

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

We've missed you ...



Spc. Robert Adams

Maj. Jonathan Simmons, 375th Transportation Group (Composite) logistics officer sees his wife, Tonya, and daughter, Brookelyn, for the first time since Jan. 22 during a ceremony at Jordan Gym welcoming the unit home from Iraq Tuesday. The 375th is an Army Reserve unit whose home station is in Mobile, Ala.

1-41 Soldiers learn new tactics

Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.

1st Bde. PAO

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 41st Field Artillery Regiment learned new tactics and skills during a field training exercise Sept. 22 through Sept. 29.

The objective of the FTX was to train artillery and support 1/41 Soldiers to be able to react to different situations during the upcoming deployment to Iraq.

The Soldiers of 1/41 were previously trained for a sole purpose; to fire artillery. Considering the type of enemy

they are about to face in Iraq, these Soldiers must become proficient in more than artillery tactics, said Lt. Col. Patrick M. Antonietti, 1/41 FA commander. The Soldiers were trained in urban combat, convoy defense, search and cordon tactics as well as staying proficient in artillery responsibilities.

"We wanted to take the lessons we learned at (the National Training Center) and apply them to better prepare Soldiers for the upcoming mission," Antonietti said. We also focused at the junior leader level to make sure they were proficient at conducting

operations at platoon and squad levels."

The training involved three major phases. These included training at the military operations on urbanized terrain site, in which Soldiers learned to react to enemy fire, search and clear buildings and speak with non-combatative town residents.

"The lane we conducted last week involved four different tasks," said Sgt. 1st Class Francisco Avila, 1/41 FA security officer. These tasks involved conducting an interview with the town leadership, intelligence

patrols, a checkpoint and a counter-mortar attack."

For the counter mortar attack, a command is given to fire upon a certain point on the map where the suspected mortar attackers are positioned, Avila said.

As artillerymen, these Soldiers are not familiar with dismounting their vehicles to conduct foot patrols or defend themselves from convoy positions. They had to get used to firing a .50 caliber machine gun from a moving vehicle.

See TACTICS, Page 2A



Capt. Timothy S. O'Bryant

Spc. Calvin P. Malone, Staff Sgt. Darryl Grant and Staff Sgt. Michael T. Grant from HHB, 1/41 FA guard a detainee.

Army tests blimp as eye in sky

By Sgt. 1st Class Anthony M.C. Joseph

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army experimented last week with the capabilities of a free-flying mobile aerial reconnaissance platform over the Washington, D.C., area.

The project melded already available technology, a "blimp," and the Rapid Aerostat Initial Deployment System. During the week-long demonstration, the airship flew a 24-hour endurance flight over the Pentagon and also supported a joint-force protection mission.

The demonstration was conducted by the Joint Land Attack Cruise Missile

Defense Elevated Netted Sensor Project Office, in partnership with ARINC Engineering Services LLC and the American Blimp Corporation.

"The A-170 Airship is regulated by the FAA to fly up to an altitude of 10,000 feet, but can fly higher if needed," said Raymond W. Berhalter, a principal analyst at ARINC. "Even at that height, using the RAID systems surveillance cameras and sensors, the airship platform can provide a clear and detailed view of the activity on the streets below and yet stay out of the range of many weapon systems."

Though the airship was flown by a pilot, Berhalter said it can be adapted to fly unmanned.

The airship is an extremely survivable form of air transportation, said Pam Rogers, spokesperson for the JLENS project office.

"The helium-filled balloon portion of the airship is not highly pressurized," Rogers said. "Gunshots won't burst the airship — it can actually remain buoyant for hours after suffering such a puncture."

Furthermore, unlike the Hindenburg, which was filled with hydrogen, this airship is filled with helium, she said, which is an inert gas and not flammable.

Along with the force protection and

See BLIMP, Page 3A



Sgt. 1st Class Anthony M.C. Joseph

The A-170 Airship gets prepped for flight.

Weather Forecast

FRI	High 82°	Low 62°
SAT	High 83°	Low 62°
SUN	High 82°	Low 64°

News



Semper gummy... 2A

Sports



Runnin' the rock... 1B

Life & Times



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Semper gumbby ...



Photos by Capt. Timothy S. O'Bryant

An M109A6 Paladin Howitzer from A Battery, 1/41 FA fires smoke rounds during a range exercise as part of 1/41's FTX.



Spc. Nathaniel Merejo (left) and Staff Sgt. Jason M. Massey (right), HHB, 1/41 FA take up defensive stances as they search and clear a room while Pfc. Adam G. Hall (middle) watches on at the MOUT site during a training mission. Their focus during the FTX was to train their Soldiers to be flexible and became proficient doing different tasks.

TACTICS

from page 1A

"Soldiers focused on reacting to (improvised explosive devices), movement under fire, reacting to civilians on the battlefield and calling in (casualty evacuations and medical evacuations)," said Chief Warrant Officer Joel Azpeitia, 1/41 FA targeting officer. "This is something very new to (the Soldiers), but we have been building up to this for a while. These Soldiers are used to going out to the range and being given commands to fire at far away targets."

To prepare for the combat patrol training, Soldiers practiced out on the convoy lanes ranges firing blanks and live rounds.

The final phase was maintaining the stability of their proficiency of artillery tactics. Soldiers fire artillery shells over the artillery impact range to check the accuracy of their skills.

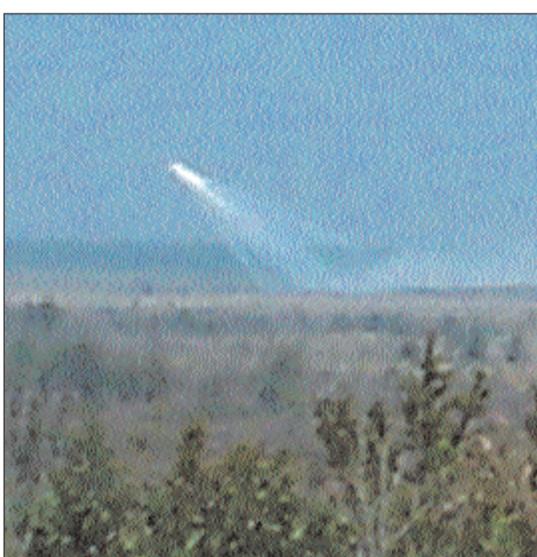
"What the artillerymen came into the Army to do and were ultimately trained on was their artillery skills," said Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Ashmen, 1/41 FA command sergeant major. "Obviously the big threat (in Iraq) is counter mortaring, so what we wanted to do was achieve superiority and be able to conduct counter mortaring missions."

The training out here has been very good, a lot of hands on experience," said Spc. Adam Ross, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1/41 FA survey specialist. "I feel that the type of training we have done out here is different from any type of training we have done before. We need training like this more often."

"The lanes we conducted during this field training exercise were actually an opportunity for artillerymen to hone in on their infantry skills," Ashmen said.

"This training definitely made the Soldiers more confident in their ability to perform the missions we are going to have to do when we deploy," said Maj. Paul Gale, 1/41 FA executive officer. "This is a new type of counter reaction training much like they are seeing in Iraq."

"Soldiers survived the hurricane weather on top of completing this training," Antonietti said. "Soldiers are more confident and lethal because of this training."



Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.

A smoke round fired by B Btry., 1/41 FA explodes over the artillery impact zone during a range exercise Sept. 29.



HHB, 1/41 FA Soldiers conduct a combat patrol outside of the MOUT site before entering the town.

New dangers arise with floated checks

Check law passed that makes clearing time almost immediate

Sandy Goss

Army News Service

FORT MONROE, Va. — Have you ever written a post-dated check?

Unless you are Donald Trump or Bill Gates you probably have.

Most of us have mortgages or rent payments due on the first of the month. Just last month you might have written your check on the 25th and dated it for the 1st before slipping it in the mail to the bank. You wanted to ensure your check arrived on time and since your Army paycheck hits the bank on the 30th, there's no problem, right? Wrong.

New policy to eliminate leeway

A young soldier's spouse tries to make it to payday but all the milk for the baby is gone so the parent goes to the commissary and does what generations of folks have frequently done, write a check based upon their "pay coming in tomorrow." Used to be they could get away with this, but after Oct. 28, they're going to get whacked — because the money will be electronically removed from the bank account as soon as the check is presented for payment. If the funds are not there, the check will be 'returned' NSF — with the associated fees.

Checks to be like debit cards

A new law goes into effect on Oct. 28, called "Check 21." You can learn about "Check 21" in exhausting detail elsewhere, but in essence, the law effectively changes our paper checks into debit cards. While the banks don't have to they can cash the check as soon as it is presented for payment (don't tell me that the payable date precludes this, checks are cashed early all the time.) If the money isn't in your account, when you actually write the check, the instant the check is presented for payment, it may bounce. Won't matter if it's for the mortgage or baby formula, your NSF check is returned. \$30

bounced check fee from the bank and another \$30 from the mortgage company or commissary. "Late Mortgage Payment" goes into your financial history, yada, yada, yada ...

Bottom Line Up Front: You can't "float" or "post-date" checks anymore. If you do, it may cost you hundreds of dollars.

Failure to adjust means paying

The advent of the technical ability to instantaneously cash a check, coupled with the ever increasing pressure facing banks to maximize profits (which come from all those nickel and dime fees everyone complains about, including bounced check charges) will provide a potential windfall of additional "profits" because a lot of people will continue to try and post-date checks or write them based upon what used to be the mechanical, time-consuming check processing practices of years gone by.

It will take these people some time to adjust - which must be viewed as a potential revenue stream for the banks and a potential financial disaster for the unwary. (While the mechanics of processing checks will change — the actual paper checks will never be returned to your bank — the electronic copies of the 'cancelled' checks will be kept for proof of payment.)

As leaders we must ensure that our Soldiers and civilians know that the Army is not the only institution undergoing massive transformation and restructuring. The entire financial industry is changing as well and we need to exhaust all available efforts to ensure that the hard-earned wages of our Soldiers are not squandered on bounced check charges.

In Installation Management Agency we are experienced in finding new ways to do business.

We must ensure our Soldiers know this: your check is now a debit card.

Chief of staff talks to reenlistees



Sharon T. Bass

Chief of Staff of the Army, General Peter J. Schoomaker, visits with reenlistees at Hunter Army Airfield while Command Sgt. Maj. William M. Grant, 3rd Infantry Division command sergeant major, and Sgt. Maj. Craig T. Lott, Command career counselor, look on.

BLIMP

from page 1A

surveillance capability, cargo lift is another potential of the airship.

"The airship can be used to transport materials and equipment across international distances and potentially land on water, making it a viable alternative to other more expensive means of transportation," Rogers said. "Propelling the helium-filled balloon uses less energy than conventional jet engines and is therefore more cost effective."

The RAID system is currently deployed in support of troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. The existing system, however, is a combination of cameras and surveillance equipment on high towers and tethered blimps.

"Height, endurance, maneuverability and stealth are key to good aerial reconnaissance," said Glenn R. Beach of the American Blimp

Corporation. "By using a RAID-equipped airship, the military could fly a controlled, quiet orbit over an area like Fallujah, day or night, and be able to locate insurgents placing explosive devices or setting up ambushes.

Information from the airship could then be sent via a ground station to Soldiers on patrol, Beach said. He explained that the ability to move from area to area allows the airship to follow targets and at the same time make it more difficult for the enemy to locate the ground station.

"And, at about \$5 million, it is a lot cheaper than other surveillance aircrafts," Beach said.

Although the Army has no current plans to purchase airships, Rogers said this technology, RAID on an airship, could represent "the next step toward a mobile force protection platform and capability."

If you accidentally discover an archaeological site on Fort Stewart:

1. Cease what you are doing immediately.
2. Notify Range Control at 767-8777.
3. Do not attempt to unearth the object or remove it.



VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Marne Seven Sends

Bravery and honor continue in Hispanic Americans

Command Sgt. Maj. William Grant
3rd Inf. Div. Sergeant Major

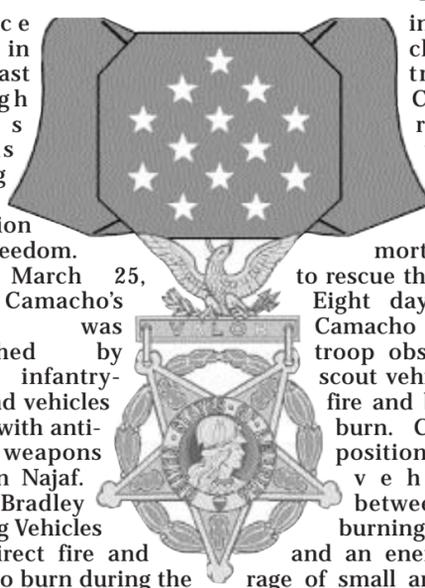
Our country continues to thrive thanks to great accomplishments by people from many cultures. While each of them maintain their distinct differences, their combined efforts perpetuate the essence of this nation. Hispanic Americans have fought valiantly in every war in United States history, earning 42 Medals of Honor and numerous other distinguished military awards.

Following in the footsteps of those before him, a former Dog Face Soldier, Sgt. 1st Class Javier Camacho, of B Troop, 3/7 Cavalry, displayed the same kind of selfless

service shown in the past through his actions during

Operation Iraqi Freedom.

On March 25, 2003, Camacho's troop was ambushed by enemy infantrymen and vehicles armed with anti-tank weapons near An Najaf. Two Bradley Fighting Vehicles took direct fire and began to burn during the ambush. As Camacho laid suppressive fire upon the enemy, he saw that the driver of one of the burn-



ing vehicles was trapped. Camacho ran through small arms and mortar fire to rescue the driver. Eight days later, Camacho and his troop observed a scout vehicle take fire and begin to burn. Camacho positioned his vehicle between the burning vehicle and an enemy barrage of small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire. After evacuating the wounded Soldiers from

the scout vehicle, Camacho's troop secured the area and destroyed the localized enemy forces. For his exceptional bravery in combat, Sgt. 1st Class Javier Camacho received the Silver Star, the military's third highest honor.

Sgt. 1st Class Camacho's actions epitomize this year's theme for National Hispanic American Heritage Month - "Hispanic Americans: Making a difference in our communities and our nation".

The Marne Division is excited about honoring the accomplishments of Hispanic Americans during National Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept. 15th through Oct. 15th.

Mission ... Soldiers ... Teamwork!!!
Marne Seven Out.

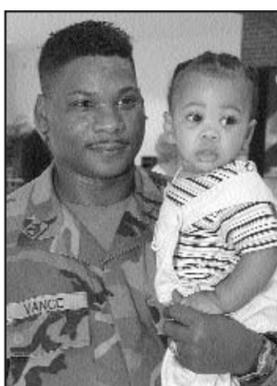
Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

"How have you been preparing for deployment?"

"I am very well prepared. Two of the things I've done are get a power of attorney for my wife and complete my wills."



Staff Sgt. Demetris Vance, with son, Jarvis
HHC, 2/6 FSB



"It's important to take care of the homefront, so your mind can be on what you're doing when you deploy."

Capt. George Glass
306 FA

Lane Down Range

Lane vs. Hurricane Jeanne

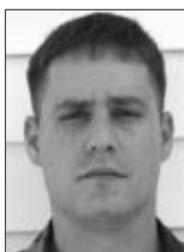
Spc. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.
1st Bde.

Commentary

There is a saying in the Army that keeps us flexible and helps us prepare for any type of situation. I am sure most of us have heard "semper gumbi." I am a true fan of this saying, and I took it to heart to prepare myself for the most rigorous of missions. The last place I thought I would have to apply this saying was on a temporary duty assignment in sunny Florida.

I flew down to Tampa September 25th to cover the dedication of a post office to Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith, Medal of Honor nominee. I have read every bit of information I could get my hands on about this hero, and I considered it an honor to be present at such an event.

The storm to smoke outside. I became impatient, so I asked the cashier if I could get something to go. On top of being seven months pregnant, the poor woman had been up for hours and dealt with a raucous crowd at the only greasy spoon in town that was open. She was so rude that I had to bite my lip and walk out of the place. I decided to look for another place to eat, and was welcomed by the glowing neon lights of Subway a few blocks away.



I settled down at an airport café and ordered some food, only to hear the announcement to board as soon as my food arrived. Of course the only place open was in the main terminal on the other side of the airport, so I had another chance to be groped by the nice security personnel. As shady looking characters were passing through unchecked, this Soldier was practically strip searched by three large, hairy women who almost drew their batons when I forgot to take off my dog tags.

Upon my arrival, after settling into my hotel room and calling our point of contact, we were informed that the event had been cancelled due to Hurricane Jeanne. Needless to say we immediately tried to get a flight back home.

So we drove to the airport only to find out all the flights had been cancelled. This was on a Saturday, and no flights would be available until Monday. We decided to try to drive the rental car to Jacksonville, Fla., but the rental car guy told us not only was the Jacksonville, Fla., office closed, but we would be driving straight through the hurricane to get there.

Subway had no bread, as their power was fluctuating on and off, so we both ordered wraps and drove back to the hotel. As I was eating my wrap, I saw a broadcaster tied to a tree on television, screaming into a microphone while floating around in the air. As I watched this brave/foolish soul, I became inspired.

I slipped on my class B uniform and ran around the hotel parking lot with a trash bag tied over the camera and myself interviewing wide eyed residents of the hotel. Shingles were being ripped loose from the rooftops and there was an old man holding the leashes of two airborne dogs trying to relieve themselves. I finally decided my mission was going to get me hurt when a large piece of flying aluminum almost smacked me in the chops.

After waiting to depart for two more hours, we were finally airborne. When we arrived in Atlanta, all flights had been cancelled. So we procured tickets for the next flight ten hours away and roamed the airport looking in closed store windows. I wanted to get some sleep, and airline personnel were passing out blankets and pillows.

There was a gaggle around the lady passing out sleep gear, and when I reached to grab a blanket, an old woman snatched it out of my hand and waddled off as fast as she could. Being delirious as I was, I gave chase. I caught up to the woman and grabbed the blanket, only to be relieved of it by two Atlanta city policemen who gave me some ridiculous lecture about how I should be ashamed of myself.

"I have a good woman who's staying back and taking care of everything while I'm gone. I have no worries; we're prepared."



Staff Sgt. Randall Boler
A Co., 703rd FSB

My battle buddy and I were at the end of our patience. We had no obvious outlet for our frustrations on the hour drive back to the hotel, so we began an emotional attack on each other, naming off every small personality flaw each other had until we arrived exhausted at the hotel.

We had sunshine and clear skies on Monday, so we went to the airport to catch our flight. The only problem was that the hurricane was now over Atlanta, so our 5 p.m. flight was pushed back six times. I actually boarded the aircraft four times and got back off again. The stewardess told us all to get something to eat and they would announce the departure over the intercom.

So I settled down on the carpet, naked to the elements. Some joker had snuck into the back and turned the thermostat to right above freezing, so after about 20 minutes I dragged myself to my feet and began to roam around the terminal like a zombie.



"I'm spending as much quality time as I can with my family."

Sgt. Jared Winegarden
B Co., 3/69 Armor

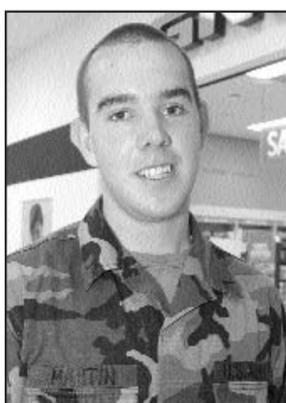
The next morning we awoke hungry and well rested to the full force of the hurricane. The only place to eat was at the International House of Pancakes. The line to get into the restaurant flowed out into the lobby of the hotel, with me and a few biker types braving

Despite what I thought before TDY, this mission became one of the hardest I have been on. I remembered my training, defeated my enemies when I was outnumbered, and beat the hurricane that had set out to destroy me. It was not TDY, it was war. War is chaos, and the Army practices chaos every day. If not for my conditioning, I don't believe I would have survived Jeanne.

"I've made sure all the bills are set up to be paid, and made sure my life insurance is paid up."

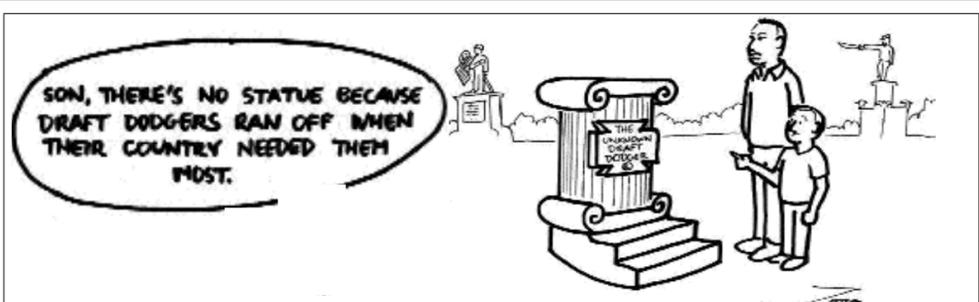


Staff Sgt. Darryl Stedman
A Co., 603rd ASB



"This is my first deployment, so I'm asking everyone lots of questions about what I need to do."

Pvt. Jonathan Martin
603rd ASB



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Write a letter to the editor!

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Army cracking down on prostitution in Korea

Pfc. Giancarlo Casem
Army News Service

SEOUL, Korea — The Eighth U.S. Army has strengthened its stance on prostitution and human trafficking. Along with crackdowns by the Korean police on brothels and prostitutes, Lt. Gen. Charles Campbell, Eighth Army commander, has aired radio commercials strongly urging Soldiers and Department of Defense employees not to associate themselves with prostitutes. Prostitution and human trafficking are demeaning acts toward women, said Capt. Kent Bennett, 2nd Infantry Division Preventive Medicine Officer. "By participating in this, a Soldier is contributing to the enslavement of women and girls from all over the world," he said. "These women aren't (often)

allowed to keep any money paid to them." DoD is pushing for a change in the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Under the proposed changes, Soldiers who are found convicted of soliciting prostitution may be dishonorably discharged. Bennett agrees with the proposed changes. "Participating in prostitution is just that much worse since you are contributing to an entire industry based on violence," Bennett said. "I think that most will see this as a change that benefits not only the U.S. military, but also honest business owners and women around the world."



South Korean authorities said Seoul's sex industry generates an estimated \$21 billion per year. A recent raid in the red light district yielded 38 arrests. Military police and KNP officers work together to provide patrols through the bars outside of military posts. The Eighth Army holds a zero-tolerance policy when it comes to prostitution and human trafficking, said Campbell. Prostitution is a problem that affects not only the relationships between the U.S. Soldiers and their Korean neighbors, but also combat readiness, said Bennett. "A Soldier who engages in

sexual relations with a prostitute risks several health effects," he said. "The majority of these risks are those one would associate with sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV, genital warts and syphilis." Bennett also added that this problem not only affects an individual Soldier, but also a larger element in general. "Even a Soldier who isn't married needs to consider the effect that getting an STD from a casual sexual encounter will have on current or future relationships," he said. With the problems that prostitution conveys, Soldiers offer different possible solutions. "Don't condone it and don't buy into it," said Sgt. Sherri Davis, 473rd Quartermaster Company. "We have a lot of other activities for Soldiers, like libraries and cyber cafes."

Summary of Permitted and Prohibited Political Activities for Federal Civilian Personnel

- May be candidates for public office in nonpartisan elections.
- May register and vote as they choose.
- May assist in voter registration drives.
- May express opinions about candidates and issues.
- May contribute money to political organizations.
- May attend political fundraising functions.
- May attend and be active at political rallies and meetings.
- May join and be an active member of a political party or club.
- May sign nominating petitions.
- May campaign for or against referendum questions, constitutional amendments, municipal ordinances.
- May campaign for or against candidates in partisan elections.
- May make campaign speeches for candidates in partisan elections.
- May distribute campaign literature in partisan elections.
- May hold office in political clubs or parties including serving as a delegate to a convention.
- May not use their official authority or influence to interfere with an election.
- May not solicit, accept, or receive political contributions unless both individuals are members of the same federal labor organization or employee organization and the one solicited is not a subordinate employee.
- May not knowingly solicit or discourage the political activity of any person who has business before the agency.
- May not engage in political activity while on duty.
- May not engage in political activity in any government office.
- May not engage in political activity while wearing an official uniform.
- May not engage in political activity while using a government vehicle.
- May not be candidates for public office in partisan elections.
- May not wear political buttons on duty.

2004 CONTRIBUTION TOTALS COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

UNIT/ORG	AMOUNT CONTRIB.	UNIT/ORG	AMOUNT CONTRIB.
UEX	.5,516.00	DPW	.2,468.00
1/3 BTB	.1,362.00	AG	.2,194.00
3/69 AR	.3,208.00	DOIM	.702.00
DIVARTY HHB	.3,594.00	DOL	.1,009.00
1/39 FA	.8,641.00	PAIO	.195.00
BTB, DSB	.1,584.00	IG	.332.02
3RD FSB	.2,568.42	SJA	.1,814.00
703RD FSB	.3,167.00	DES/3MP	.4,862.00
3RD SSB	.816.00	DPTMS	.1,961.00
HHC	.2,097.00	CPAC	.884.00
3/7 INF	.8,500.00	ED CENTER	.234.00
4/64 AR	.20,178.00	603RD ASB	.6,723.00
DENTAC	.200.00	559TH QM	.671.00
MEDDAC	.4,490.00	260TH QM	.329.00
NCO ACADEMY	.1,792.00	3/160TH SOAI	.824.00
MWR/ACS	.520.00	1/75TH RANGER	.4,701.00
DRM	.1,566.00	224 MI	.2,972.00
		HQ CO	.3,641.00
		FORT STEWART TOTAL	86,454.44
		HUNTER TOTAL	20,381.00

Coalition protects ancient site of Ur

Spc. Christa Birmingham

Army News Service

UR, Iraq — The coalition is preserving both the old and new at southern Iraq's ancient city of Ur.

Now the site of Tallil Army Air Base, Ur was the birthplace of Abraham, revered as a patriarch in the Bible, Torah and Koran. Ur was also an ancient royal burial site and boasts the Ziggurat of Nanna, a monument to the ancient Sumerian moon god.

When first conceived more than 6,000 years ago, the pyramid-like structure of the ziggurat, and its surrounding city, stood at the banks of the Euphrates River. Today, the river has since shifted several miles to the east.

Ur is located southeast of Baghdad, about halfway between Iraq's capital and the Persian Gulf.

Coalition military personnel stationed at Tallil Army Air Base are some of Ur's latest pilgrims. Every morning, tours of the site are provided to Italian, Romanian, American and other coalition forces by Dhaif Muhsen.

"I meet the world here, and this ancient city is important to the world," said Muhsen, third-generation caretaker of Ur. "It is a holy ground for all religions," he said, explaining that Islam, Christianity and Judaism all revere the site.

"My father did this before me, and my father's father did this before him," Muhsen said.

In 1922, Muhsen's grandfather began the family tradition of orally relating the history of the site. His son, only two months old, is expected to continue the tradition.

The site was originally excavated by an initiative of the British consulate in 1855, then fully excavated by a 400-man team headed by Sir Edward Wooley from 1922 to 1934.

"Behind the royal tomb is the house of the prophet Abraham," Muhsen said.

The bricks of Abraham's house were reinforced in 1999 for a visit from the Pope. Visitors can walk through the arches of the original prophet's birth place and see evidence of ancient plumbing and stairs.

Some of the more famous artifacts excavated from the tombs between Abraham's home and the ziggurat include the Golden Harp and Silver Canoe. All artifacts have



Photos by Spc. Christa Birmingham

(Above) Evidence of ancient cuneiform is still very visible on many bricks and rocks at the Ur site. This glyph is situated between the Royal Tombs and the ziggurat.

(Below) Dhaif Muhsen shows Italian and American Coalition Soldiers evidence of ancient plumbing within the birthhouse of Abraham. The home was fully restored in 1999 in preparation for a visit from the Pope.

been shipped to museums, but those touring today can experience the site's more permanent architectural features. Excavations showed that by the third millennium B.C., Sumerian architects were acquainted with the column, arch, vault and dome. Certain bricks, though weather-worn by the centuries, still exhibit carvings of ancient wedge-shaped characters, used in Sumerian writing, known as cuneiform.

Plans today are to excavate an entrance to the city.

"I do this to the benefit of Iraq," Muhsen said. He weaves between hills formed completely of ancient pottery shards, taking tourists down into the depths of certain tombs, pointing out the better bricks with ancient evidence of cuneiform, and ends the tour with the house of Abraham.

Unfortunately, Muhsen said, not many Iraqis visit now, since it is past the checkpoints for Tallil.

"Not many Iraqis could visit with Saddam. But plans to allow Iraqis to visit are being set up for the future."



POLICE REPORTS

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 23-year-old male, 4th Bde.
 • **Charge:** Simple assault
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 19-year-old male, 1st Bde.
 • **Charges:** Drunken driving, underage drinking, reckless driving, possession of open container while operating a vehicle
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private, 19-year-old male, 1st Bde.
 • **Charges:** Communicating a threat, failure to obey order or regulation
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, 1st Bde.
 • **Charges:** Drunken driving, careless and reckless driving, speeding (85/55), improper lane usage
 • **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, 2nd Bde.

• **Charges:** Driving under the influence, failure to yield right of way while turning left
 • **Location:** Hinesville

• **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old male, 4th Bde.
 • **Charge:** Altered identification card
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Sergeant, 28-year-old male, separate battalion
 • **Charges:** Driving under the influence, speeding 46/35
 • **Location:** Richmond Hill

• **Subject:** Family member, 32-year-old female
 • **Charges:** Assault, battery
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old female, separate battalion
 • **Charge:** Improper backing
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private, 26-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
 • **Charges:** Improper backing,



failure to wear seatbelt
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Family member, 33-year-old female
 • **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, following too closely
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 23-

year-old male, separate battalion

• **Charge:** Driving under the influence
 • **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old male, 1st Bde.
 • **Charge:** Driving under the influence
 • **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Specialist, 27-year-old male, 2nd Bde.
 • **Charges:** Driving under the influence (alcohol), improper lane change, speeding 73/45
 • **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 21-year-old male, 4th Bde.
 • **Charge:** Minor possession of alcohol
 • **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 20-year-old male, 4th Bde.
 • **Charges:** Obstruction of justice, obstruction by fleeing
 • **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old male, Avn. Bde.
 • **Charges:** Driving under the influence, laying drag
 • **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old male, 4th Bde.
 • **Charges:** Driving under the influence, no drivers license on person
 • **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old female, Avn. Bde.
 • **Charges:** Simple battery, obstruction of law enforcement officer
 • **Location:** Savannah

• **Subject:** Private 1st Class, 21-year-old male, 1st Bde.
 • **Charge:** Driving under the influence (alcohol)
 • **Location:** Beaufort, S.C.

• **Subject:** Civilian, 41-year-old male
 • **Charge:** Improper backing
 • **Location:** Fort Stewart

IRAQI PHRASES

Commands, Warnings and Instructions

For the past several issues, the Frontline has published some Iraqi phrases which are extremely helpful and frequently used. This is the last in the series:

Danger
kha-Tar

We are here to help you
iH-na ih-na Hat-ta in-saa-dak

Help is on the way
el-mu-saa-da bil-Tareeq

We are Americans
iH-na-am-ri-kan

You are safe
in-ta ib-'aman

OK, no problem
zein, makuu mush-kila

Who?
mi-nuu?

What?

shi-nuu

When?

ish-wakit?

Where?

wayn?

Why?

leish?

How?

shloun?

What happened?

Ish-Sar?

Do you have...?

aand-kum/aad-kum?

Do you need help?

taH-taj-uun mu-saa-da?

I am

A-nee

You are (male)

in-ta

You are (female)

in-ti

You are

in-tuu

He/She is

huu-wa/hee-yah

We are

iH-na

They are

hum-na

3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

Commissary Council
The Stewart Commissary Council, which provides the Commissary manager with customer insights, will hold its quarterly meeting Oct. 27, 9 a.m. at the Stewart Commissary. The council encourages all authorized patrons to attend.

Beauty Shop Murder Mystery
Enlisted Spouses' Club invites you to participate in fun, food, door prizes and "A Social to Die For", Friday, Oct. 15 at Club Stewart. The event is adults only and the cost is \$10. Come dressed in outrageous wigs, extreme make-up, big earrings, era clothing or as a celebrity. For more information contact Jennifer Hatcher at 876-1272 or email jbhatcher@comcast.net.

Youth Center
New activities for CYS members provided by Youth Presidential Fitness Club, grades 6 to 12 at 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mondays. Call 767-4491 for more information.

Women's Conference
MWR and ACS is sponsoring their Annual Women's Conference — "Take Action", Oct. 25, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Club Stewart. Conference is open to the public and free.

The conference will offer classes such as: Resourcing Employment Opportunities, Women's Beauty Tips, Strong Women for Life, Investments, Hot Monogamy and Bedroom Conversations and Cooking.

Golf Scramble
The golf scramble is being held at Taylors Creek Golf Course, Oct. 16, 1 p.m. shotgun. Registration deadline is Oct. 14. Members' fee is \$20 and non members \$25.

Spend One Million Dollars
The Garrison Commander is looking for suggestions on how to spend the \$1,000,000 Award money Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield won in the 2004 Army Community of Excellence (ACOE) Award Program.

The only rule is the money must be used to benefit the majority. For example, the reader boards at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield were purchased with \$200,000 that was won in 2000.

Suggestions must be submitted by Oct. 30. You can submit your suggestions two ways: call the 767-6228, or submit your suggestion through ICE at <http://ice.disa.mil>.

For more information contact Ms. Janet Blanks 767-8800.

Hunter

Women's Conference
MWR and ACS is sponsoring their Annual Women's Conference — "Take Action", Oct. 21, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Hunter Club. Conference is open to the public and free. The conference offers classes such as: Resourcing Employment Opportunities, Women's Beauty Tips, Strong Women for Life, Investments, Hot Monogamy and Bedroom Conversations and Cooking.

Business Expo Luncheon
The Hunter Spouses Club is sponsoring a Home Based Business Expo Luncheon at Hunter Club, Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Booths available for private vendors, both military and non-military. Nonprofit organization booths are free, others are \$25 with a \$5 deduction if you donate an opportunity prize. For more information contact Leigh Musiol at 756-6442.

Hurricane Assistance
You can help the victims of Hurricane Charley and thousands of other disasters across the country each year by making a financial gift to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund, which enables the Red Cross to provide shelter, food, counseling and other assistance to those in need. Call 1-800-HELP NOW or

1-800-257-7575 (Spanish). Internet users can make a secure online contribution by visiting WWW.REDCROSS.ORG.

Town Hall Meeting
The quarterly Town Hall meeting is scheduled for Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. in the Army Community Service building ballroom. Senior leaders of the garrison staff will be in attendance to share information with members of the military community and to hear your concerns.

Southside Arms of Comfort
Southside Arms of Comfort is designed to support military families by scheduling events and activities and providing fun ways to help you through times of separation and hardship. Meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at Southside Assembly of God, 401 Tibet Ave., Savannah. For more information, call Esther Vargas at 961-6530/656-0667.

Soldier Show
The free 90-minute Soldier Show, "The Heart of a Soldier," is scheduled for Oct. 13, 7 p.m. at the DAACG. The general public is invited to attend an evening of very entertaining and talented Soldiers. For more information, call 352-6816.

Winn / Tuttle

Veterinary Walk-in Clinic
Saturday, Oct. 16, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Fort Stewart Veterinary Clinic is having a walk-in clinic for vaccines only on a first come first serve basis. For the safety of everyone cats must be in a carrier and dogs must be on a leash. For more information call 767-4194/2842.

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

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, stopping by Bldg. 1209 or visiting www.tricare.osd.mil/deers/default.cfm.

EDIS
The 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 370-6370.

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.

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

Marne TV

October 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
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

DeCA marks 13 years of service

Dr. Peter Skirbunt

DeCA Historian

FORT LEE, Va. — To commissary customers, 13 is a lucky number.

Thirteen years ago, in order to improve efficiency and increase taxpayer savings, Congress and the Department of Defense created the Defense Commissary Agency by consolidating the military services' retail grocery operations into one organization. Today, the agency, popularly known as DeCA, continues to save taxpayer dollars while preserving a vital military benefit that is important to the recruiting and retention of military personnel.

While Oct. 1 marks the agency's 13th anniversary, the commissary benefit itself is actually 137 years old. Congress authorized the Army to sell food items, at cost, to officers and enlisted men beginning July 1, 1867. These sales were authorized at every Army post with a subsistence warehouse. Sales areas were simple consisting of a table or counter in the warehouse, and sales were limited to an official stock list of 82 items, but this was the start of the modern commissary benefit.

In the last 13 years, customer savings have increased, store facilities have been upgraded, and more people became eligible to enjoy the benefit. In 1991, commissaries provided an average customer savings of 20 percent when compared with local grocery chains; today, the average savings is over 30 percent.



During those same 13 years, to provide military families with a shopping experience comparably pleasant to stores in the civilian sector, the agency opened 86 new stores, remodeled or made major renovations on 53 existing stores, and upgraded and deca anniversary-2-2-2-2 modernized over a hundred more. The number of items stocked by commissaries has also increased, from about 13,000 in the largest stores in 1991 to 17,000 in the big stores today. More recently, National Guard and Reserve personnel, always key components of the military, have been given full-

time commissary benefits.

Commissaries provide a substantial savings, they enable military families to make ends meet in areas where the cost of living is high, and they bring a morale-building "taste of home" feeling by providing familiar American food products in overseas locations. They are highly valued by service families and are a major incentive to reenlistment. Patrick Nixon, DeCA's chief executive officer, says commissaries have become increasingly important since the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

"There is now recognition of how the commissary benefit helps our people in uniform, wherever they are stationed. When forces deploy, the families left behind depend upon their local community services, including the commissaries, to see them through tough, nervous, lonely times," Nixon said.

With 13 years of experience and 137 years of heritage behind it, the Defense Commissary Agency is ready to continue providing this highly valued military benefit for years to come.

ASK THE JUDGE

Law of War Training

Capt. Jacob Lilly

Special to The Frontline

Q: The unit training schedule lists the law of war as training for next month. What is the law of war? Where does it come from and who says it is law?

A: The law of war is the regulation of hostilities on land, sea or air. It was developed through the Hague and the Geneva Conventions which are international treaties which our country has signed. Under the constitution, these treaties are the supreme law of the land and must be obeyed. The secretary of the Army has promulgated Field Manual 27-10, which sets out these rules and requires American Soldiers to observe them. Many of the prohibitions in these conventions are also crimes under the Uniform Code of Military Justice to which every Soldier is subject.

Q: This all seems really boring to me, so what can I expect the instructor to discuss?

A: The instructor will discuss several topics to include, your rights, duties and obligations under the Hague and

Geneva Conventions and the customary law of war. These topics will include a discussion of forbidden targets, tactics, and techniques, treatment of enemy prisoners of war, other captured and detained personnel and civilians, and private property, caring for the sick and wounded, punishment for violations, and your duty to report law of war violations.

Q: A Soldier in another unit, told me that they went to the field and conducted law of war/rules of engagement training. Why can't we just train in the classroom?

A: Guidance from the commanding general changed training requirements Army Regulation 350-1. Commanders will integrate law of war training (including guidance on Soldiers rules) into unit activities. This will include leadership reaction lanes using realistic scenarios. A Judge Advocate will provide assistance as necessary including developed scenarios.

Q: That same Soldier also told me that he does not understand why we should obey the Hague and Geneva Conventions when the enemy

does not obey them?

A: There are several reasons why we as American's obey the law even if others do not. First, as Soldiers, we obey orders and the President, as Commander-in-Chief, has ordered all US forces to obey the law of War. Second; we hope that our obeying these rules will pressure the enemy into complying with the law of war. Third, complying with the Law of War helps us achieve our objectives more quickly and with less cost. An enemy is more likely to surrender if he knows he will be treated humanely than if he believes he will be tortured and an enemy nation will be more willing to negotiate if its religious and cultural property have not been unjustifiably been destroyed.

Q: What is the difference between the law of war and the rules of engagement we are taught?

A: The Rules of Engagement are orders from the chain of command telling Soldiers when to use force. The rules of engagement you receive will have been reviewed by a Judge Advocate to ensure they comply with the law of war.

Public Notice

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations will conduct an accreditation survey of Winn Army Community Hospital on Nov. 16 to Nov. 19.

The purpose of the survey will be to evaluate the organization's compliance with nationally established Joint Commission standards. The survey results will be used to determine whether, and the conditions under which accreditation should be awarded the organization.

Joint Commission standards deal with organizational quality of care issues and the safety of the environment in which care is provided. Anyone believing that he or she has pertinent and valid information about such matters may request a public information interview with the Joint Commission's field representatives at the time of survey. Information presented at the interview will be carefully evaluated for relevance to the accreditation process. Requests for

a public information interview must be made in writing and should be sent to the Joint Commission no later than five working days before the survey begins. The requests must also indicate the nature of the information to be provided at the interview. Such requests should be **addressed** to:

*Division of Accreditation Operations
Office of Quality Monitoring
Joint Commission on Accreditation of
Healthcare Organizations
One Renaissance Boulevard
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181*

faxed to 630-792-5636 or E-mailed to

complaint@jcaho.org

The Joint Commission will acknowledge such request in writing or by telephone and will inform the organization of the request for any interview. The organization will, in turn, notify the interviewee of the date, time, and place of the meeting.

Recruiters celebrate command's 40th anniversary

Pearl Ingram

Army News Service

FORT KNOX, Ky. — Army recruiters across the country shined their brass and pulled on their dress blue uniforms early Friday morning for observances to celebrate 40 years of U. S. Army Recruiting Command history.

Cake-cutting ceremonies were in order at Recruiting Command's five brigade headquarters located at Fort Meade, Md.; Fort Gillem, Ga.; Fort Knox, Ky.; Fort Sam Houston, Texas; and North Las Vegas, Nev. The 41 recruiting battalions celebrated as well, and at the Recruiting Command headquarters located at Fort Knox, a formal ceremony took place.

A similar such ceremony had taken place Oct. 1, 1964, to celebrate the activation of the new command at Fort Monroe, Va.

"I am told it was a beautiful day, said Maj. Gen. Michael Rochelle, present recruiting commander. "I'm also told that the waves were lapping up on the sea wall at Continental Park. And a special flag was unfurled on that day."

The special flag was presented to Brig. Gen. Leonidas Gavalas, the first commanding general of U.S. Army Recruiting Command.

"I can think of nothing more worthy than rendering honorable service to our country," wrote Gavalas in a letter to recruiting personnel. "Army recruiting personnel have served their country honorably and well beginning with The General Recruiting Service in 1822, a year which marked the first organized recruiting activity of the United States Army."

Prior to the establishment of a national headquarters to carry out the mission of "Providing the Strength" for the Army, recruiting new enlistees took place under the U.S. Army Recruiting Service.

When formed in 1964, the Army Recruiting Command was organized into six Recruiting Districts and attached to the six continental U.S. Armies for administrative and logistical support. Once the activation ceremony was completed, commanders of the six continental armies were no longer responsible to carry out the recruiting mission for their units.

Authorized strength for the new headquarters was established at 23 officers, one warrant officer, 18 enlisted Soldiers, and 50



Wall Kloeppe

Dignitaries at U.S. Army Recruiting Command's 40th anniversary ceremony cut the celebration cake Friday at Fort Knox, Ky. From left to right are Randall Pais, Civilian Aide Texas East; retired Lt. Gen. Dennis Cavin, former commander; Maj. Gen. Michael Rochelle, commander; Jerry Cecil, Civilian Aide Kentucky East; retired Lt. Gen. Allen Ono, former commander; Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Harold Blount; Stephen Morris, Civilian Aide, Michigan; and Robert Spanogle, Civilian Aide Indiana.

civilians. Its mission was to manage recruitment of enlisted personnel for the active Army. The command was also responsible for special programs, which was for the procurement of personnel for the Army Nurse Corps and the Women's Army Corps.

The draft was in effect at this time, and it

was nine years later before the draft ended and the Recruiting Command took on responsibility for recruiting an all-volunteer Army.

Today's Recruiting Command has more than 6,000 Active and Reserve recruiters in nearly 1,700 stations across America. They have successfully met the Department of

the Army's recruiting mission for the past five years. This past fiscal year, the Army recruited more than 77,000 active Soldiers and more than 21,000 Army Reserve Soldiers.

The Army's recruiting mission for fiscal year 2005 is 80,000 active Soldiers and 22,175 Army Reserve Soldiers.

Veteran policeman walks to same beat, different uniform

Jennifer Wingfield

Managing Editor

An example of a military to civilian change without missing a beat can be found in the deputy provost marshal at Hunter Army Airfield.

Kevin Charles, who retired from the Army in March as the Operations sergeant major for the 3rd Military Police Battalion, is currently in that position. As a civilian, Charles now oversees military and civilian police officers who provide assistance and protection to the community.

Charles also provides support to commanders to make sure Hunter is a secure installation for the people who live and

work there.

Charles holds one of the military police positions that are under conversion to civilians. As these conversions occur, Soldiers can be released from those borrowed manpower positions so that they can be out training for the fight, Charles said.

Even though a military deputy occupied the position, Charles still has mixed emotions. "Having 22 years as a military policeman, I inherently think of certain jobs as being for the 'green suiter,'" Charles said. "However understanding the environment we find ourselves in nowadays, we have to be conscious of the fact that we cannot do business the way we have before. We just don't have

the manpower to do all the missions that have been tasked upon the military police corps, so we have to change the way we do business and the way to do that is to hire civilians in critical spots."

Charles added his reasoning for the change. "Number one, it frees up Soldiers to go out and do their other missions. Number two is for the continuity factor. No matter what the position, the Army is always rotating Soldiers in and out. A lot of times, the wheel is re-invented when someone new comes in. Continuity helps eliminate some of that."

Charles works directly on the Hunter garrison commander's staff. With the ear of the commander, he can assist, provide advice, and develop plans for any major thing that requires any type of security. One example would be security requirements for the installation's emergency evacuation procedures, for instance a hurricane.

After being hired in May, he immediately began to make his mark with the historic G-8 Summit. Even though their primary involvement was installation access control, Charles and his police force worked in liaison with the Savannah Police Department and Secret Service for all aspects of the summit. They found themselves as escorts to world leaders and other VIPs and dignitaries.

When Charles first came into the military after being impressed by his recruiter who had a military police background, there was a heavy emphasis on law enforcement. "That shift has changed drastically due to the environment we are in now. We are not so heavy in law enforcement because we just don't have enough military police to support the garrison law enforcement and the war mission," Charles said. "There is

more focus on battlefield type training to keep the Soldier alive out there on the field versus law enforcement."

Charles also noted how he has seen the technical age come into play from 20-plus years ago. "Back then there were manual typewriters. Radio logs were kept manually. Forms were completed with carbon paper."

"Normally there was always some civilian in an admin position. But as far as desk operations, military police investigations, traffic, and operations cells, they were 100 percent military. That has gradually changed over the years. A lot of the MPI and traffic sections have civilians running the office, Charles said.

Charles worked his way up the enlisted ranks in the military police corps. He has been a patrolman, desk/platoon/company operations/drill sergeant, team/squadron leader, first sergeant, and sergeant major. He has had tours of duty in overseas assignments in Germany, Korea, Cuba, and Iraq. His stateside tours found him at Fort McClelland, Fort Leonardwood, Fort Belvoir, Fort Dietrich, Fort Sill, and at the Department of the Army Inspector General Office in Washington, D.C.

Even though he now calls Richmond Hill his home, Charles still manages to find a way to his hometown of Skidmore, Mo. at least once a year. School work with sons Kristopher and Tyler, along with a little lawn mowing, keeps him busy when he is not wearing the deputy provost marshal hat.

Charles acknowledges the former and present Soldiers and civilians that work with him as a great motivator. "I have seen them from all over the country, from all different backgrounds. They have done great things with limited assets and time."



Jennifer Wingfield

Kevin Charles (left), deputy provost marshal, discusses a police operation with Hunter desk sergeant Todd Stratton.

Visit to village spreads smiles and good feelings

Cpl. Benjamin Cossel
122ND Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

BAGHDAD — Visiting the village of Al Shab in Baghdad's Adhamiyah district, Soldiers of the 39th Brigade Combat Team delivered toys, clothes, and school supplies to spread good will and bring some relief to residents in this, one of Adhamiyah's most destitute regions, Sept 28. One of the oldest districts in Baghdad, the Sunni stronghold of Adhamiyah, was favored by Saddam Hussein, thus money flowed into the area and the region flourished, but not so for the people living on the outskirts of the district. "The residents of this area are some of the poorest in what is considered a reasonably well-to-do district," explained Maj. Gordon McCoy, an assistant civil affairs officer for the brigade. "So, we're out here today to try and bring relief in small ways, with clothing and shoes and even some basic first aid items."

The rows of houses are an island surrounded on all sides by what is the de facto landfill for the region. In the rear of this island stands a sewage treatment plant that engineers with the 39th's civil affairs Soldiers are currently working to bring on-line. Until the work on the

plant is complete, untreated sewage snakes a river through the landscape, its inescapable odor mixing with that of the burning garbage. "You can just look around you and see what these people live in and are surrounded by," said the Forrest City, Ark. resident pointing to the mountains of burning refuse as he stepped over raw sewage to get to the back of his vehicle. "This is actually the second time we've come to this area since we arrived in country."

The first time, we were met with apprehension, but folks really warmed up to us when they realized we were here to help." McCoy went on to explain that in addition to toys and school supplies, the days mission included delivering basic first aid items.

"When last we were here, many of the children we saw had some pretty bad cuts along their legs and feet."

"As we give out the toys and such to the children, we've also gathered up some shoes to give them and items such as anti-microbial ointments, bandages and bottles of hydrogen peroxide."

As the trunks popped open revealing boxes and boxes of treasure, residents crowded around the Soldiers eager to take something home. Soldiers worked diligently to

maintain order and control to ensure that each person who approached them received something.

"Basically we're trying to bring a glimmer of sunshine to an otherwise desolate environment," noted McCoy.

"And with that, we can hopefully have an effect on how the people of this area view Multi-National forces. If we give them another view of Multi-National Forces, perhaps they won't be so easy to convince when Anti-Iraqi Forces try to spread their propaganda and convince them to do us [Multi-National Forces] harm."

In addition to the goodwill fostered in the hearts of the Iraqi people, Soldiers acting as escort security for the delivery left the experience with a warm feeling. "These are the type of missions you really like to do," explained Cpl. James Rice, of Stuttgart, Ark., working with Company A of the 39th BCT's 39th Support Battalion. "Too often you hear about Soldiers getting hurt and all the bombings and everything going on around you. It's easy to get disheartened and forget why we are here. You see the look in those kids eyes and the moms and dads thanking you for what you are doing and it makes it all worth it."



Cpl. Benjamin Cossel

Col. Roger McClellan, civil affairs officer, 39th Brigade Combat Team hands candy to children of the Al-Shab village during a visit to the area Sept 28. Members of the 39th BCT's civil affairs office visited the region in an effort to bring relief to one of Baghdad's poorest regions with toys, candy and clothes for children and first aid items for parents and adults.

CENTCOM News

MNF-1 strikes in Fallujah

FALLUJAH — Multi-National Force-Iraq struck an Abu Musab al-Zarqawi safe house in southwest Fallujah this morning. Credible intelligence sources confirmed Zarqawi leaders were meeting at the safe house at the time of the strike. The precision strike occurred at 2:31 a.m. Central Baghdad Time.

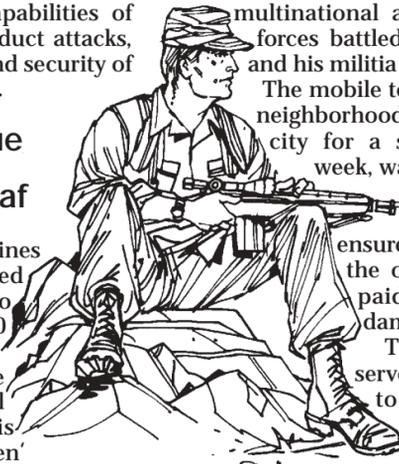
Intelligence sources confirmed that the safe house was being used by the group to meet and plan attacks against Iraqi civilians, Iraqi Security Forces, and Multi-National Forces.

Removing these criminals from Iraq and active service to Abu Musab al-

Zarqawi, diminishes the capabilities of the terrorist network to conduct attacks, and strengthens the safety and security of the sovereign country of Iraq.

Marines continue condolence payments in Najaf

FOB DUKE, Iraq — Marines from the 11th MEU dispatched a mobile payment team to neighborhoods in Najaf for 10 hours yesterday, making \$176,180 worth of "on the spot" solatia and collateral damage payments to Iraqis caught in the crossfire when



multinational and Iraqi security forces battled Muqtada al-Sadr and his militia in August.

The mobile team, which visited neighborhoods throughout the city for a second time this week, was created to expedite payments and ensure all Najafis have the opportunity to get paid for legitimate damage.

The mobile team serves as an augment to enhance weekly payouts held at the Government

Information Center, which began Sept. 20.

Since then, more than \$570,000 has been paid to 533 Najafis. Payments will continue as long as needed to meet each valid case.

Condolence payments, or solatia, are given to express sympathy for injury or death. Collateral damage repair payments are intended to cover damage to homes, businesses or other property.

"We've gone mobile to ensure every Najafi gets the opportunity to get quickly compensated for legitimate losses or injury," said Col. Anthony M. Haslam, commanding officer, 11th MEU. "We're thinking outside the box to expedite a slow process, motivated by the desire to make life better for the locals."



Sgt. Raymond Piper

Lt. Col. Tom Climer, Avn. Bde. operations officer, recounts his experiences on Sept. 11, 2001 to the Soldiers gathered for the Patriot's Day ceremony.

Patriot Day ceremony recalls 9/11 attacks

Sgt. R. James Piper

3rd Inf. Div.

The Aviation Brigade came together Saturday to remember the events of Sept. 11, 2001 and reflect on why the Soldiers will be deploying to Iraq.

"Every one of us has a story and remembers where we were at on Sept. 11, 2001," said Lt. Col. Jeff Opperman, Avn. Bde. Executive officer.

For Lt. Col Tom Climer, the brigade operations officer and keynote speaker, the events of Sept. 11, 2001, were experienced first-hand at the Pentagon.

"The events of that day are seared into our minds," Climer said.

He was working as part of the Army staff when the attacks occurred and he said his office was around the corner from G1, which was where the plane struck the Pentagon.

Climer said that he and

his coworkers were watching the attacks on the World Trade Center on television.

"I knew the nation was under attack, but I didn't know we would be next," he said.

The plane struck less than 100 yards away from the Pentagon's medical clinic, where Climer was for an appointment.

He said when the plane hit, the building shook like there was an earthquake, and as the personnel evacuated, things became chaotic. People were unsure of what exactly happened.

"It wasn't until two hours later that I made a connection that it was a plane that hit the Pentagon like the World Trade Center," Climer said.

The ceremony wasn't just to remember the losses of that day, but also how the attacks helped unite the nation and recognize the selfless service of the armed

forces.

"That day millions of Americans came to the aid of the nation, some through money and materiel, others with direct aid," Climer said.

For him, it was someone lending him a cell phone so he could call his wife, and later on, someone dropping him off at his house.

"Actions guided by a common belief were the greatest gift on that day," Climer said.

The nation emerged more steadfast in its beliefs and protect its values, he said.

He told the Soldiers gathered at the ceremony, "You keep the nation free through the hard and dangerous work. Without your service, the nation wouldn't remain free.

"There are many who are capable to serve, but only you have accepted the responsibility and are working so the losses of Sept. 11 and fellow Soldiers were not in vain."

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