

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



Chaos on the battlefield... 3/7 Cav. medics train for war

Pfc. Ben Brody
Staff Writer

There were screaming villagers, armed thugs, smoke everywhere, wounded civilians...seem like a difficult place to be a medic?

Precisely the point, according to Sgt. 1st Class Michael Stoddard, medical evacuation observer/controller who watched as 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry's medics trained on the lane Sept. 14.

Four seven-man medic squads completed the training, which featured intensely realistic carnage and chaos.

A smoke machine blanketed a mock village with a thick white cloud as residents pulled the medics to their wounded loved ones. An insurgent armed with a rocket-propelled grenade lurked in the woodline, keeping everyone on edge.

"The medics face a scenario where they've got to move in (tracked ambulances) under indirect fire, while looking for a missing Red Cross convoy, then they get to the village and have to deal with several severe casualties and somewhat hostile villagers," Stoddard said.

"This training lane," he continued, "is one of very few anywhere that's specifically for honing medics' skills."

Local resident Cole Young, a Korean War veteran who lost his left leg, played a badly wounded amputee during the scenario.

"I think it's worthwhile for me to come out and do this," Young said. "It helps the Soldiers, and I was a Soldier once too."

In addition to role-players, the medics tried to revive a dummy capable of reproducing many vital signs. The dummy's vitals are manipulated by an observer/controller in response to the treatment the medics give.

After two wounded civilians were loaded onto ambulances, the medics drove them down a hill to a large field, where a CH-47 Chinook flew in to MEDEVAC the casualties.

Soldiers rushed the stretchers into the back of the gigantic helicopter before it roared away.

"I think it was pretty good training," said Sgt. Wayne Moulton, a 3/7 medic. "It was way more difficult than anything I saw in Iraq. It's best to train to exceed what you're going to see."

Moulton likened the training to the Expert Field Medic Badge course, and said the lane was especially good for newer Soldiers.



Photos by Pfc. Ben Brody

(Above) A medic with 3/7 Cav. tries to help a badly wounded role player to his feet after treating his injuries. (Right) Medics from 3/7 Cav. try to figure out what is ailing this simulated casualty, as his role-playing wife goes into hysterics nearby. The dummy is capable of replicating major vital signs and is manipulated by an observer/controller.

Veterans honor their fallen ones

Pfc. Ricardo Branch
Staff Writer

Members of the Vietnam Veterans of America #789 and veterans of the Korean War gathered at the Fort Stewart museum to honor those who gave their lives defending their country in an annual POW/MIA ceremony Sept. 17.

"Every year around the third Friday in September we come down to Stewart and hold a ceremony to reaffirm a commitment to never forget the servicemembers who have fallen and are still missing," said retired Sgt. Maj. John Menard, Liberty Chapter 789 membership chairperson.

"Most of us here today were never recognized when we returned from fighting in Vietnam," Menard said. "That's why we hold this for them, we're compelled to do this and let them know they are not forgotten."

Veterans of the Korean War, who previously were not a part of Stewart's ceremony, were also recognized with the symbolic laying of a wreath for their missing and fallen comrades.

See VETERANS, Page 3A

4th Brigade Soldiers move into new barracks

Spc. Robert Adams
Staff Writer

Soldiers of 4th Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division began moving into newly constructed barracks last month after the facilities were handed over to the unit Aug. 11.

The contract for the project cost \$73.6 million for the design, site development and construction of the new modular barracks campus.

It was put in effect May 25 to accommodate the unit, which was formed as part of the 3rd Infantry Division's reorganization.

This modular design afforded the barracks to be built quickly into temporary houses to support the brigade. The barracks are composed of many upscale trailers pieced together.

"The 3rd Inf. Div. is the first division in the Army to undergo the conversion to a modular structure, and part of garrison's

mission was to accommodate the structures and facilities required for the new brigade," said Col. John M. Kidd, Fort Stewart garrison commander.

Over a million square feet of barracks, modular office facilities, company orderly rooms, battalion headquarters, arms rooms, storage rooms and maintenance facilities were built to accommodate three 4th Brigade battalions.

See BARRACKS, Page 5A

Stop/loss in order for 3rd Inf. Div.

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.
Staff Writer

Stop/loss orders will come into effect, with a date of Oct. 1 for most of the division with the exception of 4th Brigade and certain elements of the Aviation Brigade, which has an effective date of Nov. 1.

"The Army's stop/loss program basically kicks in for every

unit that has received orders for deployment," said Lt. Col. Robert A. Frost, division personnel officer. "It's automatic, once a unit receives a deployment order which establishes the latest arrival date for that unit in theater, stop/loss automatically kicks in."

Soldiers who have end of time in service, permanent change of station order or retirement dates are the ones

who will be most affected by this order.

"What happens is Soldiers who have ETS dates, Soldiers who have received assignment instructions with report dates or Soldiers who have approved retirement dates that fall after the implementation of the stop/loss date will fall under the provisions of the stop/loss policy," Frost said.

For instance, say a Soldier

has an ETS date of Dec. 15. If their unit falls under the stop/loss order for units waiting to deploy, and the stop/loss date is before that day, they would be subject to the stop/loss policy, Frost said.

Under certain circumstances, however, some Soldiers will not be affected by the stop/loss order.

See STOP/LOSS, Page 5A

Weather Forecast

FRI
High 85° Low 65°

SAT
High 83° Low 64°

SUN
High 83° Low 65°

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Sgt. R. James Piper

Role players block a road during a civil disturbance as Iraqi Police try to contain the crowd. They were angry because the market owner was raising prices on food.

110th put through paces during convoy exercise

Sgt. R. James Piper
Staff Writer

ALEXANDRIA, La. — Soldiers from the 110th Quartermaster Company took to the road to train in convoy operations Sept. 13, at the Joint Readiness Training Center.

The Soldiers were confronted with a variety of scenarios, ranging from improvised explosive devices, rocket propelled grenade attacks, sniper attacks and civil disturbances as they transported a coalition soldier and medical supplies from Forward Operating Base Ranger to FOB Spirit.

"We're leaving for Iraq in the near future," said 2nd Lt. Donald Geier, HHC, 110th QM command and control platoon leader. "Convoy battle drills are something we'll be doing as a bulk petroleum supply company while in country."

While the convoy traveled down the road, they had to respond to IEDs.

At one point, they were attempting to determine if the road had been cleared by an explosive ordnance disposal unit when Insurgents fired mock RPGs into the convoy causing simulated damage to the vehicles.

"I think the training was pretty realistic because we didn't know what and when to expect the events," said Spc.

Steven Jackson, 110th QM fueler. "It definitely helps to teach you to expect the unexpected."

At another point along their route, they came upon an Iraqi check point and were faced with the decision to stop or keep going.

The Iraqi National Guard roleplayers were armed with automatic weapons and that posed a risk to Soldiers because they could have opened fire if the convoy tried to roll through, said Geier. Through his interpreter, Geir was able to negotiate the passage of the convoy through the checkpoint.

The convoy came upon a civil disturbance at a marketplace along the road and Geier took the interpreter to talk with the Iraqi police and find out what the situation was.

"The interpreter is a good asset," he said. "Through him we were able to understand the crowds chanting and communicate with the Iraqi Police."

One of the vendors was raising the prices on food and the crowd grew ugly. Two Iraqi police were containing the crowd, but wanted the Soldiers help to disperse the crowd.

Geier told the Iraqi Police he was unable to help because they had to complete their mission.

"The interpreters are something

we'll have in country so it provides us a way to communicate with people and get our ideas across. A lot of things could have happened differently. Either side could have jumped to conclusions," Geier said.

Eventually, the convoy had to force its way through the crowd. As the first vehicle cleared the marketplace, two insurgents fired RPGs at the convoy. The lead vehicle stopped, stranding some of the vehicles in the middle of the crowd.

"We're training here so if we make a mistake we can learn from it," Geier said.

The last portion of the training was simulating a medical evacuation of wounded Soldiers after the convoy was ambushed. The coalition Soldier and three others were wounded when the convoy was attacked. The Soldiers had to provide first aid and get them to the rally point where they could be evacuated.

The training helped demonstrate the challenges Soldiers may face while in Iraq.

"The situation there is different now," Geier said. "Before it was a war against an established and discernible government and their forces, now it's a fight against small groups. It allows Soldiers to see the difference."



An Iraqi Guardsman halts the convoy at a checkpoint during the scenario.



2nd Lt. Donald Geier, HHC, 110th QM, marks check-points on his map as the convoy goes through them.



(Above) The 110th's LMTV mounted with a .50 caliber machine gun moves to the front of the convoy to provide security.



(Right) Soldiers pull security when the convoy stopped.

VETERANS

from page 1A

The ceremony consisted of 15 retired veterans reading the names of Georgia veterans listed as POW/MIA in the Vietnam War.

"It's an emotional thing for the people here," said retired Sgt. Maj. Walter K. Eldridge Jr., Chapter 789 member. "Some people may have known these people that are being read off."

"This kind of ceremony is needed because we don't know what happened to many of these people," Eldridge said.

Throughout the ceremony the somber phrase that was spoken to those that gathered for the memorial was, "They will never be forgotten by a grateful nation."

"The veterans that fought at Vietnam and Korea represent a sense of responsibility and service," said Brigadier General Marke O'Neill, Fort Stewart Assistant Division Commander (Support).

"Our founding fathers didn't envision America as people that just stood by as watchers," O'Neill said.

"Our people, and our Soldiers take action and stand up for their country and these veterans that we honor here today exemplify that," O'Neill added.

The Vietnam Veterans of



Photos by Pfc. Ricardo Branch

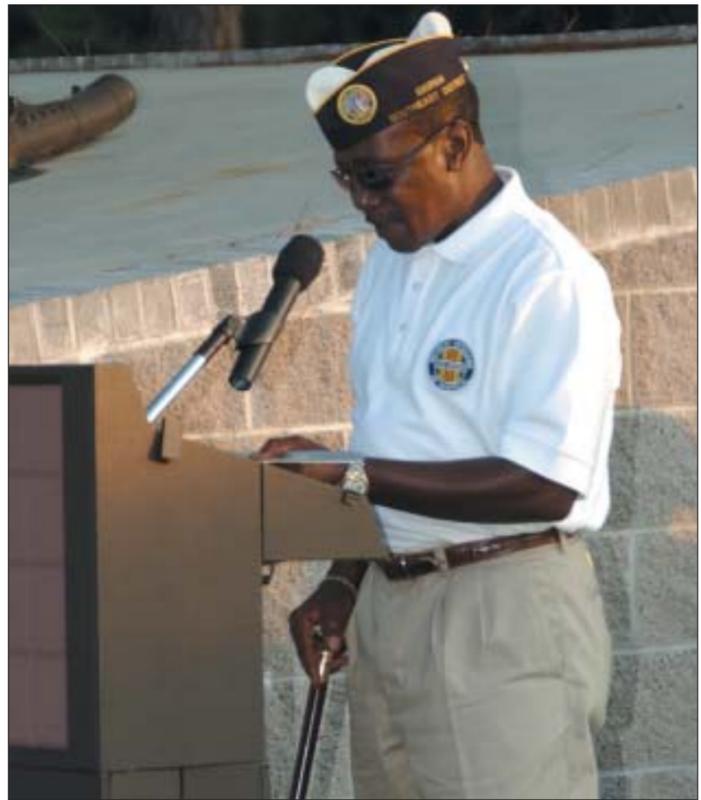
The displayed memorial honors the MIA/POW servicemembers of the Korean War.

America are a group dedicated to remembering the servicemembers who gave their lives defending their country and still defending it.

"Each meeting we hold has a meaning of deep gratitude and thanks with a daily prayer for the Soldiers and servicemembers making up the past and present

military for what they do," said Paul W. Spence, president of Chapter 789.

"Many didn't return from Vietnam and by us recognizing that we can offer something for those that didn't have an answer," Spence said. "That kind of service leaves people touched and just brings tears to your eyes."



Retired Staff Sgt. Gregory S. Harris, Disabled American Veterans Southeast Commander, reads off names of Georgia veterans that are POW/MIA at a remembrance ceremony at the Fort Stewart museum Sept. 17.

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Marne Six Sends

Maj. Gen. William G. Webster Jr.
3rd Inf. Div. Commanding General

Several months ago I assured you that when the Marne Team received orders for any contingency mission that we would keep you, your families and our communities informed so we all could plan appropriately. An important part of this planning process is now in effect. Stop loss, stop movement. We have known for several months that these orders would be coming, I am now confirming this.

OIF3 remains the next fiscal year deployment. We still feel that if the situation in theater remains unchanged the deployment is expected to be no earlier than November 2004. The orders and planning process continues to work out the details of our deployment.

Currently, we have no specified date or specific instructions because the orders process has not been completed. The orders process for this mission is no different from any other past operation and further details will be learned over time.

We all know that we are part of America's contingency corps, the XVIIIth Airborne Corps, and as part of that Corps we must be prepared to deploy anywhere at any time to conduct our business.

Each soldier will receive instructions pertaining to stop loss, stop move through their personnel management channels. In short, most Soldiers of the division have a stop loss - stop move date of Oct. 1. A number of units in the division have a stop loss - stop move date of Nov 1. Your chain of command will discuss this with you.

The receipt of the stop loss - stop move dates are just another milestone in the orders process getting us ready for our deployment to Iraq. We all knew this was coming and now it is here. Understand what applies to you and your team so you can plan appropriately.

As part of America's contingency corps, we train hard. We are ready. I am also certain that our family support networks on the installation and in the surrounding communities are sound. I am confident that we are the best team in the Army and are capable of successfully taking on any mission given to the MARNE TEAM!

Mission.....Soldiers.....Teamwork!!!
MARNE SIX OUT

Editor's Note: See related story on Page 1 of Section A.

Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

"What are some fire safety tips?"



"Never leave your kids alone with matches or lighters."

Gloria Delgado, Military spouse



"Don't start fires in unauthorized areas and make sure you get burn permits."

Michael Burrell, Director of Instruction at Ogeechee Technical



"Check smoke detectors at least once a month."

Austin Benoit, Retired military



"Make sure the batteries in your fire kits are new."

Pvt. Nathaniel Simpson, 2/7 Inf.



"Check your fire extinguisher and go over fire exits with your family."

Sgt. 1st Class Tred Harris, HHC, DSB



"Don't play with fire."

Pfc. Jonathan Mathesius, HHC, 3/69 Armor

Lane Down Range

I remember why I joined

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.
Staff Writer

Commentary

When I enlisted in the Army, I was older than most people who were joining. I had lived and worked in the civilian world for almost ten years before I finally decided to join. I joined before the tragedy of Sept. 11, but afterwards I was proud to be in the Army.

I have to admit that joining the Army did not cross my mind for most of my twenties.

I even remember having a friend whose father was a Vietnam War veteran. A group of us guys were hanging out at his house one night, and the father had a bunch of his veteran buddies over there drinking. My friend asked why they had joined the Army when they knew it was very possible they would have died. Their response was that they were proud to have served their country.

My friend said that was a bunch of bravo sierra, and he would never face death for something like that. After listening to them argue for a few minutes, I took my friend's side and argued with them too. I said I would never die for my country. Do you ever wish you could take back some of the stupid things you said when you were a kid?

So there we were, four gangly teenage boys insulting seven near drunken fierce combat veterans. Needless to say, they were losing the verbal conflict, so they promptly engaged us in a physical one. Need I paint a picture? The vets proceeded to stomp us into a mud hole in the yard. We may have thought they were idiots for their ideology, but they sure could fight for a bunch of old men.

I have to say I wish I had been more mature and listened to their thoughts and emotions, because I can really relate to them now. All around me are real heroes, as those old vets were. Many of these men and women don't think twice about their decision. A sense of duty to their country and fellow Americans resides so deeply in these Soldiers that they join willingly and ask for the hardest positions to fill.

Many times as a youth I heard people say things like infantry,



tanker, war and "my buddy died" and it never faded me. Now every time I open up a newspaper and read about a servicemember being killed, I can't decide whether to be angry or sad.

I know that I have said it before, but I am going to say it again. I feel like every time a person is killed over there in a war that is slow going and will take much time to win, one of my own family members has died. Someone who was special and loved by many. Someone who joined the military knowing full well the possibility of facing death.

In a time when most heroes are derived from movies or television, we have men and women whose stories will make up an entire generation of history. The movies I see that hit home the hardest are the ones about the wars our military has fought. It doesn't matter how tough you are, the terrorist kill from a distance without prejudice, and kill their own people. How can you fight an enemy who won't fight like a man?

Watch your buddy's back, and remember your training. I know that each of us is an individual, unique little snowflake. But the training that turned us all green is what will bring us back, and only then can we become what we were.

When it's more than just being moody

Lt. Col. Virginia D. Yates
3ID Surgeon

Depression is very common. Some doctors say nearly 20 million Americans experience depression and that only 1 in 10 will seek medical attention for it. Depression is more than just being moody or feeling "the blues".

Depression is marked by long periods of feeling very sad and losing interest in everyday events that once were rewarding. Depression affects how we behave, speak and think. You just don't feel like yourself. Every little thing may bother you. You may have nagging aches and pains that don't seem to go away.

The causes of depression are not always clear. Depression can run in families. Scientists believe the brain may not be getting a balance of the natu-

rally occurring chemicals serotonin and norepinephrine. Depression may appear to be caused by an event or for no apparent reason at all.

The symptoms of depression may differ from person to person. Some symptoms may include a persistent sad mood, lack of pleasure in activities, change in sleep or eating habits, or a feeling of worthlessness. Compared with depressed men, depressed women are more likely to experience guilt, weight gain, anxiety, eating disorders, or increased sleep. There are several signs and symptoms that help a healthcare professional or doctor determine if a person has depression. These include:

- Depressed or irritable mood most of the day — nearly every day
- Loss of interest or pleasure in activities (such as hobbies, work, sex, or

being with friends) most of the day—nearly every day

- A sudden change in weight or appetite
- Inability to sleep or sleeping too much
- Agitation or restlessness (observed by others)
- Constant fatigue or loss of energy
- Frequent feelings of worthlessness or guilt
- Difficulty concentrating or making decisions
- Frequent thoughts of death or suicide

If you think you may suffer from depression, make an appointment with a doctor or healthcare provider and then share these answers with him or her so he or she can properly diagnose your condition. For 3rd Inf. Div. Soldiers, we have our Division Mental Health Clinic located in the Second and Fourth Brigade areas or you can go to the Soldier Family Health Clinic.

members can use the Community Mental Health Clinic through Winn Hospital.

Both soldiers or family members who feel too inhibited to use these on post services, can call the confidential Army-One-Source free 24-hour/ 7 day per week service at 1-800-464-8107 or www.army-onesource.com (user ID: army, password: one-source)

Dealing with depression may be one of the most challenging situations a person can face. But there is good news. People who have successfully been treated for depression describe feeling less overwhelmed, being able to concentrate better, sleeping more soundly, having more energy, and having fewer aches and pains. Help is available. If you don't feel right, don't wait to get help. You can start today.

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BARRACKS

from page 1A

On Feb. 5, the division found out it would be first up on the modularity concept and as a result would gain a new brigade.

"We didn't have enough facilities at Fort Stewart to accommodate that sort of growth so we went to work planning the facilities to put those Soldiers in to stand up the brigade on time," said Mike Biering, Department of Public Works director.

Since the contract was awarded May 25, construction workers have cleared forests, installed underground utilities, and the first of the modular barracks were delivered on June 30.

"This is a good example of the Army moving very quickly," Kidd said.

The Aug. 11 initial turnover included 40 of the 142 six-man barracks and 10 of 20 operations facilities to 4th brigade, which were deemed ready for operations. Soldiers will continue to move into the remaining buildings as finishing touches are placed, and all facilities are to be handed over to the unit by Oct. 14.

"The new temporary facilities have more square footage and are larger and better equipped than our current 1970 and 1980 versions of the

permanent party facilities," Kidd said.

Each barrack includes two living quarters and within those quarters are three separate rooms, a central kitchen and bathroom. Each room is furnished with new furniture which includes a computer desk, television stand, dresser, lamps and a twin-size bed.

"The feedback we have gotten is very positive," Biering said. "These are great facilities for the Soldiers and right now in their current state; they are the best barracks on Fort Stewart, in regards to space and accommodations."

Soldiers who have already made their home in the barracks are excited about the new living quarters.

"The new barracks are very nice and are near luxurious," said Spc. Michael Fraire, A Company, 4-3 Brigade Troop Battalion. "Having a single room is spacious and you don't have to worry about anybody invading your privacy."

Biering said, "There has been great cooperation and teamwork between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Huntsville and Savannah Engineer districts, the Southeast Region Installation Management Agency in Atlanta, as well as IMA activity in Washington, D.C. to make this hap-

pen."

"The division took on this project in late February, went through the contracting process, and literally in Army terms, 'did things overnight' to make this project happen," he added.

The advantages of modular construction are its speed and low costs. Since these buildings are temporary, they can be modified at a lower cost than that of permanent buildings.

"These barracks are going to go a long way," Kidd said. "It gives these Soldiers a good place to live while we work on building the permanent facilities for them and it relieves a greatly overcrowded condition that we had as result of adding nearly 2,000 more Soldiers to our post."

"We will begin developing 300 new permanent barrack spaces for Soldiers this year, but we anticipate a portion of these temporary facilities to be in place as long as 5 to 10 years," Biering said.

There are also plans in place to construct a dining facility for the unit, with Soldiers currently using other dining facilities on post.

Kidd said, "This is a great operation that we have completed and we will continue to work toward building permanent facilities, but in the meantime we have some top quality temporary facilities for 4th brigade."



Courtesy photos

(Above) Outside view of the new 4th Bde. barracks. (Below) A view of the inside of a new barracks rooms shows a new desk and TV stand.



STOP/LOSS

from page 1A

"There are a number of exceptions to this policy and some specific rules to how it is implemented," Frost said. "Soldier who has a certain ETS date may want to go ahead and take some transition leave. If the leave is approved and that date is before stop/loss is implemented, that Soldier will probably be allowed to out-process and leave the Army. If their transition does not back up their departure from the Army, then the Soldier will be caught by the stop/loss order and their ETS date will be readjusted by the Department of the Army to 90 days after redeployment from theater."

If a Soldier has out-processed before the date of stop/loss, they will be allowed to leave the Army, Frost said.

"If a Soldier has ETS or retirement orders

and they have already shipped part of their household goods before the stop/loss date, they will be able to clear," Frost said. "But if they have retirement orders that allow them to ship their household goods and they have not yet done it, then they will be subject to stop/loss."

Soldiers who have an order for mandatory retirement because of one of many laws requiring Soldiers to retire, they will not be subjected to stop/loss. Their unit may deploy them until their date of mandatory retirement, but must return them home before their date of retirement, Frost said. Stop/loss has been mandated to provide unit cohesion. It is designed to keep seasoned Soldiers in the same unit who are accustomed to working together.

"Stop/loss is a very valuable tool in the personnel community in force management," Frost said. Once it goes into effect, we can pretty much count on the Soldiers we have on active duty now staying in the same units for deployment. That makes our management of the division strength much easier. It cuts down on the amount of Soldiers leaving the division and the number of new Soldiers coming to the division before and during the deployment."

Some Soldiers have chosen to take a positive outlook on the stop/loss situation.

"I know that there is a mission out there for me to accomplish, and that mission is to take care of Soldiers," said Sgt. 1st Class Belinda Rhanes, the information assurance

staff noncommissioned officer for G-1. "Just like I was taken care of coming up through the ranks, I believe the reason I am going to deploy is to be there to take care of my Soldiers. There is still a need for me in the Army, and that is why I have not been able to retire."

"The Army has done a lot for me and my family," Frost said. "As long as I wear this uniform, I have a job to do. I am sure that most of the Soldiers you will talk to will feel the same way. I could retire, but I choose not to because I believe still have a purpose"

To see the order, go to [http://PERSCOM-ND04.army.mil/MILPERmsgs.nsf/All+Documents.04-227?Open Document](http://PERSCOM-ND04.army.mil/MILPERmsgs.nsf/All+Documents.04-227?Open+Document) or insert [All+Documents.04-169?Open Document](http://PERSCOM-ND04-army-mil-MILPERmsgs.nsf/All+Documents.04-169?Open+Document)



JRTC

Joint Readiness Training Center



Air assault gets troops where needed

Sgt. Raymond Piper

Staff Writer

ALEXANDRIA, La. — C Company, 4th Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment took to the skies Sept. 15 to do one of its most important missions — air assault.

The company traveled to Peason Ridge to pick up Soldiers from 1st Bn., 64th Armor Regt. to fly them in to support the ground commander's assault.

"Being able to do the air assault here will better prepare the Soldiers for missions that involve aircraft," said 1st Lt. Joseph Davis, 4/3 Avn pilot.

The live fire was a joint operation between the ground forces and airborne assets, such as Apaches and A-10 Warthogs, firing in support of each other.

Before the Soldiers could fly in the aircraft, they received cold load training where they rehearsed entering and exiting the helicopter.

Crew chiefs Spc. Ben Knoepke and Spc. Lee Patrick walked the Soldiers through the steps and then observed as they rehearsed.

As the take-off time approached, the Soldiers loaded up and got ready to fly to the landing zone.

"An air assault is very helpful in conducting a cordon and search or a raid," Davis said.

The helicopters landed and the helicopters

took off to refuel so they could be ready for their next mission.

The company provided casualty evacuation and picked up a high-value target on its second trip to the landing zone. An example of a high-value target would be a key leader in a terrorist organization.

The last flight for the company before heading back to the airport was to pick up the Soldiers they had dropped off earlier in the day.

"The air assault is tactically the main purpose for the company," Knoepke said.

The company flies a variety of other missions, ranging from supporting VIP visits, providing transportation for quick reaction forces and nonstandard casualty evacuations.

"When we have time to train, we put the time and effort into training on air assaults," Davis said.

The battalion was originally part of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and became a part of the 3rd Infantry Division in July.

Davis said the 101st trains year round on air assault and there is no doubt the 101st is the best division at air assault.

He added, "Having a unit that just came from the 101st will provide the 3rd Infantry Division with a very experienced air assault capacity that is an additional combat multiplier to the heavy force they have now."



Sgt. Raymond Piper

Spc. Ben Knoepke, a C Co., 4/3 Avn. crew chief, watches as scouts from HHC, 1/64 Armor rehearse off-loading procedures for an air assault exercise Sept. 15 at Peason Ridge. The air assault was part of a live fire between units in 2nd Bde. and Avn. Bde.

Apaches demonstrate lethality with live fire

Sgt. Raymond Piper

Staff Writer

ALEXANDRIA, La. — The Apaches of 3rd Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment demonstrated the fire power of the Apaches during a joint live-fire exercise with 2nd Brigade Sept. 17.

The scenario had units of 2nd Bde. going to take down a training area, destroying a weapons cache and stopping any insurgent activity.

The Apaches provided close air support and cover for the ground teams.

"The live fire upped the level of awareness," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Kenneth Evans, a B Company, 3/3 Avn.

AH64 Apache pilot. "We had a target that was the same shape and looked like a Humvee so we didn't fire even though we had approval."

For 1st Lt. Jacob Cavins, a B Co., 3/3 Avn. Apache pilot, this was his first time working with ground troops.

He said, "I'm a first lieutenant and the learning curve is through the roof. Everyone has to work together. It was an eye opening experience."

Evans said some of the ground commanders didn't seem sure how to use the helicopters to the best advantage.

"There were some targets we saw that we could have engaged and destroyed so they wouldn't have had to risk Soldiers on the ground," he said.

"The infantry commander sending in troops now knows he can ask us to destroy a target through rockets or 30 mm (machine gun) fire," Evans added. "It's a learning experience and this is the place to learn it."

Evans said this is the best live fire he has done so far and attributes it partly to how they are conducting missions differently.

He said, "There is a lot more maneuvering while in flight and freedom to attack targets from different angles. We're free to find out ways to do things and are experimenting to see what works then sharing the ideas."

Evans added, "We're learning what works and flying the aircraft the way it was meant to be flown."

Hunter rescue workers conduct crash exercise

Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft
Staff Writer

said Chief Warrant Officer 4 David A. Botelho, airfield safety officer.

Emergency rescue personnel at Hunter Army Airfield had a chance to receive practical training during a simulated aircraft crash drill at Hunter's Hazardous Cargo Area Sept. 14.

"When the vehicles got here, they shot out the fire suppression and rescue personnel were on the scene attending to the injured," Botelho said.

Participants in the drill were from the U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Savannah, Hunter Fire Rescue Services, Hunter Air Traffic Control, Airfield Operations and Hunter military police.

The purpose of the drill was to meet two requirements, Botelho said.

The scenario began with a Coast Guard crew staging a HH-65B Dolphin helicopter crash at the Hazardous Cargo Area.

"First of all, it's a quarterly installation requirement," he added. "And second, it gives our rescue, crash and fire personnel a chance for hands-on training."

They then made a mayday call to the airfield tower.

The Coast Guard is also required to run an annual mishap drill, said Coast Guard Lt. Tad Wilson, aircraft commander.

Upon arrival at the scene, emergency workers would find the aircraft's cockpit full of smoke and several injured crewmembers, and they would handle the situation accordingly.

"The best thing we get out of any training is communications," Wilson said.

Everything went according to plan, and five minutes after the mayday call was made, the Hunter personnel were on the scene.

His co-pilot, Lt. j.g. Corey Braddock, added that the drill helped to give the crew confirmation of readiness.

The Hunter Fire Rescue Services' vehicles immediately began suppressing the simulated smoke coming from the helicopter.

"It also gives the fire crews more familiarity with the air frame," he said.

Once the area was deemed safe, the rescue workers began to transport the casualties to a Hunter ambulance waiting nearby.

Overall, participants of the drill agreed that it went well, and was beneficial to all involved.

"It looked to go pretty well,"

"It was helpful ... we learn a lot of different things every time we come out here," said Shawn Smith, a Hunter firefighter.

He added, "We're all pretty much a tight-knit group, and we have to work together to make things work."



Photos by Spc. Emily Wilsoncroft

(Top) Rescue personnel treat a "casualty" from their quarterly crash drill training and roll him onto a litter to bring him to an ambulance during an exercise at Hunter's Hazardous Cargo Area Sept. 14. (Below left) Lt. Paul Harrens and Firefighter Thomas Fisher, from the Hunter Fire Department, suppress simulated smoke and flames from a "crashed" Coast Guard helicopter. (Below right) Emergency rescue personnel transport a "casualty" to a waiting ambulance.



Korean War veterans reunite at Fort Stewart

Staff Sgt. Michelle L. Helms-Dodge

50th PAD, NCOIC

It's tough times we live in. It seems as if every day makes a new war veteran. But what of the veterans of yesteryear? Maybe your father or your grandfather? Have you ever taken a moment to hear their war stories? Stories of World War II, the Korean War or Vietnam?

Korean War veterans from Company B, 15th Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division held their annual reunion Sept. 15 through 17 at Fort Stewart.

Forty one people, veterans and wives, gathered to talk of times long gone. During the reunion I had an opportunity to hear some of their stories. And what stories they were.

"Most of us went in 1951. I was 21 years-old when I was drafted; I'm 75 now," said Harold "Killer" Redfearn.

"I want to tell you something about this guy right here," said Bobby Runions, as he pointed to Marvin Ashby. "You see where his face is messed up? Well, he got shot in the head.

"We were going up Hill 487. There was slight rain and sleet the morning we went up that hill. Marvin hollered over to where I was and he said 'My weapon is jammed; I need a weapon.' I gave him my 45 and he got a couple of (enemies) with it."

"The day before I was shot, Sept. 28, 1951, I had a feeling like something was going to happen. The next morning, we had marched about four and a half miles to get to Hill 487," Ashby said.

"We sat there that morning, before we charged that hill, and we were hoping the sun would come up so the planes could soften it up for us. For about an hour, the sun did come out and the planes came in to soften up the hill for us. As the planes were fir-

ing on the hill, we were going up it," Runions said.

During the charge, Ashby was wounded in the head and suffered permanent damage to his left eye and the left side of his face. For 45 years he was unable to close his left eye.

"I used to tell people it was hard for one eye to watch the other eye fall asleep every night," Ashby said.

Later he had corrective surgery that allowed him to close his eye by using a small weight in his eyelid that pulled the lid down.

"Now, let me take you to March 24, 1952. Don Sonsalla and I were wounded at the same place — Easter Egg Hill," Bob Kent said.

Kent said they gave the name Easter Egg Hill to that particular battle because it happened on Easter morning.

"The day before that we were trying to get up that hill and we couldn't cause there was an enemy pocket there. Gen. (Douglas) MacArthur called in fire and they put napalm on that mountain and burned it down and we still got slaughtered," he said.

Afterward, Kent said, Gen. MacArthur came down to the camp to see how the Soldiers were doing.

"He came down behind that .50 caliber with his corn cob pipe and his hat on and he walked up to Charlie Edmonds. Charlie always said if he saw Gen. MacArthur he had a mouth full to tell him. He sure told him how we had lousy food and we weren't getting feed," he said.

"On the 24th we were dug into that hill and I had to go the bathroom like you would not believe. I came around the corner and one of (Koreans) shot me in my naked behind. He come so close, it felt like a torch. I was gone," he said.

During the fight, the enemy began to pound Company with hand grenades. Sonsalla was hit



Staff Sgt. Michelle L. Helms-Dodge

B Company, 15th Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division veterans and their spouses walk down Warrior Walk during a recent tour at Fort Stewart. The tour also included the museum and the Non-Commissioned Officer Academy.

by a grenade. For many years, many of the guys didn't know what had happened to Sonsalla.

"They fighting was so heavy and they were trying to get the wounded out that they evacuated us on the backs of tanks," Sonsalla said.

During the war, the fellows still managed to find many opportunities to laugh.

"I had diarrhea for our first 31 days of combat. It was so bad all the guys had extra toilet paper in their front pockets for me. When we weren't fighting, I was next to my foxhole digging a cat hole. But now when the bullets were flying, them drawers were up," Killer Redfearn said.

"One day we were taking on potato mashers (grenades). Lee Corkill yelled down at me and said 'Killer, stop throwing them damn grenades up here,' and I said 'It's not me.' About that time, I looked down and there was one in my hole. So, I just picked it up and threw it back at the enemy," he said.

After the war, the Soldiers went their separate ways and lost contact with each other until 1993.

"He wondered for 40 years if I

was alive or dead," Sonsalla said.

After reading a magazine article by a man named Lee Corkill, a name he recognized from the war, Runions contact the article's author.

"I told him the Lee Corkill I know is from San Antonio, Tx., what are you doing in L.A.?" Runions said.

Corkill asked Runions if he could meet him in Little Rock, Arkansas in September 1993. Runions went through Saint Louis, Missouri, and picked up a few more Soldiers and met Corkill. This was the first B Co., 15th Regt., 3rd Inf. Div., reunion.

"I was on summer vacation and I got a letter from Marvin Ashby. (During the war) I was hit as we were going up (Easter Egg Hill) and for 40 years Marvin wondered if I had lived or died," Sonsalla said.

Sonsalla said when he got the letter, he called Ashby and agreed to meet in Little Rock.

Since that first reunion, every one has done their best to make the reunion a priority. Every year, a different veteran hosts the reunion. This year's reunion was hosted by Dave and Sue

Woodberry from Forsythe, Ga. All the veterans agree that the reunion is very important to all of them.

"I'm just glad to see Don Sonsalla has his legs." Marvin Ashby

"(Getting together) is a balm of healing. You need to have this to restore yourself. If you don't restore yourself then you are dead the rest of your life," Ashby said. "Getting together has been a saving salvation for all of us."

"I couldn't begin to tell you how much healing it has brought to my body to see that Don Sonsalla still has his legs. When I saw him last, his legs were riddled. I thought he had been shot down by a machine gun," he said.

"You can talk about these things amongst each other. But a person out on the street, you ain't going to talk to him, he don't understand. I don't want to hear some story. If he wasn't there, I don't want to hear it," Runions said.

The veterans closed their reunion by attending the POW/MIA ceremony on Stewart Sept. 17 and a donation to the 3rd Inf. Div. Museum.

3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

FEGLI
Federal Employees Group Life Insurance has open season through the month of September. Questions and answers related to eligibility and the open season call 1-877-276-9287 or view at: <https://www.abc.army.mil>

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.

The garrison commander needs help in deciding how to spend this money. You can submit your suggestions several ways:

- Mail to Chief of PAI Office 190 Stockton Circle (Bldg. T-25) Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314
- Call 767-6228
- E-mail the PAI Office through

ICE System. Go to <http://ice.disa.mil>

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.

Activities include hiking, circuit training, running, walking, gym time for cardio fitness and light weights and club meetings. Call 767-4491 for more information.

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. For details visit www.stewartmwr.com/2004rockrun.pdf.

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

Hunter

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. It will be a 1 p.m. shotgun start.

For registration forms or more information, call 925-6249 or come by the school at 11500 Middleground Road.

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.

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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. Non-emergency patients are encouraged to schedule appointments with their primary care manager. Appointments, including same-day appointments, may be scheduled by calling 370-6633.

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. Winn and Tuttle use DEERS information to contact you regarding referrals and appointments. DEERS information can be updated by calling 1-800-538-9552, visiting: www.tricare.osd.mil/deers/default.cfm or stopping by Bldg. 1209.

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.

If you have questions about TRICARE, you can call TRICARE at 1-800-444-5445 or the Health Benefits Office at 370-6633 or 1-800-652-9221.

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

This two-day class talks about topics related to a healthy lifestyle with diabetes. Guest speakers include nutritionists, podiatrists, pharmacists and physical therapists. To register, call 370-5071.

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.

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

POLICE REPORTS



- **Subject:** Specialist, 27-year-old male, Fires Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, laying drag
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 21-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charge:** Speeding 71/45
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 19-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private, 20-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Failure to maintain lane, drunken driving
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Family member, 29-year-old female
- **Charges:** Simple assault consummated by battery, disorderly conduct, communicating a threat
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 27-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Child neglect, violation of policy (child supervision)
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Simple battery, public drunkenness
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 28-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, speeding
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private, 19-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charges:** Wrongful making, altering or tampering with military identification cards
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 25-year-old female, Avn. Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of cocaine
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 23-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Battery, obstruction by fleeing, making false statement
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 26-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Failure to stop at a stop sign, driving while license suspended
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of hallucinogens
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private, 21-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Deposit account fraud
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charge:** Shoplifting
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Specialist, 27-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charge:** Driving on post suspension of driving privileges
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, Div. Spt. Bde.
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Civilian, 22-year-old female
- **Charges:** Fleeing the scene of a traffic accident, no proof of insurance

- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Family member, 25-year-old female
- **Charge:** Larceny of AAFES property
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 25-year-old male, Div. Spt. Bde.
- **Charge:** Driving under the influence
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 27-year-old male, Avn. Bde.
- **Charge:** Assault consummated with a battery
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 23-year-old male, Avn. Bde.
- **Charge:** Driving under the influence
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Specialist, 34-year-old male, Avn. Bde.
- **Charge:** Rape
- **Location:** Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 24-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Distribution of dangerous drugs, possession of cocaine, conspiracy, wrongful use of marijuana, illegal transfer of a firearm
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 23-year-old female, Avn. Bde.
- **Charges:** Simple assault, reckless conduct
- **Location:** Savannah

- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old female, 2nd Bde.
- **Charge:** Simple assault consummated with a battery
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 24-year-old male, 1st Bde.
- **Charges:** Improper parking, expired tags
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Civilian, 45-year-old mal.
- **Charge:** Criminal trespassing
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Specialist, 31-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charge:** Larceny of AAFES property
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old male, Avn. Bde.
- **Charge:** Assault consummated by battery
- **Location:** Hunter

- **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Cruelty to children, assault consummated with a battery
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Specialist, 27-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, driving while license suspended
- **Location:** Hwy. 196, Ga.

- **Subject:** Specialist, 35-year-old male, Div. Spt. Bde.
- **Charges:** Carrying a concealed weapon, failure to obey general order or regulation
- **Location:** Hinesville

- **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old male, 4th Bde.
- **Charges:** Theft by taking, giving false identity information to law enforcement officers, falsifying statements and concealing facts in matters within the jurisdiction of state police, loitering, obstructing a law enforcement officer, underage possession of alcohol
- **Location:** Statesboro, Ga.

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 24-year-old male, Div. Spt. Bde.
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, leaving the scene of a traffic accident, too fast for conditions, failure to maintain lane, expired license plate
- **Location:** Hinesville

Division Quarterly Award Winners

In order, from left to right:

Forces Command Active Duty Transportation Corps Regimental Warrant Officer of the Year

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Joseph M. Peck, Division Transportation Officer and Division G4, Headquarters and Headquarters Support Company, 3rd Infantry Division

Sergeant Audie Murphy Inductees

Sgt. 1st Class Aki Paylor, 92nd Chemical Company

Staff Sgt. Siamrath Kumnog, 1st Battalion, 39th Field Artillery Regiment

Division NCO of the Year

Staff Sgt. Thomas Kupsh, 123rd Signal Brigade

Division Soldier of the Year

Spc. Bobby Stepro, 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment (not pictured)

Division Food Service NCO of the Quarter

Sgt. Roy Dabreo, Aviation Brigade

Division Food Service Soldier of the Quarter

Pfc. Eric McClintic, 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment

DUI-Free Awards

Capt. Jim Gannon, representing 94th Maintenance Company

Sgt. 1st Class Sharon Dixon, representing Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 260th Quartermaster Regiment

Sgt. Eric Carpenter, representing A Company, 224th Military Intelligence Battalion

Capt. Michael Burke, representing 1st Detachment, 3rd Signal Company