22-year-old male, 2nd Brigade
 - **Charges:** Failure to obey a lawful order, driving on post suspension, laying drag
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 21-year-old male, Engineer Brigade
 - **Charges:** Simple assault
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Civilian, 18-year-old female
 - **Charges:** Simple assault consummated by a battery
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, Division Support Command
 - **Charges:** Driving under the influence, improper backing
 - **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 19-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
 - **Charges:** Driving under the the influence, underage drinking, driving while license suspended, open container, carrying a concealed knife, failure to register weapon, defective headlight, expired tags
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Sergeant, 22-year-old male, Division Artillery
 - **Charges:** Improper backing
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male,

- separate battalion
 - **Charges:** Driving under the influence, speeding
 - **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Family member, 26-year-old male
 - **Charges:** Aggravated assault, obstruction of law enforcement officer
 - **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 22-year-old male, separate battalion
 - **Charges:** No permit, no proof of insurance, driving without license on person, following too closely
 - **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, separate battalion
 - **Charges:** Driving under the influence, speeding
 - **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Civilian, 20-year-old female
 - **Charges:** Driving while license suspended
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old male, Division Artillery
 - **Charges:** Driving under the influence, no drivers license, failure to show proof of insurance
 - **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, separate battalion
 - **Charges:** Drunk and disorderly
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private, 24-year-old male, Engineer Brigade
 - **Charges:** Driving under the influence, fleeing or attempting to elude, driving while license suspended, speeding
 - **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Civilian, 44-year-old female
 - **Charges:** Eluding a police officer, failure

- to wear a safety belt
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Civilian, 29-year-old female
 - **Charges:** Driving under the influence
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private 2, 25-year-old male, Division Artillery
 - **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, speeding 54/40
 - **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Civilian, 18-year-old male
 - **Charges:** Criminal trespass, communicating a threat
 - **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield
- **Subject:** Private 2, 21-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
 - **Charges:** Failure to exercise due care
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private 2, 22-year-old male, 1st Brigade
 - **Charges:** Larceny of private motor vehicle
 - **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private, 20 year-old male, 3rd Brigade
 - **Charges:** Wrongful possession of dangerous drugs, wrongful possession of marijuana, wrongful use of hallucinogens
 - **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 22-year-old male, Division Support Command
 - **Charges:** Wrongful possession of dangerous drugs, wrongful possession of marijuana, wrongful use of hallucinogens
 - **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Private 2, 21-year-old male, Division Support Command
 - **Charges:** Wrongful possession of dangerous drugs, Wrongful possession of marijuana, wrongful use of hallucinogens
 - **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 21-year-old male, separate battalion
 - **Charges:** Wrongful possession of dangerous drugs, wrongful possession of marijuana, wrongful use of hallucinogens
 - **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old female, 24th Support Group
 - **Charges:** Wrongful possession of cocaine, wrongful distribution of cocaine, wrongful possession of marijuana
 - **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield
- **Subject:** Civilian, 24-year-old male
 - **Charges:** Wrongful distribution of cocaine, wrongful possession of cocaine
 - **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield
- **Subject:** Private 2, 25-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
 - **Charges:** Wrongful possession of marijuana, wrongful use of marijuana
 - **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield
- **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old female, Aviation Brigade
 - **Charges:** Computer fraud, forgery, identity theft, larceny of private funds, mail fraud
 - **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield
- **Subject:** Private, 23-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
 - **Charges:** Wrongful possession of cocaine, wrongful use of cocaine
 - **Location:** Tybee Island
- **Subject:** Civilian, 23-year-old male
 - **Charges:** Failure to stop at a posted stop sign, improper left turn, warrant served for contempt of court
 - **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield
- **Subject:** Private, 21-year-old male, separate battalion
 - **Charges:** Wrongful possession of marijuana, wrongful use of marijuana
 - **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield
- **Subject:** Private, 28-year-old male, separate battalion
 - **Charges:** Wrongful possession of marijuana, wrongful use of marijuana
 - **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 19-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
 - **Charges:** Driving under the influence, underage drinking, disorderly conduct, improper lane change
 - **Location:** Savannah





Cancer Treatment Research Foundation

3455 Salt Creek Lane, Suite 200, Arlington Heights, IL 60005
 (847) 342-7450 <http://www.ctrf.org>
 a CFC participant

3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

\$500 Reward

There is a \$500 reward being offered for information leading directly to the identification, apprehension and conviction of the perpetrator(s) responsible for the theft of a set of AN/PVS 7A Night Vision Goggles (Serial #06472C) belonging to the HHC, 2nd Bn., 7th Inf. The goggles were reported missing from the dust bowl, Fort Irwin, Calif. Oct. 19.

Anyone with information concerning this crime can, contact CID Special Agent Barragan at DSN 470-5885 or Commercial (760) 380-5885. Offer expires Dec. 9, 2003.

Dr. M. L. King Jr. celebration

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield will host this year's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday observance 1:30 to 3 p.m., Jan. 16, at Woodruff Theater.

Guest speaker will be radio personality Walt "Baby" Love, who will be accompanied by musician Moses Tyson Jr.

American Red Cross

The American Red Cross is currently seeking individuals who are interested in volunteering at the hospital, youth center, bowling alley, gym, library and Red Cross Office. They are also seeking to fill volunteer leadership positions.

For more information, call 767-2197.

Life Skills class

As part of the installation's Operational Stress Control Program, Division Mental Health is offering life skills training for soldiers, non-commissioned officers and junior officers.

The objectives are to help people develop skills relating to dealing with difficult people, achieving goals, listening skills, differences between self-talk and reality, and passive, aggressive and assertive communication.

For more information, call 767-2545.

American Red Cross

The Fort Stewart station of the American Red Cross is located in Building 623 off Wilson Avenue. Hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information, call 767-2197/4750. After-hours emergency message service available at (877) 272-7337.

Join Special Forces

The Special Forces recruiting office is seeking professional enlisted and officer volunteers to join the ranks of one of America's most premier fighting forces.

Available class dates for Special

Forces assessment and selection are Feb. 16 and March 23. Both combat and non combat MOSs may apply.

To learn more about Special Forces, attend the weekly briefing at Hunter, noon and 4 p.m., Tuesdays at the Education Center or Fort Stewart, 10 a.m., 2 or 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, at the Recruiting Office, Building 132 (Coastal Communications.)

For more information, call 767-1857.

Recycle cardboard

All military units and activities should deliver their bulk cardboard to the new Processing Station, located off of Kilpatrick Rd. (Gate #6) next to the landfill scale house. All other customers should take their cardboard to the Recycling Center, located on the corner of McFarland Ave. and Sigma St.

Processing Station hours are 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Recycling Yard hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, call 767-8880/6327.

VA loan counselors to visit

VA loan counselors will visit Fort Stewart to assist veterans with delinquent VA guaranteed mortgage loans and discuss alternatives to foreclosure. Counselors will be here 6 to 8 p.m. Jan. 15 at Army Community Service, Building 470, specifically to help. They can help if:

- You are delinquent on your mortgage loan.
- You have made some of your payments but not all.
- Your mortgage company refused to accept payments.
- You are being threatened with foreclosure.
- You are having trouble selling your home.
- Your spouse is deployed and you are having problems with payments.

Tax assistance available

The Marne Tax Assistance Office will be open Monday through Friday starting Jan. 21, the are located in Building 9611. For more information, call 767-4148.

School questions

If you have school-related questions concerning your child's education, call the Directorate of Community Activities and Services between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Leave a message for the school liaison officer stating your name, home and work telephone numbers or e-mail and reason for calling. You can also E-mail David Smith at David.Smith4@stewart.army.mil or call him directly at 767-6533/6071.

Hunter

Hunter traffic delays

Montgomery Gate construction began Nov. 18; Wilson Gate construction began Dec. 10, 2002. Each gate is down to one inbound and one outbound lane. You will not be able to exit through Middleground Rd. This will create delays. Plan accordingly and allow extra time to gain post access.

The following will help expedite traffic:

- * Ensure your vehicle is registered
- * Get extended passes if authorized
- * Avoid leaving and having to re-enter
- * The worst times will be during lunch hours 12 to 1:30 p.m.; try to utilize on post facilities: dining facility, bowling alley, Hunter Club, Burger King.

Rio Gate now open

The Rio Gate is now open to vehicles with Department of Defense decals only. The gate will be open at the following times: 5:30 to 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Wednesday and Friday; 5:30 to 9:30 a.m. and 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday; 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The gate will be closed on federal holidays.

Hunter Lanes bowling center

Two-fer-Tuesday — Two people bowl for the price of one, 6 p.m. until closing, every Tuesday.

Casino Bingo — Friday and Saturday night, 9 p.m. until midnight. Win free bowling passes, prizes and cash; open to bowlers age 18 and over.

Dollar Day — All games \$1 opening to closing every Sunday. There is a one-lane limit for parties of less than eight bowlers.

Super Bowling — Games only \$1 on Mondays and Wednesdays, noon to 6 p.m. Pay only \$2 a game on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Marvin's Corner Cafe — Serving the best food at Hunter Army Airfield. Call ahead for pickup at 352-6279.

Correspondence Courses

Do you need promotion points? Visit the Hunter Education Center to sign up for Army Correspondence Courses. Call 352-6130 for more information.

FCC Certification

If you would like to be Federal Communications Commission certified, the Hunter Education Center is the place to go. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University is offering coursework that leads to certification. Tuition Assistance is now 100 percent, up to \$250 per semester hour, so come on in and sign up

with your education counselor today. Call 352-6130 for information.

Airframe and Powerplant

Do you want to be A&P certified? The Hunter Education Center is the place to go. Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University is offering coursework that leads to certification. Tuition Assistance is now 100 percent; so come on in and sign up with your education counselor today. Call 352-6130 for more information.

Phatt Katz Comedy Show

The Phatt Katz Comedy Run will present shows at the Hunter Club on Jan.15 and Feb.12 starting at 9:30 p.m. sharp. Performances will feature two comedians and one headliner. Doors will open at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for advance purchase and \$15 at the door. For reservations call 912-269-0277.

Division Training Holiday

Friday, Jan.17 will be a Division Training Holiday prior to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday on Monday, Jan. 20.

Golf Tournament Change

The Annual Hunter Golf Club Championship, normally scheduled in September, will now be held Saturday and Sunday, March 29-30. Please call the pro shop at 352-5622 for details.

Auto Craft Shop

The Hunter Army Airfield Auto Craft Shop is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday through Monday, they are located in Building 1288. For more information, call 352-6244.

Hunter Outdoor Recreation

The Hunter Outdoor Recreation will be closed Jan. 20 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. birthday.

Pass and Permit is located in Building 8454, hours of business are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday, Thursday and Friday; and 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Lotts Island Marina can be reached at 352-5974, hours of operation are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday, Thursday and Friday; and 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Sunday and holidays. All facilities at the Lotts Island Recreation Area are now open to the general public. Pavilions can be reserved by calling 352-5722, 60 days advance notice for DOD and ID card holders and 90 days advance notice for military unit functions.

Hunter Skeet Range is located in Building 8250, hours of operation are 4 to 9 p.m. Thursdays and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday.

Winn Army Community Hospital

Tobacco Cessation classes

The next Tobacco Cessation class at Winn will begin 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. or 6 to 8 p.m., Jan. 9. The class is held for four consecutive Thursdays. To register, call 370-5071 or 767-6633.

Health care Orientation

Whether new to Fort Stewart or the Army, you are invited to learn how to get the best from your health care services at 5 p.m. Wednesday in the Winn auditorium.

Take a tour of the hospital, learn how to enroll locally in TRICARE, make appointments, refill prescriptions and much more. For more information, call Linda King at 370-6225.

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.

Pregnancy Nurse Line

A nurse line is available for patients at least 20-weeks into their pregnancy who may have questions that can't wait to be answered until their regularly scheduled appointment. To speak with a nurse, call 370-6550.

Flu Shots

Flu shots are now available on a walk-in basis at the Immunization Clinic. Children 3 and under must have a prescription for the shot. Walk-in hours are 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 370-6878.

ASAP sees families

The Army Substance Abuse Program will now see dependent family members at least 18-years-old, retirees, contract employees and Department of the Army civilians on a walk-in basis. ASAP is located in Building 620 on 6th Street.

For more information, call 767-5265/5267.

Winn and Tuttle Champions

The Winn and Tuttle Champions program matches representatives with Family Readiness Groups to answer questions about what health care services are available to you — from transferring your TRICARE enrollment to refilling prescriptions to scheduling appointments.

For more information, call Winn's representatives, Linda King or Darla Vaught, at 370-6225/6143 or Tuttle's representative, Marilyn

O'Mallon, at 352-6015.

"Take Care of Yourself" class

The next "Take Care of Yourself" class at Tuttle will be 10 to 11 a.m. Jan. 29 in the library. Winn's next class will be 2 to 3 p.m. Jan. 22.

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, call 370-5071 or 767-6633.

Volunteer Orientation

A mandatory orientation for all new American Red Cross volunteers will be held 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Friday in the hospital conference room.

Pregnancy Basics class

The next Pregnancy Basics class will be 6 p.m. Jan. 14. This 1st trimester class helps patients understand their pregnancy discomforts and warning signs. To register, call 370-6017/6670.

EFMP Enrollment Orientation

The Exceptional Family Member Program will be holding an enrollment orientation from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Jan. 23 in the hospital auditorium. Meet other families and learn about other community support services.

For more information, call Jennie Pullings at 370-6505.

TRICARE 'online'

There is an e-mail address where you can go to get assistance with TRICARE questions: TRICARE_help@amedd.army.mil. If you would prefer to ask your questions to someone in the Fort Stewart/Hunter area, you may contact a health benefits advisor/beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinator. If you have soldiers who are deployed, they too can access information and get assistance at Winn, 370-6015 or Tuttle, 352-5062.

Tuttle Army Health Clinic

Marilyn O'Mallon is Tuttle Army Health Clinic's patient representative.

Her role as a patient advocate means that patients have someone to address their concerns and find resolutions to their problems. She also offers notary service. Visit O'Mallon in her office at Tuttle Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Call 352-5731 or e-mail at Marilyn.O'Mallon@se.amedd.army.mil.

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.

DEPLOYMENTS

from page 1A

soldiers while deployed, but to take care of their own families and each other.”

Hallums’ wife, Natalie Hallums, said, “It’s important for us, I feel, to stay home, especially when they deploy, because this is where the hub of everything is. If something were to happen, this is where we’d get our information. This is home.”

Although deploying soldiers like Hallums and Winkler say they don’t want to leave their families, this hasn’t turned their focus from their mission, according to Grimsley.

“Morale is extraordinarily high,” Grimsley said, “and soldiers are excited about doing what they came in the Army to do, regardless of their specialty.”

Grimsley also expressed his confidence in his troops, adding, “Without a doubt, we are the best trained and equipped and manned army in the world, and we are able to do anything the president asks us to do.”

The soldiers who left Monday night are just a fraction of the 16,500 in the 3rd Inf. Div. who are either in the Middle East already or making preparations to go there within the next few weeks. The entire division has received deployment orders and this 250 will join the members of the division who are already there.

More than 4,000 members of the division are already in Kuwait, where the 2nd BCT, and division command and control elements await the rest of the troops, who will unite with them this month.

There are four brigade combat teams in the 3rd Inf. Div.

- 1st and 2nd brigades at Fort Stewart
- 3rd brigade at Fort Benning, Ga.,
- 4th brigade with units at both Fort Stewart and Hunter.

The division also has an engineer brigade, a brigade-sized division artillery, a brigade-sized division support command, the 103rd Military

Intelligence Bn., the 123rd Signal Bn., and the 1st Bn., 3rd Air Defense Artillery.

The headquarters and units of the 24th Corps Support Group, a brigade-sized logistics unit, will also deploy.

Grimsley said the terrain where the soldiers will be training is different from the places they’ve been before. However, he said, “Very adaptive and versatile soldiers can fight and train in any kind of terrain, and that’s what we’re going to do.”

As the troops climbed the steps to the plane Monday night, some of them waved, some shouted out goodbyes and some just smiled as they walked by lugging their gear, preparing themselves to do their duty as soldiers.

As for their families and others who are staying behind, Natalie Hallums said, “I believe that the military is a way of life. It’s not just a job for my soldier, but it’s a way for us all to live.”

BDE LIVE FIRE

from page 1A

the brigade combat team in the event of a real conflict.

“The soldiers are more focused,” he said. “They watch the news and know there is a possibility for war. We’re building confidence in our soldiers as a team and in the leadership.”

The ultimate benefit of the training is that if the current situation with Iraq turns to war, the soldiers are ready, Blount said.

“The soldiers are developing a really confident combat team,” Blount said. “No one wishes for a war, but if we have to fight, we are prepared.”

CONGRESS

from page 1A

strategies, the president said, “yet the nation’s resolve in each case will be clear.”

“We will not permit any regime to threaten the freedom and security of the American people or our allies and friends around the world,” Bush declared.

U.S. officials, he said, will continue to hunt down the terrorists across the world.

“Cell by cell, we are disrupting their plans. One by one, we’re showing these merciless killers the meaning of justice,” he said.

Turning to Iraq, the president noted that Saddam Hussein’s outlaw regime “lives by violence and deception and is arming to threaten the civilized world.”

For the sake of peace, Bush stressed, the Iraqi dictator “must disarm himself of all weapons of mass destruction and prove that he has done so.”

Should Saddam fail to do so, Bush vowed, the United States would lead “a coalition of the willing to disarm the Iraqi regime of weapons of mass destruction and free the Iraqi people.”

Like Iraq, North Korea’s regime has expelled international inspectors and is trying to defy the world through its nuclear weapons program, Bush said, and the United States and other nations will also confront this threat.

Working with countries in the region, the president said he believes diplomacy will work.

“We have no aggressive intent, no argument with the North Korean people,” he said. “We’re interested in peace on the Korean Peninsula.”

The president’s remarks were part of a speech announcing a new growth and jobs plan to strengthen the U.S. economy.

KEANE

from page 1A

people,” he added. “We have never failed them, and we aren’t going to fail them now. And by God, we are going to finish it on our terms.”

Keane also let the soldiers know what it means to go to war and told them to have faith in themselves and their leaders.

“Some of you in this room have never been to combat. It is natural to ask yourself ‘How am I going to do this?’ It is natural to be afraid,” Keane reassured. “You sit here in this room as part of the best Army that has ever been established. We will kill when we have to kill, and we will stop when the fighting is over. We’ve got the standards, we’ve got the training, we’ve got the leaders, and we’ve got the will. You can’t take anything for granted. You have to trust your instincts.”

Keane went on to say that the soldiers “have to have trust in your leadership, but do not let them do something stupid. You have to trust your gut instinct. And if your gut tells you your leadership is about to do something stupid, tell them.”

He also assured the soldiers they would not be alone and will have back up from all the services if they go to war.

“If anybody’s in trouble, everybody is coming to get you,” Keane said. “These Apache pilots will fly through anything to come get you.”

Race car drivers Jerry Nadeau, Geoffrey Bodine, Gary Lewis and Tony Schumacher as well as Power Boat racer Nigel Hook accompanied Keane in visiting the soldiers.

“You guys are the superstars, we are not the superstars,” said Nadeau, NASCAR driver for the Army. “I just want to say our hearts and prayers go out to you.”

The visit helped soldiers put their minds to rest and reas-

sure them on their purpose as well as let them know people do think of them.

“It puts our mind at ease,” said Pfc. Jeremy Menerey, a driver for C Company 1st Battalion, 64th Armor. “From what he said, it gives us a little bit of motivation and helps us know what’s gonna’ happen in the coming months. It also makes us feel that we do matter here in the desert.”



SPC. Adam Nuelken

Gen. John M. Keane, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, answers questions from soldiers of the 1st Bn., 64th Arm. at Camp Pennsylvania.

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.

Tuskers touch up after training

Spc. Jacob Boyer

Staff Writer, Frontline Forward

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — A soldier's gear can take a lot of punishment while he is out in the field. From torn uniforms to cracked axles, the multitude of equipment used in the exercises that dot Army life can break down, fall apart or malfunction under the stresses imposed by usage. Even when it does not completely fail, it is important to keep it clean and well maintained to help offset any breakdowns in the future. Because of that, it is just as important for a soldier to know how to take care of his equipment as it is for him to understand how to use it.

The soldiers of 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment spent the days surrounding Christmas conducting maintenance on their gear in the wake of 2nd Brigade's recent exercise. Track pads needed to be changed, faulty boots needed to be replaced, and everything needed to be cleaned in preparation for further training.

"You conduct maintenance to make sure you're combat ready," said Pvt. Josh Schenck, an A Co. driver from Dalton, Ga. "If they call us tomorrow, we've got to be ready to go."

When a unit gets back from a field exercise, the first thing the soldiers need to do is identify any faults that occurred during the operation, said Staff Sgt. Shawn Gibson, an A Co. tank commander from Hopewell, Va. This is just the beginning of the after-operations maintenance that takes five days to conduct.

"Each day is geared towards a specific thing, from the maintenance of the vehicles to taking care of personal equipment," Gibson said. "We do clothing inventories. We make sure the soldiers' equipment is serviceable. We make sure that anything that's falling apart is taken care of."

Each tank crew has a number of things to check out when the time comes to conduct maintenance on the tanks, he said. First, they check to make sure the track suspension is correct. They also check all of the tracks' pads for wear and tear and replace any that are unserviceable.

After all of that is checked out, they inspect the Nuclear, Biological and Chemical warfare equipment to make sure it is clean and operational, Gibson said.

"Then we move on to the turret," he said. "We check the tube, drop the breach and clean it, and make sure it's all serviceable."

During the last operation, Gibson's tank fired off about 300 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition, so cleaning the machine guns is very important, he said. There are also many instruments inside the tank that need to be checked before a crew can be satisfied that everything is ready to go for the next exercise. Once all this is done, they do general cleaning on the vehicle.

The tank crews fix whatever they are able to themselves, Gibson said. If they need help with other repairs, they go to maintenance for assistance.

However, maintenance does not stop in the rear, Schenck said. Even during an exercise there is work to be done.

"Every time we stop, I have to get out and check the track for faults," he said. "We top off all of the oils every day. All our stuff's been pretty much squared away."

Many problems can arise when a unit draws equipment that is not its own, said Sgt. Renato Abenojar, an A Co. gunner from Seattle. Previous units may do whatever is necessary to make sure they can turn the equipment in on their way home.

"Just like in the rest of the Army, everything can be fixed with bubble gum and duct tape," he said. "Sometimes, when you're drawing equipment, that's obvious, because you find



Spc. Jacob Boyer

Sgt. Renato Abenojar, Seattle, Wash., checks the sights in the turret of an M1A1 Abrams tank while his crew performs preventative maintenance checks and services on the vehicle.

yourself fixing problems that would not have been there if the previous owners had fixed them properly. People gerry-rig all kinds of stuff when they're turning gear in."

All the maintenance helps ensure that if the soldiers are called to fight, they can do so at their optimum potential, Gibson said.

"If you don't take care of your equipment, it won't take care of you," he said.