

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

## Memorial held for 1/3 Aviation pilots



CW2 Nicholas P. DiMona II



WO1 William L. Loffer

### Spc. Robert Adams

Staff Writer

A memorial ceremony was held for Chief Warrant Officer 2 Nicholas P. DiMona II and Warrant Officer 1 William L. Loffer of 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment at the Departure/Arrival Airfield Control Group facility at Hunter Army Airfield Monday.

Both pilots died in a training accident June 22 when their Apache Longbow crashed on Fort Stewart near Highway 144 about five miles west of Richmond Hill.

Fellow Soldiers, family and friends listened as a few of DiMona and Loffer's unit comrades spoke about them.

"Today is a time of mourning and loss and celebrating our time with them," said Lt. Col. Pedro G. Almeida, 1/3 Avn. battalion commander.

DiMona was born June 8, 1972 in Barrington New Jersey. He was married to the former Melissa Saunders and was the father of two children Nicholas and Gianna. DiMona had attended the Army Survival,

Evasion, Resistance, Escape School and the Air Force's Interrogation School before he began the Warrant Officer Candidate School in 2000. He was qualified to fly the TH-67 Bell Jet Ranger, the OH-58 A/C Kiowa, and the AH-64D Longbow Apache.

He flew 47.8 combat hours in Operation Iraqi Freedom with C Company, 1/3 Avn. in which he earned the Army Air Medal.

"Nick was all Army," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Michael R. Carman, C. Company, 1/3 Avn.

Upon returning from Iraq, DiMona earned the title of Pilot in Command. His other awards and decorations include the Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Army Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters, as well as many others.

Loffer was born June 25, 1977 in Germany. He was married to the former Misty Dawn Goss and father of his daughter Tatum.

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## Stewart, Hunter say farewell to Riojas, Caslen

### Pfc. Ricardo Branch

Staff Writer

Soldiers of 3rd Infantry Division said goodbye to two of its commanders, Brig. Gen. Jose D. Riojas, assistant division commander (support), and Brig. Gen. Robert L. Caslen Jr., assistant division commander (maneuver), in a promotion and farewell ceremony June 25 at Marne Garden.

Caslen was promoted from colonel to brigadier general.

"Col. Robert L. Caslen, has worked long and hard and I've waited a long time to call him general," Riojas said.

Caslen has served as the assistant division commander (maneuver) since July 1 of last year, will remember his stay at Stewart with good times.

"It felt good coming here and joining a winning team," Caslen said.

Caslen said that its been a rollercoaster ride since he arrived getting the division back from war and retraining, refitting and reorganizing them back to strength.

"Coming to Stewart has been an honor and a good ride," Caslen said.

Caslen was commissioned as a lieutenant of infantry from the United States Military Academy.

His tours of Army service include an initial assignment with the 9th Infantry Division, where he served as rifle platoon leader, company executive officer, mortar platoon leader, and company commander in the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 47th Infantry Regiment.

Following this assignment and attendance at the Infantry Officer's Advanced Course, Caslen served in several positions in West Point before moving on to the Command and General Staff College.

Caslen then was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) as the 3rd Brigade S-4, Battalion Executive Officer for 2nd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment (during Desert Shield/Desert Storm), and later assigned to Joint Task Force Bravo in Honduras as the Director, J-3.

From 1993 to 1995 Caslen commanded the 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division (Light) After this tour, he deployed with the 25th Division to Haiti and served as the executive officer to the commander of the multi-national forces, and then to the commander of the U.S. Forces United Nations Command during Operations Restore and Uphold Democracy.

From 1996-1997, he served as the Senior Brigade C-2 Observer/Controller at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La. Then returned to the 101st Airborne Division/Installation Chief of Staff.

Following his time with 101st, Caslen joined the 10th Mountain Division and served as the Division/Installation Chief of Staff at Fort Drum, New York before coming to Stewart.

Jose D. Riojas, who has been with the 3rd Inf. Div. since the summer of last year and also leaves with fond memories of his stay at Stewart as time well spent.

"When I came here last summer and donned the 3rd ID patch, I was filled with such a large amount of pride to be part of such a winning team," Riojas said.

Riojas was commission in 1976 as a second lieutenant in Field Artillery upon his graduation from the United States Military Academy, West Point, N.Y.

He began his career in III Corps Artillery where he served in the 2nd

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Pfc. Ricardo Branch

Brig. Gen. Robert L. Caslen, Jr., ADC (M), receives an empty howitzer shell during a promotion and farewell ceremony June 25 at Marne Garden.



Pvt. Dan Balda

4/64 Armor Soldiers practice squad movements after exiting a Bradley June 24 at Range B-22.

## 4/64 Armor focuses on teamwork

### Pvt. Dan Balda

Staff writer

B Co., 4th Battalion 64th Armor Regiment, headed out to Fort Stewart Range B-22 for small-unit infantry training June 24.

Dismounted Soldiers fired live M-4 rifles, M-249 squad automatic weapons and M-240B machine gun, all while fighting alongside two M2

Bradley Fighting Vehicles and AH-64 Apaches, said Lt. Stephen Gifford, personnel officer for the unit.

The command's training philosophy has three tenets: training needs to be as hard, if not harder than combat. The second tenet is, focus your training. Determine what needs to be trained. Then perform those tasks to an "A" standard. Don't perform multiple

tasks at a "C" standard. The last tenet is hard, gut wrenching, sweat covering training — executed to standard — wins the day. The Soldiers definitely held true to these three ideals, said Maj. Shane Baker, training officer, 4/64 Armor

"It was great to see the Soldiers getting motivated for their training," Baker said.

This squad life fire marked the first opportunity for the

unit to train under the new reorganized Unit of Action configuration. Under this design, the traditional tank battalion now consists of two mechanized infantry companies, two armor companies, an engineer company, a headquarters company and a forward support company in direct support of the battalion.

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**Weather Forecast**

<b>FRI</b>	High 91°	Low 72°
<b>SAT</b>	High 93°	Low 73°
<b>SUN</b>	High 93°	Low 73°

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# Ragin' down range



Photos by Spc. Robert Adams

Spc. Anthony Vanzuiden, D Co., 1/3 Avn., Apache Longbow mechanic fires a 50 caliber machine gun down range at targets from the turret of a moving LMTV while Soldiers fire M-16 rifle and SAW rounds from the cab Friday at Red Cloud Foxtrot as part of a three-day training exercise.



Spc. Yunes Vera, D Co., 1/3 Avn. nuclear biological chemical specialist runs back to mount back on the LMTV.

## Targets up, 1/3 Avn. knocks them down

Spc. Robert Adams

Staff Writer

1st Battalion 3rd Aviation Regiment Soldiers knocked down targets during combat service support single-vehicle live-fire exercises Friday at Red Cloud Foxtrot.

Soldiers fired M-16 rifles, a 50 caliber machine gun, and a squad automatic weapon at various pop-up targets from a moving light medium tactical vehicle and performed dismounting and mounting procedures while providing suppressive fire during the training exercise.

"This is brand new training," said Capt. Michael LaBroad, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1/3 Avn. executive officer.

"This is the first time we have gone down range and conducted a convoy live-fire exercise."

The training consisted of three day and night exercises.

Soldiers began June 24 by learning and practicing stationary firing, dismounting, and mounting and cover-fire procedures.

After performing single vehicle training on Friday, Soldiers prepared to conduct an eight-vehicle convoy live-fire Saturday.

"These Soldiers have been very motivated today," said Capt. Phillip Lamb, 1/3 Avn., operations assistant. "They are taking hot brass and bouncing around on the vehicle."

Soldiers fired from the side of the cab of the LMTV and a Soldier fired a 50 cal. from the turret of the LMTV as they moved down the road of the training area.

In the middle of the road course, Soldiers helped each other dismount the LMTV while providing suppressive fire before finding a spot behind a berm to fire at targets. They then mounted back on the vehicle and moved out to destroy more targets.

"We have never done this training before and I have done this a couple of times now and I feel really good about it," said Spc. Micah Spence, D Company, 1/3 Avn., Apache mechanic.

"This training is preparing them to be aware of their surroundings," said Sgt. Herman Keese, D Co., 1/3 Avn., armament. "We are teaching them to not be a bump on the road on the back of the truck, for you never know what is going to happen."

After redeploying last year, 1/3 Avn. has not only received a new training schedule but also many new Soldiers.

"They have been eager to learn," Keese said. "When you tell them to do something; they are always eager to make a good impression and do the right thing."



Soldiers fire live rounds from the side of a LMTV at pop-up targets while moving down a road.

"Since there are a lot of new Soldiers, I feel comfortable having this new training before going back over there," Spence said.

Not only do Soldiers get to encounter targets at the ranges, but they also have to battle the rough weather conditions.

"It has been hot, but it is alright," Spence said.

"Most people have stayed motivated considering the conditions, with it being hot during the day and rainy at night," Keese said.

Since this is new training, everyone in the unit is learning.

"We are hoping to build from our experiences here and conduct another gunnery in about six months," LaBroad said.

Lamb said, "This is the new division standard, and this training is a good introduction and familiarization for our Soldiers in preparation for Operation Iraqi Freedom 3."



Sgt. Randy Brooks, B Company, 1/3 Avn. squad leader and Sgt. Brandon McKillip, A Co., 1/3 Avn. Apache crew chief fire at targets from the bed of an LMTV.



1/3 Avn. Soldiers provide suppressive fire on targets while members of their team mount onto the LMTV.

# You are not a better driver when you are drunk

**Pvt. Dan Balda**  
Staff-Writer

When Soldiers raise their right hand they accept the fact that their chosen profession might call on them to give their lives in the defense of their country.

Soldiers are trained how to deal with the dangers inherent in a war zone. They are not given enough information about the dangers of drunk driving.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, one person dies from an alcohol-related crash every 30 minutes. There is enough danger driving to the store. Soldiers do not need to exacerbate the problem by drinking and getting behind the wheel of a car.

"Every time you come on post the gate guards and MP's check the driver to see if he has been drinking," said Jeff Willis, Fort Stewart occupational health and safety specialist. "You'd be amazed at the amount of Soldiers who think that it's no problem to go out drinking with their buddies and then drive their privately owned vehicle back on post."

There are many ways the Safety Office educates Soldiers about the dangers of drunk driving. One such

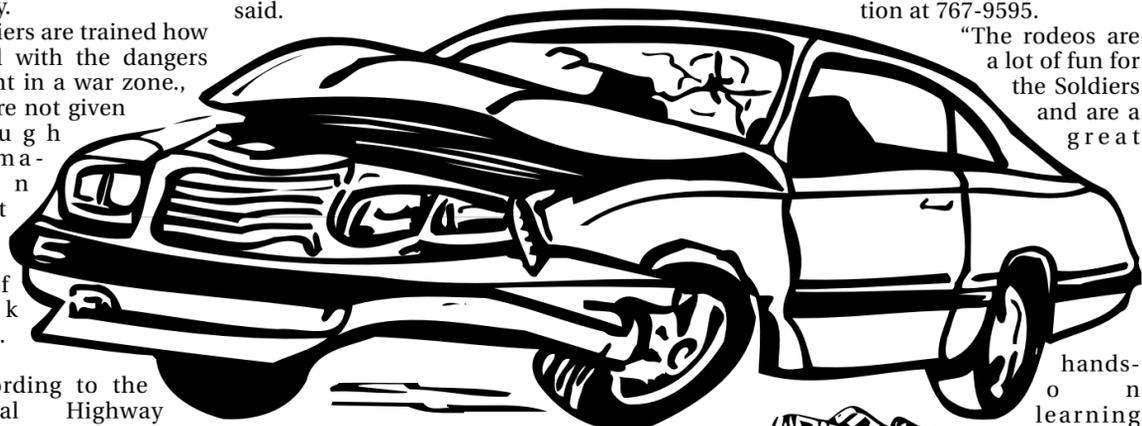
program is the Drunk Driving Rodeo. There are no leather chaps worn by the participants, no cow pies to be avoided; rather it is a demonstration put on by the safety office to show Soldiers the effects of drunk driving, Willis said.

only a little golf cart, going about 10 miles per hour and hitting plastic golf cones. How bad would it be if the driver was behind the wheel of a truck, driving 80 miles per hour and suddenly hit a stationary tree?

license and increased insurance rates, among others, Willis said.

Commanding officers who are interested in putting on a drunk driving rodeo for their unit can contact the traffic section at the military police station at 767-9595.

"The rodeos are a lot of fun for the Soldiers and are a great



Participants are given beer-goggles and asked to drive a golf cart in-between a number of traffic cones. The goggles simulate varying degrees of inebriation.

Some Soldiers volunteer for the demonstration thinking like some do when they choose to drive after drinking- they think that they can drive just as well drunk as they can sober, Willis said.

The Soldiers do their best to steer in-between the cones set up for them, but no matter how careful they drive they still manage to knock a few over. The Soldiers watching laugh at their friend but hopefully they are also thinking about what this would mean on the highway, Willis said. This is

Another demonstration put on at the drunk driving rodeo simulates a roll-over in a pickup truck.

The truck is attached to a metal frame and has stuffed dummies sitting in the cab. The dummies do not wear seatbelts to further educate the Soldiers on the dangers of not wearing safety restraints. A mechanism flips the truck over a few times and the dummies are thrown from the automobile.

Besides the physical punishments of getting into an automobile accident, there are many other punishments that a drunk driver can experience. Offenders can suffer fines and imprisonment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, degradation of character, civilian court fees, loss of driver's

hands-on learning environment," Willis said.

These safety programs are an important educational tool for the soldiers because when a Soldier drinks and drives they put themselves and their battle buddies at risk. In addition, friends shouldn't get in the car with their buddies when they know they are drunk. Lastly, those Soldiers in leadership positions can also help in identifying possible drunk drivers before they even get behind the wheel, Willis said.

"Squad leaders, platoon leaders and other NCO's know who is at high risk," Willis said.

He added, "They need to sit down and talk with at-risk Soldiers, and let them know they are there to help them."

## Drunk driving statistics

1. According to drunk driving statistics from National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, an estimated 17,419 people died in the year 2002 in alcohol-related traffic crashes, an average of one every 30 minutes.
2. About three in every ten Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some time in their lives.
3. Drunk driving statistics say that in 2001, more than half a million people were injured in crashes where police reported that alcohol was present, an average of one person injured approximately every two minutes.
4. Alcohol-related fatalities are caused primarily by the consumption of beer (80 percent) followed by liquor/wine at 20 percent.
5. The highest intoxication rates in fatal crashes in 2001 were recorded for drivers 21 to 24 years old (33 percent), followed by ages 25 to 34 (28 percent) and 35 to 44 (25 percent).
6. Drunk driving statistics report that alcohol-involved crashes accounted for 10 percent of property-damage-only crash costs, 21 percent of nonfatal injury crashes and 46 percent of fatal injury crash costs.
7. The intoxication rate (those over .08 BAC) for male drivers involved in fatal crashes was 24 percent, compared with 13 percent for female drivers.
8. Drunk driving statistics say that for fatal crashes occurring from midnight to three in the morning, 79 percent involved alcohol.
9. Drunk driving is the nation's most frequently committed violent crime, killing someone every 30 minutes.
10. In 2001, 32 percent of all fatal crashes during the week were alcohol-related, compared to 54 percent on weekends.

**Editor's note:** The drunk driving statistics were compiled from [www.drunkdriving.net](http://www.drunkdriving.net)

# VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

## July Fourth Holiday Weekend

**Maj. Gen. William G. Webster Jr.**  
3rd Inf. Div. commanding general

The Fourth of July is a time Americans celebrate our nation's founding and independence. Celebrations are built on traditions involving family, friends, cookouts and fireworks. Too often we get caught up in the celebration activities and forget to think about safety. Safety should be an integral part of our Independence Day celebration.

We are all Army professionals trained to accomplish the many missions of our Army and our great country. As professionals, we train to meet the needs and challenges that are not always foreseeable. To do this we must recognize risks that may face us this holiday period and know

how to mitigate and minimize these risks to ourselves and others. Identifiable risks include

accidents. Summer Water Activities produce many avoidable accidents and injuries. These

must learn from our mistakes and stop these senseless accidents and deaths. Self recognition and efforts to eliminate or mitigate these risk factors will ensure that we all have a great Independence Day celebration.

Commanders and subordinate leaders must continue to be actively involved in educating our Soldiers about high risk factors and that it is their obligation to do what is right for themselves and for the Army. Motorcycle operators must adhere to established standards. Through command emphasis, and the active involvement of our leaders, we can reach our goal: No further loss of members of the Marne Team.



all the following: Speeding, sleeplessness — also known as fatigue, not buckling up, and the consumption of alcohol are all major contribution factors in privately owned vehicle

high risk behaviors have been recognized as the prime casual factors that kill our Soldiers between the ages of 18 to 24, but they can be eliminated or mitigated. We

## Lane Down Range

### Leaders are the essence of the Army

**Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.**  
Staff Writer

#### Commentary

Life in the Army is too easy. There is no other organization in the civilian world that can compare with it. Your clothes, food, housing and medical needs are covered.

If you are unhappy with your job, the Army has endless job opportunities and incentives for advancement to higher positions. All you have to do is follow orders.

Orders that are given by someone who the Soldiers respect are too easy to follow.

I will agree that the Army is not for everyone. Some people cannot withstand the horrors of war or the operation tempo that is involved. These people do their time and move on to different things.

The most important thing to me in the Army is the presence of good

leaders. Leaders not only care about the Soldiers underneath them but also lead them by example.

It is easy to hate and disrespect someone if they are not willing to do the same jobs they assign you to accomplish.

Leaders are supposed to be out front, giving Soldiers the courage and motivation to do what they normally wouldn't be able to do on their own.

Someone who sits in the background and calls out orders while attending to personal matters is not only the wrong answer, but it is a poor example of leadership.

To be able to follow a leader into a

dangerous situation means you have to trust them. To gain trust from subordinates you have to be willing to lead the way, show them how it is done. If a leader is unwilling to be out front, then most Soldiers will not feel confident carrying out his orders.

I have been amazed many times by the endurance and constitution of men and women I have had the privilege of serving with, from drill sergeants to officers to noncommissioned officers. Many times I have wondered how these people come to work early and stay late, and still manage to do all the things we as Soldiers do. These are my mentors and models. I will remember their names far longer than I will remember any famous actor or rock star. The people that make a difference in your life become a mold for future leaders.



## Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

What will you be doing the 4th of July?

"I'm going to visit my mother in Memphis. We'll go downtown to the river for the fireworks display, and maybe to the zoo."

1st Lt.  
**K. Miguel Hughes**  
C Co., 13 Armor  
Recon Sqd.



"I'm going to Indianapolis to visit my brother and his wife. We'll barbecue and maybe hit the beach and do fireworks."

Terry Valdez  
Concessionaire

"I'm going to see my friends in North Carolina. I'm not sure what's going on, but we'll do whatever they have planned."

**Spc. David Cribb**  
Forward Support Co.  
4/64



"I'm spending it with my three sisters, my kids and my wife in Charlotte, N.C. We're going boating and fishing, and we'll watch fireworks on the lake."

Edward D. Perez  
Auto Mechanic

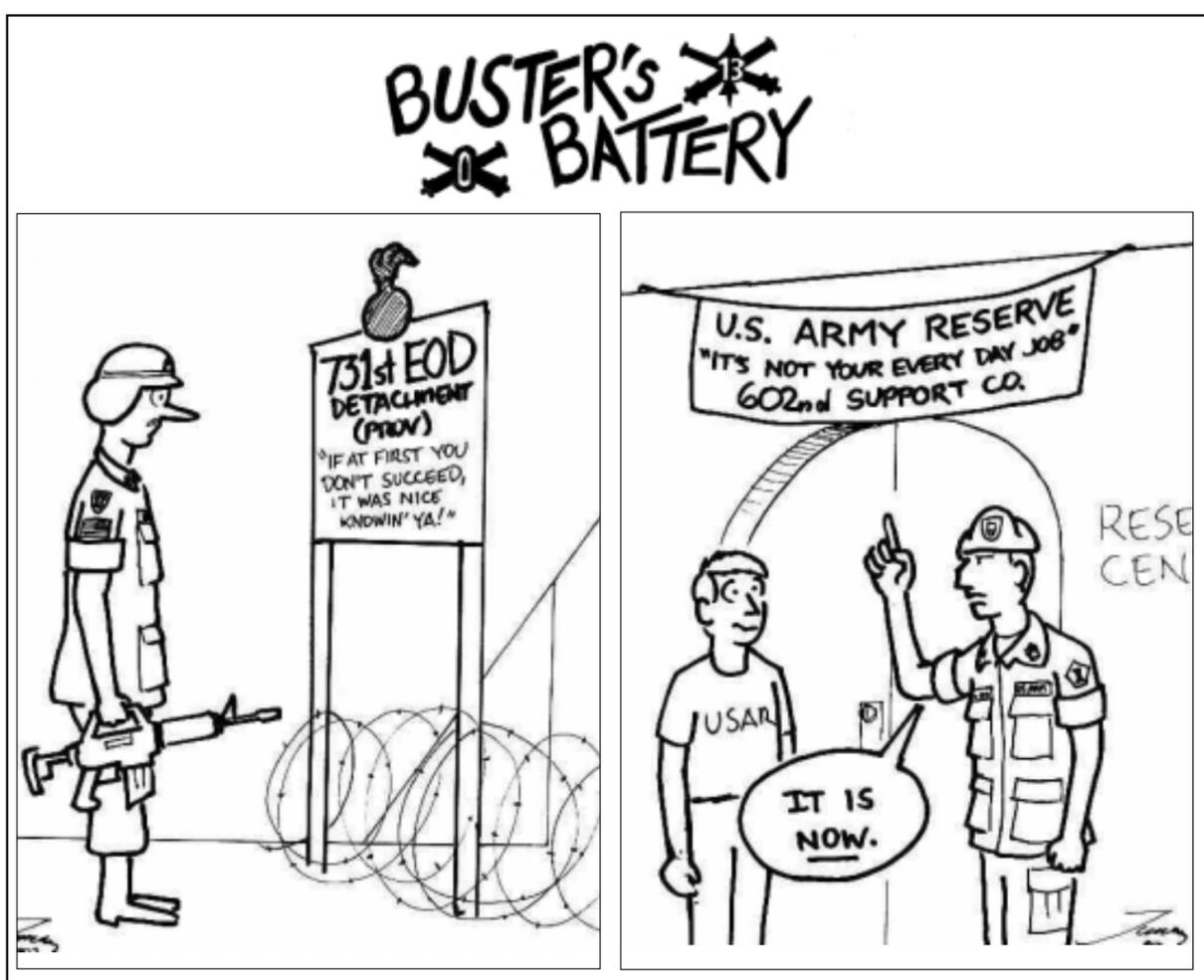
"I'll probably just go to Savannah and hang out with my friends."

**Spc. Aaron B. Dietrich**  
HHC, 1/64 Armor



"I'm going to Louisiana to hang out with my mother and grandmother. We'll have a cookout, and since we live out in the country we'll pop our own fireworks."

Pvt. Terrence Simmons  
B Co., 3rd SSB



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# ARMOR

from page 1A

The new organization makes the battalion more lethal and ready for any contingency, Gifford said.

"We've always had infantry companies attached for NTC or deployments," said Lt. Col. Robert Roth, 4/64 commander. "Now these Soldiers are a permanent part of our organization, so we know them, they know us and we work together as a team."

Infantry and Armor units have always worked together during a deployment but with the reorganization of the units, these units will train together as much as

possible so that they can maintain the standard set before them by their leadership, Baker said.

The Soldiers had been training for this exercise for several weeks.

This was the first time, however, that the Soldiers were maneuvering with dismounted Soldiers, vehicles and air support at the same time during a live-fire exercise, said Capt. Michael MacKinnon, Bandit Company commander, 4/64 Armor.

"The team and squad-level leadership is critical, MacKinnon said.

"This training is going to

save lives when we go overseas," said Pvt. Chris McMullen, combat medic, 4/64 Armor. "The different scenarios help people know what to do when the situation happens so they can complete the mission."

The unit was practicing for their future deployment to Iraq. The training enables the Soldiers to be transported in the belly of the Bradley until they encounter hostile fire.

The Soldiers then exit from the rear of the vehicle, take up offensive positions and move towards their objective while laying down covering fire, Baker said.



Pvt. Dan Balda

4/64 Soldiers fire on targets from the prone position beside a Bradley.

# PILOTS

from page 1A

Loffer was selected for Warrant Officer Candidate School where he attended and graduated flight school number one in his class in November 2003. Loffer arrived at Hunter in February 2004 where he was assigned to C Co. in which he was heavily relied upon during the recent Marne inspections.

"Bill was the type of Soldier you wanted to emulate," said Warrant Officer 1 James S. Lazarus, C. Company, 1/3 Avn. Information Systems Support Officer.

His awards and decorations earned include the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army Superior Unit Award as well as others. He was also working on a bachelor's Degree in Aeronautical Studies from Embry Riddle.

The memorial ended with the last roll call.

# ASK THE IG

Authorization key to off-post habitation

**Maj. Stephen G. Thrasher**

Special to the Frontline

Soldiers who currently live in the barracks and want to live off-post must follow specific procedures to obtain Basic Allowance for Housing. In short, Soldiers must obtain a certificate of non-availability, submit a request, obtain authorization, and only THEN sign a lease or contract for off-post housing. The combination of CNA and authorization is what entitles them to receive BAH to pay for their new housing.

**Q: I live in the Barracks and my Squad Leader told me that I could move off post, so I went out and signed a lease with a local apartment. Now, the Battalion Commander says that I can't move off post. Since I've already signed a lease, he is required to let me live off post, right?**

**A:** No. What we've seen at the Inspector General's Office are two scenarios. The first is that sometimes the Soldier hears what he wants to hear and runs out and gets a lease agreement without approval.

The second is where commanders require Soldiers to provide a lease agreement prior to authorization from the first colonel in the chain of command. Both scenarios are the result of incorrect actions. Remember: obtain a CNA, submit a request, obtain authorization, and then sign a lease agreement.

Commanders should ensure their Soldiers do not enter into a lease contract until the first Colonel authorizes each Soldier to live off post. Further, commanders must ensure that their barracks utilization reports are accurate; if a report does not indicate that barracks utilization exceeds 95 percent, housing will not provide the CNA to requesting Soldiers.

The Garrison Commander verbally authorized all sergeants and staff sergeants who live in the barracks to obtain a CNA from housing before moving off post. They must still submit the approval packet to the first Colonel in a their chain of command for authorization to sign a lease for off-post housing, and then be paid BAH.

All other Soldiers living in the barracks must get a CNA before submitting their packet to the first colonel in their chain of command.

For all ranks, the procedure is to submit a Department of the Army Form 4187 requesting authorization to live off-post and receive BAH (for E1 to E4, include a CNA) through the company and battalion commanders to the first colonel in the chain of command for approval. This is called the request. When the first colonel approves the request it becomes the authorization. After the authorization, the Soldier may then sign a lease agreement.

You've got to do it in that order, otherwise you could wind up with a lease agreement and then get disapproved somewhere along the line. That would be bad because you would not be paid BAH, despite being liable to pay rent.

You may remember this article from the Frontline in January 2004. We're running it again because it is a recurrent problem and to update information that has changed.

# Proper motorcycle helmets equals proper motorcycle safety

**Provost Marshal Office**

Special to The Frontline

A good helmet can make all the difference when a motorcyclist is in an accident. Helmets on the market today vary greatly in the amount of protection they offer to wearers, and riders must take care to ensure the helmet they are entrusting their lives to meets the standard.

In addition to the other safety requirements for riding a motorcycle on post, riders must have a Department of Transportation approved helmet. Helmets that do not meet the minimal DOT certification standards may not be sold as "motorcycle helmets," but this doesn't mean they can't be sold. Many helmets are marketed for motorcyclists that do not pass these tests, and some companies even include a "DOT" label on the back of the helmet to simulate the DOT sticker. The Snell Memorial Foundation is an additional certification source intended to assure

motorcyclists that their helmets have been tested to a slightly different standard than the DOT standard. This does not replace the DOT certification; however, it does show that additional testing was done on the helmet.

Based on DOT and Snell guidelines, some things to consider when looking at a motorcycle helmet are:

- Impact management — how well the helmet protects against collisions with large objects.

- Helmet position stability — whether the helmet will be in place, on the head, when it's needed.

- Retention system strength — whether the chinstraps are sufficiently strong to hold the helmet throughout a head impact.

- Extent of protection — the area of the head protected by the helmet.

- Comfort — a helmet that isn't comfortable enough to wear won't protect anybody.

- Visibility — Bright colors and reflective patches will make you more visible

to other and therefore less likely to be involved in a collision. (All your riding gear and especially your helmet should be unmistakable, even to the most inattentive driver.)

Don't mistake the popularity of a certain type of helmet with safety. The "skull cap" helmet is a popular model, however, not all helmets designed in this style meet the DOT certification requirements. Wearing a properly fastened (under the chin), DOT approved helmet is required by the Stewart Supplement to Army Regulation 190-5 (Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision). For more information on safety requirements, please see Fort Stewart Supplement to AR 190-5, section D-8, or contact Mr. Jeffrey Willis, Installation Safety Specialist, at 767-7878. Questions on any traffic concerns can be directed to the Provost Marshall Office Traffic Accident Investigation section at 767-9595 or the MP Desk at 767-4895.

## ASK THE JUDGE

### Household Goods Claims

**Spc. Claudine Jackson, Paralegal**

Special to the Frontline

**Q: My wife and I just arrived here. We have broken items and missing goods. What should I do to secure the most compensation for our household goods?**

**A:** The very first thing you should do is make sure that the carrier lists all damages and missing items on the Department of Defense Form 1840 when they are finished unloading on the date of delivery. Later, if you discover that there are additional damages or missing items during your unpacking, you can also notate them on the back side of the DD Form 1840 (pink form). While you can notate items that you discovered were damaged while unpacking, all damaged items must be reported to your local military claims office within 70 days from the date of delivery.

In order to report damages, you need to bring with you to your local military claims office your DD Form 1840 with the items you are claiming listed. Once there, the intake personnel will stamp your form as received and give you a claims packet. You then have two years from you date of delivery to submit the entire claims packet. The claims packet has two necessary forms in it, DD Form 1842 and DD Form 1844, which must be turned in with your completed packet. Additionally, you must obtain repair estimates for any broken fur-

niture or electronic items valued at over \$50. You must also provide claims with the household goods inventory, permanent change of station, end of time in service or storage orders, government bill of lading (if coming from out of state), and any declaration of private insurance.

Once your packet is received by the claims office, the claim will be reviewed by a claims adjudicator. They will at that time make sure all necessary documents to process the claim is present and will then determine the appropriate value of the items claimed. Value may be affected by depreciation and possible repair or replacement. It is very important that your inventory sheet accurately describes and lists expensive items or cherished items so that they can be accurately evaluated. When the adjudicator finishes processing your packet, the chief of claims then reviews and approves or denies the payment. If a claim is denied payment or payment is less than the amount requested, the soldier will have 60 days from the date of notification to file an appeal with the Stewart Claims Office.

The Claims office at Stewart is located at 373 Hase Road, Building 50-A in the Family Law Center. Our phone number is 767-8185 and our hours of operation are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday from 1 to 3 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We are closed all federal and training holidays.

## 3ID IN BRIEF

## Stewart

**Campers/Counselors**

Sign up by Friday for the special needs family member camp, for ages 5 years and older. July 19 to 30, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Liberty County Recreation Department. Sponsored by Liberty County and MWR's Army Community Service (ACS), Camp is free and open to civilian and military children. Mandatory volunteer training, July 14 to 16, 8:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. ACS, 55 Pony Soldier Road, Bldg. 253. Transportation to Rec Center not provided.

Call Lucia Braxton, ACS Chief, 767-5058, for information.

**DUI Nomination**

The Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) is now accepting nominations for the Sept. 2004 DUI Free Awards Program.

Request all units eligible to self nominate for their DUI Free Award no later than Aug. 9 (no exceptions).

To nominate your unit, ASAP will need the name of the unit being nominated (spelled out exactly how you will like to see it on the certificate), the last accountable date a DUI was given to your unit, which award it will be (1st, 2nd, or 3rd), and the POC and telephone number for the unit.

**AFAP Issues**

Planners for the next Army Family Action Plan conference are gathering issues to discuss at this this year's conference, Sept. 22 to 23 and the Youth AFAP, Aug. 21.

If you have an idea or concern regarding Army life that you'd liked examined or resolved, contact AFAP program manager, Vicki Wiginton before August 1.

If you want to work as a delegate, facilitator, recorder or volunteer at the conference, contact Wiginton at 767-5058 or 352-6816.

## Hunter

**Enhancement class**

The chaplain's office is sponsoring free couple's communication and relationship enhancement classes at Hunter Club.

For a list of the classes and more information, call Chaplain (Maj.) Timothy Sowers at 572-8605.

**Volunteers needed**

Volunteer orientation at ACS is the first Thursday of every month, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Volunteers are always welcome and much-needed at ACS. For more information, call 352-6816.

**Library**

There's Something for Everyone! Check out books, newspapers, magazines, videos, DVDs, Books-on-Tape& use our computers, typewriters, email system, internet, Galileo Inter-Library Loan Service and more.

For more informa-

tion call 353-2403.

**Hunter Club**

The Hunter Club is open for lunch Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information or to schedule a special event, call 352-5270.

**Thrift Shop**

The Hunter Thrift Shop is open on Wednesday, Friday and the first Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with consignments accepted from military identification card holders from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. It has a great assortment of bargains from baby clothes to furniture.

All proceeds are returned to the Hunter Community in scholarships, grants to units, and through other military organizations. Donations are accepted and volunteers are always welcome. For more information contact the Hunter Thrift Shop at 352-0376.

## Winn /Tuttle

**TRICARE Center**

The Fort Stewart TRICARE Service Center moved. It is located at 740 General Stewart Way, Suite 109, in Hinesville.

The Health Benefits Office will remain co-located with Winn. For more information, call the TSC at 368-3048.

**PX Pharmacy**

The PX Satellite Pharmacy is now open for full service business. Patients may fill new prescriptions and refill prescriptions here 9 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Winn/Tuttle Volunteers**

Winn and Tuttle are seeking volunteers to help in general administrative and clinical areas. Volunteers are always welcome and needed. The next Red Cross volunteer orientation will be held 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. July 1. For more information, call 370-6903 or send an email to [Brigitte.Roberts@seamedd.army.mil](mailto:Brigitte.Roberts@seamedd.army.mil)

**Appointment Line**

The new appointment line phone number is 370-6633.

**Dedicated Parking**

Dedicated patient-only parking is available at the main entrance of the hospital, on Harmon Ave., from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Beneficiaries parking in No Parking Areas, as indicated by a yellow curb, will be ticketed or towed by the Military Police.

**Third party insurance**

Effective July 1, individual's social security numbers will no longer be displayed on health insurance cards in accordance with Georgia Senate Bill 721.

Individuals with private health insurance should contact the Third Party Insurance Office at Winn upon receipt of their unique member identification numbers (policy numbers.) Call the Third Party Insurance Office at 370-6037/6947 for more information.

## Marne TV

## July 2004 Schedule

Marne TV can be found on Comcast Cable Channel 16 every weekday. Tune in to the Marne Report six times a day for the latest from Stewart and Hunter.

5 a.m.	Army Newswatch
<b>5:30 a.m.</b>	<b>MARNE REPORT</b>
6:30 a.m.	Air Force News
7 a.m.	Navy News
7:30 a.m.	Army Newswatch
<b>8 a.m.</b>	<b>MARNE REPORT</b>
9 a.m.	Air Force News
9:30 a.m.	Navy News
11:30 a.m.	Army Newswatch
<b>Noon</b>	<b>MARNE REPORT</b>
1 p.m.	Air Force News
4:30 p.m.	Navy News
<b>5 p.m.</b>	<b>MARNE REPORT</b>
6 p.m.	Army Newswatch
6:30 p.m.	Air Force News
7 p.m.	Navy News
<b>10 p.m.</b>	<b>MARNE REPORT</b>
11 p.m.	Army Newswatch
<b>Midnight</b>	<b>MARNE REPORT</b>

## POLICE REPORTS

- **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Drunken driving, failure to obey a general order
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private, 25-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Driving while license revoked
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 31-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Failure to exercise due care
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 39-year-old male, DISCOM
- **Charge:** Deposit account fraud
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 26-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Larceny of AAFES property, obstruction by fleeing
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Civilian, 69-year-old male
- **Charge:** Criminal trespassing
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 19-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Affray
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Obstruction of justice by hindering, underage drinking, resisting arrest, wrongful making, altering or tampering with military identification card
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Corporal, 24-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Disorderly conduct
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 22-year-old male, Aviation Bde.
- **Charge:** Driving under the influence
- **Location:** Savannah



- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 21-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charges:** Drunken driving, improper lane usage
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 22-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Simple assault consummated by a battery (2 counts)
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 2, 24-year-old female, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, speeding 67/45
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 25-year-old male, Aviation Bde.
- **Charge:** Aggravated robbery with a deadly weapon
- **Location:** Houston, Tex.

- **Subject:** Private, 19-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private, 20-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving with no license on person, failure to show proof of insurance
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Family member, 31-year-old female
- **Charge:** Indecent language to child under age 16
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 26-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Failure to obey order or regulation
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Civilian, 24-year-old female
- **Charge:** Unlawful transfer of plates
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Civilian, 18-year-old male
- **Charges:** Carrying a concealed weapon, discharge of firearm on property of another
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Civilian, 23-year-old female
- **Charge:** Wrongful damaging of private property
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 27-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charge:** Criminal trespassing
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private, 20-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charge:** Drunken driving, speeding 41/30
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 26-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, failure to obey traffic control device
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 19-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charges:** Speeding 42/25, no drivers license, failure to appear
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 21-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Improper lane change
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Failure to exercise due care
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 2, 19-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Failure to appear
- **Location:** Hinesville

# CENTCOM News

## Combined forces command Afghanistan statement

KABUL, Afghanistan — The Coalition condemns the bombing of the Joint Electoral Management Body bus near Jalalabad on Saturday that senselessly killed two women and wounded fourteen additional people.

The coalition evacuated those needing hospitalization to the hospital at Bagram Air Field. This attack on Afghan women working to build a democracy for Afghanistan will not stop registration in the greater Afghanistan.

Over 4.5 million Afghans have registered to vote. The region attacked is second only to the Kabul region in voter registration, with close to 600,000 registered voters, 35 percent of whom are women. The men and women of Afghanistan will not be denied their right to vote.

Soldiers of the Afghan National Army deployed to Ghor province in central Afghanistan on June 24 to resolve a dispute there between rival military forces. The ANA battalion, approximately 200-strong, along with their embedded U.S. trainers, arrived in the provincial capital city of Chaghcharan to the cheers of the residents.

As with deployments of ANA troops to Maimana and Herat earlier this year, the ANA soldiers were able to reassert the authority of the national government peacefully. The commander of the force deployed to Ghor province, ANA General Aminullah Paktiyanai, explained that his mission was "to ensure peace and bring about security" in the capital and his troops had the resources to prevent any further fighting. The general further stated: "War against the Afghan National Army is war against the Afghan nation as well as against the United Nations."

The Kabul Military Hospital has upgraded the medical care it provides to its patients, thanks to a multi-million dollar donation of modern equipment by the United States.

The 400-bed hospital, also known as the Chahar Sad Bastari Hospital, received 400 new beds, carts, intravenous (IV) stands, x-ray machines, film processors, six new anesthesia machines, an ultra sound machine, defibrillator, and patient monitors. Medical specialists from the United States, Turkey and Denmark are training the Afghan hospital staff on these new items of equipment.

An interesting note is that among the staffers at the hospital are a number of medical specialists who have either transferred from the Afghan Militia Force to the Afghan National Army or who have applied to do so.

## AH-64 Apache crashes in Aghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan — The crew of an AH-64 Apache helicopter escaped with minor injuries after being forced to make an emergency landing shortly after 3 p.m. Monday north of Qalat.

The aircraft caught on fire and was completely destroyed.

The cause of the crash is still under investigation; however, hostile fire has been ruled out.

## Combined forces command release

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Coalition Special Operations Forces raided two anti-coalition compounds and captured two top enemy leaders in missions conducted pre-dawn Saturday in southern Afghanistan.

During the mission, the enemy regional leaders surrendered as Coalition SOF surprised the insurgents. Captured are Abdul Hafiz Majid and Mohammed Daud, who are both Taliban leaders.

We have evidence indicating that they were supplying arms to insurgents, conducting rocket attacks on military, attacking non-governmental aid organizations helping Afghanistan build a national infrastructure, funding ambushes and trafficking opium.

One goal of the Coalition is to rid this country of insurgents or anti-coalition forces by capturing or killing them and denying them sanctuary, said Coalition SOF officials.

In the past year in areas where anti-coalition forces have been removed, the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-A spent almost \$1.5 million dollars to build schools, wells, clinics, roads and mosques in the past 10 months to improve the quality of life for Afghans looking to the future.

More than 1,000 Afghan patients receive weekly medical care from Coalition SOF medics and attached SOF personnel, including Civil Affairs doctors and physician assistants, based in remote village areas in Afghanistan.

## Coalition aircraft takes small arms fire

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Statement by BG Mark Kimmitt, Deputy Director for Coalition Operations

A Coalition C-130 aircraft departing Baghdad International Airport on Sunday, was hit by small arms fire at 5:00 p.m.

While there was no significant damage to the aircraft, one person was wounded which caused the aircraft to divert back to Baghdad International Airport for medical treatment.

The individual later died of wounds.

The name of the individual is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Any questions call the Coalition Press Information Center at 914-360-5089.

## Combined forces command Afghanistan release

KABUL, Afghanistan — Coalition forces continue to make progress in securing south central Afghanistan in recent operations and have taken into control at least 4 significant weapons caches since our last press conference.

Combat medics of the Afghan National Army graduated from the combat medic course June 19. The nine-week course, conducted at Chahar Sad Bastari Hospital in Kabul, consisted of 235 hours of classroom lectures and hands-on practical training. Although combat medic training is a new concept to the Afghan army, it has already achieved a higher level of maturity - unlike earlier combat medic training, this class was the first one in which the training was taught by Afghan medical personnel and not by coalition trainers. The new graduates now return to their units, some of which are in a deployed status. Their confidence in themselves was expressed by Combat Medic Private Daust Mohamed, June 19 graduate: "I can do my job. I am proficient, I have training."

Afghans continue to volunteer for the Afghan National Army. The ANA Recruiting Command recently opened the Kabul Military High School National Army Volunteer Center (NAVC), the second NAVC opened in Kabul. There are currently more than 20 NAVCs under construction and expected to open in the near future, with the goal of building, supporting and staffing an NAVC in each of Afghanistan's 34 provinces.

The recruiting command has also opened a Recruiting Academy to train recruiters to obtaining the highest quality recruits for its army. The academy began classes in June and has already graduated 67 Afghan officers. These officers and future graduates then staff an NAVC or serve on the Recruiting Command staff. Nine of the first graduates were certified by an Office of Military Cooperation - Afghanistan, Recruiting Mobile Training Team as instructors for future Recruiting Academy classes.

## FAREWELL

from page 1A

Battalion, 12th Field Artillery as a reconnaissance survey officer, fire direction officer, executive officer, and battery commander.

After attending the Field Artillery Advanced Course, he served in Korea as the 2nd Infantry Division counterfire officer.

Subsequently, he served in the 7th Infantry Division (Light) as a battery commander, Aide-de-Camp to the commanding general, and the S-3 of the 5th Battalion, 15th Field Artillery.

Riojas then served as the senior assistant professor of military science at Bowling Green State University.

After attending the Army and Command and General Staff College, he served in Germany with the 2nd Armored Division (Forward) as the S-3 of the 4th Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery, and then as its executive officer during its participation in operations Desert Shield and Storm.

Upon redeployment, he served as the G-3 of the 2nd Armored Division.

Riojas then served in a variety of positions in the Pentagon to include chief, army requirements division, deputy chief of staff operations and executive officer to the army chief of staff before coming to Stewart as the assistant division commander (support).

"It really has been an extreme honor and my thoughts and prayers are with the Soldiers remaining here continuing the global fight on the war on terrorism," Riojas said.

# Middle East conflicts memorial dedicated

**Master Sgt. Gerrold Johnson and Kate Pardo**

Special to The Frontline

MARSEILLES, Ill. — About 70 miles southwest of Chicago, in the small town of Marseilles, Ill., nestled along the shore of the Illinois River, nearly 13,000 people paid tribute to the 2,000 servicemen and women killed in Middle East conflicts over the past 24 years.

But one stood out from the crowd.

She wore an American flag-patterned shirt and a "God bless America" lanyard, as she leaned against the newly dedicated Middle East Conflicts Wall Memorial to scribble an impression of a name. She was oblivious to the masses around her. This was her special moment. She had a look of strength, determination and pride that veiled her sorrow as she reached out.

The granite memorial's first of six stones bear an inscription, which describes the memorial as a tribute to the heroic men and women who sacrificed their lives while keeping America free.

Kathy McCray traveled, with her husband, nearly four hours from Kokomo to Marseilles, Ill., for the event. While she spends eight months a year traveling for work, she said she plans to visit the memorial two or three times annually in order to pay respect to her beloved son, Army Spc. Brian Clemens. While serving in Kuwait as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, he died when his Humvee rolled over; he was 19 years old. He had been assigned to the C Company, 1/293rd Infantry Division out of Fort Wayne, Ind.

"It completely surprised me that they did this," she said. "I came across the Web site for the Illinois Motorcycle Freedom Run on the Internet and thought: 'Wow - someone is actually doing something for the ones who are still fighting.'"

The Middle East Conflicts Wall

Memorial is the culmination of the efforts of the Illinois Motorcycle Community, which raised 80 percent of the \$1.5 million in donations needed to build the memorial.

Brig. Gen. William Kirkland, commander of the 88th Regional Readiness Group, Ft. Harrison, Ind., represented the Army at the memorial dedication.

"For those who have lost and for those who have shed blood in the defense of our nation and its ideals, and for those who are grief stricken by the loss of a loved one," he said. "My heart goes out to you and we will not let their memory be forgotten."

This monument is the second inspired by the conflict in Iraq but the first for all killed in Middle East conflicts. Last year, the motorcycle group arranged for a memorial in St. Anne, Ill. That memorial honored only one person; Marine Capt. Ryan Beaupre a pilot killed March 20, 2003, when his helicopter crashed at the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom. More than 840 U.S. service members have died in Iraq and more than 125 in Afghanistan since the start of the global War on Terrorism.

"As I travel the cities across the United States, I'm horrified at the number of people who have forgotten the events of Sept. 11," Kirkland said. "We're looking at it now as if we're not in a war but, as I meet caskets coming back from overseas, I can tell you, we are still in a war."

McCray said she was very surprised at the attendance of the ceremony.

"It seems like a lot of people today don't know why we are at war," she said. "But there were so many supporters, and they came from everywhere."

McCray is still in touch with many of her son's friends and fellow Soldiers. She told them about the Illinois Motorcycle Freedom Run, but they were unable to attend due to military obligations.

One of the speakers at the ded-



Master Sgt. Gerrold Johnson

**Kathy McCray, mother of Spc. Brian Clemens, traces her son's name on the Middle East Conflicts Wall Memorial**

ication ceremony was Sgt. 1st Class Richard Myres, who recently returned from Operation Iraqi Freedom. He spoke to the crowd about why he had made the trek to Marseilles to honor his fallen comrades.

Throwing out his prepared speech, he began, "I'm not here for me, I'm not here for you, I'm here for the Soldiers whose names are written on that wall."

He recounted his two tours in the Middle East to the crowd.

"The stories that I have to tell are just stories. It's not the sacrifice that these guys on this wall have made," he said.

The Marseilles American Legion Post will take care of the memorial's upkeep and adding new names. The memorial has also prompted an aspiring Eagle Scout to devote much of his free time over the next three years to grounds keeping at the wall.

Adam Boaz, a 15-year-old Boy Scout and son of a Navy Chief Petty Officer said, "At first, I was just helping out and then it snowballed." Boaz went on to say that his dad's service and those who have fought and died inspired him to pitch in and make a bigger commitment. He plans to enlist

another Scout to pass on his grounds-keeping duties when his three years are up

McCray certainly is proud of her son. His National Guard photo adorns the bottom left-hand corner of both her and her husband's business cards, a constant reminder of their loss and everything he left behind. Next to his picture is an inscription: "In loving memory of Brian 'MON-KEE' Clemens, 09/09/83 - 02/06/03."

This way, everyone the McCray's know and meet will understand their sense of love and loss; they will know how proud they are of their son's service.

"He was always doing things for other people, and he always put everyone else first," she said. "I would rather have him back, but it helps to know that he died for a cause he believed in. He knew what he was getting into, but he believed in the cause."

In addition to the memorial, the motorcycle group now hopes to establish a scholarship fund for children who have lost parents in the armed services. For more information please go to [www.ilfreedomrun.org](http://www.ilfreedomrun.org).

# Strength through Support ends mission, strengthens Marne team

**Pfc. Jacqueline Watson**

Staff Writer

The 24th Corps Support Group was officially inactivated at a ceremony at 9 a.m. Friday at Marne Garden.

The Soldiers from the 24th CSG are scheduled to move to the division support brigade, and Col. Roberta A. Woods, CSG outgoing commander, will be moving to serve in Colorado Springs, Co.

At Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, the 24th CSG included five battalions: the 3rd Soldier Support Battalion (Stewart), the 87th Corps Support Battalion (Stewart), the 92nd Engineer Battalion (Stewart), the 260th Quartermaster Battalion — Petroleum Supply (Hunter), and the 559th Quartermaster Battalion — Water Supply (Hunter).

The 24th CSG's motto is "Strength Through Support," and it has been providing that strength since its rich history began June 4, 1992. It was constituted on that date in the Regular Army as Headquarters Company, 24th Corps Support Group. Since it was activated April 16, 1993, the CSG has deployed Soldiers to Haiti, Somalia, Egypt, Cuba, Saudi Arabia, Bosnia, Kosovo, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Qatar, Pakistan, Djibouti, and Iraq.

The CSG is a unit of the 1st Corps Support Command that provides support to the 3rd

Infantry Division and Fort Stewart Units on a daily basis, according to the Stewart Web site, [www.stewart.army.mil](http://www.stewart.army.mil).

The inactivation affects COSCOM, but also affects the entire Army, said Col. Yves Fontaine, 1st COSCOM commander.

"This is the first stage of transformation for the Army," he said. "It's a positive step of moving toward the transformation into a more lethal, decentralized Army."

As far as COSCOM is concerned, it will still be involved in providing combat support to the division, Fontaine said. That much hasn't changed.

Logistics will now be under the operation of the Unit of Execution commander. All those assets will be under his control. As far as logistics in the future are concerned, every division will be moving toward UA and SUA structure, he said.

"To the Soldiers of the 24th CSG," Fontaine said. "Keep doing what you're doing. You are professional support Soldiers; keep the spirit of support. You're the best of the best."

"I'm very proud to be associated with them," he said.

The inactivation of the CSG makes Fontaine both happy and sad, he said. He is happy for the future and what the change means for the Army. On the other hand, it's difficult to watch the CSG fade into the past.

"It's sad when you case a color, its lineage



Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

## Battalions of the 24th CSG march off the field after the unit was inactivated.

and its history," Fontaine said. "I have very mixed emotions."

Woods, who has served as the 24th CSG commander for three years, also has mixed feelings, she said, but for more personal reasons.

Leaving a unit is "always a hard day for any commander," Woods said, "but usually you hand it off to someone else." At Friday's ceremony, Woods closed the unit's history.

"I wanted to make sure it was done right,

and done professionally," she said after presenting an emotional and heartfelt parting speech to the Soldiers and family members present.

Now Woods will be a part of the northern command homeland defense in Colorado. She is overjoyed, she said, by the fact that she will be able to spend more time with her husband there, since the couple has seen very little of each other over the past eighteen months.



Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.

**Col. Edward C. Cardon, 4th Brigade commander, hands off the colors for the Brigade Troops Battalion to Lt. Col. Vincent Quarles, 4th BTB commander, to initiate the activation of the new unit during a ceremony at Marne Garden June 24.**

# Vanguard Brigade activates three new units

**Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.**

Staff Writer

Fourth Brigade held an activation ceremony at Marne Garden June 24 to activate three new units into the 3rd Infantry Division.

The activation was part of the Army's reorganization plan of changing brigade combat teams into brigade units of action.

The three new units included 6th Squadron 8th Cavalry Regiment

commanded by Lt. Col. Mike Harris, the 1st Battalion 76th Field Artillery Regiment commanded by Lt. Col. Daniel A. Pinnell and the 4th Brigade Troops Battalion commanded by Lt. Col. Vincent Quarles.

"It is the activation of these units before that make up many of the new capabilities that are assigned to or support the Vanguard Brigade," said Col. Edward C. Cardon, 4th Bde. Commander.

The 8th Regiment started in 1866,

Cardon said. Elements of the regiment have fought in the Indian Wars, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"These troopers before you represent the Soldiers that will add the next pages of history as we fight the Global War on Terrorism," Cardon said.

Cardon welcomed back 1-76 FA, who has supported the 3rd Inf. Div since 1918.

Fourth Bde. needs

fire capability, Cardon said. We need accurate responsive fires 24 hours a day seven days a week. A normal mission, but we also want artillerymen to fight as infantry and to be experts in effects targeting."

The Bde. Troops Battalion is not assigned to the brigade. It is in direct support of the brigade, Cardon said.

"We know it will provide the brigade's communication network and interface, and this capability well

beyond what we have ever had before," Cardon said. "We know it will provide intelligence assets, world class collection, analysis and dissemination."

"We know there are still many challenges ahead of us as we continue to man, equip, organize and train the squadrons and battalions as part of the Vanguard Bde.," Cardon said. "But make no mistake, the leaders and Soldiers in front of you are up to the task."