

# THE FRONTLINE

Serving the Army of One

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September 16, 2004

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

## Ready for the mission ...



Pfc. Ben Brody

Staff Sgt. Motoufe Satele, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, leaps from a helicopter during a training mission at Fort Polk, La., Sept. 8. See JRTC stories and photo on pages 16 and 17.

## Memorial held for Battlekings SFC

Pfc. Jacqueline Watson  
Staff Writer

A memorial service was held Friday at Victory Chapel for Sgt. 1st Class Jeremiah Hilton Manase Barnes, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery Regiment, who died last weekend.

Barnes, 42, was killed near Fort Jackson, S.C. He was born in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands on Jan. 2, 1962. After joining the Army in February 1982, he served first at Fort Carson, Co. in A Btry., 3/29 FA as a cannoneer.

In July 1994, Barnes was reassigned to Camp Casey, Korea with the 1/15 FA. He returned to the U.S. in March 1998 and was assigned at Stewart's 1/9 FA.

"Sgt. 1st Class Barnes was an outstanding Soldier and a caring person," said Capt. Scott M. Sanford, Btry. commander. "His job was to take care of the battalion, and he was caring and patient."

He served the battery as financial advisor. During his time at Stewart, Barnes also served as platoon sergeant, operations sergeant, master gunner and rear detachment noncommissioned officer.

"His passing is a tragedy and a shock to us all," said Capt. Kevin J. Koger, HHB, 1/9 FA, to the family and loved ones who gathered to memorialize Barnes.

Koger continued with a quote, "A Soldier has fallen, and the line holds steady."

"What I had, I gave. What I hold back is lost forever. This is how Jeremiah lived his life," Koger said.

See MEMORIAL, Page 6A

## Hunter shelters Rucker aircraft

Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft  
Staff Writer

When Hurricane Ivan became an imminent threat to the aircraft at Fort Rucker, Ala., late Monday, officials there decided it was time to evacuate.

After a few phone calls were made, 160 helicopters — including AH-64 Apaches, UH-60 Black Hawks, CH-47 Chinooks and OH-58D Kiowa Warriors — with more than 386 personnel were in the air, headed toward Hunter Army Airfield until the danger had passed.

At approximately 3 p.m. Tuesday,

aircraft began to arrive at Hunter's Departure/Arrival Airfield Control Group facility, where preparations had been made for them to stay until the hurricane had run its course.

"We got the call at about 10 (p.m.) ... that they wanted to evacuate out of Fort Rucker," said Lt. Col. Jeffrey J. Goble, Hunter garrison commander. "They wanted to save the millions of dollars of equipment they have down there ... we have 1.7 million square yards of parking space ... and we're going to be able to chain the aircraft

See RUCKER, Page 6A



Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft

An OH-58D Kiowa Warrior from Fort Rucker flies into Hunter's DAACG Tuesday evening, along with about 160 other aircraft being evacuated from the Alabama post.

## How would you spend \$1 million?

Pfc. Jacqueline Watson  
Staff Writer

You get the chance to decide how to make a difference at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield!

Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, the Army Chief of Staff, has announced that Stewart and Hunter have won the 2004 Army Communities of Excellence award.

"This is the first year we have won the Commander in Chief award, first place. In the past, we have won honorable mention in 1995, runner-up in 1997, and the Chief of Staff award in 2000," said Janet W. Blanks, Plans, Analysis and Integration chief.

The announcement, given during a formal recognition ceremony held May 6 at the Pentagon, came with several prizes,

including a trophy, an ACOE flag, and \$1 million.

The award money, which will arrive at Fort Stewart in January, will be spent to benefit Stewart and Hunter Soldiers, family members and civilian employees — and these are the people who get to suggest how to use the cash.

Col. John M. Kidd, garrison commander, will take suggestions for how the money is to be spent from now until Oct. 31.

The last ACOE award money the garrison won was used to purchase the reader boards at the main entrances to Stewart and Hunter, which was the suggestion submitted by the majority of the people.

Suggestions can be submitted in several ways. They can be sent in the mail to Chief of the PAI Office, 190 Stockton Circle

(Bldg. T-25), Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314.

They can also be submitted over the phone by calling (912) 767-6228, or emailed to the PAI office using the interactive customer evaluation system (<http://ice.disa.mil>).

To use the ICE system, go to the Web site and select USA on the map. From there, select the state of Georgia, then click on Fort Stewart. At the bottom of the page, select the option labeled "select all."

Scroll down the service provider list to "plans, analysis, and integration office." You may then type your suggestions in the "comments and recommendations for improvements" block. When you are finished, click on the "submit comment card" button at the bottom of the page.

The results will be published in The Frontline once the decision is made.

**Weather Forecast**

<b>FRI</b>	High 84°	Low 72°
<b>SAT</b>	High 87°	Low 70°
<b>SUN</b>	High 87°	Low 70°

**News**

Training fires for effect... 2A

**Sports**

Bradwell football undefeated... 1B

**Hurricane**

Hurricane safety insert included

**Guide**

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- Volunteer Spotlight . . . . . 5C
- Movie listing . . . . . 5C
- Birth announcements . . . . . 5C

# Shot over! Shot out!



Photos by Jennifer Wingfield

After shooting an azimuth at the GUARDFIST II site, Spc. Bryan Taylor, 92nd Chem. Co., and teammate prepare to follow the training course.

## Training fires for effect

Jennifer Wingfield

Managing Editor

Even though it's known as the Guard Unit Armory Device Full Crew Interactive Simulation Trainer, this simulation facility conducts three vital training events for thousands of our Dog-Face Soldiers: call for fire, map reading and land navigation.

In the beginning the GUARDFIST II was designed to train artillery forward observers on how to call for fire, said manager Randy Scales.

When he would conduct call for fire classes, he noticed that some were having difficulty with reading the map, Scales said.

"We decided to come up with a map reading course that would help because you can't call for fire if you can't read a map," he said.

After several reported incidents in Operation Iraqi Freedom of military personnel losing their bearings, the interest in map reading and land navigation became more prevalent at Stewart.

GUARDFIST II trained hundreds of National Guard personnel both day and night, who were deploying to Iraq and other parts of the world. They also trained Marines because they have artillery, Airmen to practice close air support missions, and the Rangers to train on artillery, mortar, and naval gunfire missions.

The GUARDFIST II instructors conduct classes for the division on a daily basis. The map-reading training is 90 percent hands-on. On the second day, the Soldiers are taught land navigation. On the third day they are taught call for fire. When they leave, they are well trained, Scales said.

A lot of the map-reading focus is placed on young Soldiers who are on their way to the Primary Leadership Development Course. Units can schedule two days of training for their Soldiers prior to attending PLDC, Scales said.

"We are actually helping the unit, because if a Soldier fails map reading and land navigation, the unit has to go out to the academy and retrain the Soldier themselves before they can go back and be retested."

In the land navigation instruction, Soldiers are taught intersection, how to locate unknown points and resection. They learn how to determine their own locations in case they get lost.

There is new navigation equipment such as the Global Positioning Systems and the Plugger. However, they are battery-operated and batteries may go bad. When the equipment can't be used or accessed, it's back to the basics. Knowing how to use a compass and navigating from point to point may save a life, Scales said.

"Many of the Soldiers that we teach have had this training before," said Anthony Horton, GUARDFIST II instructor. "There are officers and non-commissioned officers who come back for refresher classes, or who have not had any map reading since basic train-

ing."

Decontamination operations specialists of the 92nd Chemical Company were there recently for three days of training.

"We learn about maps and then we plot coordinates. Then it's outside for the hands on training," said Spec. Daphne Campbell, 92nd Chem. Co., who was completing a refresher course. "The more you take the class, the more you remember."

Pfc. Johnny Lema, 92nd Chem. Co., said that this training was done in his advanced individual training course.

"Here we have to maneuver around ponds. In AIT it was snow, mountains, and hills," he said.

"The course trains you on how to keep from getting lost. Our unit might have to take over during war in case of death or injury," said Pvt. Joshua Carr, 92nd Chem. Co.

Night training is another facet offered in all seasons. Markers are illuminated for the night classes and only red lens flashlights or night observations devices are allowed for that training. Even during the daylight hours, Soldiers sometimes wade through puddles and hip-high grass.

Instruction is also available for Soldiers hoping to earn the expert infantry badge or expert field medical badge. One of the EIB stations is call for fire, and land navigation is a station for the EFMB.

"Soldiers may not find themselves on the front line, but may find themselves in a position where they have to go from point A to point B," Scales said.

"There are Soldiers in the classes who may be cooks or in supply. They have to be able to locate themselves, so that's why we teach them resection. We teach them to know the various terrain features. All this helps them to survive in combat."

At the end of the three-day training, Campbell recapped what she had learned and wished it had been longer.

"This is good training," said Spotts. "It is much more detailed than AIT."

The GUARDFIST II facility opened in its current location in 1999 making it a convenient on-post location. Last year it trained more than 5000 soldiers in call for fire, map reading, and land navigation.

"Think about that! We are over halfway to surpassing that number this year. We are normally packed here on a frequent basis," Scales said.

Both Scales and Horton are very knowledgeable in their respective positions since they both were former fire support officers in the Army. Together they bring over 49 years of military experience to the table.

"I live to train and I challenge all first sergeants, command sergeant majors and commanders to take advantage of this outstanding training opportunity," Scales said.

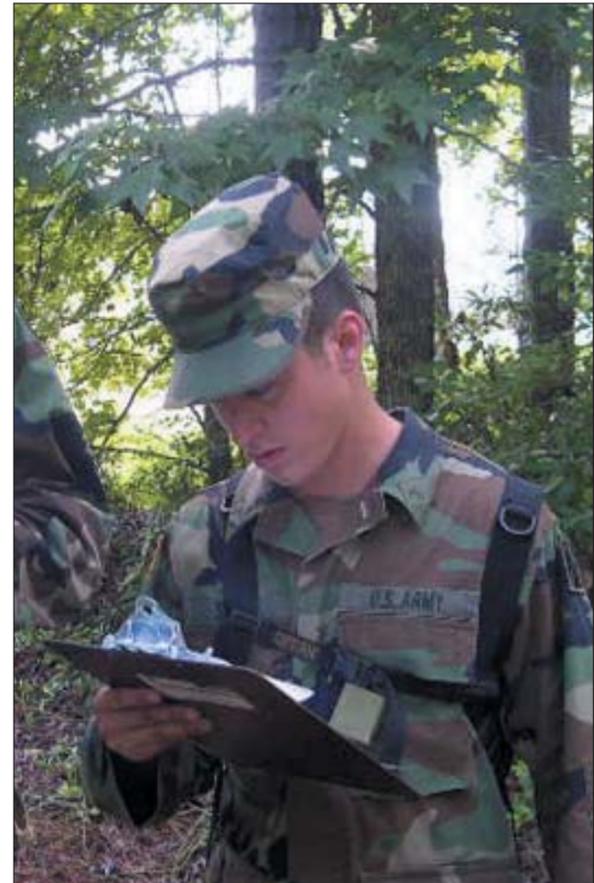
The facility is located at building 1805 on West 15th street. The scheduling number is 767-6461/6384.



Pvt. Shawn Gallant, 92nd Chem. Co., plots his target in the call for fire class.



A Soldier in the land navigation class shoots an azimuth to her point.



(Above) Pvt. Andre Souza, 92nd Chem. Co., prepare to find the next point.  
(Left) Start point for the 100 meter pace count.

# Speed and power light up the field

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.

Staff Writer

3rd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment companies honed their skills on a series of ranges in preparation for the upcoming deployment to Iraq.

The ranges included tank tables, a convoy live fire and exercises at the military operations on urbanized terrain site.

On the tank range, tankers practiced what they will be performing in theater. This range is for qualification, so every shot counted.

"This is the bread and butter of what tankers do: gunnery," said 1st Lt. Jeff Painter, D Company, 3/69 Armor executive officer.

"This is where they are expected to perform, expected to show how professional and how well trained they are. If a tanker can't do this, he is hurting where he really should be excelling, because this is really the basis for everything armor Soldiers and officers do," Painter said.

There is much preparation leading up to the live fire. Tankers will go through a few dry runs before qualification. Once they are ready for live fire, they go through a night and day live fire range.

"Each tank will do a night and a day run," Painter said. "The day run includes six tables."

The day run includes exercises in which tankers execute different field maneuvers to become familiar with all areas of engaging the enemy with the equipment provided, Painter said.

"The night run consists of four tables, bravo one, two, four and five," Painter continued. "These tables consist of a engagement, a defensive engagement, a TC engagement, with the tank commander getting down and firing the main gun and a multiple troop target engagement."

The training that the tankers are taking part in is a standard type of training, Painter said. The training has not changed in six years, since the Army rewrote the training manual.

"Shooting a tank is really a universal thing," Painter said. "This training goes above and beyond what these guys are going to have to do when they get to Iraq."

The convoy live fire is a new type of training for the Soldiers of 3-69 Armor. Since most of the battalion consists of Soldiers mounted in armored vehicles,



Spc. James L. Greene

Sgt. 1st Class David McCracken, tank commander for tank D 34, watches through binoculars to see if a round going down range hits a target during a live fire exercise for tank gunnery qualification at Red Cloud Alpha range Sept. 8.

this training will introduce them to a whole new set of responsibilities.

"Most of these guys are infantry and Bradley Soldiers," said Staff Sgt. Thomas Saunders, battalion Bradley master gunner. "During this training, they will be riding in a humvee and firing a .50 (caliber machine gun).

"Most of them have never fired a .50 cal, so they are getting a lot out of this," he added. "They seem pretty motivated about the training."

The training took place at the Red Cloud Hotel range. Soldiers went out with humvees and a small squad of Soldiers on foot and fired at pop-up targets while mobile, Saunders said.

The Soldiers went through a dry run first, and then practiced firing with only

one humvee on the range at a time. The Soldiers did not actually go out in a convoy until the last phase of the training.

"There were a lot of lessons I learned in Iraq," said Staff Sgt. Henry Pantojas, a tank commander for D Co., 3/69 Armor. "We have a lot of new Soldiers we need to train and teach to stay alive."

"When we all go back over there we want to all come back in one piece," Pantojas said. "That is our main operative. As a (noncommissioned officer) that is my job, to take care of our Soldiers."

Operations have changed in Iraq since the last deployment, so the training has been molded to accommodate that change.

"I'm more concerned this time because the mission has changed,"

Pantojas said. "Last time we went there, we basically destroyed (an enemy force). This time it's different because we are dealing with a lot of civilians."

"3/69 Armor is out here executing the commanding general's OIF training guidance, and I believe we are executing it to standard," said Lt. Col. Mark Wald, 3/69 Armor commander.

"We started the small-arms marksmanship program back at the beginning of August, qualifying individuals on their M-16s and a wide array of weapons systems that the battalion has assigned to us," he continued.

"We are training extremely hard out here," Wald added. "Our objective is to build a confident, competent lethal fighting force for OIF 3."

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

# Marne Seven Sends

## To be an Army of One

*During last month's 85th Annual Reunion of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division, I had many wonderful opportunities to speak with our veterans about some of the changes we've seen in the Army go through in recent years. There seems to be a deep interest in the state of the current Army in respect to the Army our veterans once knew. The "Army of One" is interesting all within itself, but the underlining theme is different depending upon who you ask to share their thoughts about it.*

*For an answer, I turned to one of the Army's newest Soldiers, Pfc. Jacqueline Watson of The Frontline staff, and asked her to write a few comments about what the Army slogan means to her and how it fits in with the Warrior Ethos.*

*Her thoughts are printed below. As you read, I challenge each of you to reflect on the phrase "Army of One" and think about how those words apply to your own life and military career.*

**Marne 7 Sends —**  
Command Sgt. Maj. William M. Grant

**Pfc. Jacqueline Watson**  
Frontline Staff Writer

Ever since the Army adopted its new slogan, moving on from "Be all that you can be" to "An Army of One," Soldiers have learned and repeated those words as motivation to be warriors.

But what do those words mean? I remember plenty of training in which our noncommissioned

officers would encourage the platoon to work together, because, after all, we are an Army of One. That means there are no individuals. There is no "I" in Army. Right?

Well, it's certainly true that in today's Army, just as it has been since its beginning, Soldiers must work as a team to survive. The Army, like a well-oiled machine, only functions if each gear and each piece does its job. If one of those gears decides to

direction, the whole thing breaks down.

This is a lesson we all need to remember as we do our duties each day and use the training we have received to do our assigned jobs.

But I don't think that's what our slogan has been trying to say. I think the public perception for a long time has been that, if you join the military, you lose your sense of individuality. You don't get to do anything you want to EVER AGAIN!

And more than that, I believe a lot of civilians tend to think that you can forget about whatever talents or abilities you might have had before joining the military. The Army doesn't care what you can

do or what you're good at. They want to tear you down and make you into what they want you to be.

In reality, that's only true about making you

into a warrior. Coming up with the slogan, "An Army of One," was a revolutionary way of showing people that the Army

wants you to be you. That the Army recognizes everyone is different and special, that everyone has capabilities all his own, and that he can use those differences to make the Army great.

That's what made me want to join the Army. What could be more exciting than being good at something, and then having the chance to use that something to make a difference for the nation?

It's in that sense, when you put your individual skills to work and do what you do best for the Army, you become an Army yourself. You've mastered

weapons no one else has. You are an Army of One.

Collectively and individually, U.S. Soldiers are driven by the Warrior Ethos—that "quiet, calculating and deadly spirit" which pushes us forward into battle. Creating victory out of chaos, the Warrior Ethos is what makes this Army of One successful. Though battles are won by many, it's the individual who must be inspired, energized and steered by the Warrior Ethos.

Just like the gears in the machine, which are all different sizes and which all perform different duties to make the machine work, so each Soldier has an important task. Not one is insignificant.

When the Army mechanic puts his knowledge and talents to work, he performs a task the Army could not live without. When the Army pilot sits in the cockpit, when the Army cook prepares a meal, or when the Army terrain analyst creates maps for paratroopers, they are, themselves, individuals who make Armies of One.

That's why I believe it is so important to give everything you've got to the job you have in the Army. You don't have it because it got issued to you. You have it because it's something you're good at, and it's something the Army needs specifically from you.

If nothing else makes you proud to be a Soldier, or motivates you to be all that you can be, let the fact that you are an individual and an Army of One do just that.



### Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

What are some signs of domestic violence other than the obvious?

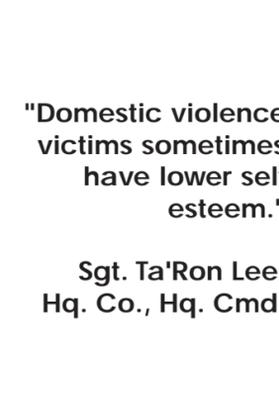
"Sometimes their attitude is that there's nothing really going on."

Staff Sgt. Sheryl Stewart,  
HHD, 559 Qm. Bn.



"Shyness of the spouse."

Sgt. Larry Porter,  
HHC, Avn. Bde.



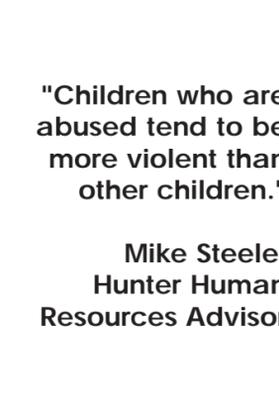
"Domestic violence victims sometimes have lower self esteem."

Sgt. Ta'Ron Lee,  
Hq. Co., Hq. Cmd.



"Someone who's usually outgoing could suddenly start keeping to themselves."

Spc. Arielle Gates,  
512th Qm. Co.



"Children who are abused tend to be more violent than other children."

Mike Steele,  
Hunter Human Resources Advisor



"People who are abused tend to be quieter."

Spc. Elby Hairston,  
Hq. Co., Hq. Cmd.

## Elections—what you can and cannot do

Donna Miles  
American Forces Press Service

With election activity steadily picking up, defense officials remind members of the military and Defense Department civilians that they're subject to rules regulating their involvement in political activities. Gone are the days when the military posted troops at the polls after the Civil War, an act that Steve Epstein, director of the Department of Defense General Counsel's Standards of Conduct Office, said intimidated many southerners into not voting.

Today, Epstein said two sets of rules help protect the integrity of the political process: a DoD directive for active-duty servicemembers and the Hatch Act for federal civilians. These rules keep the military out of partisan politics and ensure that the workplace remains politically neutral.

### Voting encouraged

That's not to imply that military members and civilian employees can't participate in politics. Epstein said DoD encourages both groups to register to vote and vote as they choose, and to urge others to vote. Both groups can sign nominating petitions for candidates and express their personal opinions about candidates and issues — but only if they don't do so as representatives of the armed forces. Also, all federal employees can make contributions to political organizations or candidates.

### Dos and don'ts

Beyond that, the list of dos and don'ts differs widely, depending on whether the employee is an active-duty servicemember, a rank-and-file civil service employee, a political appointee or member of the career senior executive service, Epstein said.

Of all DoD employees, the men and women in uniform have the most restrictions regarding political activity, he explained.

A 1993 revision to the Hatch Act freed most Civil Service employees to engage in political activities outside the workplace that were once forbidden although many restrictions still apply.

For example, servicemembers as well as government civilians can attend political meetings or rallies. Military members can attend only as spectators and not in uniform. They're not permitted to make public political speeches, serve in any official capacity in partisan groups, or participate in partisan political campaigns or conventions.

On the other hand, civilian employees governed by the Hatch Act may be active in and speak before political gatherings or serve as officers of political parties or partisan groups. They also are permitted to manage campaigns, distribute literature, write political articles or serve as a spokesperson for a party or candidate.

Military members generally aren't permitted to campaign for a political office. Civilian employees are, as long as it's a nonpartisan election. While the

dos and don'ts concerning political activity may vary, Epstein said the basic rules hold true for all DoD workers. They can't use their position to influence or interfere with an election. And they can never engage in political activity on the job, in a government vehicle or while wearing an official uniform.

More details about restrictions on DoD military and civilian employees' political activities are posted on the DoD Web site at [www.osc.gov](http://www.osc.gov).

### Military, civilian voting assistance

Military can get help obtaining ballots from their home states and more from the Federal Voting Assistance Program. The voting assistance officers are armed with federal postcard applications and the 2004 Voting Assistance Guide. The guide is also posted on the FVAP Web site at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov). "The Federal Voting Assistance Program is for military only because many aren't living in their home states and it's much harder for them to vote," said Eileen Mitchell, voting assistance officer at Fort Dietrick, Md.

Government civilians living overseas can also use the program, she said.

Most government civilians live where they vote and it's much easier for them to register and get the forms, Mitchell said. Civilians who need voting assistance can pick up registration forms at local post offices, county libraries, school guidance counselors and the motor vehicle administration.

## THE FRONTLINE

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Understanding MRA ...

# Counting days to retirement

Cynthia Porter

SWCPOC

FORT RILEY, Kan — Is MRA another acronym you have always heard but never knew what it meant?

If you are in the Federal Employees Retirement System this could be very important to you. MRA stands for Minimum Retirement Age.

With FERS, you can retire with a basic retirement benefit as soon as you reach your MRA and have just 10 years of service.

In addition, FERS allows you to retire voluntarily with a reduced annuity at your MRA with at least 10 years, but less than 30 years of service. This is known as a MRA + 10 immediate retirement.

The MRA is the first year in which you can receive an annuity. It varies according to the year you were born.

For anyone born before

1948, the MRA is age 55. It increases gradually to age 56 for those born between 1953 - 1964 and goes up to 57 for those born in 1970 and after.

Under FERS, you can retire with a full annuity as soon as your age and years of federal service match any of the below listed retirement combinations:

- At least your MRA with 30 years of service
- At least age 60 with 20 years of service or more
- At least age 62 with 5 years of civilian service or more

If you do not want to wait until retirement age, you can withdraw all the money you have contributed toward the FERS Basic Benefit Plan.

It will be paid to you with a market rate of interest; that is, the same rate of interest earned by the U.S. Treasury securities purchased by the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund (the account that contains all

employee and employer contributions to CSRS and FERS).

However, you permanently give up your right to a basic retirement benefit based on that service.

If you take your money out, you cannot put it back in if you return to work with the federal government later.

It is usually better to leave your money in FERS so that you can receive a monthly annuity when you retire.

This is because you pay very little compared to the benefits you will eventually receive from the basic retirement benefit.

Unfortunately, these options are only available to FERS and not Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) employees.

For more information on FERS and CSRS retirements, please visit the ABC-C website at <https://www.abc.army.mil> or call us toll free at 1-877-276-9287 or 1-877-276-9833 (TDD).

## Minimum Retirement Age (MRA)

### Year Born

**Before 1948**

**In 1948**

**In 1949**

**In 1950**

**In 1951**

**In 1952**

**In 1953-1964**

**In 1965**

**In 1966**

**In 1967**

**In 1968**

**In 1969**

**In 1970 and After**

### Your MRA

**55**

**55 and 2 mos.**

**55 and 4 mos.**

**55 and 6 mos.**

**55 and 8 mos.**

**55 and 10 mos.**

**56**

**56 and 2 mos.**

**56 and 4 mos.**

**56 and 6 mos.**

**56 and 8 mos.**

**56 and 10 mos.**

**57**

## RUCKER

from page 1A

down and secure it, in case of high winds."

The Soldiers and other personnel who arrived at Hunter with the aircraft were provided cots at the DAACG to sleep and hot meals until they were bused back down to Rucker to be with their families.

Since Savannah wasn't supposed to be greatly affected by Ivan, Goble said he was glad to be able to help.

"Normally we're the ones who would be trying to evacuate, and now we get to be on the other end," he said. "If we get to be a little hurricane shelter in Savannah, that's pretty cool."

Goble said the evacuation and arrival at Hunter had been organized in about 12 hours, including a refueling team that took care of the aircraft at Warner Robins Air Force Base in Macon, Ga.

"I'm really proud of my base here," he said. "This is a testimony to the professionalism of the people here ... I'm thankful I have them on my staff."

"These guys have done a great job at Hunter Army Airfield," said Lt. Col. Michael Senters, battalion commander of Rucker's 1st Battalion, 223rd Aviation Regiment, Aviation Training Brigade. "They've provided great support ... I can't say enough about it."

## MEMORIAL

from page 1A

Koger said.

"He was caring and thoughtful, with an uplifting personality and a positive presence," Sanford said. "He was devoted to his wife, Regina, and his children, and he made frequent visits to his parents."

The service began with an invocation given by Chaplain (Capt.) David G. Hager, HHB, 1/41 FA. Koger then gave a commander's tribute, followed by a eulogy given by Sanford.

Staff Sgt. Ersell McCullen gave remarks as a friend and fellow Soldier of Barnes.

"You will always be my friend," McCullen said, "and you will always be in my thoughts."

The 23rd Psalm was read by Staff Sgt. Tommy L. Spinks, HHB, 1/9 FA.

Barnes had been awarded for his service to the Army a Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal with 10 oak leaf clusters, Presidential Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal with the 2nd bronze star device, Korean Defense Medal, and Recruiter's Badge.

"Memorial services like this give the family a chance to mourn. It gives them a chance to deal with the loss of Staff Sgt. Barnes, and it gives the Soldiers a chance to mourn," Sanford said.

Barnes is survived by his wife, Regina, and his children, Pauline, Alexander, Alexandria, Janae and Jeremiah Jr.

## ASK THE JUDGE

Law of claims for theft or vandalism

**Capt. Jacob Lilly**

Staff Judge Advocate

**Q: My roommate took my stereo without my permission and it could not be found. He PCS'd to Fort Hood, Texas. Is there any way I can get him to pay me back?**

**A:** Yes, you can file an Article 139 claim if the theft of your stereo occurred less than 90 days ago. Under the provision of Article 139 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, when a Soldier willfully damages or wrongfully takes the property of another, that Soldier's pay can be involuntarily withheld and paid to the injured party.

**Q: Are only Soldiers allowed to use an Article 139 claim?**

**A:** No, anyone can file an Article 139 claim.

**Q: What is the process for filing**

**an Article 139 claim?**

**A:** If you are the victim of a theft or vandalism you should report it to the military police and your chain of command. If they cannot assist you in getting compensation you should file an Article 139 claim. You must make a claim in writing within 90 days of the date of the incident to the Special Court Martial Convening Authority having jurisdiction over the Soldier who caused the loss or damage. The SPCMCA will appoint an investigating officer. The IO will investigate the claim and make a recommendation to the SPCMCA. The recommendation will be reviewed for legal sufficiency by a judge advocate, and approved or disapproved by the SPCMCA. If approved, the SPCMCA will forward the claim to the Finance and Accounting Office. The Finance and

Accounting Office will assess the pay of the responsible Soldier and pay the claimant accordingly.

**Q: Can I file an Article 139 claim any time a Soldier rips me off?**

**A:** No! Article 139 claims are permissible only when a Soldier willfully (intentionally) damages or destroys your property or takes it without your permission. You cannot use Article 139 for collecting debts, settling contractual disputes, negligent damage to property, or death or personal injury claims. Normally, the act must be criminal to be compensable under Article 139.

**Q: Is there anyone who can help with an Article 139 claim?**

**A:** Yes. The Fort Stewart Claims Office, Building 50A, telephone 767-8185, will help with Article 139 claims.



Steve Hart

Chief Warrant Officer Wiley Gustafson, pilot, 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, briefs members of the 790th Field Artillery Battalion on the AH-64D Apache Longbow helicopter Friday. As part of a tour of Hunter Army Airfield, 17 members of the 790th who served together in Europe during World War II gathered in Savannah Sept. 9 through 13 for a reunion. The group arranged a visit to Hunter "to learn more of the Marne Division, Hunter Army Airfield and to speak with the fine young men and women who are serving in today's Army", said retired Brig. Gen. Myron Lewis, a member of the 790th's reunion association.

# Stepro earns FORSCOM Soldier of the Year

Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Staff Writer

"I won't ask one of my Soldiers to do anything that I won't do myself."

These words weren't spoken by a seasoned NCO or by an officer. They were spoken by Spc. Bobby Stepro, the Forces Command Soldier of the Year.

Stepro, 26, B Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, has only been in the Army two years, but in that time he has won not only the 18th Airborne Corps Soldier of the Year, but FORSCOM Soldier of the Year as well. He has also received a combat infantry badge and two Army commendation medals.

He left Friday to compete for the Department of the Army Soldier of the Year at Fort Lee, Va., and Stepro feels confident about winning it.

"All I can do is my best," Stepro said. "It's been a long road and it hasn't been easy, but it has been rewarding."

"Spc. Stepro has been a well-kept secret," said Staff Sgt. Michael T. Lee, B Co., 2/7 Inf. section leader. "There are Soldiers who have all the book sense and common sense, and they know what to do from day to day without you having to be there to make sure they're doing the right thing. Spc. Stepro is one of them."

Stepro said his goal is always to better himself as much as possible.

"I want to be a sergeant major. And how can I ever be a leader if I ask my Soldiers to strive for something I won't do myself? I believe a leader should lead by example," he said.

Lee has been Stepro's sponsor as he has worked his way up the Soldier of the Year ladder, but he said Stepro has studied and prepared without needing much coaching from him.

"In preparing for the 18th Airborne Corps, I called to set up ranges for zeroing and qualifying, and drove him back and forth to them. At FORSCOM, I was able to actually stay with him and help him when he needed it," Lee said, "but most things he did on his own."

"Sgt. Lee is there for everything I need," Stepro said. "He double checks that I have all my equipment and that I'm in the right frame of mind, but other than that, he pretty much leaves me alone to prepare on my own."

In preparation for a Soldier of the Year board, Stepro said he spent large



Spc. Robert Adams

Spc. Bobby Stepro, B Co., 2/7 Inf. Reg., receives the Soldier of the Year award Aug. 30 at the 3rd Inf. Div. reunion banquet dinner from Col. Karl R. Horst, 3rd Inf. Div. Assistant Division Commander-Maneuver. Stepro is currently competing for the Department of the Army Soldier of the Year award, having already won division and FORSCOM Soldier of the Year.

the Year boards, Stepro had a couple of specific areas on which he felt he needed to focus, he said.

"I study all the material and get to know the Army study guide by heart. I spend time at the range, make sure my PT score is good, and devote a lot of studying to skill levels and common task training. The biggest thing is being consistent," Stepro said.

"Compared to other Soldiers, he is a step above," Lee said of Stepro. "He is an outstanding example. For a Soldier to go to board after board, it's just an outstanding example for Soldiers to follow."

At the Department of the Army Soldier of the Year, like at 18th Airborne Corps and FORSCOM, he will be tested on tasks such as weapons qualification, physical fitness, day and night land navigation and CTT. He will also, of course, go before the board.

In the time between FORSCOM and the Department of the Army Soldier of

the Year boards, Stepro had a couple of specific areas on which he felt he needed to focus, he said.

"There are more CTT areas I have to cover," Stepro said. "And I want to make sure I know skill levels one through three. As long as I stay consistent, I should be just fine."

Lee agreed, saying that all Stepro needed to do was to continue to maintain his studying, practicing CTT tasks and zeroing and qualifying.

"I think he'll win," Lee said.

"I inherited Spc. Stepro when I became his sponsor, and he had at least 75 percent of the skills and knowledge already before I got him. I was simply there to hone it," he said.

The competition is always at a high level when it comes to Soldier of the Year, he said. At the division level, he was competing with the corps-level winners.

"FORSCOM is the biggest command in

the Army, so there's a lot of competition there. At FORSCOM, I was in the lead most of the time," Stepro said.

For triumphing at Soldier of the Year competitions, Stepro has come home not only with a greater sense of pride and accomplishment, but also with awards and prizes. FORSCOM gave him \$2500 in savings bonds and a check from Geico Insurance. He has also won three trophies for being Soldier of the Year, an "NCO Saver" sword, a leather jacket, and has received a Meritorious Service Medal.

Out of uniform, Stepro loves to play golf and spend time with his wife.

"He tried to get me to go out [and play golf] a couple of times, but I don't really play," Lee said. "He has a loving wife, and he's actually in the process of trying to add to the family."

"He gets along with other Soldiers," Lee said. "He knows when it's time to work, and when it's time to party," Lee said.

# War builds lasting friendship

Spc. Robert Adams

Staff Writer

When retired Col. Charles P. Murray Jr. met Sgt. Frank T. DeAngelo during World War II, and little did they know they would be sharing memories for the next 60 years.

The two most recently swapped stories at the 85th Annual Society of the 3rd Infantry Division reunion Aug. 27 through 31 in Savannah.

The two first met when Murray was assigned to C Company, 30th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division as a replacement officer in December 1944. He joined the company as a rifle platoon leader, in which he later became the company executive officer and then the company commander.

When Murray arrived at the company, he told then Pvt. DeAngelo he didn't know anything about combat and wanted his help to learn.

"A lot of times an officer won't ask for help from a Soldier," DeAngelo said. "If a Soldier ever gets the chance to have an officer like him, they will appreciate it."

From this moment on they shared many experiences and DeAngelo would always be near his commander on the battlefield.

"I was like his bodyguard," DeAngelo said.

Murray believed in and trusted DeAngelo so much that he asked him to run the company on separate occasions, when he had to leave for a couple days.

"I didn't understand why he would put me in charge when there were other sergeants sitting around him," DeAngelo said. "I said, OK because I never refused an order from him."

About 20 years after the war, DeAngelo asked Murray why he put him in charge of the company. Murray answered, "Because you would do exactly as I would do if I was there."

DeAngelo also made sure Murray was

well fed during the war. DeAngelo had come across a large amount of hard candy that he kept for Murray for whenever he needed some energy.

But there was one story that really stood out in DeAngelo's mind that involved the two of them. Murray had told DeAngelo to go to the medics to get his ailing feet looked at.

While DeAngelo was at the medical tent, Murray was leading a reinforced platoon into enemy territory in southern France Aug. 1, 1945.

Murray, then a lieutenant, observed a force of 200 Germans who were firing on an American battalion occupying a ridge. He noticed they could be flanked and instead of putting his patrol in harm's way, Murray took it upon himself to disrupt the enemy.

After his radio went out while calling in artillery fire, Murray decided to find other means of disrupting the Germans. He fired automatic rifle rounds and grenades at the Germans, killing 20 and wounding numerous others.

By then Murray had the enemy disorganized and on the retreat and his platoon completed its original objective: To take possession of a bridge and the construction of a roadblock.

While Murray was capturing Germans in a foxhole, one pretended to surrender, throwing a grenade that inflicted eight wounds to Murray. He had to go back to the rear, but not before he had his men complete the mission.

Murray received the Medal of Honor for his actions on that day, and was an inspiration for all those who served with him in C Co., 30th Inf. Regt., 3rd Inf. Div.

While Murray was heading to the medical tent on a stretcher with the grenade shrapnel injuries he received from the battle he passed by DeAngelo who was returning to duty after receiving no medical attention.

"As he passed me, he asked me where I was going," DeAngelo said. "I told him, and



Spc. Robert Adams

Retired Col. Charles P. Murray Jr. (left) stands alongside his former Soldier and long-time friend Sgt. Frank T. DeAngelo at the Society of the 3rd Inf. Div. reunion in Savannah Aug. 31. Both Murray, a Medal of Honor recipient, and DeAngelo served with C Co., 30th Inf. Regt., 3rd Inf. Div. during World War II.

he said OK and got off the stretcher and put me on it."

"He walks down beside me to the medics and tells the captain that they better watch over me," he added.

"DeAngelo is the best man I've got and I want his feet looked at right now," Murray said.

Later in the war, DeAngelo unfortunately stepped on a mine that Murray had stepped over, and lost his foot. This injury forced him to leave the war.

Murray continued his Army career and commanded units in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He began his service Sept. 7, 1942 and retired as a colonel Aug. 1, 1973.

Along with the Medal of Honor, Murray received the Silver Star with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Legion of Merit with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star with one Oak

Leaf Cluster, the Army Commendation Medal, the Air Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with two palms, the Croix de Guerre Silver Star, the Legion of Honor, along with many others during his service.

After retiring, Murray has taken the time to talk to high schools and meet young Soldiers at Army posts.

"The Soldiers of today stand tall and proud," Murray said. "They are proud of their unit, are highly motivated and I have confidence in their abilities."

Murray and DeAngelo have had the chance to spend time together at many reunions and talk on the phone since their time in the service. Both plan to visit their regimental and division reunions long into the future to visit each other and their fellow Army veterans and Soldiers.

# POLICE REPORTS



- **Subject:** Family member, 28-year-old male
- **Charges:** Possession of firearms and dangerous weapons in federal facilities, assault within maritime and territorial jurisdiction
- **Location:** Hunter
- **Subject:** Sergeant, 26-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charges:** Obstruction or hindering law enforcement officer, use of fighting words, obscene and vulgar language
- **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Family member, 24-year-old female
- **Charge:** Assault
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Possession of open container while operating vehicle, driving under the influence, alcohol consumption by person under 21
- **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Specialist, 29-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of cocaine
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Sergeant, 40-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of cocaine
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private, 19-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Wrongful possession of marijuana
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Sergeant, 25-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Traffic accident without injury
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private, 19-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charge:** Failure to yield right of way
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Civilian, 39-year-old male

- **Charge:** Speeding 65/40
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 50-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Wrongful possession of cocaine, wrongful possession of marijuana, wrongful use of cocaine
- **Location:** Columbus, Ohio
- **Subject:** Private, 25-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Wrongful possession of cocaine, wrongful use of cocaine
- **Location:** Columbus, Ohio
- **Subject:** Specialist, 28-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of cocaine
- **Location:** Columbus, Ohio
- **Subject:** Sergeant, 29-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, driving with expired registration
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Civilian, 23-year-old male
- **Charges:** Housebreaking, theft of personal property, wrongful possession of cocaine, damage to government property

- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 21-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Wrongful distribution of cocaine, wrongful possession of cocaine, false official statement, receiving stolen property
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private, 23-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Housebreaking, larceny of private property, making false official statement
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private, 24-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Housebreaking, larceny of private property, damage to government property
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private, 22-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charge:** Deposit account fraud
- **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Sergeant, 33-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Impaired operation of a vehicle, reckless driving, speeding 93/55, suspended registration
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Sergeant, 30-year-old male, Div. Spt. Bde.
- **Charge:** Indecent assault
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Sergeant, 27-year-old

- male, Avn. Bde.
- **Charges:** Wrongful use of cocaine, wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Hunter
- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 24-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Disorderly conduct
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Drunken driving, turn signals required
- **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Family member, 39-year-old female
- **Charges:** Simple assault consummated with a battery, disorderly conduct
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, failure to maintain lane
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of cocaine
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private, 19-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Drinking underage, open container
- **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Corporal, 21-year-old

- male, 4th Bde.
- **Charge:** Failure to obey general order or regulation (unregistered weapon)
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private, 19-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, consumption of alcohol by minor, speeding 63/40
- **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Private, 22-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charge:** Aggravated assault
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 21-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Captain, 29-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Simple battery, cruelty to children
- **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Sergeant 1st Class, 40-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, failure to yield while turning left
- **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Private, 20-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Drinking underage, affray
- **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 19-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Obstruction by fleeing, affray, underage drinking
- **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 29-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Simple assault, obstruction of justice by hindering
- **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, Div. Sup. Bde.
- **Charge:** Carrying a concealed weapon
- **Location:** Savannah

3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

International Day
ACS is hosting "We Are The World" Monday, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Club Stewart.

FEGLI
Federal Employees Group Life Insurance has open season through the month of September.

Spend \$1,000,000
Stewart and Hunter are the 2004 winners of Army Communities of Excellence Award.

Estate indebtedness
Anyone having claims against the estate of Sgt. 1st Class Jeremiah H. Barnes, HHB, 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery, Fort Stewart, Ga., 31313, should contact 1st Lt. David Sherer, HHB, 1/9 FA, Fort Stewart, Ga., 31313, or call 767-8006.

Matting/Framing Shop
Attention FRG members — registration is at Bldg. 443, by Tuesday, for the "Fall Break and Frame" class.

Youth Center
New activities for CYS members provided by Youth Presidential Fitness Club, grades 6 to 12 at 4 to 5:30 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Top of the Rock Run
A 5K and 10K run is being held Saturday, Oct. 2, 8 a.m. at the end of West 6th St., adjacent to Newman Fitness Center.

Battle of the DJs
Help choose a new Sports USA disc jockey on Saturday, Sept. 25 at 9 p.m. There is a \$3 cover charge.

Hunter

Breakfast
The new Aviation dining facility in Bldg. 110 will be open Saturday at 10 a.m. for breakfast.

Golf Tournament
Saint Francis Cabrini School in Savannah will be hosting its first Annual Golf Tournament Oct. 1 at Hunter. The \$50 price includes a box lunch, door prizes and an afternoon of fun.

Estate indebtedness
Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of Air Force Airman Joshua M. Eason, 117th ACS, should contact Lt. Col. Byron K. King, 117th ACS, Comm (912) 963-6119, DSN 832-6119.

Comedians
Phatt Katz Comedy Show will be held at 8:00 p.m. The show will be held every first Sunday for the rest of the year. Each month will be a new set of comedians or for more information visit www.phattkatz.com.

Spend \$1,000,000
Stewart and Hunter are the 2004 winners of Army

Communities of Excellence Award. The posts received a formal recognition ceremony at the Pentagon, a trophy, an ACOE Flag and ONE MILLION DOLLARS to spend.

PAI Office using the ICE System. Go to http://ice.disa.mil.

Savannah State vs. S.C. State
All active duty military get free admission to Wright Stadium, Savannah State University, Saturday, 3 p.m. for Military Appreciation Day.

FEGLI
Federal Employees Group Life Insurance has open season through the month of September.

ER Remodeling
The Emergency Department will have minor disruption for remodeling. All emergencies and urgent care patients should still report to the ER.

Free Screenings
Cholesterol and blood pressure screenings will be available 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday at the PX.

Update DEERS
Beneficiaries must keep their DEERS information up-to-date or they may not be able to receive referrals, schedule appointments or access TRICARE Online.

EDIS
Educational and Development Intervention Services is now located next to the main pharmacy in Winn.

Winn / Tuttle

ER Remodeling
The Emergency Department will have minor disruption for remodeling. All emergencies and urgent care patients should still report to the ER.

Free Screenings
Cholesterol and blood pressure screenings will be available 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday at the PX.

Update DEERS
Beneficiaries must keep their DEERS information up-to-date or they may not be able to receive referrals, schedule appointments or access TRICARE Online.

EDIS
Educational and Development Intervention Services is now located next to the main pharmacy in Winn. Military families with children up to 3 years old who may be at risk for developmental delays

can call EDIS for a free screening. For more information, call 370-6349.

TRICARE Phone Numbers
For general health care information, you can call the Humana Military Audio Library at 1-877-217-7946.

Interested in volunteering
Volunteers are always welcome and needed to help in general administrative and clinical areas.

Diabetic Education Class
The next Diabetic Education Class will be held 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday and Sept. 28.

Full Service PX Pharmacy
The full service Satellite PX Pharmacy is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

Marne TV

September 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.

Table with 2 columns: Time and Program Name. Rows include 5 a.m. Army Newswatch, 5:30 a.m. MARNE REPORT, 6:30 a.m. Air Force News, 7 a.m. Navy News, 7:30 a.m. Army Newswatch, 8 a.m. MARNE REPORT, 9 a.m. Air Force News, 9:30 a.m. Navy News, 11:30 a.m. Army Newswatch, Noon MARNE REPORT, 1 p.m. Air Force News, 4:30 p.m. Navy News, 5 p.m. MARNE REPORT, 6 p.m. Army Newswatch, 6:30 p.m. Air Force News, 7 p.m. Navy News, 10 p.m. MARNE REPORT, 11 p.m. Army Newswatch, Midnight MARNE REPORT.

POW MIA Ceremony

The Annual POW/MIA Observance Ceremony will be held Friday, 6:30 p.m., at the Fort Stewart Museum.

Brig. Gen. Mark O'Neill, 3rd Infantry Division assistant division commander-support, is the guest speaker.

President Bush proclaimed Sept. 14, 2004 National POW/MIA Recognition Day. The annual Stewart observance ceremony is traditionally held the third Friday of September.



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# CENTCOM News

## Iraqi police, MNF-1 thwart mortar attack, foil roadside bomb

MOSUL, Iraq — Iraqi Police and Multi-National Forces from the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team) thwarted a mortar attack, detained three people wanted for anti-Iraqi activities, foiled a roadside bomb attack and discovered a variety of weapons and munitions Tuesday in northern Iraq.

Iraqi Police thwarted a possible mortar attack against Multi-National Forces when they discovered four anti-Iraqi personnel emplacing a mortar launching system in northern Mosul. Police quickly engaged the enemy, forcing them to flee. Using a description from Iraqi Police, Multi-National Forces later discovered and searched the vehicle used in the attempted attack discovering three rocket-propelled grenade rockets with a launcher, 10 hand grenades, 300 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition and one Russian-made machine gun with a 100-round drum. This incident is under investigation.

Iraqi Police foiled a roadside bomb attack when they noticed a suspicious item lying near the road in the neighborhood of Al Yarmook. The U.S. Explosive Ordnance Disposal team responded and reduced the device with no injuries reported.

Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment conducted a cordon and search in northern Mosul and detained three people wanted for planning and conducting roadside bomb attacks against Multi-National Forces. The suspects are in custody with no injuries reported during the operation.

Soldiers from 1st Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment discovered a large cache of

weapons in western Mosul that consisted of 16 57mm mortar rounds. U.S. EOD secured the rounds for future destruction.

Multi-National Forces from Task Force Olympia continue to work together with members of Iraqi Security Forces, leaders and citizens of Iraq to make it a safe, prosperous, and democratic nation. Local citizens are urged to cooperate with security forces by providing information that leads to the capture and arrest of anti-Iraqi forces. Anyone with information should call the Joint Coordination Center in Mosul.

## Civil affairs Soldiers provide added medical supplies to Tal Afar hospital

MOSUL, Iraq — Multi-National Forces from the 416th Civil Affairs Battalion purchased additional medical supplies Sunday as part of an ongoing effort to provide essential equipment for the Tal Afar Hospital.

The Ninevah Directorate of Health analyzed the medical capabilities of the region and discovered Tal Afar to have the greatest need of medical equipment.

Equipment included stomach tubes, gauze, bandages, gloves, antiseptic, sutures and other surgical equipment. The Directorate of Health has successfully delivered three supply trucks to the Tal Afar Hospital thus far, totaling an estimated \$14,000 worth of supplies and equipment.

Multi-National Forces will continue to

work closely with the Directorate of Health to ascertain additional needs, such as other supplies and medications of area hospitals and clinics.

## Polish EOD team attacked with grenades

BAGHDAD — Monday at about 4.30 p.m. the Polish Explosive Ordnance Disposal team along with the security escort from the 1st Battle Group Multi-National Division Central South came under attack from anti-Iraqi forces using rocket propelled grenades and small arms. During the attack three Polish soldiers were killed and three wounded. The wounded soldiers have been transferred to a military hospital in Karbala, and are in stable condition.

## Iraqi Police Service offers death benefits to families of the fallen

BAGHDAD — Iraqi Police Service officers received "death benefits" assistance, Saturday, for family members of personnel killed in the line of duty, effectively ending the previous pension system.

The benefits, immediately directed by Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi, amount to direct dependent payment of 1 million Iraqi dinars, upon death, and additionally pay families the decedent's full salary until what would have been the officer's 63rd birthday.

Only officers killed in the line of duty

qualify for the benefit — retroactively extending back to personnel killed in the line of duty since early April, 2003. Cause of death is established by a five person team.

Prior to Saturday's implementation, families of officers could expect just six months of full pay after the service member's death, followed by a lesser pension system draw.

Since the end of the war, nearly 600 Iraqi Police Service officers have been killed in the line of duty.

## Air strikes hit terrorist group site

BAGHDAD — Multi-National Force Iraq conducted a successful precision strike on a confirmed Abu Musab Al Zarqawi terrorist meeting site in Fallujah at 6:07 a.m. Monday.

Intelligence sources reported the presence of several key Zarqawi operatives who have been responsible for numerous terrorist attacks against Iraqi civilians, Iraqi Security Forces and multinational forces.

Intelligence reports indicated that only Zarqawi operatives and associates were at the meeting location at the time of the strike. Based on analysis of these reports, Iraqi Security Forces and multi-national forces effectively and accurately targeted these terrorists while protecting the lives of innocent civilians.

Multi-National Force Iraq continues to make every effort protecting the innocent civilians put at risk by terrorists and minimizing collateral effects while ridding Fallujah and Iraq of foreign fighters and terrorists.

This strike further erodes the capability of the Zarqawi network and increases safety and security throughout Iraq.



# Family care plans priority for single Soldier parent

Master Sgt. Edward Slaughter  
I.G. Office

Over the past few weeks I have had the opportunity to visit several company care plans. As part of my visit, I reviewed a portion of each company's Family Care Plan packets, and was a little dismayed to find most of them not to standard. Most packets were outdated (not reviewed annually) or were missing key documents.

The Family Care Plan program should be a top priority for single Soldier parents, dual military couples, pregnant Soldiers, and Soldiers who have part-time custody of a child or children. The Family Care Plan is the means to ensure that all Soldiers can deploy with little advance notice and know that their children will be taken care of while they are gone.

The key to a workable FCP is having the appropriate forms filled out accurately and in the acceptable time frame. Additionally, it is imperative to ensure that all personnel involved know what is expected of them. Army Regulation 600-20, 5-5, para. 5 (g) directs commanders to test the validity and durability of FCPs, to include contacting the designated guardian prior to approval or recertification of a FCP. The commander should contact the long-term care provider by phone and determine if that person

understands what is expected of them. FCP's help the unit commander to be certain that during deployments there will not be a sudden predicament over who will care for the children while the Soldier is gone.

Soldiers required to have FCPs are single parents with children under the age of 19, dual military couples with children under the age of 19, divorced parents who have liberal extended visitation by court decree that would allow them to have temporary custody of their children for a period exceeding 30 days, and any pregnant Soldier who has no spouse or is not living with her spouse.

AR 600-20, Army Command Policy, lists seven different forms that must be included in a FCP packet. The first form is the catalyst of the packet; Department of the Army Form 5305-R (Family Care Plan). This form serves as proof that the Soldier has made arrangements for the proper care of his/her child. Soldiers have 30 days to complete the FCP. The commander may extend the deadline an additional 30 days if the

packet is not complete or it is unworkable. The DA Form 5305-R must be re-signed annually, during the Soldier's birth month to ensure the accuracy of information.

DA Form 5304-R, Family Care Counseling Checklist, serves as the contract between the commander and the Soldier. For pregnant Soldiers, this must be executed no later than 90 days prior to the expected date of birth of the child.

Next is the DD Form 1172, Application for Uniformed Service

Identification Card DEERS Enrollment. It should be noted that AR 600-8-14 directs that children under the age of 10 residing with their sole parent or dual military parents will be issued an ID card.

The DD Form 5841, Power Of Attorney, (unsigned until deployment) must properly empower the care provider to care

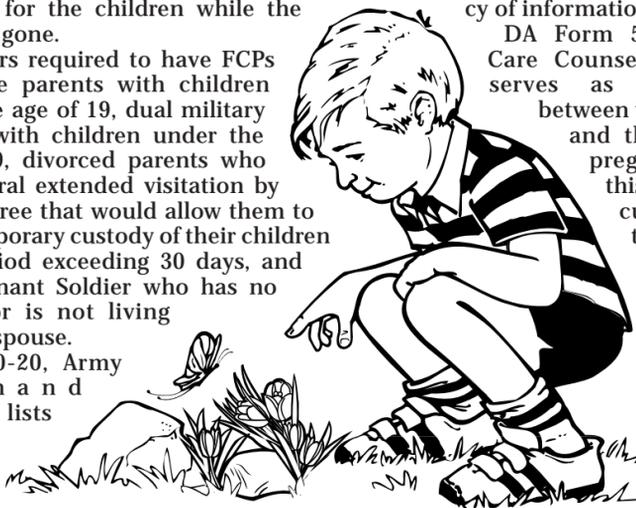
for the needs of the child from a legal standpoint. The power of attorney should expressly list all that the care provider can do while entrusted with the care of the child.

The DD Form 2558, Authorization to Start, Stop, or Change an Allotment for Active Duty and Retired Personnel, is also included in the packet. It is used to provide financial support to the care provider in case of deployment. This form must be filled out, but not signed until deployment.

Next is the DA Form 5840-R, Certificate of Guardian or Escort, which the guardian or escort signs accepting the responsibility for the child. This form must be notarized and contains the address and signature of the guardian or escort.

Also included in the FCP is the letter of instruction to the guardian or escort. This letter should state step-by-step what the care provider should do in regards to medical, financial, scholastic, and any other special instructions concerning the child or children.

Family care plans are a great tool to avoid serious disruptions during OIF 3. When completed properly, a FCP will assist both the commander and the Soldier. Most importantly it will insure that our children who are left behind will be properly cared for.



# Prostate cancer becoming epidemic

Laurie Kemp

Winn Public Affairs Officer

Prostate cancer has become the most epidemic cancer in the last 20 years, affecting more than 200,000 men annually, said Maj. Mark C. Gibbons, Winn Army Community Hospital urologist.

It is the leading cancer among men in the U.S. and the second leading cause of cancer deaths. The cancer is sporadic and typically without symptoms until the advanced stages.

"Unfortunately, this is a disease that can strike without any symptoms and there is really no way to

know if you have prostate cancer without seeing your physician," Gibbons said.

The cause of prostate cancer is unknown but modern medicine has been able to identify men who are at risk. While all men between the ages of 40 and 80 are at risk, African-American men have the highest risk. A family member with prostate cancer increases a man's chance of also having the cancer. And, there is a link between obesity and prostate cancer.

"A majority of men with prostate cancer are detected now by the prostate specific antigen

blood test; whereas in 1980, before we had the PSA test, most men presented with the late symptoms of prostate cancer — which are very painful ... and not treatable. We don't have any cures for prostate cancer unless it is detected early," Gibbons said.

"Since the use of the PSA test, there has been an increase in the survival rate and we think this is attributed to early detection."

Gibbons recommends men 40 and over get a PSA screening and men over 50 get an annual prostate exam and PSA test.

"I think the majority of men are reluctant to talk to their physician

about a screening test, especially for prostate cancer, because it has so many negative connotations," he said. "Treatments in the old days used to leave men impotent and incontinent. Nowadays, we have refined the diagnosis and treatment so men can lead a normal life, and sex life, after being treated ..."

By the time a man is in his 70s and 80s, he will have a 1 in 10 chance of being diagnosed with prostate cancer. He will also be at higher risk for other prostate problems, such as benign prostatic hypertrophy, or enlargement of the prostate.

An enlarged prostate can cause frequent urination, problems emptying the bladder and getting up three to four times a night to urinate, Gibbons said.

While prostate cancer can coexist with BPH, it rarely causes urinary problems. Medications are available to treat enlarged prostate problems.

Gibbons stresses the key to successful treatment is early detection. Don't wait until it is too late.

For more information about prostate cancer or prostate problems, talk to your primary care provider or visit [www.cpd.org](http://www.cpd.org).

Turn off  
the T.V.  
and read  
a book



# Young Soldier lives his dream

Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Staff Writer

Comb the ranks of D Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, and you'll find at least one Warrior who's pumped up with a fighting spirit, who still carries the flame high.

Pvt. David Grega, an 18-year-old from Sacramento, Calif., said being a Soldier to him is at once the fulfillment of a dream and a dream in the making.

Grega said he remembers looking up to Soldiers ever since he was a child. He liked to play with G.I. Joes and hoped that one day he could be in the Special Forces.

Growing up in a loving family, with a firefighter for a father, Grega learned to truly enjoy helping people, he said. As he got older, he decided he wanted to help the community by becoming a police officer.

But even with his dreams and his upbringing, Grega had deeper reasons for wanting to join the Army instead of going on to college immediately after high school.

"I had an awesome life in Sacramento. I have a wonderful family and great friends, I played rugby and was really good at it. But then the war started," he said.

"They had that unprecedented coverage, and I watched the first day or two of the war. I saw those guys who were like me, or could have been any of my buddies, out there putting their lives on the line. I was in awe," Grega said.

And the more he watched what was happening in Iraq, the more Grega began to feel disappointed and angry at himself.

"I had everything I wanted plus more," he said. "I was saying I loved my family and my country, but I wasn't there helping those guys [in Iraq], who probably have family and friends they love, too. Who am I to say my life is worth more than someone else's?"

"I really felt like a coward," he

said earnestly.

So Grega took a trip to the local recruiter's office and signed up to join the Army. He wanted an infantry military occupational specialty, but the next opening wasn't for another five months.

Since he had already been waiting a long time, working hard to meet weight requirements, Grega decided to take a tanker job

made him feel nervous and even panicked at times, Grega said. He felt this way until recently, when he went out to a field training exercise with his company.

"After I came back from the field, I wasn't worried. It wasn't really the training, even though it was great training. What happened during those three weeks, with the relationships that were formed with my battle buddies, changed how I felt about deploying," Grega said.

to make the best of it because we know the guy next to us is missing home, too," he said.

Whether at home or in the field, Grega strives to do what's best as a Soldier, both for himself and for the Soldiers around him.

"He's always volunteering to do things

not going to help us over there," Grega said.

Grega stressed the need to remember that the Army is a team, and that decisions each Soldier makes should not be for himself, but for his fellow Soldiers. Homesickness or just not feeling like being a Soldier one day can't get in the way, because it could cause someone else to get hurt, he said.

"I'm honestly not worried about going over there and getting killed. I'm worried about not doing something right and getting my buddy hurt or killed," Grega said.

"People say [being in the Army] sucks, and in some ways I guess it does suck.

But I won't be so selfish as to think only about myself and not my buddies," he said. "I have times when I'm sad, too. But I have to remind myself, I can't let these guys down."

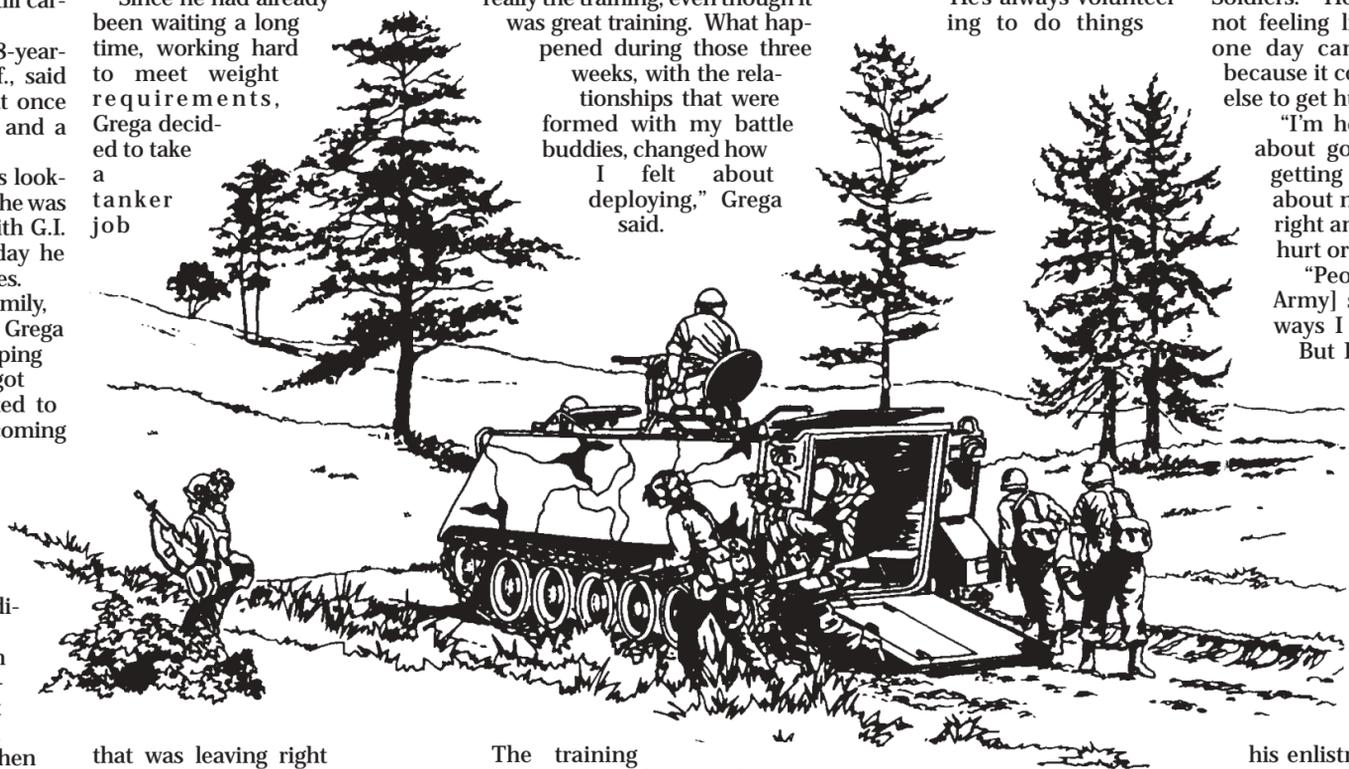
After Grega gets back from Iraq, he plans to serve the rest of

his enlistment, get out of the Army at 21, and go back home to become a police officer. He looks forward to having the experience of fighting in war and the discipline the Army has given him when he goes to work in the civilian world, he said.

"I don't think he should get out," Bostwick said with a laugh. "just because of the caliber of Soldier that he is."

Nevertheless, Grega plans to go to the Sacramento sheriff's academy after his enlistment is up, and then get his criminal justice degree.

"I'll get to take care of people, be near my family and friends and have a job where I'll be physically active, so it'll be great," he said.



that was leaving right away.

Grega shined as a Soldier from the moment he put on the uniform.

"Grega was my Soldier in the first few months he was here," said Staff Sgt. Russell Bostwick, D Co. 3/7 Inf.

His constant effort to push a little bit further than the rest makes him an excellent Soldier with leadership potential. Grega is a tanker doing the job of an infantryman, and is excellent as far as infantry tactics go, Bostwick continued.

"He's better as an infantryman, and is definitely Special Forces material," he said.

Even though it was deployed Soldiers who had influenced him to join the Army, the reality of Iraq

The training exercise required him to ride in a Blackhawk helicopter — something Grega was not looking forward to.

"As soon as I got on the chopper," he said, "I saw my buddies, and I didn't care what happened as long as I was with them. I felt comfortable and relaxed. I felt like, whatever happens, we're doing it together."

Deployment is still a scary thought, Grega said. He will miss his family more than anything. But his perspective is still a positive one.

"Everyone's nervous about putting their lives at risk. But I'll have my buddies there to lean on, and they'll lean on me.

"On the bad days, we'll be able

without anyone having to tell him to do them," Bostwick said. "He looks for things to do, always asks questions, and is willing to learn."

Grega said he meets Soldiers often who don't really care about being in the Army and would rather be out.

He added, "I tell them, if I had to pick one place to be in the world, it probably wouldn't be Iraq. But I signed the contract. I'm going, you're going, whether we like it or not."

"So you have a choice. You can go absent without leave, you can half-[step] everything, or you can give it your all. We're going to be there together. A bad attitude is

## Iraqi phrases ... Commands, Warnings and Instructions

For the next few issues, the Frontline will publish some Iraqi phrases which are extremely helpful and frequently used. This is the third in the series:

Put — Hut  
Take — uh-khudh  
Load — Ham-mil  
Unload — far-regh / nez-zil

Help me — sa-aad-nee  
Show me — ra-wee-nee / Shaw-wof-nee  
Tell me — gul-lee

# Hunter EST gets Soldiers on the mark

**Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft**

Staff Writer

Every Soldier who has gone through Basic Training during the past 30 years should remember the Weaponeer, a handy training tool used to enhance marksmanship skills.

Now Soldiers at Hunter Army Airfield have the opportunity to meet the Weaponeer's highly-improved descendant, the EST2000.

"This is a multipurpose, multi-lane training tool," said Greg Stigall, engagement skills training instructor. "It can be used for marksmanship, collective training and rules of engagement."

The EST can be used to familiarize Soldiers with every type of weapon, from the M16A2 rifle to the M-136 AT4. To use it, the trainees choose one of the weapons available on a platform facing a movie theater-style screen and practice loading, handling and shooting that weapon using some of the more than 200 scenarios available to them on that screen.

Several people can use the equipment at once via the multi-lane capabilities of the EST2000, making it suitable for squad-level training, Stigall said.

"This is a perfect tool for sergeants' time training," he said. "We can put a weapons mix of any weapon currently in a unit's arms room on the platform and allow a group to fire collectively."

Although Fort Stewart has had several ESTs for the past three years, Hunter didn't have its own until about two months ago, according to Stigall.

"I'm hoping, now that we have it, that more people will take advantage of this



Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft

**Capt. Brian Pratt (left), HHC, 1/3 Aviation company commander and Capt. Mike LaBroad, HHC, 1/3 Aviation company executive officer, brush up on their weapons system training on the new EST2000 at Hunter Sept. 1.**

equipment," he said. "This is an excellent training tool that is underutilized."

Hunter's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment has already been training Soldiers on the EST, and Capt. Brian Pratt, company commander, had nothing but good things to say about the results he's seen.

"I've sent my Soldiers on two (EST) rotations before they went to the range, and it greatly improved qualifications within the company," Pratt said. "The cost of doing this versus shooting rounds at the range is

much, much cheaper, and you can get Soldiers familiar with all the weapons systems."

"Soldiers are not just pushed through here like they would be on a grouping range," Stigall added. "The EST isn't costly, it just takes time. There's no round cost, the ammo's virtually free."

The EST is not a full day's worth of training if it doesn't need to be, but Soldiers who need extra practice have the opportunity to get it.

"(Good marksmanship) is a matter of

consistency," Pratt said. "Repetition is the soul of learning, and if we can get Soldiers in here on a regular basis, it would definitely improve their battlefield skills."

Capt. Mike LaBroad, HHC's executive officer, said he has been able to get in much more training time with the EST than he ever had at a range.

"I've come in once a month, once every six weeks, in the past three months, and that's much better than going to the range maybe once a year," he said. "I think I fired 100 rounds, total, from a (M2 .50-caliber machine gun) in my entire Army career, and in the past three months I've fired about 1,000 rounds."

Although inexperienced and struggling marksmen can benefit from the EST, it isn't just a practical tool for weak firers — it also contains many virtual ranges that Stigall said would challenge even an expert.

Pratt added, "The (3rd Infantry Division commanding general) has put a great deal of emphasis on every Soldier being proficient with every weapons system, and this is a perfect way to make that happen."

Stigall said his current customer base consists of Aviation Brigade Soldiers, but he is interested in expanding to other units and branches of service, as well as area law enforcement agencies and any others who may be interested.

"I will be glad to go over the capabilities, limitations and special features of the system with any unit leader," Stigall said.

"This would make a great leadership development tool," he said. "The EST will be here a long time, like the Weaponeer was, and these leaders need to know about it."

## Directorate of Logistics becomes ISO certified

**Spc. Robert Adams**

Staff Writer

The Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Directorate of Logistics became ISO 9001-2000 registered Aug. 9.

This occurred after Perry Johnson Registrars, Incorporated completed its assessment of the DOL's quality management system.

The achievement of the International Organization for Standardization 9001-2000 registration places the DOL in the elite company of top military and civilian organizations, but more importantly, it places a stamp of guarantee that Soldiers will get the best materials and service we can offer, said Jim Nicksch, Deputy of DOL.

The ISO is a prestigious

world-wide quality management program which uses evaluation of processes, customer feedback and continuous improvements to ensure the highest quality services are rendered to customers.

"The certification process takes from two to five years to achieve initial ISO certification and then is a continuous quality process that is recertified annually," Nicksch said. "Basically, it is an auditing firm that determines if the processes we use meet the industry standard," Nicksch said.

Since November 2002, the DOL has served over 25,000 mobilized Soldiers as well as 20,000 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers and support units, preparing them for deployment and redeployments.

The DOL received this three-

year certification at the time when the division is busy preparing for another deployment to Iraq for Operation Enduring Freedom.

"The Stewart and Hunter DOL is known throughout the Army as being one of the best, and we proved that in getting the 3rd Infantry Division out during mobilization," said Royce Kennedy, Director of Logistics. "That is the reason they sent the 25,000 Soldiers to Fort Stewart, because we could do it better and faster than anybody else."

The services the DOL provides include Central Issue Facility clothing and equipment issue, the inspection and repair of equipment, and the transportation for troops and vehicles to and from training areas like the National Training Center

and overseas to Iraq.

"For example, when a Soldier goes through CIF for equipment; the ISO is going to ensure that the quality of the checks and tests meets the standard the Soldier needs to go into the theater of operations," Nicksch said. "It's really to get documentation on what we have been doing all along as far as providing customer support and quality of services."

There are currently 243 DA civilians working for the DOL and during 3rd Inf. Div. deployments, redeployments and National Guard and Reserve mobilizations there are an additional 400 contractors working.

"These workers have performed outstandingly during the last few years working long hours and going the extra mile,"

Kennedy said. "Most of these workers are performing at a level above their pay grade, and the ISO registration is certifying the great job that they do."

Some of the key people who have worked behind the scenes to make sure the customer receives the best service possible and finds areas of improvement are Fred Noles and Randy Mobley, both quality assurance specialists and Donnie Smith, logistics management specialist.

"We are continually improving from feedback received from our Soldiers and customers," Smith said.

Nicksch said, "For an organization to achieve this prestigious rating positively reflects DOL, Stewart and Hunter's concern for providing the best support possible to our Soldiers."



# JRTC

*Joint Readiness Training Center*



## Soldiers learn to sling load at JRTC

Pfc. Ben Brody  
Staff Writer

FORT POLK, La. — Since completing Air Assault and Slingmaster School, Sgt. Gavine Roache of A Company, 26th Forward Support Battalion has taught many Soldiers how to strap heavy loads to powerful helicopters. His class Sept. 8 was no different.

Under Roache's guidance, troops from 26th Forward Support Battalion; 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry; 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry and 260th Quartermaster Company practiced sling loading a 4,000-pound tank engine to a hovering CH-47 Chinook helicopter from the division's 2nd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, based at Hunter Army Airfield.

"We start by going over the basics, how to actually rig the cargo for sling loading," Roache said. "The second day, we use a forklift to practice attaching the cargo,

then lifting it up. Once that's been accomplished, we bring in the bird.

"The CH-47 can lift 26,000 pounds from its center hook, which we're using today," Roache explained. "The Blackhawk can lift between 8,000 and 9,000 pounds, so the Chinook is the obvious choice for this training."

Enduring a blinding hail of sand and gravel kicked up by the twin-rotor helicopter, Soldiers rushed forward in teams of three (plus Roache), attached the cargo, and fell

back.

"It's important for Soldiers to learn this stuff," Roache said. "If a forward element needs an engine for a tank, it's much quicker to sling load than to put a convoy together, and it puts less people in harm's way."

"It was pretty exciting when the bird came down over us," said Pfc. Joe Reed of F Co., 3/15 Inf. "It was definitely good training.

"Need more goggles," he said, wiping sand from his face.

**"It was pretty exciting when the bird came down over us."**

Pfc. Joe Reed  
F Co., 3/15 Inf.



Pfc. Ben Brody

Soldiers attempt to slingload a 4,000 pound tank engine as the Chinook hovers above them.

# New armor unit fills with young talent

**Pfc. Ben Brody**

2nd Bde. PAO

FORT POLK, La.—After officially forming July 12, D Company, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry is training hard for Operation Iraqi Freedom 3, and bringing new tactics to 3rd Infantry Division as well.

“We may be young and short a few guys, but we’ve got big motivation,” said Capt. James Smith, D Co. commander. “Right now we’re training with boots on the ground, so these guys can look in the mirror and say, ‘We’re ready to go.’”

D Co. has focused primarily on small-unit tactics that Smith thinks will prove critical in Iraq.

“We’re doing fundamental training at the squad level, in a decentralized, real-world atmosphere,” Smith said. “We’ve actually benefited from having no radios as far as training goes. Anything can happen in combat, and you’ve got to be able to function without (communication assets).”

In addition to advanced marksmanship training, close-quarters combat drills and air assault missions, the

unit is experimenting with non-lethal tactics designed to keep Soldiers and Iraqi civilians calmer and safer.

“I was commissioned as a field artillery officer, but right now I’m tasked to build a non-lethal effects doctrine that we can use in Iraq,” said 2nd Lt. Don Bailey, from D Co., 3/15 Inf.

“I envision coordinating with (psychological operations), interpreters, Special Forces and civil affairs to give us an alternative to rolling into a town with our tanks, making the locals nervous,” he said.

Bailey, new to the Army and fresh out of Ranger School, said interpersonal relationships are of paramount importance in the Arab world, and stabilizing relations is the key to stabilizing Iraqi towns.

“The Army is starting to use field kits of non-lethal systems, similar to what riot police would have,” Bailey said.

“There are 15 of the kits in Iraq right now, and they’re huge. They have pepper spray, 40mm rubber grenades that spray out pellets, rubber bullets — basically stuff that’ll knock a

rioter down and show them we mean business without killing anyone,” he said.

Bailey said he hopes 2nd Brigade will receive several of the kits, which he emphasized would always be augmented by lethal fires at the ready.

“Tasking a second lieutenant with this has an added benefit as well when you’re negotiating in a town,” Bailey said. “When a captain goes in, and the people say ‘Where’s your boss?’ the battalion commander’s probably not going to come out. But if they ask me, Captain Smith can come up and they’ll be satisfied.”

“We eventually want to build enough of a rapport with Iraqis to the point where we don’t have to come into their towns,” he added.

With young talent like Bailey and many others, the young armor company is eager to fill a new and necessary role in OIF 3.

“It feels good to start a new company — you get the opportunity to set a high standard and maintain it,” said 1st Sgt. Jose Mercado. “Training is the essence of winning.”



*Pfc. Ben Brody*

Soldiers of D Co., 3/5 Inf. race to upload onto a waiting helicopter during a training mission at the JRTC at Fort Polk, La.