

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

Inside The Frontline News



Engineers test new equipment in Kuwait 2A

CG updates community on Kuwait deployment 4A

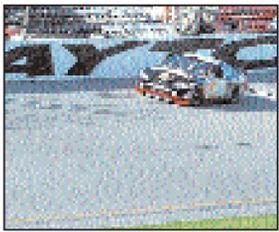
Life & Times



'Celebs' use stardom to promote Army 1B

Education centers offer variety of education opportunities 1B

Sports



'Army of One' racer places 28th in Daytona 500 4B

National Guard 54 debuts in NASCAR 4B

Guide

- Voices and Viewpoints 4A
- Police Blotters 7A
- 3ID In Brief 8A
- Health news 10A
- Score Board 4B
- Worship schedule 5B
- Pet of the Week 5B
- Volunteer Spotlight 6B
- Birth announcements 6B

Security Adviser Rice: Saddam has 'Weeks, not months'

Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice propelled the administration's clear message to Saddam Hussein during a Sunday morning talk show: "If you're ever going to comply, this is the time."

Echoing remarks made by Secretary of State Colin Powell at the U.N. Security Council meeting on Feb. 14, Rice told Tony Snow on "Fox News Sunday" that Iraq has "weeks, not months." She expressed similar sentiments later in the day on NBC's "Meet the Press."

"What we need now though is for the world to unify," she said, "and to stop talking about whether we should go to war, whether we shouldn't go to war, and to say to Saddam Hussein, 'It is time.'"

Rice's comments came a day after protests against a war occurred in New York and several

European cities. "People have a right to protest; people can say what they think," the president's security counselor noted.

But she pointed out the Iraqi people don't get those same rights. "The fact of the matter is that they're not saying what they think in Baghdad, because that's a regime that cuts people's tongues out if they say what they think," Rice said.

"It would be worthwhile to step back to remember the true nature of the Iraqi regime, how they rape and torture, how they kill women in front of their families to make a point, to remember that Saddam is acquiring and has acquired weapons of mass destruction, that he's used chemical weapons on his own population and his neighbors. And ask yourself, 'Do you really want this regime to go unchallenged for the next 12 years, as we've done for the past 12 years?'"

Rice told Fox's Snow that U.S. and British diplomats continue work on another draft U.N.

resolution to authorize the use of force to disarm Iraq. Rice said the White House would accept such a resolution if in fact it affirms the obligations the Security Council undertook in U.N. Resolution 1441, which calls for full immediate, unconditional and active Iraqi disarmament and elimination of weapons of mass destruction. However, she said that the Security Council must make clear that its resolution will not be "seriously abused" as Iraq has done over 12 years.

"We don't want a Security Council resolution if it is only a delaying tactic," Rice said. "We believe that we have all the authority necessary under 1441 and several other U.N. Security Council resolutions to impose serious consequences on Iraq if necessary." Resolution 1441, according to Rice, "simply states" that if Iraq fails to comply with the Security Council obligations then it will face serious consequences.

See SADDAM, Page 12A

Spartans are right on target

Spc. Mason T. Lowery
50th PAD

Spartan tankers trained with live rounds on Range 8 Feb. 6, 7 and 8, continuing their five months of Kuwaiti training so far.

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 64th Armor; 4th Battalion, 64th Armor; and 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry screened and calibrated their tanks by firing armor piercing fin stabilized discarding sabot-tracer cartridges and high explosive anti tank rounds.

The soldiers gauged the accuracy of their tanks and ammunition by firing the rounds, according to Maj. Michael Donovan, the 1/64 S-3 from . "It's like zeroing an M-16, but 9 out of 10 times they don't need to (make corrections) — we shoot pretty straight," he said.

Pvt. 2 Machenzie Salem, a 1/64 soldier from Ocala Fla., agreed. "It went well. We screened the first time on the sabot and heat rounds. We've been getting better and better, and we still train a lot."

Donovan said the soldiers' attitudes during the live fire were good, like they have been since they've been in Kuwait. "It benefits everyone when soldiers like the training they are doing. ... This is the most well-trained unit, battalion and brigade I've ever been in."

He said training in Kuwait has less restrictions and is more primitive than back at Fort Stewart, which makes it more like what soldiers might face in combat.

A 4/64 platoon leader, 1st Lt. Dan VanKirk from San Diego was monitoring the training and said he was impressed with

See TANKS, Page 12A



Which way is North?
Camp New Jersey soldiers direct Harry Smith, anchor for the Early Show on CBS, to the north during the Feb. 6 live broadcast from Camp New Jersey. On Feb. 7, ABC's Good Morning America broadcasted live from Camp New York. For the full story and more photos, see Page 2B.

Sgt. Craig Zentokovich

Trio comes full circle

Spc. Mason T. Lowery
50th PAD

Sixty Spartan tanks converged on the desert Feb. 6 through 8, let loose a volley of live-training rounds, and brought together three war veterans and old friends.

Lieutenant colonels Philip deCamp, Rick Schwartz and Stephen Twitty were company commanders during Operation Desert Storm in the battalions they now command — 4th Battalion, 64th Armor; 1st Battalion, 64th Armor; and 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry, respectively.

The three battalions were then

part of the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) at Fort Stewart. In 1996, the 24th Inf. Div. was deactivated and the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) settled in.

"I knew 'Steph' Twitty and 'Flip' deCamp 12 years ago — we were young captains together," said Schwartz, an Alexandria, Va. native. "We've been following each other for the last 12 years ... we go way back." Schwartz and deCamp's friendship dates back further than the Gulf War — they went to rival high schools in Virginia.

The three friends live side-by-

See TRIO, Page 12A



Old friends Lt. Col. Philip deCamp, 4/64 Armor, Lt. Col. Stephen Twitty, 3/15 Inf., and Lt. Col. Rick Schwartz, 1/64 Armor, talk Feb. 8 during a live fire at Range 8.

Spc. Mason T. Lowery

Weather Forecast

FRI	High 73°	Low 60°
SAT	High 75°	Low 46°
SUN	High 64°	Low 41°

Engineers test state-of-the-art equipment



Sgt. Craig Zentkovich

50th PAD

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — The Countermine, Counter-booby trap Center from the U.S. Army Engineer School sent representatives to Camp New York to give engineers classes on new equipment Feb. 10 - 13.

Leadership elements from 10th Engineer Battalion, 11th Eng. Bn. and 317th Eng. Bn. received instruction and hands-on training on a hand-held, standoff mine detection sensor as well as MATILDA — an unmanned ground vehicle.

The mine detection sensor, HSTAMIDS, allows the operator to “hear” metal objects and negate clutter, according to Sgt. 1st Class John Mincy, trainer and instructor for the CMCBC.

“This new (mine detector) can differentiate between mineralized soil, metallic clutter and mines by integrating a radar detector and ground-penetrating radar,” Mincy said. “It saves engineers a lot of time and effort not having to dig up every ‘hit’ the current system registers.”

The HSTAMIDS is much more practical, but it does have its drawbacks.

“At nine pounds, it’s a little heavier than I’d like. The handle doesn’t lock, so it gets hard to steady it after 15 minutes of use,” said Spc. Daniel A. Medrano, B Co., 11th Eng. Bn. team leader. “I hope the final product will be a little more polished.”

MATILDA, an acronym for the company that manufactures it, is a multi-purpose, lightweight and man-packable, said Terry O’Donoghue, chief MATILDA trainer.

“The vehicle was originally purchased by the military for cave and tunnel operations in Afghanistan,” O’Donoghue said. “The (CMCBC) saw the capabilities and had to act.”

The 52-pound device can navigate tunnels and sewers, move and carry up to 475 pounds of equipment, and inspect locations for trip wire and booby traps with the help of its front-side camera. It can be maneuvered by using the operator control unit, which includes a small-screen monitor and all the necessary controls for a soldier to operate it up to a distance of 1.2 kilometers.

“This can get under vehicles, and into small cracks and spaces without putting the soldier in harm’s way,” said Sgt. Pedro Smith, A Co., 11th Eng. Bn. team leader. “It does a good job. The only drawback is the time it takes to do the job.”

With enough practice, the time constraints will no longer be a factor, according to Smith.

Though MATILDA will not be integrated into 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) in the near future, more than 30 HSTAMIDS will be distributed to the various engineer units in Kuwait, said Mincy.

“We came here to get high-speed training,” said Medrono. “Now we can bring what we’ve learned to our units and get to training.”



Photos by Sgt. Craig Zentkovich

(Above) Staff Sgt. Kevin L. Patterson, 317th Eng. Bn. squad leader, scans his lane with a new mine detector — the hand-held, stand-off, mine detection sensor.

(Right) Sgt. Pedro Smith, A Co., 11th Eng. Bn. team leader, looks at a moving image on the monitor of his operator control unit. The OCU receives images from two separate cameras on MATILDA.

678th Engineer Det. does more with less

Pfc. Christina Carde

11th PAD

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — When an engineer battalion deploys, they are equipped with electricians, plumbers, carpenters and masons to complete their mission. However, for the 678th National Guard Engineer Detachment, North Charleston, S.C., they must complete the work of a battalion, with less than 50 soldiers.

Members from the 678th said this has been one of the most challenging experiences of their life. Aside from having a limited amount of people to complete a large number of tasks, this is their first time deployed to a combat zone.

“I believe we are the first Army unit to ever be deployed to a combat zone from South Carolina,” said Sgt. Alfred Sherrill, 1st Platoon, 678th. “We have about 45 troops in our detachment whose mission is to do all the engineer work for the 82nd Airborne Division here.”

Since the 678th’s arrival in October, they have accompanied the 82nd on missions all over Afghanistan, building tents, medical and dining facilities, showers, and installed electricity and plumbing in many different forward operating bases and safe houses throughout the country.

“We work from sunrise to sunset six days a week,” said Sherrill. “There is a lot of reconstruction to be done all over the country so every member of our detachment is constantly moving.”

Because there are few soldiers to handle such a large workload, each soldier must have a working knowledge of not only their specialty

but of every engineer skill.

“Our detachment is broken up into three teams,” said Spc. Brian Williams, 2nd Platoon, 678th. “Because of the diverse nature of many tasks, and the small number of engineers to accomplish the mission, each engineer must know how to do masonry, electrical work, carpentry and plumbing to effectively get the job done.”

Even though the job can be stressful at times, Sherrill said it’s well worth it.

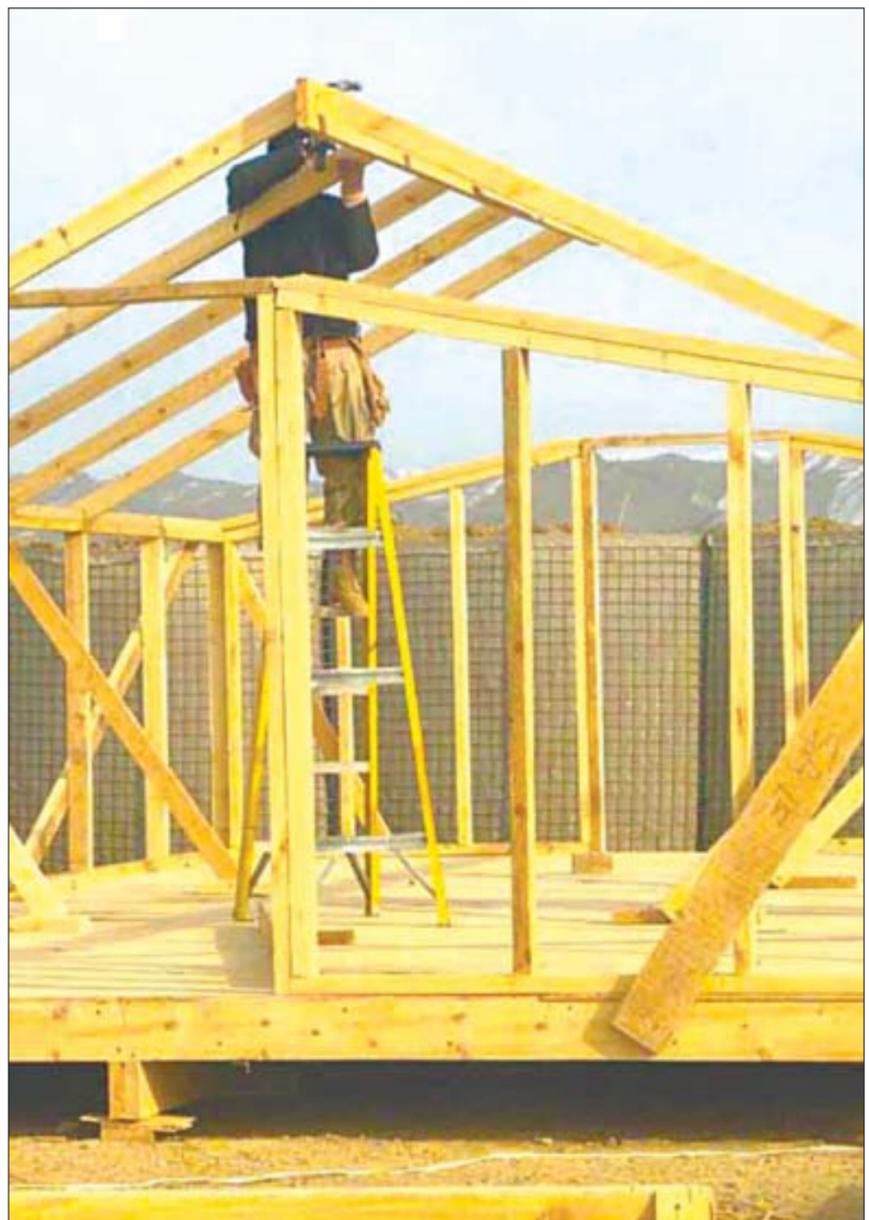
“Our team recently went to Gardez to do engineer work for the 82nd. Within six weeks, our team of 10 erected five sleep tents, five showers, latrines, floors for two medical facilities and a DFAC,” said Sherrill. “After all of that hard work, the infantry soldiers came to us with so much gratitude, thankful that they didn’t have to spend another night on the ground. That in it self made it all worth it.”

Even though Sherrill loves being deployed as an engineer, he lives his life as a civilian superintendent for a contracting company.

“I took a \$1,500 monthly pay cut to come on active duty and deploy,” said Sherrill. “To me, this is the better of the two jobs because I am making a difference.”

Williams said he misses home, but he knows he is needed for this mission.

“I miss being with my family, but I’m doing what I love to do out here,” said Williams. “Without engineers, soldiers wouldn’t have running water, a warm place to sleep or any other amenities troops enjoy on a daily basis. It’s nice to know people like me are the difference between a good and bad deployment.”



Photos by Staff Sgt. Christina Bhatti

(Above) In the six weeks the 678th Engineer Detachment, Charleston, S.C., was in Gardez, they erected five sleep tents and showers, latrines, two floors for medical facilities and a dining facility.

(Left) Soldiers from the 678th Engineer Detachment, North Charleston, S.C., work to finish a sleep tent for the 82nd Airborne Division in Gardez.



Child abuse decreasing at Stewart, Hunter

Pvt. 2 Emily Danial
Staff Writer, Hunter Public Affairs

Rates of child abuse are decreasing Army-wide, according to a Jan. 31 report from the Army News Service, and personnel at Hunter Army Airfield and Fort Stewart are doing their part to help those rates continue to improve.

Child abuse victims on Fort Stewart and Hunter alone dropped from 172 in 2001 to 153 in 2002, with a total of approximately 16,456 children on the installation, said Johnny Cusimano, Fort Stewart Family Advocacy Program manager.

Also in decline, he said, were first-time cases of child abuse, with the number dropping from 155 in 2001 to 138 in 2002.

The Army News Service reported the rate for child abuse nationwide to be 12.2 per 1,000 persons versus only 5.1 per 1,000 in the Army, according to the National Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse.

"We're always going to have cases (of domestic violence)," said Cusimano. "We are a young post." According to the Army News Service, statistics show that 22- to 26-year-olds have the highest rate of both child and spouse abuse.

Cusimano added that some instances of domestic abuse might come from the fact that families have been separated from the support systems that they may have had back home, such as family and friends, and have not yet established such a system on post.

"(The FAP's) focus is on prevention of abuse and providing support systems for families."

Johnny Cusimano
Fort Stewart FAP manager

"(The FAP's) focus is on prevention of abuse and providing support systems for families, including child care," said Cusimano.

Regina Mims, a FAP specialist, said three programs that have been set up by the FAP that are designed to prevent domestic violence and support families here are Partners in Prevention, New Parent Support, and First Steps (for new mothers).

All the programs are voluntary, said Mims. She explained, however, that some of the services connected to the FAP, such as social workers, can mandate an action to be taken if a family will not take steps to resolve a potentially harmful problem.

"Some are too proud to get help," said Mims. "I personally haven't had to make any calls (to get services mandated), but it has been done before."

What about those who do seek help?

"For the most part, people come to us looking for help, asking for help," Mims said. "We get the history of the problem, find out where the problem is stemming from, but we don't treat it. We are a referral agency. We call the agency that can best help the person's situation (i.e. social services, mental clinics and others) and they take whatever action is necessary."

Still, she said, it's important for those working at the FAP to be able to build a rapport with the people they talk to. "If I don't know what's going on, I can't help," Mims said, "and we are a helping agency."



Upcoming events for child abuse prevention month

April 5: Child Walk (9 a.m. – 11 a.m.) followed by Block Party/Talent Show (11 a.m. – 3 p.m.) @ Fort Stewart
 April 12: Family Community Day (11 a.m. – 3 p.m.) at Hunter
 April 23: Puppet Show (8 a.m. – 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.) at Hunter Army Community Service building
 For more information about events or programs call 767-5058/5059 or 353-5259/6816.

Marne scouts scope out LRAS-3

Surveillance system helps soldiers see better, farther

Sgt. Akilah C. Clarke
Editor, Frontline Forward

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — Upon first sight, it could be easily mistaken for an ancient predecessor of the telescope. But the Long Range Advanced Scout System is literally more than meets the eye.

The scouts of 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor and 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment got to experience the system up close and in person during orientation training held Feb. 10.

Equipped with a forward-looking infrared device, the system allows the user to scan areas in excess of 15,000 meters in day and night conditions. This provides scout teams

the ability to see better and farther on the battlefield, according to Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Allies, a scout systems subject matter expert with the directorate of training doctrine and combat, Fort Knox, Ky.

"This system is specifically designed for the cavalry scout to utilize so they can acquire and determine where targets are on the battlefield," Allies, a Center, Colo. native, said. "It's a very useful system for the scouts — it upgrades their capabilities, particularly during night fighting."

The LRAS-3 also is also equipped with functions that allow scouts to determine the location of any target on the battlefield within 19,000 meters, Allies said.

Before the introduction of the LRAS-3, scouts relied upon night vision goggles and thermal imaging, which provided a view of the battlefield, but not at much distance, according to Staff Sgt. Michael Burns, a scout section sergeant with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1/30th Inf.

"With the last pieces of equipment we used, we didn't have much of a buffer zone between us and the elements behind us," explained Burns, a native of Fort Wain, Ind. "With this equipment we have more of a stand off capability. We can see at a farther distance, identify enemy targets and either bring the main force to bear upon them or bring artillery or close air support on to any enemy

identified on the battlefield."

Allies echoed Burns, saying the LRAS-3 will basically change the way scouts conduct themselves on the battlefield.

"The capabilities of the system will allow the soldiers to fight 24 hours a day and see as well during the night as they can see during the day," he said.

The 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) is one of only three divisions that have received the system so far, Allies said.

"The only other divisions in the Army that have been fielded with the LRAS-3 are the 4th Infantry Division and the 1st Cavalry Division, so the 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) is the third combat unit to be fielded with it.

CG: Emphasis on organizing, equipping, training division

Maj. Gen. Buford C. Blount III
3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield commanding general

The last ship is in port now and the division is working hard to unload equipment and get soldiers out to the desert to check and exercise systems. Our soldiers are settled in their camps and life is becoming somewhat normal. Our emphasis is on organizing, equipping and training the division.

Training continues at a steady pace throughout the brigade combat teams. As you have seen on TV many of the task forces from the brigade combat teams are going through urban operations training, and trench and bunker clearing. The cannons and rockets of Division Artillery have been booming in the distance day and night, the helicopters of the 4th (Aviation Brigade) are now flying overhead and DISCOM'S trucks are rumbling up from the port.

Such are the sounds of freedom. Media continue to have an interest in the Marne Division and the great things we are doing and we are eager to show everyone our great soldiers and capabilities. The 3rd Brigade Combat Team hosted Harry Smith and The CBS Early Show on Camp New Jersey Feb. 6. The Spartan Brigade hosted Diane Sawyer and Good Morning America Feb. 7 on Camp New York. Both broadcasts were very successful events that highlighted the professionalism of our soldiers while also showing their very human side. Fox

Commentary

News Channel's Brian Kilmeade, co-host of the morning show Fox & Friends, aired segments from Camp New York and Camp Pennsylvania and the ranges.



Media are also living with units on a short-term basis on training exercises. We expect media to be responsible in what they report and our senior leaders are very accessible to the media to answer questions or clarify information gathered while embedded with troops.

If you find that information read or heard in the media is vastly different than what Family Readiness Groups are reporting, please call an FRG leader to sort out the truth. There is no advantage gained by providing you false information.

Recent comments printed in the Christian Science Monitor that some units have moved Feb. 5 to their tactical assembly areas, and that mail and other correspondence will cease shortly are simply not true. The 3rd Infantry Division has not received any other orders than to deploy to Kuwait and train. Mail will continue as normal and is greatly appreciated, keep it coming. But, if the soldiers are in the field moving long distances there may be a two or

three day longer delay before the mail catches up. I'm sure it may come as a surprise to the Christian Science Monitor, but we are fairly confident that all our units are safely in their camps, reading their mail and training hard to be ready as President Bush asked.

Our family readiness groups and rear detachments are the lifeline for information, services and often, emotional support. We were heartened to see that in a recent survey, the vast majority of families planned to remain in the local Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield area while the division is deployed.

I believe out of 400 families surveyed, 398 said they would be staying. This is clearly a testament to the hard work of the Garrison staff and unit volunteers and to smart decisions on the part of our families. Fort Stewart is where the support systems and information channels are located. Having great communities in the Coastal Empire, who care very much for our soldiers, is an added blessing.

With the passing of each day, it's safe to say that each one of our Marne soldiers has missed a special day in their life or the lives of their family. Missing special moments is tough on everyone. Our thoughts are never far from our family and friends, and with Valentines Day recently passed, they are not far from our hearts. Marne soldiers know their loved ones are safe at home because we are here prepared to defend them and the ideals that make our country great.

"Rock of the Marne!"

Before Tiger, there was Grant

Sgt. Sam Hoffman
Staff Writer

Although February is Black History Month, it's difficult to think that so much culture can be captured in one month.

It would be impossible to mention everything that has happened in black history; Fredrick Douglas, Jackie Robinson and the great advancements in civil rights put forth by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Never, even in golf circles, do I ever hear anyone mention Dr. George Grant, the inventor of the golf tee. Grant was the first black

person to graduate from Harvard Dental School in Cambridge, Mass. in 1870. He was an expert dentist, earning a U.S. patent for a prosthetic cleft palate.

His second passion was golfing, during an era where some parts of this country wouldn't even allow black people to play golf. Like so many amateur golfers he realized that most of us are sub-"par," so to speak.

So undeterred, Grant devised an elevated tee using his dental tools and obtained a patent for it. In 1899, golf

Commentary



balls were teed up on mounds made up of a mixture of sand and water that was not only messy, but also inconsistent. The rest is history. Next time you go to hit the links with your fiends, remember the pioneer Dr. George Grant, not only as an inventor and the first black man to graduate from Harvard; think of all of the important black

history that we can't get to during black history month.

I think we can all enjoy the irony of picturing segregationists playing golf at their exclusive country clubs, with an invention from a black man.

Dr. Grant's golf tee is only one, possibly the most important, but still only one of many black inventions, innovations and inspirations that we just can't get to during one short month. If you know of an important black person, be sure to remind people who they are.

Remember, Tiger Woods may be the best, but he isn't the only famous black golfer.

Don't shy from talking about war with children

Special to The Frontline

The events of Sept. 11, 2001, and the "war on terrorism" have prompted many children to ask questions about war. "What is war?" "Why are we having a war?" "Is the war going to be here?"

You may worry about the exposure your child is getting through the media, other adults or friends at school. You may wonder how much is too much for your child to understand. It's important not to shy away from talking about war with your child. As a parent, you are the best source of information. Talking about it with you may ease the fear and stress your child feels, and help clarify misconceptions.

Most children over age 4 are aware of the concept of war. They overhear adults talking about it. They may hear other children talking about it or see it on TV. Some children have family members in the military who may be preparing for deployment. Children, however, don't have the ability to

understand war as adults do. Instead a child sees war through his or her own eyes, which may cause fears, concerns and misconceptions. When you begin to talk about war, remember to:

- Try to anticipate the questions your child may ask you. These may include, "Why are we at war?" "Will the war come here?" "Will I have to go to war?" "Do we know anyone who will be going to the war?"
- Let your child talk first. Ask your child to tell you what he or she knows about war and about what is happening in the news. You may be surprised at how much your child knows, or you may be alarmed at conclusions your child has drawn. Allowing your child to take the lead will help you give him or her the most appropriate information.
- Ask your child questions such as, "What are you scared of?" "What bothers you most about the war?" "Do you feel angry or sad?" Children are often not able to draw abstract conclusions about complicated events such as war. Your child may conclude that since four

planes crashed in the Sept. 11 hijackings, all planes aren't safe. Your child may worry that if you or other family members take a trip somewhere you won't come back. Talking about your child's fears can help you address these misconceptions.

You can help clarify what your child knows by asking questions as well. If your preschooler asks, "Is this a real war?" you might clarify what she means by saying, "Tell me what you mean by a 'real war.'" Remember your child's idea of a real war may be very different from yours. Always remember to answer your child's question after she has answered yours.

Remember that children tend to look for simple answers. When explaining the actions of war, you may want to make a distinction between actions such as bombing or killing and a long-term war. Children may assume that the action of bombing a building or country will be enough to resolve the conflict.

(Courtesy of the 1st Armored Division's Mental Health Division)



Pvt. Murphy's Law

Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

Why is it important to talk to children about deployment?

"I talk to my daughter about it so she can be a part of what's going on in my life."

Spc. Joe Woods
834th Postal AG Co.

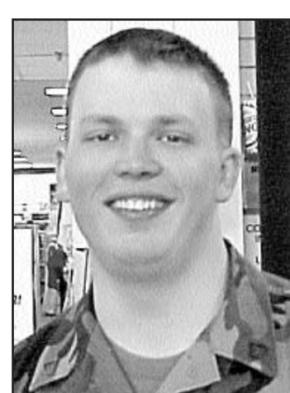


"I try to explain it to my daughter so she knows where I am, because she knows I'm not home with her."

Staff Sgt. Melanie Robinson
518th TC Det.

"To get them prepared for members of their families being gone for long periods of time."

Staff Sgt. Samad Jaliladdin
461st PSB Det. 4



"It's important for them to understand where their parents are going, and also the risks and the benefits of what they are doing."

Pfc. Elliot Jackson
890th Engineer Co.

"It's important because it's about their future, so they can live a normal, free life."

Maj. Ricardo Rodriguez
76th TC Det.



"I tell them so they can understand what's going on."

Sgt. Shelia Parquette
379th MP Det.

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 www.stewart.army.mil

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Taking the oath: Vietnamese soldier becomes U.S. citizen before deploying

Pvt. 2 Emily Danial

Staff Writer, Hunter Public Affairs

Vietnamese-born National Guardsman Spc. Kiu Thu Lam wanted to be an American citizen, so she practiced patience for almost eight months.

Lam, a combat medic in the 161st Area Support Medical Battalion in Mobile, Ala., came from Vietnam with her family on March 23, 1991 at age nine. She said she originally wanted to become a citizen to further the career she hopes to pursue as a pediatrician, so beginning in June 2002, she filled out applications and waited.

She sent money — \$310, to be exact — and waited.

All she had left was an interview, so she requested appointments and waited.

Finally, in January 2003, her unit was alerted that they would be deploying to Kuwait, and the former-full-time college student was done waiting — the process that could have taken several more months was pushed into warp speed, and a few short weeks later, Lam was sworn in as a citizen of the United States.

“I wanted to finish the naturalization process before I went,” said Lam, sitting in a bustling dayroom as preparations

were being made for her unit to ship out from Fort Stewart in the very near future. “I knew that if I waited till I got back, I might be bumped to the bottom of the list and have to wait even longer.”

Lam went to her battalion’s command sergeant major, Sgt. Maj. Joseph Daniel, and informed him of her desire to become a citizen and the obstacle of the approaching deployment.

Daniel, a Vietnam veteran, said he was “glad to assist in (Lam’s) quest before deploying,” and got in touch with Capt. Stuart Siegel, administrative law attorney with the 3220th Garrison Support Unit at Fort Stewart.

The ball began to roll.

“I am a Reservist, and I also work as a civilian attorney for the Immigration and Naturalization Service,” said Siegel. “I called a friend, who is also an attorney, in Atlanta and he helped move things along.”

Siegel said Lam’s naturalization could have taken one to two years had she not been in the military. He said it also helped that she was already so far along in the process.

There are several steps to becoming a citizen, Siegel said. First the applicant has to submit an application to the INS service center and get fingerprinted. This could take from three to six months. After the fingerprints are analyzed, the applicant will be called in for an interview, but this could take up to 400 days to actually occur. The purpose of the interview is to determine the applicant’s knowledge of the English language, review his or her application, and administer a civics exam. Following all this, the person may be sworn in as a citizen.

“It came down to push, shove and beg,” Daniel said of the rush to push the process along.

Two weeks after Daniel contacted Siegel, and after a great deal of “pushing and shoving,” Lam took a day trip to Atlanta. On Feb. 11, she was sworn in.

Siegel said, “The most profound thing, is that she’s our newest citizen, and she’s going off to war to protect her new country. She took the oath to protect and defend the Constitution and she meant it.”

Lam and Daniel both desired to express their deep gratitude to Siegel, as well as to members of the mobilization station for their assistance in transportation.

“Without them, we never could have made the trip to



Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Daniel

Spc. Kiu Thu Lam, a combat medic with the 161st Area Support Medical Bn. from Mobile, Ala., takes her oath of citizenship in Atlanta, Ga. Feb. 11.

Atlanta and back,” said Daniel.

As a student, she said, “there were benefits and scholarships I could get as an American citizen that I was not eligible for otherwise.”

Lam said she decided to join the Army National Guard because, “If a country is not safe when you’re in it, what’s the point?”

She said her determination to become naturalized came down to “you have to do what you have to do.”

She definitely did.



Pvt. 2 Emily Danial

Spc. Kiu Thu Lam and Sgt. Maj. Joseph Daniel pose with the long-awaited certificate of citizenship.

POLICE REPORTS

• **Subject:** Corporal, 32-year-old male, separate battalion
 • **Charges:** Driving under the influence, speeding
 • **Location:** Garden City

• **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
 • **Charges:** Disorderly conduct
 • **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Private First Class, 19-year-old male, 2nd Brigade
 • **Charges:** Simple battery, hindering a 911 call
 • **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Civilian, 52-year-old male
 • **Charges:** Improper backing
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Civilian, 33-year-old male
 • **Charges:** Wrongful appropriation of a private motor vehicle
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Civilian, 28-year-old female
 • **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, speeding 63/45
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private 2, 22-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
 • **Charges:** Improper backing
 • **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield

• **Subject:** Private, 24-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
 • **Charges:** Failure to appear
 • **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old female, 24th Corps Support Group
 • **Charges:** Deposit account fraud
 • **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old female, 24th Corps Support Group
 • **Charges:** Failure to appear
 • **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Civilian, 19-year-old male
 • **Charges:** Wrongful distribution of marijuana, wrongful possession of marijuana, wrongful use of marijuana
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** 28-year-old female, separate battalion
 • **Charges:** Improper backing
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Family member, 20-year-old female
 • **Charges:** Accidental damage
 • **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 24-year-old male, separate battalion
 • **Charges:** Improper backing
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 2nd Brigade

• **Charges:** Failure to obey order or regulation, driving on a post suspension
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 31-year-old male, separate battalion
 • **Charges:** Drunk and disorderly, disrespect to a commissioned officer, disrespect to an NCO, communicating a threat
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private 2, 24-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
 • **Charges:** Driving on suspended license
 • **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield

• **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
 • **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana, false official statement
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old male, 1st Brigade

• **Charges:** Failure to obey lawful order, driving on post suspension, driving without license
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old female, separate battalion
 • **Charges:** Failure to yield right of way
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Civilian, 53-year-old male
 • **Charges:** Driving while license suspended
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 28-year-old male, separate battalion
 • **Charges:** Driving while license suspended
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private, 23-year-old male, 1st Brigade
 • **Charges:** Failure to appear
 • **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Private, 20-year-old male, 1st Brigade
 • **Charges:** Larceny of private property
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
 • **Charges:** Wrongful damaging of government property, disorderly conduct
 • **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield

• **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
 • **Charges:** Driving while license suspended or revoked, failure to appear
 • **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield

• **Subject:** Captain, 30-year-old male, Headquarters Command
 • **Charges:** Improper backing
 • **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield

• **Subject:** Private, 24-year-old male, 1st Brigade
 • **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Family member, 18-year-old male
 • **Charges:** Failure to obey traffic control device
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Civilian, 25-year-old female
 • **Charges:** Wrongful possession of marijuana
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Family member, 22-year-old female
 • **Charges:** Driving while license suspended
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private, 20-year-old male, Division Artillery
 • **Charges:** Operating vehicle without tag or decal, driving while license is suspended or revoked, no proof of insurance
 • **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Corporal, 24-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
 • **Charges:** Driving under the influence, speed too fast for conditions
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Civilian, 18-year-old male
 • **Charges:** Driving under the influence, consumption of alcohol by a minor, failure to maintain lane
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 26-year-old male, 2nd Brigade
 • **Charges:** Speeding, 116/70, driving under the influence
 • **Location:** Richmond Hill

• **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old female, 24th Corps Support Group
 • **Charges:** Simple battery
 • **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
 • **Charges:** Simple battery
 • **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Civilian, 24-year-old male
 • **Charges:** Criminal trespassing
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Civilian, 24-year-old male
 • **Charges:** Criminal trespassing
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Civilian, 22-year-old male
 • **Charges:** Criminal trespassing
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
 • **Charges:** Driving while license is revoked
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
 • **Charges:** Criminal trespass, obstruction
 • **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Private First Class, 22-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
 • **Charges:** Criminal trespass, obstruction
 • **Location:** Savannah

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Fort Stewart McGruff Safe House Program



All inquiries or requests for information should be directed to:
Attn: Pamela Gaskin, Army Community Service
76 Lindquist Avenue, BLDG 470, Fort Stewart, GA 31314-5512
Phone: (912) 767-5058/5059 • Fax: (912) 767-5502
 Sponsored by DCAS Army Community Service – Family Advocacy Program

How can you help protect the desert and the dolphin?

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3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

Gate closure and changes

Due to the decrease in traffic flow on and off of Fort Stewart, Gate 2 (Troop Gate/E. 4th St.) and Gate 4 (Bryan Village/Austin Rd.) are closed until further notice.

Also, no traffic cones will be set up to allow inbound traffic total use of General Screven at the main gate 5:15 to 7 a.m. during physical training.

It will be normal traffic flow coming on and going off of the installation until further notice.

Warrant officer promotion board

HQDA has announced the Fiscal Year 2003 CW 3, 4 and 5 Promotion Board. The board is scheduled to meet April 29. The following are the zones of consideration for all grades:

- AV MOSs less 151A
- Above Zone — Sept. 30, 1997 and earlier
- Primary Zone — Oct. 1, 1997 through Sept. 30, 1998
- Below Zone — Oct. 1, 1998 through Sept. 30, 1999
- Tech MOSs plus 151A
- Above Zone — Sept. 30, 1998 and earlier
- Primary Zone — Oct. 1, 1998 through Sept. 30, 1999
- Below Zone — Oct. 1, 1999 through Sept. 30, 2000

Officers who will be considered by this board in all zones of consideration should immediately schedule themselves for a new digital photo. In addition to having the new digital photo posted to their files, officers will also receive two hard copies. These hard copy photos must be forwarded to PERSCOM in time for the promotion board.

For more information, call 767-3416 or 352-6296.

Tax assistance available

Get free tax assistance at the Marne Tax Assistance Center. The center is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays at Building 9611 in the National Guard Training Center area. Call 767-3909 for more information.

The Doughnut Man

The Doughnut Man is a ventriloquist who will be performing 9:15 a.m., Sunday at Diamond Elementary Gym. The program is designed to entertain children of all ages, there will be music and free doughnuts.

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.

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. We are also seeking to fill volunteer leadership positions. For more information, call 767-2197.

Continuing education

Family members, Army Reservists and National Guardsmen can continue their education during their relocation to Fort Stewart at the following learning center locations, regardless of their specific unit:

- Main Education Center, Building 130, 767-8331
 - Engineer Learning Center, Building 623, Room 144, 767-2905
 - DISCOM and 123rd Signal Learning Centers, Building 729, 767-2652
 - DIVARTY and 1st Brigade Learning Centers, Building 1237, 767-8543/2269
 - Marne Learning Center, Building 506, 767-2618
 - Rock Learning Center, Building 206, 767-3398
 - 2nd Brigade Learning Center, Building 520, 767-8353
- Classrooms are also available for training and FRG meetings. For additional information about these locations, or the ACES program, call the Main Education Center at 767-8331.

GED classes and testing

Soldiers and family members may attend the free GED Class at the Rock Learning Center, Building 206.

Registration takes place the first Tuesday of the month, and meetings are held 6 to 9 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays. The GED test costs \$45 for Army family members and \$55 for non-Army family members. For more information, call 368-7322.

AAFES Savings Bonds

AAFES has a Recognizing Excellence program which provides coupons and savings bonds to installation-level soldiers and NCOs of the quarter, month and year.

Recognizing Excellence coupon booklets go to each soldier, NCO and soldier of the month at each post. Floyd Wynn, in charge of all facilities at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, will be happy to present the coupon booklets.

For more information on how to receive these coupon booklets, please contact Pattie Wise at 767-8330.

Hunter

Hunter traffic delays

Montgomery Gate construction began Nov. 18; Wilson Gate construction began Dec. 10. Each gate is down to one inbound and one outbound lane. You will not be able to exit through Middleground Road. 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 reenter
- The worst times will be during lunch hours noon to 1:30 p.m.

Hunter Club

Every Wednesday, the Hunter Club will be serving Grill Beef Strip Steak with Sautéed Onions, Baked Potato, Side Salad, and Drink for \$6.50.

Lunch is being served at the Hunter Club, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday. Blue Plate Specials are offered weekly.

NCO and Officer Calls every Friday from 4 to 8 p.m., except training holidays.

Catering is available for any function. The Hunter Club is open to the public. For reservations, call 353-7923 or 352-5270.

Commissary scholarship

Applications for \$1,500 Scholarships for Military Children are due at the nearest commissary by Friday. At least one scholarship will be awarded at every commissary location with qualified applicants.

The scholarship program is open to unmarried children under the age of 21 (23 if enrolled in school) of active duty personnel, Reserve, Guard and retired military. The applicant must be planning to attend or already attending an accredited four-year college or university full-time in the fall term of 2003.

Applications are available at the Commissary or can be downloaded from www.commissaries.com. For more information, call 284-3102.

Army Education Center

The Army Education Center is sponsoring a Pell Grant/Financial Aid Workshop, Mar. 19, at the Army Education Center, Building 1290.

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.

Phatt Katz Comedy Show

The Phatt Katz Comedy Run will present shows at the Hunter Club on Wednesday starting at 9:30

p.m. Performances will feature two comedians and one headliner.

Doors open at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. For reservations call 912-269-0277.

11th Annual Golf Tournament

American Red Cross Savannah Chapter is hosting the 11th Annual Golf Tournament and Million Dollar Shoot-out 2003, Feb. 27 and 28 at Southbridge. Shotgun starts at 12:30 p.m., Feb. 27 and 9 a.m., Feb. 28.

For more information, call 651-5309 or e-mail at Tournament web site www.tournevents.com/red-cross.

Learn basic automotive repair

The Hunter Auto Crafts is offering free classes 10 a.m. to noon, Sundays, through April 28. Learn to inspect tires, belts, hoses and brakes, learn how to check all fluid levels and how to rotate tires and replace brakes. For more information, call 352-6244.

Continuing education

Family members, Army Reservists and National Guardsmen can continue their education during their relocation to Hunter Army Airfield, regardless of their specific unit, at the Hunter Army Airfield Education Center, Building 1290. For more information, call 352-6130.

Classrooms are also available for training and FRG meetings. For additional information about these locations, or the ACES program, call the Main Education Center at 352-6130.

Hunter Lanes

Hunter Lanes offers free bowling for families of deployed personnel on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. There is a two game limit and shoe rental costs \$1. Adults must be present, but are not required to bowl. On Two-fer-Tuesdays, two people bowl for the price of one from 6 p.m. till closing.

Skeet Range

The Skeet Range at Hunter is open Thursdays from 4 p.m. till 8 p.m. and every Saturday morning from 9 a.m. till noon.

After School Program

The Hunter Youth Center is now signing up students in the 6th grade level and higher for a free After-School Program. The program offers field trips, homework help, computer labs, crafts, cooking, sports and fitness, as well as Boys and Girls Club programs. 1st through 5th-graders may also sign up, however, space is limited. Those who are interested can register at Bldg. 1286.

Winn Army Community Hospital

Tuttle Shuttle

Transportation to Winn Army Community Hospital from Tuttle Army Health Clinic is now available through the Tuttle Shuttle. The shuttle runs Monday through Friday. The pick-up point is the front desk.

The depart and arrival times for Tuttle are:

- Depart 8 a.m.
- Arrive 11 a.m.
- Depart 12:30 p.m.
- Arrive 2:30 p.m.

The depart and arrival times for Winn are:

- Arrive 9 a.m.
- Depart 10 a.m.
- Arrive 1:30 p.m.
- Depart 2:30 p.m.

Expectant Parenting Class

The next Expectant Parenting Class will be 6 p.m. March 4. This four-week class helps patients to understand labor, delivery and newborn care. To register, call 767-6633 or 1-800-652-9221.

Expectant Siblings Class

The next Expectant Siblings Class will be 5 p.m. March 6. This class helps prepare children, ages 4 to 12, for the arrival of a new brother or sister. To register, call 767-6633 or 1-800-652-9221.

Tobacco Cessation Classes

The next Tobacco Cessation class at Tuttle will be 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesdays March 5-26. The class is designed to help those that chew, dip or smoke kick the habit. To register, call 767-6633 or 1-800-652-9221.

"Take Care of Yourself" classes

The next Winn "Take Care of Yourself" class will be 11 a.m. to noon Feb. 26 at the TRICARE Services Center. Classes will also be available 2 to 3 p.m. March 5 and 19 at Winn. Tuttle's classes will be 10 to 11 a.m. Feb. 26 and March 26. The class gives an overview of how to use the "Take Care of Yourself" book. Upon completing the class, you will receive a card that allows you to get over-the-counter medications from Winn or Tuttle. To register for the class, call 368-3048.

Coping Support Groups

The Coping Support Group is for adults having difficulty dealing with the stress in their life. The group meets 9 to 10:30 a.m. every Monday. The Coping Support Group for Children meets 3 to 4 p.m. for children ages 6 to 9 and 3 to 4 Thursday for children ages 10 to 13. For more information, call 370-6100.

Pregnancy Nurse Line

Patients more than 20 weeks pregnant who have questions between their regularly scheduled

appointments can call the direct nurse line at 370-6550.

OB/GYN Appointments

To schedule an appointment, check on a consult or talk to a nurse in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, call 767-6633. The automated line will connect with clinic staff members who will schedule appointments and answer questions. To speak directly with a nurse about medical concerns, call 370-5920. Alternate phone numbers for the Women's Wellness Center and OB/GYN are 370-6017 and 370-6321. The automated line takes precedence over the alternate lines.

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. For appointments, call 767-6633 or 1-800-652-9221.

Winn and Tuttle Champions

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

ASAP sees families

The Army Substance Abuse Program will now see dependant 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.

SFHC Consolidation

Soldier Family Health Clinic #3 has consolidated with SFHC #1. SFHC #1 is located in Building 701 on Divarty Road. For more information, call 767-7035.

Medical Threat Briefings

Units that require a Medical Threat Briefing can now schedule it by calling Environmental Health at 767-3050.

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. Her office is open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 352-5731.

Hunter Recycling Center reopens

Melissa Lardinois

DPW, Waste Management Branch

The Hunter Army Airfield's Recycling Center, Building 1412 on Duncan Drive, reopened Jan. 2 so Hunter area residents, personnel and the surrounding communities can once again donate their presorted recycling items.

The center was temporarily closed due to a reorganization of the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield's Recycling Program.

David A. Hodges, Chief of the Waste Management Branch, said "We would like to apologize for any inconveniences caused by the closing of the facility; however, due to new government recycling mandates it was necessary to make needed improvements and changes to our program."

The Hunter Army Airfield Recycling Center is open 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The center has an after hours convenient drop-off location outside of the fenced area on the left side of the building. Recycling participants can use this convenient drop-off site on the weekends or after 4 p.m. to deposit their presorted recyclables.

The center accepts number 1 and 2 plastics, aluminum cans, bi-metal cans,



Courtesy photo

The Hunter Army Airfield Recycling Center reopened Jan. 2.

glass (amber and clear), cardboard, computer printer toner cartridges, paper products (magazines, newspapers, junk mail, office paper, etc.), scrap metals and wooden pallets. All presorted recyclables must be placed in the designated container provided.

Hodges affirms that "If you are a true supporter of recycling, you should not only recycle used materials, but you

should also buy products made from recycled content in order for the industry to survive."

Let's work together to keep the environment clean and beautiful. For information regarding recycling, call the Hunter Army Airfield Recycling Center at 352-5987 or the Fort Stewart Recycling Center at 767-8880/6237.

NEW MAILING RESTRICTIONS

As of January, **all** parcels (packages) must fit in a mail sack and **cannot** exceed 72" in length and girth combined.

- Measure the longest side of the box.
- Measure distance around whole box.
- Add these two numbers together. If they exceed 72", you **cannot** mail the package.



Other mailing restrictions are — **Do Not Mail:**

- Any mail containing religious material contrary to the Islamic faith.
- Any matter depicting nude or semi-nude persons, pornographic or sexual items.
- Any matter containing non-authorized political material.
- Firearms.
- Pork or pork by-products
- Alcoholic beverages and materials used in the production of alcoholic beverages (distilling material, hops, malts, yeast, etc.)

Due to the continued threat of terrorist attacks through the mail, individuals and organizations **may not** send letters or packages to soldiers addressed as "Any Soldier" or "Any Service Member" using a known APO. Instead, individuals and organizations may go to the following website and send an e-mail message:

<http://anyservicemember.navy.mil>

New strategy for monitoring deployment health care

Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample

American Forces Press Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The Defense Department has changed the way it will track and assess the health care given military personnel before, during and after deployments, a senior Pentagon health official said recently.

DoD's new strategy emphasizes health care surveillance of deployed personnel, said Dr. Michael Kilpatrick, deputy director, Deployment Health Support Directorate, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Health Protection and Readiness.

Officials, he said, want no repeat of 1991 Gulf War health care problems, referring to widespread instances reported of deployed personnel returning home with incomplete and poorly maintained medical records and improperly monitored illnesses.

Kilpatrick said DoD is concerned with taking care of the health of its military personnel and their families. "To do that optimally, we need to provide preventive care," he said. "And if a service member becomes ill or is injured, we need to provide treatment for them."

After a deployment, he added, personnel need to know that the Department of Defense will provide them with care for any medical problem they may develop.

This Force Health Protection strategy is designed to help the department track service members' diseases and injuries and to provide them comprehensive follow-up treatment for deployment-related health conditions, he said.

Kilpatrick directs the DoD effort to protect the health of deployed service members. He noted there was no unique screening being done prior to deployment during the Gulf War. "If you were on active duty, you were generally assumed to be deploy-

able," he said.

Now, he said, the Defense Department plans to see that force health is closely monitored through a series of medical assessments before and after deployment and that health concerns are documented and closely monitored.

Kilpatrick said the pre- and post-deployment health assessment is a brief series of questions that look to see if troops are physically and psychologically prepared to deploy. The forms can be found on DoD's deployment Web site at www.deploy-mentlink.osd.mil.

"(The assessment is) an opportunity for them to bring up any medical conditions that occurred to them in the last several months or in the period since their last physical examination. It's a quick check to make sure they are ready to go," he said.

The health assessments are done on paper and checked by a physician "to see if there are any changes in service members' health or condition that may require attention before or after they deploy," Kilpatrick said. Later, the forms are sent to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., where they are scanned electronically and retained for analysis.

The Defense Department has established three deployment health centers, one each for health surveillance, health care and health research. They focus on the prevention, treatment and understanding of deployment-related health concerns. Two centers are at Walter Reed; the third is at the Naval Health Research Center in San Diego.

The department will improve deployment-related medical record keeping through its Composite Health Care System II and the Theater Medical Information Program, which is still being tested.

Kilpatrick said the two systems will collect immunization data electronically through a centralized data bank, along with computerized medical files currently being

gathered on deployed military personnel from all the services in order to document deployment-related health problems.

He noted that Special Forces soldiers deployed to remote areas can now use handheld computers to gather and store medical data on soldiers and then later transmit the data to rear operations headquarters.

Still, pre- and post-deployment health assessments and electronic record keeping are only part of the force protection strategy. Kilpatrick said broader initiatives to protect deployed personnel are expected, and more research is being done.

The plan includes improving health risk communication and medical intelligence; providing environmental risk assessments to commanders on the battlefield; giving medical threat briefings; and distributing pocket-sized health guides to deployed personnel. Kilpatrick's office also has created deployment-focused Web sites, such as DeploymentLINK.

In addition, the Defense Medical Surveillance System has created a database on diseases military personnel may encounter in deployed areas. Another plan is to deploy preventive medicine and environmental surveillance teams to forward-deployed areas to evaluate health threats on the battlefield.

Another measure calls for improved biological and chemical warfare detection and alarm systems. And the Pentagon is researching current vaccines and anti-malarial drugs and exploring next-generation vaccines and drugs, he said.

Kilpatrick said the new program shows how seriously DoD regards force health protection.

"We've learned a great deal from deployments over the past 12 years since the Gulf War, and we intend to use those lessons to benefit those who serve today," Kilpatrick concluded. "That's what this program is all about."

Sperm bank deposits are your personal business

American Forces Press Service

Some news media are running stories about men in uniform opening accounts in sperm banks in case they're deployed and come home infertile or worse.

The Defense Department takes no position on cryobank facilities and has no programs or policies encouraging or discouraging their use, said Dr. Michael Kilpatrick of DoD's Deployment Health Support Directorate. Further, the department doesn't intrude on individuals' private family planning decisions.

In other words, he said, freeze your sperm for a rainy day if you want. If you do, though, chalk it up as a personal choice and not to it being necessary because of evidence from the Gulf War. There isn't any "Gulf War evidence," he added.

Citing just a few statements from DoD's comprehensive GulfLINK Web site:

* Of the more than 200 Gulf War studies and research projects done over the past 12 years by the departments of Defense, Health and Human Services and Veterans Affairs, none has surfaced medical indications that infertility or birth defects should be a concern to deploying service members.

* A 1995-98 Department of Veterans Affairs study of 15,000 male Gulf War veterans and 15,000 male nondeployed vets revealed that more Gulf War vets became fathers (2,236) than those who hadn't deployed (1,689).

* Research today shows the rate of birth defects in children of Gulf War veterans is comparable to that of nondeployed vets.

Reproductive health study summaries can also be found on the GulfLINK Web site www.gulfink.osd.mil.

Medical and dental for reserve component members, families

Special to The Frontline

Editors note: This article is a continuation from last week's issue of *The Frontline*.

Members of the reserve component who are called to active duty for more than 30 days are eligible for TRICARE, the same as any active duty service member. Families of these individuals may also become eligible for TRICARE if the sponsor is called to active duty for more than 30 days. To ensure family members are eligible for TRICARE upon activation, sponsors should register their family members in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System.

TRICARE Dental Program (TDP)

Members of the Selected Reserve and Individual Ready Reserve and/or their families may enroll in the TDP. Reserve component members who are ordered to active duty for more than 30 consecutive days are eligible for military dental care, the same as active duty service members, and are automatically

disenrolled from the TDP if previously enrolled. Members should be automatically re-enrolled upon termination of their orders, but to ensure coverage they should check with the TDP administrator, United Concordia Companies Inc., at 1-800-866-8499, before seeking treatment. The TDP requires a minimum 12-month enrollment period; however, that commitment is waived for families of reservists called to active duty for certain contingency operations.

Benefits available during demobilization

Reserve component members ordered to active duty for more than 30 days in support of a contingency operation (does not include full-time National Guard Duty) are entitled to transitional health care and dental benefits upon separation. Family members are not eligible for transitional dental benefits because they are eligible for dental benefits under the TDP. Members separated with less than six years of total active federal military service (as indicated on the DD 214) and eligible

family members are eligible for 60 days of transitional health care. Members separated with six years or more of total active federal military service and their eligible family members are eligible for 120 days of transitional health care.

Reserve component members are eligible for the Continued Health Care Benefit Program when they lose military health benefits and their transitional health care benefit period has expired. They also may enroll their family members for this coverage. CHCBP provides benefits similar to TRICARE Standard for a specific period of time (up to 18 months for members and their family members). They must enroll within 60 days of the date that their transitional benefit period expires and pay quarterly premiums (\$933 per individual, \$1966 per family). For more information about CHCBP, individuals may call toll free: 1-800-444-5445, visit online at www.humana-military.com or write to Humana Military Healthcare Services Inc.,

Attn: CHCBP, P.O. Box 740072, Louisville, Ky. 40201.

When a Reserve component sponsor retires

When reserve component members retire, they do not become eligible for TRICARE or space-available care in an MTF until they reach age 60 or are receiving retired pay. At that time, they and their family members may enroll in TRICARE Prime or they may use TRICARE Extra or TRICARE Standard. Retired reserve component members also become eligible for TRICARE For Life when they become eligible for Medicare at age 65 and enroll in Medicare Part B.

In addition, retired Reserve component members, and their spouses and dependent children are eligible for the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program, regardless of the sponsor's age and whether the sponsor is receiving retired pay.

Information provided by www.TRICARE.osd.mil.

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3220th DAACG helps troops deploy

Sgt. Sam Hoffman

Staff Writer

"The mission goes on, no matter what," said Tom McBride, the air movement officer at Hunter Army Airfield Departure/Arrival Airfield Control Group. Because of the 3220th Garrison Support Unit DAACG, it can, he said.

"The 3220th took over DAACG activities from our Movement Control Team," he said, "It's good that there's somebody to fill in for our own people when they deploy."

Hunter, like so many sections at Fort Stewart, has been left shorthanded by the escalating military activity in Kuwait, said McBride. Since the 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) has been deploying soldiers to the Middle East, the Hunter DAACG has been averaging twenty flights per week.

"I depend on them to take care of

weighing and measuring cargo," McBride said. "Anything that has to do with air deployment, they are involved with."

The list of tasks for the 3220th DAACG goes on.

According to Mission Specialist, Staff Sgt. Merlyn Osborne, soldiers of the 3220th DAACG do everything from deployments and redeployments; they load and unload all cargo from civilian and military cargo flights, they handle baggage and make sure everything on the flight is manifested.

"Some of the soldiers give the briefings to the soldiers deploying and even check dog tags and ID cards," she said. "We also make sure the passengers on cargo flights get Jimmy Dean (meal kits)."

"Once the last of the active MCT deploy, it's all up to the 3220th," said Sgt 1st Class Hosea Pierce, transit alert

NCOIC. "They're getting ready to go now, too."

Transit Alert is in charge of guiding aircraft to the parking area and physically preparing cargo and aircraft for departure, Pierce said. They open up all of the compartments of every aircraft that comes into Hunter and inspect it for safety.

The work for the nearly fifty DAACG soldiers of the 3220th never seems to end, said Pierce.

"We do just about everything here," he said.

"The DAACG is working seven days a week, at all hours of the day," said Sgt. 1st Class Billy Coleman, a logistics NCO from the 3220th.

He said, "We're extremely short-handed, but number one is getting the mission accomplished and everybody's still really motivated."

The 3220th, stationed in West Palm Beach, Fla., was called to active duty in mid-January and contains sections encompassing all areas of garrison support.

Prior to mobilization, the 3220th DAACG has had activated soldiers working at Hunter since October 2002.

More than 200 flights have departed from Hunter since the 3220th arrived, McBride said.

"The 3220th DAACG is made up of a very diverse group of people, which is why our missions run so smoothly," Osborne said. There are college students, police officers, FedEx employees and mechanics among others, she said.

Even though their schedule is hectic and unpredictable, the soldiers of the 3220th DAACG remain committed to their mission, Osborne said.

"Everybody's happy with their position here," she said.

They are an intricate part of the operations at Hunter, McBride said. As long as there are DAACG missions being run in Kuwait, the 3220th will stay here to assist.

Go to Kuwait; get chocolate

Sgt. Sam Hoffman

Staff Writer

"Enough for more than 21,000 troops," said Sgt. Renee Thomas, Hunter Army Airfield DAACG, about the donation of Whitman's chocolates that are being handed out to all soldiers deploying out of Hunter.

American Red Cross volunteers at Truscott Air Terminal at Hunter hand out the chocolates, among other comfort items, said Red Cross volunteer, Clayton Livingston.

"We give away lots of things that are donated to the soldiers," said Livingston. "The vendors have been very good."

As the soldiers walk through the terminal, one of the most frequently visited stops is Chaplain (Maj.) John Foxworth, Hunter installation chaplain.

"I try to provide literature to give comfort and inspiration; and talk to every soldier that goes through," he said.

Foxworth also stressed the importance of the United Service Organizations, which provide the food to the service members and Family Readiness Groups to "try and keep things as normal as they can" for the family.

The most recent soldiers to go through Hunter on the way to Kuwait were those from the 396th and the 296th Transportation Companies. They departed Tuesday night from Hunter.

The 396th is assigned to the 24th Command Support Group at Fort Stewart.

Capt. Brian Matthews, company commander, said that the company would be moving general cargo around the bases when they get to Kuwait.

He said that his troops have trained hard and are ready to encounter anything.

"We feel this great opportunity to execute our commander in chief's intent," said Matthews.

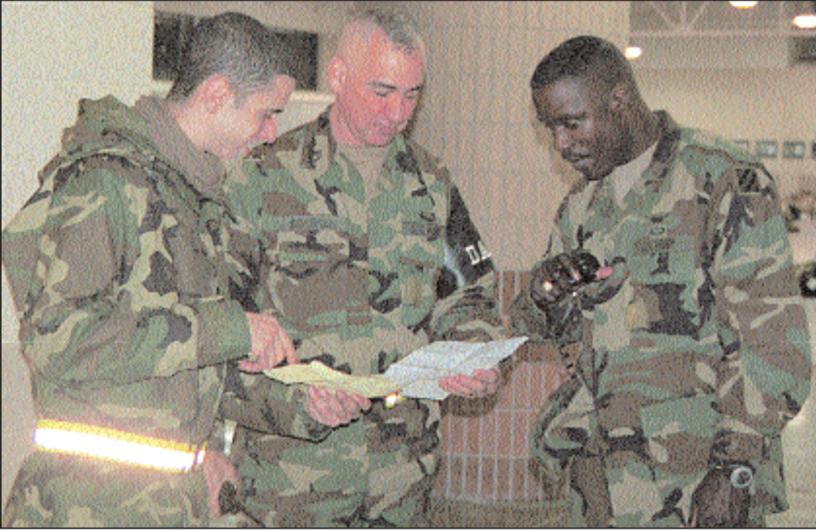
The 296th is an Army Reserve unit from Brookhaven, Miss., specializing in oil and petroleum, said Company 1st Sgt. Gerry Mosley.

This is the second time going to Kuwait for the 296th, said Mosley, the first time they went was during Operation Desert Storm. He said that his men were also ready to answer their call.

"We knew we were going to Kuwait ... and we're ready to go," he said.

Sgt. Timothy Craft, 396th Trans Co., said that although the soldiers are anxious about going, they are still happy to do it.

"It's part of the job," he said.



Sgt. Sam Hoffman

Sgt. 1st Class Billy Coleman (center), DAACG, checks over procedures with members of the MCT.

SADDAM

from page 1A

The president's security adviser repeated what has not happened so far. "Iraq was supposed to file a full and complete declaration about its weapons of mass destruction and its (nuclear, chemical, biological and missile) programs on Dec. 7. Instead, they file a declaration that everyone knows was a joke — 12,200 pages of nothing," she stated.

"They have not cooperated with the inspectors. ... When it comes to answering to tough questions about VX (nerve gas) or anthrax or those mobile biological laboratories, the Iraqis have failed to do that," she added. "They are not cooperating; they are deceiving."

When asked whether President Bush would set a deadline for war, as his president father did in the early '90s first Gulf War, Rice said that the White House is in a diplomatic phase where the discussion is how to best bring this

situation to a conclusion.

"We've not determined that there needs to be a deadline," she said, "but I think that we are determined that the Security Council cannot continue on this path for very much longer."

Although NATO allies like Germany and France are asking for more inspectors inside Iraq, along with more time for them to do their job, Rice said the inspections are not working.

"I don't understand how anyone can say the inspections are working," she observed. "The inspectors were never sent there to be detectives. They were not sent there to give (Saddam Hussein) a final chance to be inspected. They were sent there to verify his disarmament. ... The inspectors are doing their very best under extremely difficult circumstances, but 1441 was not set up as a test

of the inspectors but as test of Iraq's willingness to comply."

Rice the United States has allowed the inspections to go forward in the context of 1441, but she said that resolution also talks of a "final opportunity to comply." She stated that sooner or later, and "we believe sooner," the Security Council will have to say that Iraq has not taken that final opportunity, and this country and its coalition partners will have to act. Rice repeated what President Bush has been saying: that a "coalition of the willing" has been preparing and is ready to go.

"We have been preparing for some time now and we are in a period now, a diplomatic window, where we should be discussing how the Security Council can best carry out its obligation. Saddam shouldn't read that somehow he will get away with this again."

Rice also commented about a tape shown on Arab satellite television station Al-Jazeera, where Osama bin Laden speaks of at least 10 "weak spots" that al Qaeda operatives could target in the United States.

Rice said she was not familiar with what was said in the tape. However, she said that the White House is very concerned about homeland security. She said that the president begins each day meeting with the FBI, CIA and Secretary of homeland security to review the country's threat matrix.

"We are working very feverishly to try and disrupt and deal with vulnerabilities inside the United States," she said. "It's not a perfect science, ... but there is an enormous effort going into it, and America should know that this is the principal preoccupation of the government. The president is doing everything that he can to defend the homeland."

TANKS

from page 1A

what he saw, "I've been with the unit just a short time, but my opinion of them is very high. Their reputation preceded them as one of the best units in the battalion. They're good, morale's high. They're well trained with a lot of experienced leaders, NCOs and soldiers."

Donovan said the three battalions - and the Spartans — have a lot of Operation Desert Storm Veterans whose experience helps the new soldiers adapt to life in the desert.

"We can pass on lessons learned,

mostly life experiences in the desert and how to deal with life-threatening situations. Also, (we can show soldiers) how to deal with fatigue, and how to deal with the daily routine, so they know what to expect and be ready for the unexpected."

Donovan said he's seen major improvements in the Army since the Gulf War. "The radios are better, so communication's better. The tanks and personal equipment is better. We had one GPS in the battalion in Desert Storm. Now we probably

have 30 or 40 in a company."

The Spartans have been in Kuwait for about five months, and like most of us out here, they don't know when they'll be going home, Donovan said. "The only bad part about it is not knowing when it's going to end. If the guys had a date to shoot for, it would help them mentally cope with being here. We came here to train and defend Kuwait — show the Gulf States we mean business. But if our mission changes, we're ready for that too."

TRIO

from page 1A

side back at Fort Stewart, and they count on each other to fight the same way.

"I trust these guys. I know that if I get in trouble, or my soldiers get in trouble, they're coming to help me out," said Twitty, a Chesnee, S.C. native. "The great thing about it is, because I know them, I know what they're capable of. They're great guys — I've got a good bunch of guys on my left and right flanks."

How the three lieutenant colonels wound up back at Fort Stewart is more than fate, according to deCamp, a self-proclaimed Army brat. "It is a coincidence that we all three came back to the battalions we commanded (companies) at, but we all three are uniquely qualified to command these battalions. We know the deployment routine here. We are all very familiar with the operations at Fort Stewart — be it the 24th Infantry Division or the 3rd Infantry Division."

Twitty said his, Schwartz and deCamp's Gulf War experiences are helping them lead their soldiers this time around. "I'm very familiar with how to operate in a desert environment, plus we have about 250 combat veterans from Desert Storm."

According to deCamp, "Desert Storm was a great baptism for us young company commanders to

learn survivability ... knowing how to make life work in the desert."

Quoting his soldiers' thoughts on the trio's Gulf War experiences, deCamp said, "Wow, the old man's telling us the things that went wrong, and he's got ways to fix them! They know that we're here to make sure things go right for them."

The desert is routine for the lieutenant colonels too, according to Schwartz. "The desert is the desert is the desert — this could be the Middle East, it could be North Africa, it could be anywhere in the desert. We're desert fighters, we do well here, so it's not that big a deal to be back in the Middle East."

The three colonels couldn't have more respect for and confidence in each other. According to deCamp, "Twitty's a great infantryman. He knows how to train his men and he's done it better than any infantry battalion commander in recent history."

"Schwartz knows exactly what's going on, he's very perceptive. He has got the experience ... He knows what right looks like, and he'll make it right," he said.

Once the ammunition was spent and the training was complete, the colonels went their separate ways and returned to Camp New York. But if history is any indication, they'll see each other soon.



Spc. Mason T. Lowery
1st Lt. Dan VanKirk, a platoon leader with 4th Bn., 64th AR, from San Diego, scans the firing line at Range 8 during the Spartan live ammunition fire Feb. 8.

LIFE & TIMES

B SECTION

On Post

Black History celebration

DISCOM is sponsoring a Black History Month Celebration at Woodruff Theater, 1:30 to 3 p.m., today. Dr. Abigail Jordan, Gullah Festival, "2002 Woman of the Year," is the guest speaker.

For more information, call 767-5850.

Education Center

The Education Center offers free academic test proctoring services to Army retirees, soldiers and family members. Early registration and scheduling are critical. To register, see your education counselor or call 767-8331 for more information.

ASE exams

Registration for ASE exams has begun. Please see your education counselor to get signed up. Deadline to register is March 10 with the testing dates in early May. Call 767-8331 or 352-6130 for more information.

Support group

There is a Coping Support Group held 9 to 10:30 a.m. Mondays at the Winn Behavioral Health Clinic. For more information, call 370-6100.

Spouses' night out

A Spouses' Night Out will be held 6 to 10 p.m., Friday at Club Stewart's Patriot Corner. There will be line dancing and ballroom dancing lessons at 7:30 p.m. There will also be board games, music, snacks, cards and a beverage station. Child care is available, call CYS at 767-3203 for child care requirements.

2nd BCT FRG calendar

The following events will be held by the 2nd Brigade Combat Team Family Readiness Group:

- Walk to Kuwait at Quick Track 5 to 6 p.m. Tuesday.

If you would like your FRG schedule to be included, email Casey Craig at caseybrcraig@coastalnow.com.

Blood Drive

There is an American Red Cross Blood Drive scheduled for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday in the AAFES parking lot.

Tax assistance available

Get free tax assistance at the Marne Tax Assistance Center. The center is open 9 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at Building 9611 in the National Guard Training Center area. Call 767-3909 for more information.

Toastmasters

Whether you're a professional, student, stay-at-home parent or retiree, Toastmasters is the best way to improve your communication skills. The Dog-Faced Soldiers Toastmasters International Club meets noon every second and fourth Wednesday at Club Stewart and is open to everyone. For more information, call 767-0383 or email at Bowenja@stewart.army.mil.

Bi-annual Block Party

There will be a Bi-annual Block Party, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., April 5 at the Fort Stewart Army Community Service, Building 470. There will be games, food and free entertainment.

Talent Search

Family Advocacy is looking for talented people to participate in our bi-annual Block Party on April 5. All talents and ages are welcome. Some restrictions apply. For more information, call 767-5058.

To publish a brief in The Frontline, call 767-3440 or fax us at 767-5979. Deadline for briefs is Friday at noon.

Education opportunities abound at Stewart, Hunter ed. centers

Robin Ellert

Special to the Frontline

Just because active duty soldiers are leaving Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, does not mean that education opportunities have diminished in any way. The Education Centers on both posts offer a wide range of programs for family members, National Guard troops, Reservists and Department of the Army civilians.

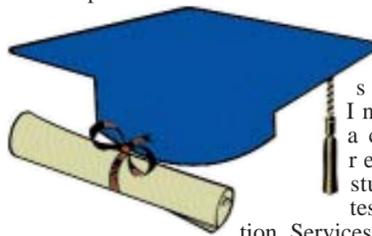
Counseling is the key that opens the door to a broad range of education programs and services. The Army Education Center counselors are available to provide professional education counseling to qualified members at no charge. The counselors can help determine education and career goals and match information and programs to help achieve those goals. The counselor should be the first stop to participate in any of the educational services.

GED preparation classes are available at no cost through the Chatham County Department of Adult and Continuing Education. The classes are held at Fort Stewart, the Savannah Tech Hinesville campus and in various locations in Chatham County. Family members should obtain an enrollment sheet from an education counselor before attending class. The GED tests

are offered at a reduced cost to spouses at testing centers in Chatham and Liberty Counties.

The Multi-Use Learning Facilities-Army Learning Centers offer multi-media resources and computerized materials to assist in areas such as individualized academic studies, Internet access, research studies, and test preparation. Services are free to qualifying members.

The English as a Second Language program provides training in reading, writing and speaking English. The classes are divided into several levels to satisfy the needs of foreign-born students with different skills. The training also includes instruction in basic American culture, customs and courtesies, money and insight into everyday life situations. All ESL classes are offered free of charge on post at Fort Stewart and at Savannah Tech for Hunter personnel. Interested students can pick up an enrollment form from an education counselor.



Worth the wait ...



Capt. James Brownlee

"Even though the line is long, I find it worth it because I can get personal items and other things for entertainment," said Spc. David Todd, a Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Battalion, 64th Armor soldier from Marysville Wash., referring to the long line outside the new Camp New York PX. The new facility opened Feb. 11. Todd brought a chair to make the wait more comfortable.

'Celebs' use stardom to promote Army

Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Actor Sean Astin and wrestler Bradshaw are among celebrities who are using their stardom to increase troop morale and keep the military fresh in the minds of Americans.

Astin, who is known for his roles in "Rudy" and the "Lord of the Rings," visited the Pentagon Jan. 30 to record public service announcements thanking troops for their service and re-emphasizing America's trust in its military.

He also narrated an announcement to promote the Criminal Investigation Command, commonly known as CID, and asked interested soldiers to apply to the command if they are interested in becoming a CID Special Agent.

"There's a lot of different people and voices in America, and I don't mind letting my voice be heard," Astin said during an interview conducted at the Pentagon. "I learned

from reading about Vietnam that no matter what you think politically about certain deployments, as a good citizen and a patriot it's your duty to appreciate that there are soldiers using their lives on your behalf as a citizen."

Although many may know that Astin has appeared in more than 25 motion pictures, few know that he has served as a civilian aide to the secretary of the Army since 1995. He served under Togo West, Louis Caldera and now the current Secretary of the Army Thomas White.

For protocol purposes Astin, as a civilian aide, is ranked just below a three-star general and is considered to be the secretary of the Army's personal representative in the California region. Part of the basis of a CASA's appointment is his ability to increase the public's understanding of the Army, and Astin said he tells the Army story to anyone who wants to know it.



File photo

Sgt. Matthew Jones, a Bradley commander with HHC, 2nd Brigade from Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., explains his vehicle to World Wrestling Entertainment wrestler Bradshaw. The entertainer visited Camp New York along with Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley Dec. 20.

See OPPORTUNITIES, Page 3B

Commissary provides service, savings during deployments

Carole Young

DeCA

Military service members make many sacrifices to defend our country, among them: personal, professional and financial. All three seem to coincide when a service member is deployed or a Guard or Reserve member is activated, sometimes facing a reduction in household income.

The Defense Commissary Agency can help by providing significant grocery savings of 30 percent or more to service members and their families — when they use their commissary benefit regularly. Shoppers can expect to save even more on meat and produce purchases and frequent case lot sales help shoppers realize even bigger savings.

In addition to working hard to ensure exceptional savings for the military community, DeCA is committed to providing excellent name brand products, produce and meats, and efficient service that's second to none. Grab-and-Go sections, early bird and assisted shopping and 30-minute parking spaces are conveniences you'll find at many commissaries. Cooking demonstrations, "Meat Made Easy" preparation instructions and recipes are all part of DeCA's commitment to service.

Take note of some of these tips to help make deployments easier — and make the most of commissary shopping.

Arm yourself with information.

Before deploying, make sure family members are provided with the

See DECA, Page 3B

See CELEBS, Page 3B

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Photos by Sgt. Craig Zentkovich

Soldiers show their motivation on camera for the crew of ABC's Good Morning America Feb. 7 on Camp New York.

ABC, CBS morning shows visit camps

Sgt. Craig Zentkovich
Associate Editor

CAMP NEW YORK, Kuwait — Time spent away from family and friends is something soldiers here in Kuwait have reluctantly grown accustomed to in defense of our nation's freedom.

Loved ones back home, frightened of the unknown that lies ahead for soldiers close to their hearts, yearn to lay their eyes upon them — a reassurance they're alright.

CBS's The Early Show and ABC's Good Morning America broadcasted live from Camp New Jersey Feb. 6 and Camp New York Feb. 7, respectively, to show those back home just how well the soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) are doing.

"The soldiers have been training very hard in pretty harsh conditions," said Maj. Gen. Buford C. Blount III, 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) commander. "This gives them the opportunity to let loose a little bit and say 'hi' to their loved ones back at home."

Both shows kicked off at 3 p.m. on their respective days so they could air live at 7 a.m., Eastern Standard Time.

The Camp New Jersey contingency, numbering in the hundreds, seemed like a highly motivated group of soldiers, according to Harry Smith, anchor of The Early Show.

"We've been met here with nothing but open arms," Smith said. "I can't believe how high the morale is."

Soldiers on both camps, whether sitting on vehicles or standing amongst the crowd, waved handwritten signs in the air with the hope that people back home would see their husbands, wives, sons and daughters on television.

A select few had the opportunity to get seconds, even minutes, in front of the camera to send a message to their families.

"This is something we can tell our kids about," said Pfc. Gonzalo Guerra, A Company, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor. Guerra and his brothers Alvaro and Maximiliano are all members of the 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) deployed to Kuwait. The three of them were interviewed by Good Morning America anchor Diane Sawyer, and afforded the opportunity to speak to their family at home live.

Staff Sgt. Theodore Church, D Troop, 10th Cavalry, spoke to his wife and daughters back in Columbus, Ga., during The Early Show broadcast.

"I was excited to finally get to see them," Church said. "I just appreciate that, out of all these soldiers, I was given the chance to talk to my family."

The anchors for both shows were overwhelmed by their experiences at the camps.

"This has been absolutely wonderful," Sawyer said. "I think people (in the states) should see what it's really like to spend five or six months out here — to work everyday, with no real time off and nowhere else to go when you do get that little time to yourself."

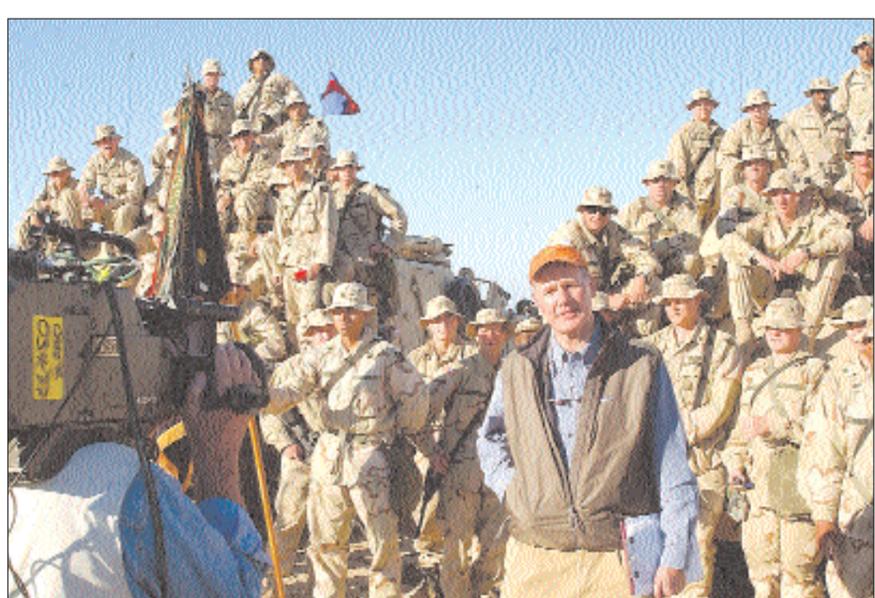
Smith said if he were writing a postcard home, it would say, "You'd be surprised at how well taken care of the troops are, even out in a hostile climate like this — 30 miles from the Iraqi border."

By 6 p.m., the respective crowds had dispersed, crews and equipment were packed, and all that was left to show of their presence was a detail cleaning the broadcast locations.

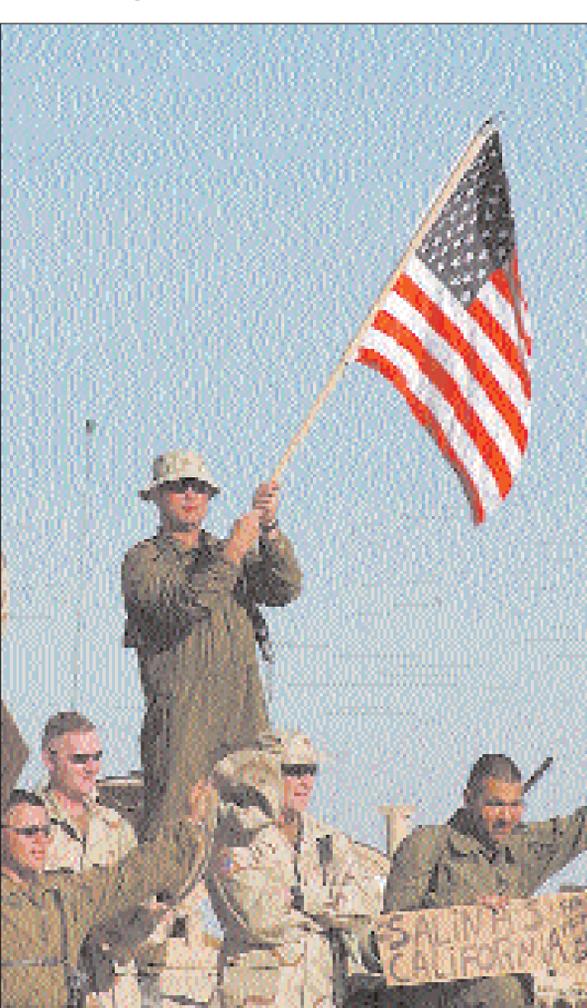
Overall, Blount said that the morning shows offered a "great representation of the 3rd Infantry Division and all of our great soldiers."

"I have the utmost confidence in their ability to do whatever is asked of them."

Smith said, "What I've found is that (the soldiers) are focused on the training and focused on the mission. They're ready."



(Above) Harry Smith, anchor for The Early Show on CBS, stands before hundreds of soldiers for the live broadcast from Camp New Jersey Feb. 6. (Below) Diane Sawyer stands with soldiers eager to get into the Camp New York post exchange.



(Above) Diane Sawyer interviews brothers Pfc. Maximiliano Guerra, C Co., 1/64 Armor, Pfc. Gonzalo Guerra, A Co., 1-64 Armor and Pfc. Alvaro Guerra, B Trp., 3-7 Cav., while they talk to their parents at the ABC studios.

(Left) A soldier waves Old Glory high during the Good Morning America broadcast.

OPPORTUNITIES

from page 1B

supervisors, and communicators. Although LSEP's are primarily designed for Regular Army, National Guard, and Reserve NCO's, these classes are now available to family members at no cost on a space available basis. LSEP classes are one to three weeks in length and offered either in the mornings or afternoons through Central Texas College. All courses are credit-bearing and range in subjects such as Stress and Time Management, Effective Writing, Supervision, Personal Finance, Introduction to MS Word, MS Excel, MS Access, MS PowerPoint, Professional Ethics and Styles of Leadership. See your education counselor to enroll.

The Army Education Center offers assistance in researching various sources of educational financial aid. Pell Grant workshops are scheduled to guide students through the application process. Pell Grant applications are available through the Army Education Center or by applying online at www.fafsa.ed.gov/.

Family members are eligible to participate in the on-post college programs offered at the Army Education Center, as well as in schools in the

local area.

- On-Post Schools**
- 📍 Central Texas College
 - 📍 Columbia College
 - 📍 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (HAAF only)
 - 📍 The Liberty Center (Stewart only)
 - 📍 Webster University
- Off-Post Schools**
- 📍 Altamaha Technical College
 - 📍 Armstrong Atlantic State University
 - 📍 Brewton-Parker College
 - 📍 Georgia Southern University
 - 📍 Savannah State University
 - 📍 Saint Leo University
 - 📍 Savannah College of Art and Design
 - 📍 Savannah Technical College
 - 📍 South University

The Army Education Centers at Fort Stewart and Hunter are available to help you reach whatever goals you have set for yourself. If you have any questions, please call the Fort Stewart Education Center at 767-8331 or Hunter at 352-6130. Remember, improving your mind is never a waste of time.

CELEBS

from page 1B

"I'm in a position where I do whatever I can to support the Army," Astin said. "I've visited installations, and took the time to write 'thank-you' letters to business who had reserve-component soldiers to be mobilized."

In an unofficial capacity, Bradshaw has conducted countless interviews, worn Army apparel on TV and used his weekly program sponsored by World Wrestling Enterprise as a venue to talk

about how the war is affecting its troops.

Bradshaw visited the Pentagon Feb. 4 and soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., who are recovering from wounds inflicted while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. He was one of three performers who accompanied Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley on a USO tour to Afghanistan, Uzbekistan and Kuwait during the Christmas holiday.

"During the USO trip, I told Sergeant Major Tilley that I regret not being a soldier," Bradshaw said. "He told me that, 'everyone has to find his own role and do what he can to support troops.'"

Both in and out of the ring, Bradshaw said his niche is telling Americans what life is like for soldiers on enemy territory.

"Video games have gotten so realistic now a lot of times people believe that soldiers are in some type of high-tech video game over there. That's not the case, we're putting men and women in the way of bullets.

"Despite the fact the Army does everything outstandingly well to take care of these soldiers, they're still out in the desert, away from families, and I don't care if they're staying in the Hilton, it's no place they want to be."

In the future, Bradshaw said he wants to film public service announcements also.

Astin's announcements will be seen on Armed Forces Radio and Television Stations.



Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs

Actor Sean Astin records public service announcements thanking troops for their service at the Pentagon Jan. 30. Astin is known for his roles in "Rudy" and "The Lord of the Rings," but he's also been a civilian aide to the secretary of the Army since 1995.

DECA

from page 1B

correct information and documentation needed for commissary shopping. Tips for preparing for deployment can be found on http://deploymentlink.osd.mil/deploy/prep/deploy_checklist.shtml.

Obtain ID cards.

All family members (spouse and children 10 years of age and older) should have ID cards. An ID card is required to make commissary purchases and may also be required at the gate if the commissary is located on an installation with increased security precautions.

Guard and Reserve members should have a commissary privilege card. Unless activated, Guard or Reserve members and authorized family need to show a CPC along with a military ID card to take advantage of their 24 shopping days at the commissary. Service members should go to their local unit to get information concerning the CPC. DeCA does not issue the CPC; the unit does. For more information on Guard and Reserve shopping privileges visit www.commissaries.com/guard_reserve.htm.

Shop the commissary every day.

When serving on active duty or in a training status, deployed service members and activated Guard or Reserve members and authorized family members have unlimited usage of the commissary. Guard and Reserve do not need to use their CPC: Active duty ID or copies of active duty orders are all you need.

Do your homework.

Know the location and gate entry procedures for the military facility nearest you. Check installation entry requirements and directions before traveling to the commissary.

Approaching an installation security checkpoint occupied by armed and uniformed personnel can be intimidating to the uninitiated. Reduce anxiety by being familiar with the gate entry process. Besides the commissary, there are numerous services available on installations for use by families of deployed service members; know where they are located and their hours of operation.

Do a little shopping homework.

Find out what's on sale at the commissary before you even walk in the door. Visit DeCA online at www.commissaries.com and click on the "Locations" button to find a listing of commissaries. Each store has its own Web page with location, hours of operation, store management and special events. Click on the "Shopping" button to find out what's on sale. Use coupons to save even more!

Save money with Manager's Specials.

Commissaries feature hundreds of unadvertised specials providing additional savings to customers. Commissaries also receive price reductions on locally delivered items such as beverages and snacks. Shopping more frequently, not just payday, often nets additional savings.

Depending on installation entry policies (do check ahead), visitors may accompany you when you shop the commissary, but only the ID card holder may make purchases.

Craft a special commissary care package for your loved one.

Special "deployment centers" can be found at 31 commissaries on key installations. These centers offer a varied assortment of items available for assembling "care packages" and are located at the front of the store. Nonperishable food items such as nuts, instant soup, jerky, dried fruits and sport drinks are some of the items available. Health and personal care items such as wipes, lip balm, insect repellent and dental floss along with batteries are additional items that can be found in the deployment centers.

Send the gift of commissary savings.

That's the "Gift of Groceries." It's a commissary gift certificate anyone can purchase over the Internet or by a toll free call, but only authorized shoppers can redeem them at the commissary. Good at any commissary, they can be purchased most easily online at www.commissaries.com to help families of deployed service members. They can even be donated through the USO, the Fisher House Foundation Inc. or the Air Force Aid Society to military families in need.

Shop smart.

Families of deployed service members often eat less "big meals" at home, but eating out at the local pizza parlor or fast food restaurant is not the way to save money. Skip the "desperate" dinner out and pick up fast and convenient meals at the commissary instead.

Bring home popular and inexpensive meals such pizza, hot dogs and frozen entrees for the family. Stock your pantry shelves with a classic budget-friendly (and universally kid-approved) food: macaroni and cheese. Bagged salad prices at the commissary can't be beat and Grab-and-Go or deli sections have freshly prepared sandwiches and side dishes.

Remember, nothing beats preparation for saving money and being ready for deployment. That and shopping in your commissary!

Drinking  & Driving 
 Don't Mix 

SPORTS & FITNESS

On Post

Basketball courts closed

The Hunter gym's basketball courts are closed for renovations.

Tae Kwon Do lessons

Tae Kwon Do is available for children and adults.

Classes are held 5 to 6 p.m. for children and 6 to 7 p.m. for teens and adults, Tuesday and Thursday at Fort Stewart Youth Services Center, Building 7338, Austin Road in Bryan Village next to the shoppette.

The cost is \$30 per month. For more information, call Child and Youth Services at 767-2312.

Marne tournaments

A 9-pin, no-tap tournament will be held the first Saturday of every month at Marne Lanes.

Sign up starts at 6:30 p.m. Bowling starts at 7 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person.

A scotch doubles tournament is held the third Saturday of every month at Marne Lanes. Bowling starts at 7 p.m. Cost is \$20 per couple. For more information, call 767-4866.

Newman offers training

The Newman Physical Fitness Center now offers personal-training consultations. Consultations consist of health screenings (body fat assessments), exercise prescription and nutritional counseling. Consultations are on appointment basis only.

Persons desiring this service may contact the Newman Physical Fitness Center at 767-3031.

Golf course

Taylor's Creek Golf Course offers Senior Blitz on Thursdays with a 9 a.m. tee off. They also offer a Dogfight Tournament at 7:30 a.m. and Men's Blitz at 1 p.m. on Saturdays and Men's Blitz at 1 p.m. on Sundays.

Registration for girls sports

Registration began Feb. 1 for girls softball, T-ball, baseball and Track & Field. You can register your child 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Fort Stewart CYS, Building 443. All sports are open to children of active duty, retired military and DoD civilians. All children must be a registered member of Youth services and have physicals and proof of age to participate in Youth Services Sports Programs. The cost is \$20 for the first child and \$18 for each additional child. For more information, call 767-2312.

Lifeguard certification

Fort Stewart's MWR program is looking for a few good lifeguards. Applicants must be 15-years-old and able to swim 500 meters without stopping. A free certification is scheduled for 2 p.m., Saturday at Newman Pool.

Off Post

Military night at the YMCA

The 1st and 3rd Friday of each month are Military night at the YMCA. Show your Military ID and enjoy the Y free of charge from 4 to 10 p.m.

Baseball players wanted

If you are interested in playing baseball for a semi-pro baseball team, contact Art Lewis at 352-6749 or 767-6572, or James Simmons at 767-3031 or 369-3974.

For more information, email simmonsh@yahoo.com

Half marathon

Registration has begun for the Hilton Head Island Half Marathon.

The half marathon will be held 8 a.m., Saturday. The fee is \$30 if registered before Saturday. After Saturday, the fee is \$40. No race-day registrations will be permitted.

Participants can register at www.bearfootports.com.

If you're interested in having your sports articles, commentaries or briefs posted in The Frontline, call 767-3440, or fax at 767-5979. Deadline is noon on Fridays.

National Guard 54 Debuts in NASCAR; works to tell story of citizen soldiers

Master Sgt. Bob Haskell

American Forces Press Service

ARLINGTON, Va., — Millions of fans have screamed themselves hoarse while watching stock cars, gleaming with familiar names and numbers, compete in Winston Cup races nationwide. Now a new contender seeks their approval.

Crowds got their first look at a brand new red, white and blue Ford emblazoned National Guard 54 when NASCAR's premier racing circuit roared to life Feb. 8 for the 2003 season at the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Twenty-year racing veteran Todd Bodine, 38, drove the new car that is bearing this country's colors and the National Guard name for a new team, BelCar Racing, and for the new season of major league racing that officially began with the Daytona 500 Feb. 16.

The National Guard is the primary advertiser. The car's number, 54, represents the 50 states and four territories where Army and Air Guard units are located.

"This is a great opportunity. I feel like I'm driving for the whole country," said the younger brother of Winston Cup star Geoff Bodine before racing in the 70-lap Budweiser Shootout. This race is for drivers who started last year's

Winston Cup races in the pole position, the No. 1 spot.

"Guard men and women are serving all over the world," said Bodine. "The car is red, white and blue. It's like I'm driving the American flag."

The team is also attaching decals in the shape of the STS-107 space shuttle mission patch to the car in honor the seven Columbia astronauts who perished Feb. 1.

Bodine started eighth among 19 cars and was 13th in the pack of 18 that finished the race. The field included Dale Earnhardt Jr., who started last and finished first; defending Winston Cup champion Tony Stewart, who finished 15th; and Jeff Gordon and Jimmie Johnson.

The directors of the Army and Air National Guard were among the 75,000 fans who flocked to the 25th annual Shootout, which was run under the lights and on prime-time television for the first time.

"NASCAR is a team sport and a family event. That's why it's exciting to be a part of it," said Lt. Gen. Roger Schultz, Army Guard director, who built and drove his own stock car for a couple of seasons when he was a young man in Iowa. "It's a way to reach the American people and tell the Guard's story. And NASCAR fans are very patriotic."

"So many Americans are watching these cars, and they will see that



Photos by Master Sgt. Bob Haskell

red, white and blue car," said Lt. Gen. Daniel James III, Air Guard director, while taking in his first stock car race. "Once again, the National Guard is connecting with the communities."

That means connecting with the whole community, including African- and Hispanic-American NASCAR fans, whose numbers have increased an average of 26 percent since 1999, according to the Daytona Beach "News-Journal." That's what BelCar majority owner Sam Belnavis hopes to accomplish. His team is trying to bring diversity into the world of auto racing by developing drivers and crew members from minorities, including African and Hispanic Americans.

Belnavis is a marketing and advertising executive who introduced the Miller Brewing Co. to NASCAR racing in 1981 when he was director of sports marketing. He signed Bobby Allison to pilot the No. 22 Miller High Life Buick. His partner is 32-year NASCAR veteran Travis Carter, a former crew chief for Winston Cup champions Benny

Parsons and Cale Yarborough.

"We're trying to change the face of racing. That's the challenge before us," said Cherise Belnavis-Johnson, Sam's daughter and the team's director of sponsor relations. "Travis brings the racing experience to the team that we need. My father brings the marketing experience that Travis needs."

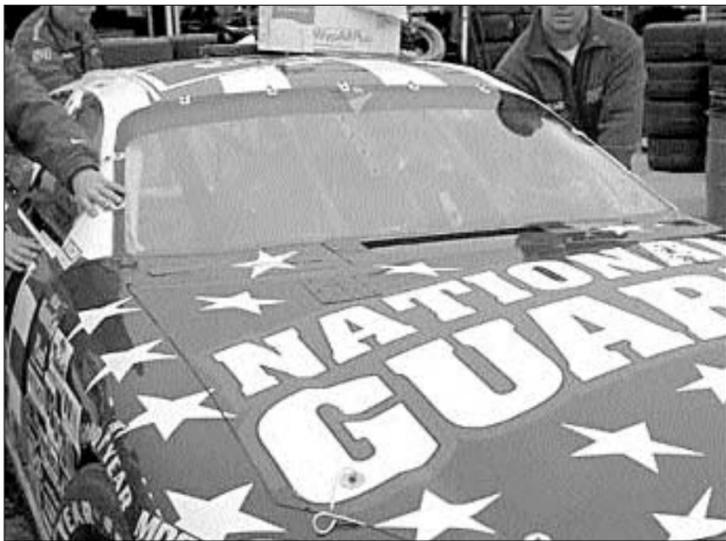
BelCar has started its Motorsport Diversity Development Program to develop minority drivers in the Hooters Pro Cup Series as well as to bring racial diversity to the pit crew.

"We want to open up all parts of racing to minorities, not just the drivers," Belnavis-Johnson said.

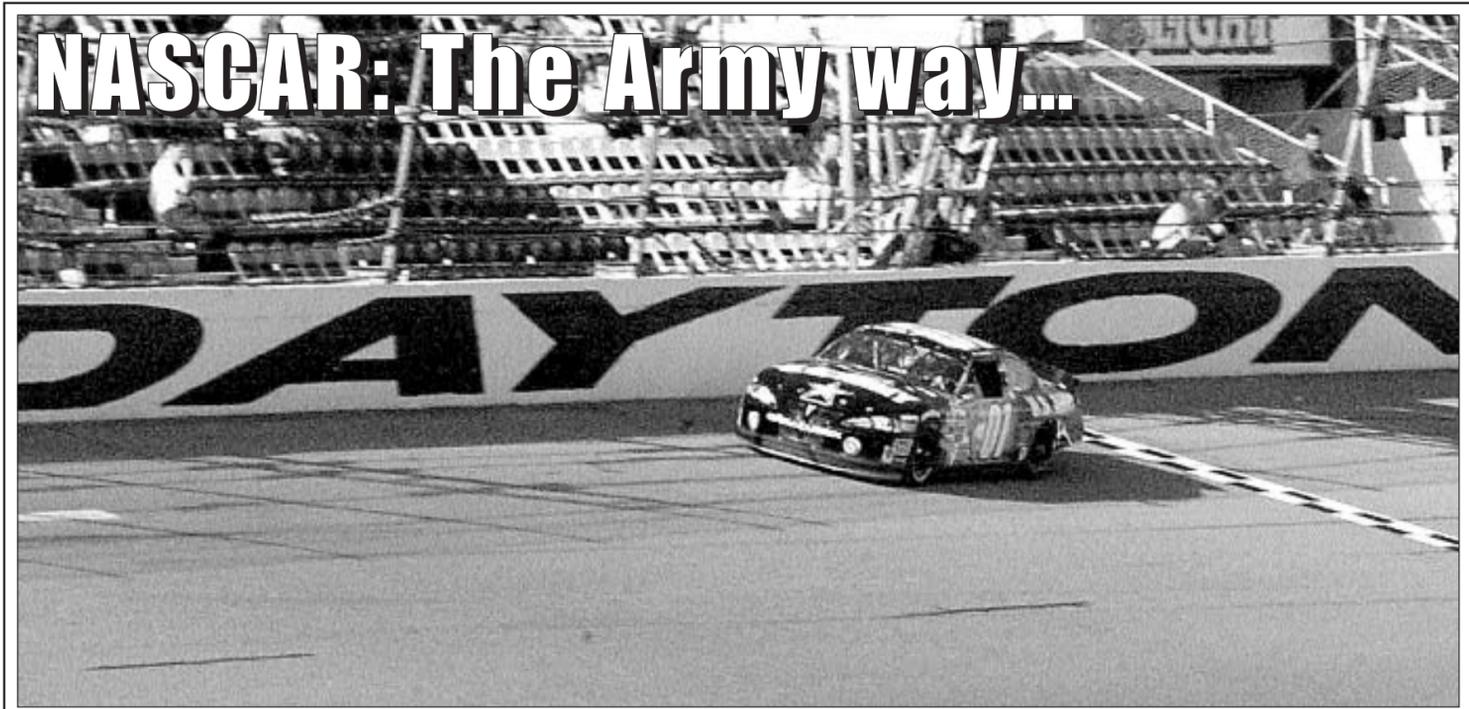
That is important to National Guard leaders, who are also striving to attain more diversity in the Army and Air Guard ranks. The National Guard declared 2002 as its Year of Diversity, and Army Guard director Schultz insists the cause still lives.

"Diversity is not about a year. It's about a journey," he said.

And that journey, like National Guard 54's NASCAR career, has only just begun.



The National Guard's new Winston Cup stock car rolls out for its first race, the Budweiser Shootout at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla., Feb. 8, 2003.



Tim Hipps

Jerry Nadeau drives the No. 1 "Army of One" Pontiac Grand Prix across the finish line at Daytona International Speedway Feb. 10, in a qualifying race for Daytona 500. Nadeau finished 28th in the Daytona 500 Feb. 16.

Marne Scoreboard

Basketball

School Age Youth Services District II All-Star Basketball Warm-up Saturday

All Games vs. Fort Stewart	
9 a.m.	Court 1 Wayne Co. vs Midget Girls Court 2 Wayne Co. vs Mite Boys
10:15 a.m.	Court 1 Wayne Co. vs. Midget Boys Court 2 Wayne Co. vs Junior boys
11:30 a.m.	Court 1 Baxley vs Midget Girls Court 2 Baxley vs Mite Boys
12:45 p.m.	Court 1 Baxley vs Midget Boys

2 p.m.	Court 2 Baxley vs Junior Boys Court 1 Richmond Hill vs Midget Girls Court 2 Richmond Hill vs Mite Boys
3:30 p.m.	Court 1 Richmond Hill vs Midget Boys Court 2 Richmond Hill vs Junior Boys

Bryan Village Youth Center Gym
Wayne Co. vs Sr. Boys Host Team
11:15 a.m. Richmond Hill vs Mite Girls
12:30 p.m. Richmond Hill vs Sr. Boys District Team
*\$1 admission all day for adults and school-age children at both gyms.

2003 GRPA District II 17 and Under Senior Boys Basketball Tournament Feb. 28-Mar. 1
All games will be played at Bryan Village Youth Center Gym.

7:15 p.m.	Feb. 28	Camden Co. vs Liberty Co.
8:30 p.m.	Feb. 28	Fort Stewart vs Camden Co.

*Other games are to be announced. \$2 admission fee for adults and school-age children all day.

Volleyball

Volleyball sign-up/clinic
Team rosters must be submitted by March 10 for the upcoming volleyball season for soldiers, family members, National Guard and Reserves to the Fort Stewart Sports Director's Office, Building 471, Sports Complex or Hunter Sports Director's office, Building 925, Duncan Road. For more information, call 352-6749 or 767-8238. There is a Volleyball Clinic scheduled for 1:30 p.m., March

19, at the Stewart Club and Hunter Sports Office.

Aerobics

Hunter Fitness Center Aerobics schedule
Mondays — 6 to 7 p.m. Cardio-Stepping
Cardio-Kicking
Buns/Thighs Weights
AB Work Stretch
Wednesdays — 6 to 7 p.m. Cardio-Stepping
Cardio-Kicking
Jump Rope
Weights
AB Work Stretch
Fridays — 6 to 7 p.m. Fun Fridays
Party Dance
Yoge Stretches

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Children & deployments

Chaplain (Maj.) James W. McGill

Special to The Frontline

The time before a deployment is not only stressful for parents, but it is also stressful to the children. Children often do not fully understand why a parent is going away and is confused, in addition to feeling a sense of loss of the parent and their security. Young children may become fearful that not only will the deploying parent leave them but that the remaining parent may also leave.

Children are not very good at expressing fears and feelings in words. Anger and a desire for revenge, and guilt for feeling that way, are often demonstrated in the child's behavior.

Change is puzzling to children. They want everything to remain the same. When change occurs, children usually have no other way to release anxieties, and no where to go for help.

At a time when the deployed spouse's responsibility to the military becomes more demanding of their time and energy, the other spouse feels overwhelmed, anticipating a long time as sole support for their children and their home.

What can be done about relieving the stress of the pre-deployment period? Think about these ideas which have been helpful to others in similar situations.

Talk to your children about the deployment before it happens

Communicate your thoughts and feelings about the separation. Be open and honest. Some parents worry that advance warning will only give the child more time to fret. However, children can sense when something is about to happen and worry more when they are left in the dark. Knowing about the deployment in advance helps in adjusting to the idea.

Building an emotional bond

Don't be afraid to hug your child. A display of

affection is powerful communication.

The deploying parent needs to spend some quality time with each child before they leave. Younger children (under 8) will be willing to accept a half hour of face-to-face communication. Older children (8 and over) appreciate being consulted when deciding how long and where this special time together can occur. Use this time to share pride in your work, unit, military and the purpose of this deployment.

Children of school age are beginning to understand that some events must happen for the good of everyone. It is a little easier to let go if mom or dad's job is seen as essential to the mission of the military.

Often when asked if something is bothering them, a child will say no. But there are ways to get through. Make some casual reference to your own worries or ambivalent feelings about the impending deployment. Sometimes that enables parent and child to share similar feelings. It also helps a child to realize his parent is a real person who can cry as well as laugh, and it models an appropriate way to release feelings — talking about them.

Visit your child's teacher

Frequently children react to the deployment by misbehaving in class or performing poorly in their studies. A teacher who is aware of the situation is in a better position to be sensitive and encouraging.

Informing the teacher that the child may be acting out because his parent is away does not make dealing with the behavior any easier for the teacher. If the behavior is very harmful or disruptive, outline what you don't expect the teacher to deal with.

The deploying spouse should leave at least three stamped, self-addressed envelopes with the teacher with a request for periodic communication regarding the child's progress as well as a

See DEPLOYMENT, Page 6B

Worship Opportunities

Fort Stewart

Catholic	Location	Time
Sunday Mass	Victory	9 a.m.
Sunday Mass	Victory	7 p.m.
Weekday Mass	Victory	11:45 a.m.

Protestant

Sunday "Protestant Worship"	Marne	11 a.m.
Sunday Gospel Service	Victory	11 a.m.
Sunday Family Friendly	Vale	11 a.m.
Tuesday Healing Service	WACH	11:30 a.m.

American Samoan

Sunday Worship	Victory	1 p.m.
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Muslim

Friday Jum'ah	Bldg. 9182	1:15 p.m.
Masjid (Daily)	Bldg. 9182	5:30 a.m.

Seventh Day Adventist

Saturday Sabbath School	Vale	9:15 a.m.
Saturday Divine Worship	Vale	11 a.m.

Lutheran

Sunday Worship	Marne	11 a.m.
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Contemporary Service

Sunday Worship	Marne	6 p.m.
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Hunter Army Airfield

Protestant

Sunday Service	Post Chapel	11 a.m.
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Pet of the Week

If you are looking for a feline, the vet clinic has several to choose from. You can choose from kittens or full-grown cats, many ages and personalities, all need a loving, nurturing family to live with. Most of them get along well with other animals.

If interested in adopting a cat or dog, call 767-4194 or stop by the clinic located at 461 W. Bultman Ave., Building 1180, Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314.



Volunteer Spotlight



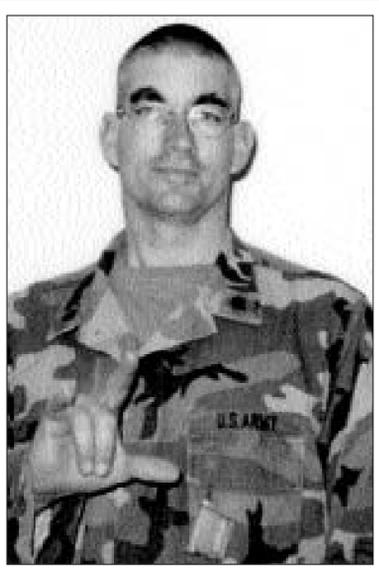
Dan Anderson

Specialist Dan Anderson, a native of West Virginia stationed at Hunter Army Airfield, volunteers at Army Community Service teaching sign language.

"I enjoy working with the children teaching sign language, and I get disappointed if no one shows up," Anderson said.

He enjoys seeing the children smile and helping out.

If you would like more information about becoming an ACS volunteer, visit ACS at Building 470 on Fort Stewart, Building 1286 on Hunter Army Airfield or for more information, call Vickie Wiginton at 767-5058.



DEPLOYMENT

from page 5B

special product of the school or classroom, such as classroom newspaper and PTO newsletter.

Children need to see the spouses work place

Very young children need to see where mom or dad eats, sleeps, and spends some of their day when away from home. This can be done by pictures or TV videos. This provides them with a concrete image of where the parent is when they can't come home.

Older children can learn a great deal from the parent about the function of his job, the sophisticated technology, interdependence of each division of the military with the other and of course, career direction.

Plan for communication

Expect children to stay in touch with the deployed spouse. A lively discussion needs to take place before deployment.

Encourage children to brainstorm the many ways communication can occur in addition to letter writing, such as cassette tape exchange, photographs with their parents, encoded messages, puzzle messages: (a written letter cut into puzzle parts that must be

assembled in order to read.), unusual papers for stationary and pictures drawn by preschoolers.

Help children to plan for the departure

While the spouse is packing the bags, allow your children to assist in some way. Suggest a

swap of some token, something of your child's that can be packed in a duffel bag in return for something that belongs to the departing spouse.

Discuss the household chores and let your children choose (as much as possible) the ones they would rather do. Mother and father need to agree with each other that division of household chores is reasonable.

The role of disciplinarian needs to be supported by the deploying member.

Turn on your sensors and tune into your child's worries about the deployment

Just because children do not tell you about their concerns doesn't mean that they are not troubled. Children don't usually recognize the cause of their feelings nor will they tell you.

The spouse that is deploying should communicate with each child individually. There is no substitute for a letter with your own name on the envelope. Send postcards, snapshots, and tape-recordings of the sounds around you where you are deployed. Use unusual stamps, felt-tip pens, colored pencils and different styles of alphabets and lettering.

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Birth announcements

February 2
Aidan Martin Lafferty, a boy, 8 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Capt. Jason M. Lafferty and Capt. Elizabeth B. Lafferty.

February 3
Schuyler Andrew Hobik, a boy, 9 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Jason Scott Hobik and Cpl. Summer Melody Hobik.

Alexandria Ione Watts, a girl, 7 pounds, 14 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Corey Allen Watts and Nancy Kathleen Watts.

Abigale Ruth Ferguson, a girl, 8 pounds, 5 ounces, born to Spc. Shawn Ferguson and Rachel Ferguson.

February 4
Christian Pantoja, a boy, 7 pounds, born

to Sgt. Henry Pantoja and Yosimiena Pantoja.

Jason Christopher Draper, a boy, 7 pounds, 12 ounces, born to Capt. Derek Jason Draper and Christy Lynn Draper.

Kayla Jade Vines, a girl, 6 pounds, 6 ounces, born to Spc. Roger Vines and Helen Jean Vines.

February 5
Carlton Lamont Fields Jr., a boy, 7 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Spc. Carlton Lamont Fields Jr., and Danielle Denise Fields.

February 6
Starr Krishawn Gamble, a girl, 6 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Pfc. Starr Rashawn Gamble.

February 7
Caitlyn Virginia Porter, a girl, 7 pounds, 5 ounces, born to Spc. Mason Allen Porter and Heather Sue Porter.

Jesuomisini Blessing Okunade, a girl, 8 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Spc. Babatunde Okunade and Bukola Okunade.

Tiandrea Micayla Alston, a girl, 7 pounds, 10 ounces, born to Sgt. Tony Alston and Maruska Alston.

Christopher Eli Allshouse, a boy, 8 pounds, 7 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Christopher Allshouse and Jessica Michelle Allshouse.

February 8
Allison Ruby Eastburn, a girl, 10 pounds, 5 ounces, born to 1st Lt. David W.

Eastburn and 1st Lt. Amber J. Eastburn.

Jilliana Lorene Porretta, a girl, 9 pounds, 6 ounces, born to Warrant Officer Arthur Jay Porretta and Sgt. Deana Lorene Porretta.

February 9
Aliah Anne Hessberger, a girl, 7 pounds, born to Sgt. Todd Anthony Hessberger and Toni Kathleen Hessberger.

Edwin Daryl Marshall III, a boy, 7 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Spc. Edwin Daryl Marshall and Spc. Fiona Sandya Marshall.

February 10
Brittney Marianah Madge, a girl, 6 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Chief Warrant Officer Perry L. Madge and Tangel Madge.

