

UTAH MINUTEMAN

UTAH NATIONAL GUARD JOINT MAGAZINE

AN UPDATE OF THE ACTIVITIES
OF UNITS, INDIVIDUALS AND
ASSOCIATED FUNCTIONS
OF THE JOINT UTAH
NATIONAL GUARD
THROUGHOUT
THE WORLD



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Utah Minuteman

Connecting the Pieces

Fall 2004

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The Adjutant General's Corner



Message from The Adjutant General

I had to chuckle when I heard a recent statement comparing the transformation of the Army and the Air Force while simultaneously fighting the “Global War on Terrorism” as being like building a space craft while flying it into space. It seems like an apt description.

Over the past two weeks, I have been involved in meetings to determine the future of the National Guard. The future of the Air Guard is being sketched out in the “vanguard” process, while the Army is transforming under the tireless efforts of the Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Schoomacher. These initiatives are well underway, and fortunately, we are well positioned to succeed.

Nonetheless, we must remember that our most important assets are our superb soldiers and airmen. Whatever our roles and missions, whatever our equipment, we will not succeed without the vital contribution of our personnel, their families, and their employers.

Due to the great efforts of many, our great Air National Guard is



photo by State Staff

Major General Brian L. Tarbet, The Adjutant General of Utah

preparing for the future by growing in areas that involve sunrise missions. Intelligence, information warfare, and airspace management will perfectly compliment our traditional missions of refueling and construction.

On the Army side, part of the reason for our high level of mobilization is that our force mix is ideally suited for the task at hand. In other words, we are already well into transformation and well positioned for the future.

In addition to our warfighting responsibilities, we will maintain a strong capability to carry out our state mission. It is necessary to acquire, retain and enhance a robust capability in the areas of medical, engineering, transportation, aviation and military police. Such capacities already exist or are being acquired in the near term.

Thank you for all you do and for the great dedication you offer the nation and the state of Utah.

Joint Forces and Army Enlisted Comments



photo by State Staff

Dell K. Smith, Command Sergeant Major of the Utah Army National Guard

This past week I had the opportunity to visit some of our soldiers currently training at Fort Bliss in preparation to go overseas. These soldiers are training to perform missions that are not related to their MOS. The soldiers from Company C, 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion are training to be the PROPHET platoon for the 216th MI Company as part of the 116th Brigade. The PROPHET system is a mobile system to track signal intelligence. They are training hard and have just received the vehicles and equipment required to complete their mission. The soldiers from the 148th Field Artillery are also training at Fort Bliss to be used as infantry soldiers.

They are training hard every day and have a great attitude and strong commitment to their mission. These are just a couple of examples of the caliber of soldiers we have and their commitment to accomplish any mission or assignment. I am amazed and impressed, however not surprised, at the dedication of the members (both soldiers and airmen) of the Utah National Guard.

Of all the great things happening around us, there are a few issues that all of us need to be concerned about: First, privately owned vehicle accidents continue to be the leading cause of deaths throughout the military. Every soldier and airman should do everything

in their power to make sure they are operating a vehicle safely. Always wear seat belt, slow down, and don't be one of those aggressive drivers. Remember that all tactical military vehicles will be chocked when they are parked. Second, we need to work on standards and courtesies. We all belong to the military, and as such, we have a commitment to follow and enforce standards. Everyone needs to wear their uniforms in accordance with applicable regulations, with emphasis on headgear. Military courtesy should be extended to all officers. Enlisted soldiers and airmen should never pass an officer without rendering a salute. Remember who you are and what you stand for and be proud of the military organization that you represent.

Soldiers should be aware that a uniform change is coming. All soldiers in the active and reserve component, regardless of unit or function, will be issued the new Army Combat Uniform (ACU) by December 2007. The ACU will improve survivability, safety, mobility and sustainability to dominate in all operational environments by providing state-of-the-art operationally effective individual clothing. The ACU will decrease the "out of pocket" cost burden on soldiers by replacing the three types of battle dress uniforms (BDU) with one weight, wash and wear uniform. The ACU will be similar to the pattern the Marines currently wear.

Thanks to the soldiers, airmen, and their families for your commitment and sacrifice. The past events have brought on a new and challenging assignment that we have never seen before in this organization. I appreciate each of you and it is a pleasure to serve with you.

Back to Basic - - Lackland Air Force Base

By Tech. Sgt. Sterling S. Poulson

The Utah Air National Guard Command Chiefs, along with two recruiters and eight other staff members, made a trip to Lackland Air Force Base Basic Military Training Center in March, in an effort to understand the challenges and problems encountered by Utah ANG recruits.

“The day begins at 4:45 a.m. and ends at 9:00 p.m., seven days a week, rain or shine.” said Chief Master Sgt. William Seiler, Air National Guard Liaison. “Believe it or not, trainees spend most of their time sleeping;: 313 hours.” In addition, recruits get over 100 hours of physical readiness



Basic training graduation at Lackland AFB, Texas, March 2004



Basic training graduation run at Lackland AFB, Texas, March 2004

training and drill, and another 90 hours in the classroom.

Currently there are 456 instructors, of which 13 percent are female. Over 45,000 troops are trained annually. The monthly food costs are \$1.3 million.

Over the years the surroundings have changed, but the discipline and the toughness of training still remain.

One of the most obvious changes is Warrior Week, where trainees are put through a rigorous seven-day program. Upon completion, they are certified in chemical and biological warfare defense and awarded the title of Airman. The program includes actual field deployment conditions, M-16 training, and a diet of MREs for lunch.

Failure is not all that common, primarily because trainees are given additional chances to succeed. Surprisingly, only one-half of one percent fail the physical training portion of basic. A higher percentage drops out due to medical

problems.

The Air National Guard has sent 1,667 recruits to basic training so far this year, and nearly 5,000 guard members made it through the training last year.

“They are full of energy, pride and a willingness to excel after basic and tech school,” said Master Sgt Joni Paiz, Production Recruiter with State Headquarters. “It is our job to keep up that motivation and enthusiasm as they come back into our units.”

“One of the highlights of the trip was the airman’s run,” said Chief Master Sgt. Ocana, Utah ANG Command Chief, “It was awe-inspiring to see nearly 1,000 airmen running past family and friends with a sense of pride in who they were and what they had accomplished.”



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Sterling Poulson

Airman 1st Class Timothy Smith, 151st Services Flight, completed 134 pushups in the two minute time limit, during warrior week, earning him first place.

1457th Engineer Battalion's Unexpected Turn of Events

Information from 122nd MPAD in Baghdad used to compile this story



Sign designating 1457th LSA

The 1457th Engineer Battalion was expecting to return home in early May 2004 after being mobilized on February 2, 2003. The Battalion had successfully conducted over 400 combat engineer missions in the war zone while assigned to Task Force Baghdad. The commander of their higher headquarters (Col. Lou L. Marich, Commander, 1st Armored Division's Engineer Brigade) gave the following speech at the transfer of authority ceremony:

“Distinguished guests, Iraqi friends, and fellow sappers and soldiers, thank you for joining us for this transition of authority ceremony between the 1457th Engineer Battalion and the 458th Engineer Battalion. Today is a day of mixed emotions for the brigade. We say good-bye to the pioneers of the 1457th and give welcome to the 458th Gators.

The pioneers, under the leadership of Lt. Col. Jeff Burton and Command Sgt. Maj. Thornton, have served as the Division's “911” engineer battalion. When a brigade combat team needed additional engineer support, when the Division needed combat engineer missions completed, or when a crisis



Lt. Col. Jeff Burton Commander of the 1457th Engineer Battalion called for a rapid engineer response we called upon the 1457th. And in every case, no matter how difficult the conditions, the Battalion accomplished its mission with a degree of professionalism, aggressiveness, and determination that was second to none. The Battalion has earned a reputation for excellence and performance that far exceeds any other engineer battalion that I have had the opportunity to serve

Photos provided by 1457th Engr. Bn.
with or observe – active or reserve component.

The Battalion literally “hit the ground running” upon its arrival in Baghdad in May by conducting tunnel reconnaissance missions here on Baghdad International Airport. The pioneer sappers mapped over 8,000 meters of tunnels. When the Division needed rapid engineer support to excavate the bombing site where we may have killed Saddam Hussein, the Division called upon the 1457th. In only five days the Battalion painstakingly removed over 4,800 tons of rubble from the site and restored the site back as an empty lot. During the mission the Battalion's sappers drove over 15,000 miles on dangerous and hostile streets with no accidents or incidents.

The Battalion's efforts to combat unexploded ordnance and improvised explosive devices have ensured the Division's freedom of movement as well as protected civilians and soldiers. For six months, 24-hours a day, the pioneers patrolled Ammunition Supply Route Sue, an essential supply route for



Alternate Supply Route Sue

the Division. Often fighting through ambushes, the sappers cleared over 500 unexploded ordinance devices and multiple improvised explosive devices. Their efforts ensured the safe passage of countless supply convoys. During Operation Long Street sapper platoons assisted EOD's in the removal of 35 truckloads of unexploded ordinance. The Battalion also reduced numerous danger areas along Route Irish by clearing over 650,000 square meters of area, reducing 85 fighting positions, and demolishing 16 buildings. What used to be a very dangerous road is now a much safer route that serves military and civilian traffic. Equipped with the newest countermine equipment, the Meerkat and Buffalo, the pioneers have conducted route clearance operations throughout the city and along all major main supply routes. To date their route clearance team called Task Force Iron Claw has cleared over 1,600 kilometers of roads and streets, checked over 200 possible improvised explosive devices and cleared 4 improvised explosive devices. The pioneer sappers have guaranteed that our maneuver forces can go safely wherever they need to go.

The Battalion has played a vital role in maintaining the Division's mobility by supporting the construction and maintenance of bridges. With the attachment of the 671st multi-role bridge company, the Battalion emplaced two Mabey Johnson bridges. The Battalion salvaged and repaired Russian built bridge components in order to support the installation of a PMP bridge across the Diyala River, the first use of PMP bridges ever by U.S. Forces. The Battalion also maintained all military bridges in the Baghdad area. The Battalion was solely responsible for the



Members of the 1457th performing an assigned mission

repair of the 14th July Bridge, a key bridge between east and west Baghdad. Using their civilian-acquired skills and sapper ingenuity they installed over 3,200 feet of suspension cable to stabilize the bridge and repaired extensive deck damage. The bridge now serves as a vital passageway for military and civilian traffic.

The Battalion has been largely responsible for supporting force protection efforts for the Division. The force protection barriers around the Iron Life Support Area, Bob Hope Dining Facility, and Division Main were constructed by the pioneers. When force protection is needed quickly; the 1457th receives the call. Over 40 police stations have been supported, as well as the Iraqi Governing Council's Residence, the Russian and Turkish Embassies, the Ministry of Oil facility, and numerous other forward operating bases and divisional facilities. The Battalion has placed well over 2,500 concrete barriers, filled over 4,000 hesco bastions, and constructed over 7,000 meters of triple standard concertina wire. Their efforts have,

without a doubt, saved lives as well as deterred attacks.

The 1457th is organized, trained and equipped as a combat engineer battalion; but we have also called upon them to serve as construction engineers. In September the Battalion was given the mission to build a gunnery complex on an abandoned Iraqi Army range over 65 kilometers east of Baghdad. In an absolutely superb manner, the Battalion undertook and accomplished this complex and hazardous mission. The Battalion, with the support of Company A, 203rd Engineers and Golf Troop, 1/2 Armored Cavalry Regiment, constructed a 300 man life support area, 56 kilometers of berm, 4 kilometers of triple standard concertina wire, M1/M2 gunnery ranges, small arms ranges, and a convoy live-fire range. The Battalion was required to clear over 3,500 unexploded ordinance devices in order to facilitate the construction. Butler Range Complex now provides training opportunities for all units and for all future unit rotations.

The Battalion's ability to respond quickly to an emergency has been its trademark. The Battalion rapidly

responded to the UN Building bombing site and provided the first 36 hours of emergency engineer support. After a car bomb denotation at Assassins Gate in the Green Zone, the Battalion rapidly responded to emplace new force protection measures and barriers; helping restore the checkpoint back to full operations.

When the flow of living trailers to Camp Victory North ground to a halt due to security concerns, the Battalion assumed the mission of escorting trailers from the Kuwaiti border to Baghdad. The Battalion escorted over 1,700 trailers and logged over 250,000 accident free miles in support of the mission. The sappers fought through enemy ambushes, improvised explosive devises, and looters to ensure the trailers arrived safely. Very few trailers were lost during their escort missions, and none to enemy action.

The pioneers have served with distinction over the last year, forging a reputation of excellence during training, combat operations, construction, and engineer support. The Battalion's sappers have accomplished numerous demanding missions and engaged and inflicted losses on the enemy. They have hunted down and cleared countless unexploded ordinance devises and improvised explosive devises and have lost no soldiers to accident or enemy action.

"Jeff, change of mission – your mission in Baghdad is complete, redeploy your battalion, well done; from the entire sapper family and all the Iron Soldiers thank you and God's speed."

The 450 soldiers of the 1457th Engineer Battalion departed Iraq and were in Kuwait preparing to leave the region when rumors of an extension started circulating. Pentagon officials



Members of the 1457th during their many travels to and from Iraq, and during all the uncertainties of their service and status

then made the official announcement that the 1457th Engineer Battalion had been extended. The announcement said the 1457th was being extended as part of the 10,000-15,000 soldiers that were requested to help stabilize Iraq.

As part of the 1st Armored Division Task Force, the 1457th Engineer Battalion was to remain in Iraq as long as necessary to bring peace and stability to the country, according to the commanding generals of the U.S. Central Command and Task Force 1st Armored Division. Gen. John Abizaid, commander, U.S. Central Command said that the current unstable situation in Iraq is due to insurgents who do not want to see a free and prosperous Iraq.

"I feel it is a small group of people, anti-democratic in their outlook, that are trying to stop the forward movement of the Iraqi people," Abizaid said.

"Task Force 1st Armored Division soldiers are battle hardened, know their communities and have relationships with local leaders and residents," Abizaid said.

This is especially true for the engineers. Since their arrival in Iraq last year, the 1457th has worked directly with the Iraqi people to rebuild the local

infrastructure, including: schools, roads, bridges and the Baghdad Zoo.

"We have some of the most experienced and battle ready troops currently on the ground. If the troops stay here to be extended to get the job done, so be it," he said. "this is a slow campaign. We are trying hard not to harm innocent civilians. We will use U.S. and coalition troops as needed to get the job done."

"Although I imagine the troops are disappointed to have their deployment extended, I believe they understand they are needed in Iraq and are committed to see their mission through, said Brig. Gen. Stanley Gordon, Assistant Adjutant General Army for Utah.

Family assistance centers across the state were poised to provide extra assistance to family members of 1457th soldiers. "We understand this is a difficult time for many of the families and we stand ready to help out in any way we can," stated Master Sgt. Ron Linton, family programs coordinator for Utah. "Taking care of their families is a number one concern of the soldiers deployed overseas and we take that concern seriously," said Linton. As of late April 2004, there were about



Utah Senator Bennett welcoming home the Commander of the 1457th Engineer Battalion, Lt. Col. Burton

Then in another unexpected turn of events, on April 22, 2004 the Pentagon officially removed units being extended, clearing the way for the 1457th to return in early May as originally scheduled. The change occurred as a result of an evaluation of what the Combatant Commander felt he needed in order to complete the mission.

“This announcement is good news to us and our military families,” said Maj. Gen. Tarbet, The Adjutant General of the Utah National Guard. “The unit has performed brilliantly over the past year, and we are excited to get our soldiers home.”

Fellow soldiers in Utah couldn’t agree more. “I’m ecstatic. I can’t wait to see them,”

said Sgt. John Jackman who was deployed to Iraq with the 1457th until November when he returned home due to a non-combat injury.

A small contingent of 1457th soldiers arrived back in Utah on April 22nd. Most of these soldiers had previously served on federal active duty on security missions prior to deployment to Iraq and were close to exceeding their legal 24-month maximum.

The remainder of the battalion spent a few days at Fort Lewis, Washington, processing off of federal active duty, then returned to Utah to spend their remaining leave-time with their families and friends. They arrived back in Utah the 1st week in May 2004 after serving proudly and with distinction throughout Iraq. During their activation they received numerous accolades for their commitment to duty and tireless efforts on the war on terrorism.



One of the welcome home signs displayed at the Salt Lake Air Base



The Governor of Utah, Olene Walker, welcoming home the soldiers of the 1457th

1st Battalion, 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne)

Exceptional Performance in Afghanistan

By Lt. Col. Wood and CSM Webb



Photo provided by 1/19th

During the 1st Battalion, 19th Special Forces rotation at the Joint Readiness Training Center in June of 2003, the Battalion was notified that it would be mobilized in support of Operation Enduring Freedom Afghanistan. Forward Operational Base 191 deployed to Afghanistan with only six weeks notice. The Battalion landed in Bagram, Afghanistan on September 9, 2003 and spent more time with “boots on the ground” than any other Special Forces battalion (active or reserve) in Operation Enduring Freedom. Upon arrival, the Battalion assumed the missions of two Special Forces Battalions and a Special Forces Group Support Company. The Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-Afghanistan (CJSOTF-A) attached over 65% of the Battalion Support, Signal, and Operations Center’s personnel to directly support the CJSOTF-A mission.

Under the direction of Lt. Col. Jon and CSM Ron the Battalion began to conduct Unconventional Warfare Operations. During this time the battalion units established four new operational bases and a weapons cantonment site in extremely austere locations. The operational bases built in Nangalam and Naray are in areas of Afghanistan that coalition forces previously would not otherwise occupy with less than an infantry battalion. These bases were built and occupied by one Operational Detachment Alpha each. The weapons cantonment sites built in Mazar-e Sharif disarmed two fighting warlords and averted possible civil war. Not only were these accomplishments operationally daunting, but the Battalion’s Support Center also provided all the support of the classes of supplies necessary in order to build these bases from scratch. This is more than double the number of bases built by other Special Forces units

during this period. The Battalion teams directly trained and utilized over 1,500 Afghan Security Force Personnel. This was the first time United States forces had directly trained and utilized host nation forces in this manner since the Vietnam War.

The Battalion conducted over 700 combat operations. This included key missions during Operation Mountain Resolve, Operation Winter Strike, Operation Mountain Avalanche, Operation Archangel, and Operation Mountain Storm. Forward Operational Base 191 planned and executed over 58 movements to contact and 47 raids. Units fought through 62 ambushes, 40 direct attacks on forward elements, 82 improvised explosive device attacks on vehicles and personnel and many other types of attacks on the Battalion. They were responsible for many enemy killed in action (exact number is unknown), hundreds of enemy wounded in action, over 90 personnel were processed as

prisoners, and over 140 persons were detained. Many detained persons were released and returned to their home with their dignity and honor. These persons now continue to work with coalition forces building peace and prosperity.

In addition to this, the Battalion officially captured 8 medium and high value targets - - more than any other unit in support of Operation Enduring Freedom during this period. An even larger number of valuable targets were deemed sensitive and turned directly over to other sources for processing.

The Battalion recovered more weapons caches than all coalition forces combined during this period. The vast majority of equipment was serviceable and prepared for use against coalition forces. The following equipment was recovered in approximately 180 weapons caches:

- Firearms: 1,530
 - Rocket Propelled Grenades: over 250
 - SA-7/HN-5 Man Portable Surface to Air Missiles: 7 (ready to launch)
 - D-30 Howitzer: 3
 - BM-12 Rocket Launcher: 3
 - Anti-Aircraft Guns: 5
 - T-72 Tanks: 2
 - AP and AT Mines: over 1,000
 - Ammunition: over 16 tons
 - Recoilless Rifle Rounds: 2,772
 - Mortar Rounds: 11,460
 - 107mm and 122mm Rockets: 1,780
- Several other large caches could not be inventoried and counted before being blown in place.

Another valuable tool for the Battalion was the two medical clinics that were operating in Asadabad one under the direction of Captains Brent and Khost the other under the direction of Capt. Steve. These clinics treated over 50,000 patients. Their treatments ranged from treating the common cold to traumatic amputations, numerous

types of trauma and major surgery. Because of cultural differences, women were often discouraged from seeking health care from military clinics. Forward Operational Base 191's medical section and clinic medics established protocols that enabled the women of Afghanistan to receive treatment while respecting the cultural differences. In addition to winning the hearts and minds of the population, these clinics proved to be an invaluable source of intelligence, saving countless coalition lives.

The Battalion also deployed with a unit ministry team with 1st Lt. Eric as the team leader. Under his direction, the Battalion's Unit Ministry Team restored 25 Mosques, with nine receiving major restorations and 16 receiving minor restorations. The team provided Chaplain training to Afghan Soldiers, that were also Mullahs, on counseling, patrolling, caring for the wounded, memorializing fallen Soldiers, religious tolerance, and respecting religious diversity. These accomplishments built immeasurable positive rapport in areas that were extremely hostile and significantly decreased the number of attacks on coalition forces.

The Support Center was invaluable in their support of the mission. Capt. Kenneth and 1st Sgt. Todd provided the driving force necessary for them to succeed. The success they had in Afghanistan is tribute to their round the clock efforts with one thought in mind, and that was to support the teams. To their credit they recovered and put on the property books over 5 million dollars worth of OEF equipment. The Battalion's Support Center responded to over 2,000 requests for support and pushed a tremendous amount of supplies down range totaling: 77 tons of

equipment and supplies, 109 tons of food and water, and 214 tons of ammunition. The Support Center conducted 35 sling-loads and 4 Cargo Delivery System Operations, delivering a total of 31 bundles. The Battalion was also prepared to support Forward Operational Base 31 and other coalition forces with emergency re-supply bundles. The Support Center inherited 177 vehicles that were 65% fully mission capable, which they then raised to, and maintained, at 95% fully mission capable.

The Battalion's Signal Center, under the direction of Capt. Kevin and Master Sgt. James while fully supporting the CJSOTF-A, processed over 55,000 radio messages for 15 Operational Detachments - Alpha, 3 Operational Detachments - Bravo, and 3 Special Forces Liaison Elements. Signal Center personnel inventoried and repaired over \$750,000 worth of unserviceable electrical equipment. They also revamped the message traffic procedures to provide a more efficient Tactical Satellite data net for both FOB 191 and CJSOTF-A. In addition to this, they inventoried, moved, and repaired \$1,000,000 worth of critical and sensitive communications equipment used by a previous FOB at K2, Uzbekistan.

The Battalion represented the United States Army in a positive manner while being featured in a number of media events. Stories or images of the Soldiers of FOB 191 were portrayed in Time, US News, the Associated Press, Reuters, HI Pakistan, and CBS News 60 Minutes II. The Battalion's Soldiers were submitted for over 600 awards. The awards include 10 Purple Hearts, 150 Combat Infantry Badges, 37 Combat Medic Badges, and 4 Silver Star Medals.

C Company of 1457th Receives Itschner Award

By Spec. Kelly K. Collett

specifically recognized in the Washington Post and New York Times for some of the missions they performed like the Saddam Dig and the United Nations rescue.

“Those kinds of things really helped to solidify the award for them. It was more than just those two events; it was just a kind of sustained high tempo over the last year. The 14th of July Bridge was huge as well. It got international attention. The high visibility and the attention that was drawn to C Company because of what they did really pushed them over the edge. If everything was equal, that would have been enough to win the award for C Company.” Burton explained.

Lt. Col. Burton also commended all 1457th troops saying, “We just have great soldiers and great leaders. They did a superb job. That’s why the active component was so stunned. They haven’t had a lot of exposure to the Guard, but I think what happened over there opened a lot of eyes.”

The 1457th Engineer Battalion was dubbed the “9-1-1” Battalion by the 1st Armored Division Brigade Engineer Commander, Col. Lou Marich. They were given this name because of the swiftness with which they responded to a call. C Company represented this title perfectly. If there was a car bombing, C Company started preparations immediately, while waiting for the word that their help would be needed. They were always on hand and ready to respond to anything that came their way. They responded to many attacks and were often the first engineers on the scene. They were there for the bombing of the United Nations building, and multiple police stations. The Soldiers of Charlie Company were



1st Platoon, C Company, 1457th Engineer Battalion



2nd Platoon, C Company, 1457th Engineer Battalion

Charlie Company of the 1457th Engineer Battalion was awarded the prestigious Itschner Award for being the best National Guard Engineering Company nationwide. They are led by Capt. Gibb and 1st Sgt. Dimond. The Itschner Award is given in honor of Lt. Gen. Emerson C. Itschner. Three are awarded each year: One to an Active Army Engineer Company, one to a Reserve Company, and one to a National Guard Company. The award is presented to the most outstanding company during the year. The Itschner Award was first awarded in 1960, but

wasn’t awarded to the Reserves and National Guard until 1974.

The men of C Company had spent over a year away from home and with each other. They pulled together and did everything asked of them. They completed many high priority missions much faster than expected. They never failed in any mission given them.

Lt. Col. Burton, commander of the 1457th Engineer Battalion, said, “C Company just did some incredible things through the course of the year. Some of the missions they performed actually received national and world media attention. C Company was

critical for cleaning up after the destruction and helping to search for survivors.

Lieutenant Neville, a platoon leader, said in order to be recognized for the award they had to prepare a nomination packet. It had to be submitted between December 2003 and January 2004. Captain Gibb, First Sergeant Dimond, Sergeant Whatcott and Lieutenant Neville prepared it. By the time it was completed, "The packet was about 50 pages long." said Lt. Jeremy Neville. It was then submitted to the Army Engineer Center at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri. It consisted of every major event and mission that had been completed, from training in Ft. Lewis, Washington, to everything that had been done in Iraq.

One of the reasons Lt. Neville believes they received the award was because their first mission had an unusually high priority. It was the mission of excavating the area where, in the beginning of the war, Saddam was believed to have been when a restaurant was bombed. Charlie Company was in charge of the mission that ran for a little over a week and operated 24 hours a day. Almost every major media turned out for the event.

Another mission that they were given was to rebuild the 14th of July Bridge. The bridge had been damaged by machine gun fire and was a major route into the Green Zone. "Sgt Caleb Johnson who works as an engineer in the civilian world, assessed the bridge and came up with a plan to repair it," said Neville. The bridge took about three weeks to repair.

Lieutenant Neville also told of another experience where C Company shined. He said "There was intelligence that insurgents were going to use a car bomb to blow up the Russian Embassy in Baghdad. We were told about it



3rd Platoon, C Company, 1457th Engineer Battalion



Support Platoon, C Company, 1457th Engineer Battalion

approximately five hours before it was supposed to happen. We were able to react quickly enough and get the huge barriers, such as Texas "T" barriers and the Jersey barriers and spent all night barricading the Russian Embassy before the attack happened. Because of our efforts there was no attack." They were credited for their quick response and for keeping the bombing from taking place.

Neville also said (speaking about his company) "For what they've done this past year has made such a great impact, that the U.S. Army, and the Engineer Corp. has recognized them." He also heard several soldiers say, "It was a neat impression they were able to make."

At the end of April 2004, Capt. Gibb flew back to the United States to receive the award for his Company. At the time they were presented this award they were also waiting for more news to find out if they were being extended for 120 more days. Some of the men, after finding out about receiving the plaque, questioned hopefully if somehow the award would get them home sooner.

Charlie Company has now earned a place in history. They have a story to tell, and it has been heard nationally, and they have been credited with the hard work they have done to keep our nation safe. Congratulations; well done!

Photos provided by 1457th Eng Bn

A Utah National Guard Member (115th Eng Gp)

Experience in Iraq

By Dr. (Lt. Col.) Pete

I just heard my first rocket attack close up. I was walking out of my quarters when I heard and felt a deep “whoomp!” which was profoundly resonating and shook my intestines. It was sort of a mushroom-cloud shaped sound. I froze. It came from behind me, to my right. This was followed by a subdued hissing through the air, maybe 200 yards above me and to my right, like a very small jet tearing through the air. This second sound almost didn’t register as related to the “whoomp” until I heard the impact, not quite two seconds later, and mentally connected the three sounds. That third one was a different sound-- A smaller, more compact, rounded, and slightly higher pitched explosion, with less intestinal vibration. It was in front of me and to my right, in the distance, but not far off.

Only three sounds, each distinct. Taken together, a menacing message. Would there be a second launch? I looked for cover, none handy. I felt better that I was wearing my IBA and helmet, as required whenever we were outside during the week of the transfer of authority, when we were expecting a bit more badness than usual. There was no second launch. My radio crackled as the tower guards reported the rocket’s impact. It missed our base, having traveled completely over the compound, exploding about 250 meters beyond our wall on the other side. Were they aiming at us? If so, they need to juice down their launcher a bit. Another new experience, these three sounds taken together. Sounds, I can live without.

I truly am living in a war zone. Bad things can happen, even if somewhat

randomly. I still wonder, however, if the statistical risk of death or major injury is higher here, or is it actually more risky driving 30 miles each way to work and back on the freeways in Salt Lake. I have since gotten somewhat accustomed to the sounds of the occasional mortars and car bombs exploding around us. This is a good thing in that I don’t dwell on it so much anymore. Kind of like hearing sirens in the background in a large city at night, you get to a point where you don’t notice them as much.

I have also learned why the bad guys seem (blessedly) to be such crummy shots with rockets and mortars. They actually launch these rockets from the beds of small pick-up trucks. They will pull up to a site; rapidly uncover the rocket and launcher, then “aim” and fire. Aiming basically involves pointing it in the general direction that they would like it to go. They immediately cover the launcher and drive off. They have realized that we can quite accurately back-calculate where the launch occurred, based on the impact. If they hang around to adjust the launch and fire again, we’ll catch them. They also have no spotters. Spotters are the people who are supposed to be near the intended impact site and report to the launch team where it landed, so the launch team can adjust the aim for the next try. Again, they don’t have the luxury of waiting to

adjust and fire again. So they shoot and split, and hope for the best.

Unfortunately for the locals, the result is usually the injury, destruction, and death of civilians rather than a successful strike at the military. This is a good case in point. They completely missed our base, and the rocket landed about 250 meters beyond our wall. It completely destroyed some innocent family’s home, piercing the roof, traveling through the house, and exploding in the basement, leaving a large crater where the house used to be. Miraculously, no one was home at the time, and there were no major injuries as a result. However, I suspect the residents of that neighborhood were badly shaken, the children terrified, and the parents and families there left gun shy and anxious. Not to mention some folks came home to a crater; and now they have no place to sleep, and what little they own is destroyed.

This morning after breakfast a very big explosion occurred, even bigger than the rocket I described. It shook the building I was in, rattling the glass. This building is constructed of solid concrete. We all crowded into the center of the building, away from the windows, until we were sure there wouldn’t be a second, closer impact. A few minutes later, the tower guards reported that it was a huge VBIED (military lingo for “vehicle-borne improvised explosive device” or car bomb) that went off about 500 meters outside of our gate.



Funeral procession in Iraq

This bomb must have been huge, because this was a half-mile from me, but still, it shook our building mightily. At that point, we relaxed a bit, as VBIEDs usually come as “onesies” and are not immediately repeated unless they set a second one to explode when the rescuers arrive, which didn’t turn out to be the case today. You’ll see it on the news, I suspect. Don’t know the casualty count yet, but in that location, it will certainly hurt more innocent civilians.

I just read on Yahoo that 11 were killed and at least 30 wounded, all Iraqis, including four Iraqi National Guardsman. All the rest were civilians. No Americans were involved, amazingly. The good news recently is that the Iraqi populace is tiring of these terrorists killing them. It’s much easier to kill or maim civilians, either purposefully or accidentally, than it is to kill a well-protected, well-trained, and very alert military. Recently, the local neighborhood councils have begun reporting to the police and to us suspicious characters and activity, so they can be investigated and arrested. There has been a civilian counter-terrorist organization begun recently. These are vigilantes who are seeking out the violent terrorists and are simply killing them. This seems to be a traditional, if unofficial, form of Iraqi justice: just kill them. The tribes and clans here don’t forget when someone injures one of their members. As brutal as this may sound, it is actually one of the best developments to date -- the people starting to rebel against the terrorists and taking on some of the responsibility for their own protection.

This morning it was reported that the Iraqi police rounded up over 500 suspected terrorists over a few nights



Three Saddam Heads. These are huge busts of Saddam. There were four, one on each corner of our palace grounds, sitting on giant pedestals. One was destroyed, and the other three are stored in the junkyard here. I wonder what they would get on Ebay? Me in front of one, to give the scale. A humble man, that Saddam, wouldn't you say?

in a huge, well-coordinated operation. They have been doing a much better job of policing themselves recently, as a result of our support and training and the recent handover of sovereignty. They recently discovered and safely detonated a huge VBIED that they discovered at a checkpoint in town. Our guys say they still don’t know how the Iraqi National Guard knew to check that particular car, but they did! You see, they know their own people much better than we can ever hope to. They know when a car doesn’t look right, when a person doesn’t belong in a certain neighborhood, or isn’t even Iraqi. They know, at a distance, if a Sunni is in the wrong part of town, a Shia is outside the wrong mosque, or if someone is Iranian or Syrian. This is the great advantage that they have over us, who can’t even speak the language, for

heaven’s sake, much less pick out what mosque someone is from as they drive by in their car. Once trained well (and they are making great progress) they are able to protect themselves and their people quite admirably. And again, as we continue to find out, they don’t do it our way. They have their own techniques, hunches, customs, and sense of justice. So be it. It’s their country. They have to run it and protect it the way that works best for them.

Still, “the word on the street” is: now that they “own” the country again, they don’t want us to leave until the security is stable. The regular Mohammeds are beginning to see that they can have control over their lives, something they didn’t have with Saddam, and we really do just want to help. They are beginning to appreciate that. So we are making some progress, too.

23rd Army Band in Germany

By Staff Sgt. Bryce Bird



The 23rd Army Band helping welcome the 17th Signal Company

The 23rd Army Band spent the first part of March 2004 in Heidelberg, Germany, at the request of the U.S. Army Europe to provide music for welcome ceremonies for Army units returning to their home stations in southern Germany. The band met the arriving planes transporting units returning from service in Iraq during the past year. The soldiers were greeted

by the sounds of patriotic music as they arrived on buses at the processing center at Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany.

Before the band left the area each day, many of the soldiers thanked the band for being there to acknowledge their service as they returned. "Whenever they come to thank us, we let them know that it is an honor for us

to be there and welcome them back to Germany." said Specialist Spencer Turner of the band. Some of these soldiers wore the first boots to hit the ground in Iraq last year. These boots now are scuffed and stained red from the sands of Iraq as the soldiers return home as part of troop rotations in the area.

One soldier, while thanking the band, made the comment that they see the welcome ceremonies on the TV as units return to the United States, with media coverage and decorated receptions. In Europe, often soldiers return quietly to their homes and jobs on American bases with little acknowledgement or celebration. When he heard the band playing as he exited the bus, he knew that he was back among friends.

The band was performing its primary mission to provide musical support and to entertain and build good will within the armed services. When the band was not greeting the returning



Spec. Morgan in Heidelberg



Members of the Utah National Guard's 23rd Army Band waiting for arriving plane to welcome home returning units from Iraq duty

Photos provided by the 23rd Army Band



troops their time was spent rehearsing for upcoming concerts. Band members were housed at the historic Tompkins Barracks in Schwetzingen, Germany, where they were able to train with members of the USAREUR Band and participate in clinics and rehearsals with

the unit's commander Lt. Col. Palmatier. In addition, members of the band augmented the USAREUR Band as they traveled to performances in Italy.

Join the band for upcoming performances include Veterans' Day

concerts in Orem at the David O. McKay Events Center on November 10th, and in Salt Lake City at the Huntsman Center on November 11th, and at the Dixie Center in St. George on December 3rd.

115th Engineer Group's "Tour De Baghdad"

By Theresa Johnson



Far from their homes and families, a small group of soldiers from the 115th Engineer Group create their own Oasis by organizing a five-man bicycle team to keep morale and spirits alive. CW3 Randall Johnson, CW2 Blayde

Hamilton, MSG Elliott Aanerud, SFC George Rhoblack, and SPC Aaron Mathews had bicycles sent to Iraq (the next best thing to their wives or significant others) so they can keep their spirits up while staying in shape. Here they are

pictured in their personalized "bike team shirts" created by Theresa Johnson, wife of Randall Johnson. As the days get continuously hotter, it gets more difficult to find the energy to ride, but that hasn't stopped them yet.

Photo provided by Theresa Johnson

The 115th Engineer Group in Iraq



Photo by Maj. David Miller 115th

Colonel Willis, CSM Cardon and Major Ali, Chief of Police of the Dhi Qar province Highway Patrol. An award ceremony was held on July 2, 2004 to honor Major Ali's officers who have served with courage and distinction during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Col. Willis presented each officer with a Certificate of Appreciation and a Group OIF II coin. The officer joined the 115th HHC and staff for lunch at the dining facility after the ceremony.

At 7:00 a.m. on June 23, 2004, in Southern Iraq, two armored Humvees were being prepared for a mission "outside the wire." Water and extra fuel were loaded as well as the Squad Automatic Weapon and M2, or .50 caliber machine gun, the weapon of choice. It is favored for its firepower and the presence it will have while the design section inspection team conducts its mission of the day, surveying a local Iraqi Police station for plans to improve its defenses. "The Iraqi Police want to do a good job but they need our support to make it happen," explained Colonel Ed Willis, the 115th Group Commander. The design team assembling that day, supervised by Master Sergeant Doug Kinsman, has already completed over 25 missions outside the wire in the four months they have been in Iraq. The rest of the

soldiers assigned to provide security have been outside the wire several times each, as well. While not a routine, the mission is familiar and things moved smoothly and efficiently. The operations order was given and rehearsals began next to the company area in Sapper II, the Army Engineer compound inside of Tallil Airbase, Iraq.

The 115th Engineer Group assumed operations in an area woefully understaffed for the engineer missions that needed to be completed. Since arriving, the unit has completed over fifty assigned missions, including: improvements to Safwan bypass and Main Supply Route (MSR) Tampa (the main artery for traffic between Kuwait and Iraq); survey work to initiate repair of the entire water distribution network in the city of An Nasiriyah (a town of over 250,000 people); several projects

By Capt. Talon Greeff, 115th Engineer Gp to repair and harden Iraqi police stations; as well as inspection construction work at dozens of schools in An Nasiriyah and the towns of Suyk Ash Shuyek and Al-Batha. "It's good for winning the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people when they see us improve the infrastructure by re-building schools and other buildings. They see Americans getting things done to help them, and it brings stability to the area," explained design team leader, Capt. Alan Carlson.

The 115th Engineer Group's main project is to over see the completion of Highway 1 (MSR Tampa) from the Kuwait border to Baghdad. When we arrived in theater there was 80 kilometers (about 50 miles) unpaved. Currently military and civilian traffic braves the rough and dusty dirt roadway to get north. Our goal is that 1/2 of the 6-lane roadway will be paved and ready for traffic when we redeploy. This involves getting asphalt plants back into operation as well as securing raw materials to assist the Iraqi contractors that have the job.

The 115th Group has also been responsible for significant projects on Tallil Airbase. They have completed survey work for living area improvements and drainage, defense plans to harden existing buildings, road improvements and morale welfare and recreation projects, like a baseball field. Of the work Spec. Brad Hammond observed, "We are definitely making a difference in our base for the next group of people coming in." The largest project so far has been the 12-acre bridge park built on Tallil Airbase. The bridge park is a storage and

maintenance yard that will house a stockpile of panel and float bridge parts and equipment. The bridge resources are stored at Tallil in response to the terrorist attacks, destroying bridges on MSR Tampa and interrupting the flow of supplies, soldiers and civilian traffic into Iraq from Kuwait. The 115th Engineer Group has been tasked to oversee the bridging assets assigned to keep MSR Tampa open. First Lieutenant Boucher, supervising the project, explained, "It's a huge project and besides designing it we have had to do significant quality control on the work because we don't want equipment bogging down when it's needed."

The missions of the 115th Engineer Group have required soldiers to travel all throughout Iraq including Mosul, Ribiyah, Baghdad, Safawan and An Nasiriyah. In An Nasiriyah, engineer teams constantly pass the hospital where Jessica Lynch was rescued and a nearby former Saddam Hussein torture chamber destroyed by coalition bombs. They have also driven the route of Jessica Lynch's unit where it was ambushed by anti-coalition forces. The area is more peaceful now but to reduce their vulnerability, soldiers still drive quickly and aggressively through the city. One soldier who was rotating out taught the soldiers of the 115th about how to operate Humvees, "You have to drive it like you stole it."

Chief Warrant Officer Rick Francom, who has worked closely with the Iraqis in reconstruction efforts observed, "In the 'war on terror' there are many battles. The battle in which the 115th Engineer Group is engaged, focuses on improving the oppressed and impoverished conditions that the Iraqi people have lived under for so



Photo by MSG Doug Kinsman

Spec. Louise Holfert draws a crowd of young boys on a mission to An Nasiriyah. The Design Section of the 115th Eng Gp was inspecting a local contractor's work on a primary school. Spec. Holfert was assigned communication specialist and security for this mission. Many of the young boys stood in line to have Spec. Holfert sign her name.

long, and helping them gain trust and confidence in their leaders and themselves. We assume the risk of being in harm's way for the greater

reward of providing increased opportunities for the people of Iraq to look past their day-to-day existence towards a brighter tomorrow."



Photo provided by 115th Engr Gp

The leaders of the 115th and the 1457th during the transition

Task Force Pirate's First Three Months in Afghanistan

By Maj. Thomas Copeland



Aircraft of Task Force Pirate at Camp Albert, in Afghanistan, where members of the Utah National Guard's 1st Battalion, 211th Aviation soldiers are serving for the next year

July 23, 2004, will mark the day that Task Force Pirate will have completed its first three months in Afghanistan. The time appears to have flown by as the soldiers, at first, hurried to learn their jobs and then quickly settled into the groove of their new duty station. Task Force Pirate consists of soldiers from Hawaii, Florida, Kentucky, Georgia and Utah. It deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom 5 and is commanded by our Lt. Col. Rodney S. Robinson.

The aviators attended local area orientation classes sponsored by the resident North Carolina National Guard's AH-64 pilots. The classes consisted of high mountain awareness, rules of engagement training and other classes designed to educate the pilots about their new local flying area. The

remainder of the Task Force joined with their counterparts to jump into the action as the transfer of authority date of April 23, 2004, was quickly approaching. That date marks the beginning of a one-year commitment required from Task Force Pirate soldiers.

Members of Task Force Pirate are deployed throughout Afghanistan, but the main bodies are divided between Qandahar to the South and Bagram Air Field in the North. After the transfer of authority was finalized, the soldiers of Task Force Pirate went to work and have had little personal time since. To help acclimate to the new surroundings and environment the soldiers took advantage of the amenities of their home inside Camp Albert.

Three areas of primary concern to soldiers are duty stations, living quarters, and moral welfare and

recreation. "Soldiers who can quickly adapt to the limits and capabilities of these areas will have a good deployment," says Lt. Col. Robinson, the Task Force Pirate Commander. Duty stations can range from a relatively cushy desk job in a tactical operations center to laborious duty out in the remote areas of Afghanistan where even a cot in a tent is a cherished luxury. It's all just a matter of what your duty description is and how much you desire to get out and see the country. With aircraft being part of the Task Force, soldiers are provided the opportunity to travel throughout the countryside. "It is entirely possible to see every bit of Afghanistan in the year we have here" says Staff Sgt. Cheryl Taylor, who is the NCO in charge of aviation mission requests.

All of the Task Force Pirate soldiers live in what are known as B-Huts. These wooden dwellings house up to eight personnel, although the six occupants, one common room option is a favorite. Soldiers are allowed most every comfort one would find at home in the U.S. stereos, televisions and in some cases, satellite TV are all available to the contemporary soldiers of the Task Force. Members of Task Force Diamond Head, in Qandahar, pitched in and purchased a personal Satellite Internet service. "It was expensive, but we have immediate access to the Internet twenty four hours a day," reports Chief Warrant Officer Theodore "Ted" Cotro-Manes. It is a real morale booster for the soldiers.

Morale, Recreation and Welfare rounds out what may be the most important activity after service to country. "Bagram has many MWR activities for the Task Force" says Staff Sgt. Jeremy Harrell. Staff Sgt. Harrell is a member of the Post MWR council and has participated in the basketball, pool, and chess tournaments. He and Sgt. Tony Weimer won first place in the MWR Spades Tournament. An MWR calendar of events is posted in most common areas on post and soldiers are limited only by their duty roster and self-motivation. "It is important to get out and do some non-duty related activities," states Staff Sgt. Harrell.

Kellogg, Brown and Root (KBR) provide a very adequate and clean dining facility. The KBR is just a short walk from the Task Force Headquarters, and provides a big choice of meals. Monday through Thursday varies, but Friday is always Steak and Seafood night. Ice cream is a favorite desert but fruit is always on hand as an alternative. There is even



Aircraft of Task Force Pirate getting ready to take-off on a mission

talk of an underground Sushi bar. Bring your own nori and Unagi is the password to get in.

With Afghanistan's elections on the horizon, Task Force Pirate and Task

Force Diamond Head can expect to be as busy as ever. Good leadership, comfortable living quarters, good food and things to do in the limited off time ensure that the soldiers of Task Force Pirate are battle ready and prepared.



A member of Task Force Pirate giving some goodies to some of the local Afghan children. It is hard not to try to help the local people who live in such poverty and have so many needs.

Photos provided by 211th Avn

The 115th Engr. Gp. Continues the Rebuilding in Iraq

By Lt. Col. Dunton and Maj. Hinckley 115th Engineer Group



Photo by Sgt 1st Class Rohbock's camera

Sgt. 1st Class Rohbock with a young friend at the girls school in Al Bathah in Iraq

The 115th Engineer Group has been working with local contractors to rebuild boys and girls schools in the Dhi Qar province of southern Iraq. The Group Headquarters has facilitated construction management on projects in An Nasiriyah, Al Batha and Al Khartoom. This has allowed U.S. Army Engineers a greater reach into the surrounding communities by acting as the General Contractor on numerous construction projects. The local Coalition Provisional Authority identified which areas were in the most need. The design section, led by Sergeant Major Randy Bunker and Lieutenant Colonel Don Summit, assessed the project and sent recon teams to develop a scope of work.

Once the scope of work was determined, a bid was let to the local communities. This is a difficult process because mass media is not available and construction companies are limited. However, many talented and eager craftsmen apply to work on these

projects. Once a contractor is hired for a project, the design section functions as construction inspectors and meets all financial obligations until the school is complete.

To ensure the safety of our work teams, a security force of soldiers, drawn from the Headquarters Company, accompanies them. It has

been a real challenge for Capt. Jerry Baker, the Company Commander, to man the security details and still leave enough personnel for the staff sections to do their jobs. He has developed a rotating roster and everyone gets a turn. This includes staff officers and senior non-commissioned officers. Most soldiers like the duty and look forward to their turn "outside the wire." When your turn comes up it falls on the rest of your section to cover and make sure that the mission of the Group continues.

This process has allowed the soldiers of the Group to do more with less military assets and provide jobs for willing Iraqi workers. The interaction with the children at the schools is a side benefit. The majority of the children want to practice their English and talk to the American Soldiers. They also like to look at the Humvees we drive. Like children around the world, a safe place to learn will be essential in the development of Iraq.



Photo provided by 115th Gp

115th soldier surveys the vast Iraqi landscape from a helicopter

85th Civil Support Team Converts to Heavy

By SFC Daren Budge



Members of the 85th CST-WMD practicing decontamination procedures

Members of the 85th Civil Support Team-Weapons of Mass Destruction (CST-WMD) have spent five years in preparation to stand up a full-time Title 32 unit that responds in the event of a chemical, biological or nuclear incident that may turn up in Utah. In March of 2004 the Department of Defense announced Utah as one of twelve states selected to receive Congressional funding for their team.

In August the hiring process was completed for the joint team of Army and Air Guard members. Over the next twelve months twenty-two highly skilled



Members of the 85th working in a work team gator



A work team with overpacks loading chemical munitions

members will be trained and evaluated by the 5th United States Army in preparation for certification by Congress next summer. Team members will acquire approximately 600 hours of rigorous initial training above their military occupational skill qualification or professional military education requirements. Upon certification the command and control of the team will fall under Utah's Governor and The Adjutant General.

The 85th CST-WMD brings a unique capability to Utah's local first responders who will be working closely with the Department of Emergency Services and Homeland Security to identify substances, assess consequences and advise on appropriate measures to ensure public safety. The team will also facilitate requests for additional federal and state assets if necessary. The unit possesses satellite, secure and cellular telephone communications to provide connectivity

with the National Guard Bureau, NORTHCOM, Department of Homeland Security, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, and the state National Guard Joint Forces Headquarters.

The commander, Major Wendy Cline believes the team is an invaluable resource because of the specialization and expertise the 85th will bring to Utah's first response community in detecting a greater range of substances. They include toxic industrial chemicals, organic substances, and chemical and biological warfare agents.



Photos provided by 85th

Military Chapel Dedicated on 4th of July With Help of 1-211th Chaplain

By Chaplain Mark Allison



Photoprovided by Chaplain Allison

Chaplain Mark Allison and chaplain assistant, Spec. Deborah Harris, of the 1-211th Aviation Battalion, Utah Army National Guard currently deployed to Task Force Pirate, Bagram, Afghanistan

Afghanistan, a land long devoid of religious diversity, was recently the site for the newest military chapel in the war against terrorism. “The selection of July 4th for its dedication,” said Chaplain Mark Allison, Task Force Pirate Chaplain and chapel project manager, “is intentionally symbolic.” Ironically, only yards away is a visible vestige of a brutal past...a concrete building built in the 1980’s by communists for the Soviet military during their conquest of

Afghanistan, and subsequently until a few years ago under the control of the Taliban and Al Qaeda terrorists who used it to torture and execute dissidents. In his dedicatory prayer, “A new day has dawned,” said Allison, “on this arid, war-plagued land; and today’s ceremony, albeit modest, is monumental in meaning.”

The twin adjacent buildings were designed by Chaplain Allison and are located at Bagram Joint Coalition Air

Field. The side-by-side buildings are connected by a passageway between the chapel, which is also used for Movie nights and a variety of classes and the chaplain office, library and Chaplain living space in the next building.

When not deployed with the military, Chaplain Allison is the chaplain for University Hospital in Salt Lake City and Specialist Harris is a student at Salt Lake Community College.

19th Special Forces Group Train on New Javelin



Photo provided by 19th SF Group

Students practice firing Javelin simulator at moving targets.

Twenty-three members of the 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne) completed both the Gunner and Train the Trainer Courses for the Javelin Weapons System and were awarded an additional skill identifier. This new equipment training was required for the fielding of the Command Launch Units for the Javelin. The training consisted

of 40-hours of computer based distance learning and 40-hours of hands-on training. Both phases were conducted at Camp Williams, May 17-29, 2004, and included a field training exercise.

This system gives the Special Forces operator a tremendous anti-armor capability that can be man packed. The Javelin Missile can defeat

By Staff Sgt. Kevin Rasband
all armored vehicles at ranges over 3,500 meters. The Command Launch Unit contains a thermal imaging sight that is also useful for surveillance missions. This weapon proved extremely valuable in Afghanistan when it was used by a single Special Forces team to defeat an attacking column of Taliban armor.

109th ACS Hangs Out in Iraq

By Technical Sgt. Rebecca Bissell



Senior Master Sgt. John Seely honing his golf skills in anticipation of being able to golf on grass rather than sand

As June approached, 109th Air Control Squadron family members and friends looked forward to their returning troops. On Saturday, June 5th the troops arrived at the Utah Air National Guard Base via two of the 151 ARW KC-135s.

Prior to their redeployment, the 109th members prepared to return by practicing golf and just hanging out staying cool.



Senior Master Sgt. Max Gines, Master Sgt. Robert Worthen, Technical Sgt. Drue Jones, Staff Sgt. Jack Pickering, and Airman 1st Class James Eckersley from the AGE shop staying cool

Members of the 109th ACS receive awards while deployed



Lt. Col. Dolan, Commander of the 603ACS, presents Master Sgt. Jon Denton, 109ACS, with the Senior NCO of the Quarter Award. Master Sgt. Denton was stationed at Balad Air Base, Iraq.



Senior Master Sgt., 1st Sergeant William Stubbs, presents a 1st Sergeant Council Diamond Sharp Award to Senior Airman Joseph Boog. This award is presented for professional appearance, military bearing, outstanding performance and attitude. Both members were stationed at Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq.

Photos courtesy of the 109ACS

109th Returns From Iraq

By Senior Airman Christiana Elieson

After seven months in Iraq, the only place the 60 members of the 109th Air Control Squadron wanted to be was home. Their wish came true about 12:30 p.m., June 5 when they arrived here in a Utah Air National Guard KC-135 from Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

The 109th left home on November 12 to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. When they arrived in Iraq the unit was split up -- the bulk of the 109th went to Kirkuk, Iraq, and a small part went to Baghdad, Iraq, where they joined an Air Force active duty air control squadron.

One of the members of the 109th who went to Kirkuk was Master Sgt. Julian Chavez, the non-commissioned officer in charge of ground maintenance radio. Chavez said that when they arrived in Kirkuk they found the living conditions to be not bad. They started out in tents but moved to a dorm shortly after arriving. The food, however, was not good, Chavez said.

Lt. Col. Kenneth L. Gammon, Commander of the 109th ACS, said "the living conditions were austere but better than expected."

The 109th members who have been around for a while have been deployed to worse living conditions, Gammon



Photos by Senior Airman Christiana Elieson

Tech. Sgt. Allene Harris (left) and Chief Master Sgt. David Colton (right), 109th Air Control Squadron, greet loved ones here June 5 after a seven-month deployment to Iraq.



The first plane with 109th ACS members flies the flag as they park.

said.

When talking about the day-to-day life, Chavez said they worked long hours and found little personal time. Although, they did find ways to stay in shape, he said.

In Kirkuk, it was just the 109th working together usually, Chavez said, but he got to see a mix of Army and Air Force personnel working together there.

In Bagdad, the 109th got to use their training and show off their experience and training to the active duty Air Force personnel, said Gammon. When the whole 109th had to learn new equipment that was in the field, "they did it quickly and did not miss a beat," said Gammon.

"We impressed the active duty and showed what the Guard can do," Gammon said.

Colonel Scot W. Johnson receives the Command Excellence Award for 2004



Photo provided by Academy Graduates Association

Col. Scot W. Johnson, UTANG

The Air National Guard NCO Academy Graduates Association was founded in 1968 to support Air National Guard Commanders at every level of command. Since then, Chapter 9, the "Great Salt Lake Chapter" has been actively involved in improving discipline, esprit-de-corps, and the quality of life for our local communities through countless projects.

Each year the association acknowledges commanders who have performed in an exemplary manner for their support to the association and the enlisted members during the fiscal year. The 2004 recipient for Region 1 of the Major General I.G. Brown Command Excellence Trophy is Colonel Scot W. Johnson, 151st Maintenance Group Commander, Utah Air National Guard. He was presented this award at Seminar 36 in Charlotte, North Carolina. This is one of the highest awards the enlisted airman can give to officers.

Colonel Scot W. Johnson assumed the position of Commander of the 151st

Maintenance Group, Utah Air National Guard, in December 2001. He was assigned Air National Guard Advisor to the Commander, Headquarters 21st Space Wing, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado, October 2000 - December 2001. In this capacity he worked to integrate Air National Guard forces into 21st Space Wing and Air Force Space Command missions. He also coordinated mission transitions between the National Guard Bureau, the States, and Air Force Space Command. Colonel Johnson spearheaded the mobilization of the 137th Space Warning Squadron, Colorado Air National Guard, during the hours following the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the Pentagon and the World Trade Center.

Colonel Johnson was born on May 20, 1956, in Provo, Utah, and graduated from Orem High School. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations from Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, in 1981. He has completed many career-related schools during his military career, including Squadron Officer, Air Command and Staff, and Air War College.

Colonel Johnson completed Officer Training School in 1983, and Undergraduate Navigator Training in 1984 where he was a Distinguished Graduate in both classes. He began his six-year Air Force career assigned as a student, F111 Weapons Systems Officer, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, in 1984. A medical setback resulted in his loss of fighter qualification. He was a Distinguished Graduate from KC-135 Combat Crew

By TSgt Matthew Montez

Training School and was assigned as Instructor Navigator 4th Airborne Command and Control Squadron, Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota, from 1985 - 1988.

Colonel Johnson joined the Utah Air National Guard in 1988 as an Instructor/Evaluator Navigator, 191st Air Refueling Squadron. Positions held with the Utah Air National Guard include Commander, 151st Maintenance Squadron from 1995-1996; and Chief of Current Operations, 151st Air Refueling Wing from 1996-2000. During this period he was the NATO Tanker Director, Combined Air Operations Center, Vicenza, Italy, where he directed the tanker sorties of six NATO countries during Operation Deny Flight. In 2000 he was assigned Air National Guard Advisor to the Commander, Headquarters 21st Space Wing, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado. In December 2001 he became Group Commander, 151st Maintenance Group.

Colonel Johnson is a Master Navigator, with more than 4,500 flying hours in KC-135E, EC-135A/G/C, and F-111A aircraft during his six years active duty Air Force and subsequent fifteen years in the Air National Guard. He has flown and/or staffed every major U.S. Air Force contingency operation since 1990, including Operations Desert Shield/Storm, Operation Restore Hope, and Operation Northern Watch.

Colonel Johnson is married to the former Tracy Bradshaw. They live in Highland, Utah, and have four children, Trevor, Valerie, Amanda, and Jordan.

New ESGR Specialist Hired For Utah

By Joyce Anderson

In April 2004, the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Committee received funding from the National Guard Bureau to hire a full-time Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) program support specialist in each state. Joyce Anderson, an ESGR volunteer for the past five years, was selected for this position in Utah. Her background is in the business community, working for many years with chambers of commerce, business associations, and the Legislature.

This past year the National Director of ESGR has refocused the efforts of the state committees from a reactive to a proactive posture. The new mission of the ESGR committee is: To gain and maintain support from all public and private employers for the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve as demonstrated by employer commitment to employee military service.

Employer outreach will implement a corporate marketing model of business-to-business strategies by identifying employer customers and establishing personal relationships with employers of Guard and Reserve members.

We are building a current database of employers in the state, and the best vehicle for collecting this information is through our National Guard members. The ESGR has a station at every mobilization and demobilization to insure that our soldiers have the information they need about the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act (USERRA), which governs their employment rights. Guard members are asked to fill out a questionnaire about

their employer. The ESGR provides USERRA trifolds, fact sheets, forms to nominate employers for a "My Boss is A Patriot Award", and sample letters to inform the employer that they are (1) being deployed, or (2) demobilizing and want to return to work.

Joyce Anderson is available to help resolve any problems with employers who do not understand the rights of the soldiers and their responsibility to provide the same or a comparable job upon return from active duty. She will contact your employer and mail USERRA information to them upon request.

In June of this year, ESGR took 40 employers to San Antonio on a bosslift. The purpose of the bosslift is to demonstrate to employers just how valuable employees of the Guard and Reserve are to their organization. The ESGR takes employers, elected officials, and community leaders to military installations around the country to give them the opportunity to see, first hand the leadership, technical training, team building, and organizational skills their military employees receive while on active duty. Bosslifts provide a greater sense of appreciation of the



dedication and professionalism of the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve. They also serve as an opportunity to recruit business and civic leaders into ESGR.

In San Antonio employers toured a C-5 Galaxy and experienced flying in a C-5 training simulator at Kelly Field. At Randolph AFB they toured the 349th Fighter Training Group. The employers were briefed by the commanders of the 37th Tech Training School at Lackland AFB, as well as the U.S. Army Medical Command Center and School at Fort Sam Houston. This experience has definitely built employer advocates for the Utah National Guard and Reserve. We encourage every soldier or airman to nominate their boss to participate in this program. Nomination forms are available in the ESGR office.

The ESGR office is now located in the Utah National Guard Headquarters in Draper and is open five days a week for your convenience. You can reach Joyce at (801) 523-4492 or email: Joyce.Anderson@ut.ngb.army.mil.



Members of the Utah Bosslift flying to San Antonio

Photo provided by the Utah ESGR

There's a new unit in town.....

by Master Sgt. Kevin Larsen

The 101st Information Warfare Flight officially became the newest unit of the Utah Air National Guard on Saturday, July 17, as Maj. Lance Whipple assumed command at 1:00 p.m. in the auditorium of Building 210.

The 101st will augment 1st Air Force. "The 101st falls under Air Combat Command and works with NORAD providing air defense for North America," said 1st Lt. Randy Tubbs, Officer in Charge of network operations for the 101st.

Work toward establishing the 101st began in the spring of 2001 and "we have been directly involved with homeland defense since 9-11," said Tubbs.

"Because we are homeland defense, our mission is much more defensive rather than offensive. Our mission includes network operations, electronic warfare and influence operations, the three primary areas of operation," said Tubbs.

The new unit will be moving into a new building, currently being constructed adjacent to the 169th Intelligence Squadron.



photo by Master Sgt. Kevin Larsen

1st Lt. Randy Tubbs stands outside the construction area where workers are making progress on the new building for the 101st Information Warfare Flight.

A Taste of Russia, in Defense of America

by Technical Sgt. Sterling S. Poulson

Tech. Sgt. Kathy Jo Bullard returned this spring from a 120-day assignment to Manas Air Base, Kyrgyzstan. Bullard was assigned as the Information Manager for the 376th Expeditionary Operations Group.

As information manager, Bullard was deeply involved in the organizing of the 376th files, handling computer issues, and had administrative accountability of the awards program.

"If I had been given the authorization to hand pick my staff," said Col. Larry Weigler, 376th Commander, "I couldn't have chosen a better person for her position."

Bullard also served as the battle staff recorder. The battle staff was convened nine times during her rotation, twice for exercises and seven times for real world events.

"I had my thumb on the heartbeat of the action," said Bullard, "I was hanging out with the commanders as plans were made for actual battle situations."

The mission was day-to-day operations of C-130 airlifts supporting servicemembers on clandestine operations in the mountains. They also supported KC-135 air refueling missions for close air support in support of Operation Enduring Freedom over Afghanistan.

She lived in a tent city encampment with 1300 other personnel. They had to make major adjustments to the way



photo by Technical Sgt. Kathy Jo Bullard

Technical Sgt. Kathy Jo Bullard at work with Col. Weigler in Kyrgyzstan.

they are used to living. Winter conditions were especially challenging from the standpoint of lacking personal conveniences, bathrooms with showers about 100 paces from the tents.

The Kyrgyzstan people are curious about our military presence but offered positive, continued support.

Kyrgyzstan is an independent country trying to survive after the break-up of the former Soviet Union.

Moroccan’s Military visits Utah As part of the State Partnership Program

By Senior Airman Christiana Elieson

It’s not unusual for foreigners to visit the United States; however, a group of Moroccan military members visiting Utah Army and Air National Guard sites can be.

The 11 Moroccan dignitaries visited Utah from June 15 to 24 as a part of the State Partnership Program Utah has with Morocco. The state partnership of Utah and Morocco is the first with an Islamic African nation.

The group of Moroccans was led by General El Mekki Naji, who is equivalent to a three-star general in the U.S. military.

During the visit the Utah and Moroccan delegations went to many different sites including the American West Heritage Center, Utah Air and Army National Guard Bases, Hill Air Force Base, the state capitol building and 2002 Winter Olympic venues in Park City, Utah.

“The visit by the Moroccan delegation led by General Naji appeared to be a success,” said Lt. Col. David Thomas, State Partnership Program Coordinator. “All the comments from the Moroccans were positive.”

One night during their stay in Utah the Moroccans were able to visit and eat with some local families. This was one



Photo by the Utah National Guard

Gen Naji, the head of the Moroccan delegation poses with another visitor to the American West Heritage Center.



Photo by Senior Airman Christiana Elieson

The Moroccan delegation and their escorts were taken on a guided tour of Welfare Square in Salt Lake City. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints donated relief supplies to Morocco after the May earthquake and provided the tour guide.

of the times where “we discovered that Morocco and Utah have quite a bit in common,” Thomas said. “Our mountains, desert and climate are both similar; we both tend to have large families and our lives center around our families.”

“There were many people who assisted in the many hours of planning and then put in even longer days escorting the delegation,” Thomas said. “It was a terrific experience to be able to work so closely with the members of a foreign military,” he said. “Without their help the visit would have been a bust.”

Utah National Guard State Partnership Program with Morocco

Utah National Guard Combat JAGs



Capt. Patrick Osmond departing for a JAG mission "outside the wire." Osmond is the JAG for the 115th Engineer Group

What do Captains Patrick Osmond and Daniel Dygert have in common? They are two Judge Advocates General (JAGs) currently deployed to Iraq with their unit, HHC, 115 Engineer Group. Capt. Osmond and Dygert are just two of many JAGs currently deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan and other hot spots around the world. Although some may think of JAG officers as pencil pushers with cushy desk jobs, in reality, JAGs have to learn the same soldier skills as any other soldier and can be deployed anywhere around the world where they are needed - - and JAGs are in demand right now.

When one looks closely at the situation in Iraq, it is clear that many legal issues need to be addressed by the JAGs. If Iraqis suffer damage to a person or property as a result of our military, there are often difficult negotiations to make sure the Iraqis are compensated and that the interests of the military are considered. Another, often overlooked, job of the JAG is

providing legal representation to soldiers accused of committing crimes out in the field. These are two of the many areas where the JAG can use his expertise, and it also happens to be the current focus of work for Capt. Patrick Osmond and Capt. Daniel Dygert. Osmond is Command Judge Advocate for HHC, 115 Engineer Group, and Dygert works with Trial Defense Service.

Dygert, 34, from Clarkston, Utah, has prior enlisted military service. He says that in addition to his JAG duties, he has worked several missions "outside the wire" to provide security. He says he also stays up all night every few weeks for battle staff duty and to man the tactical operations center. His job requires a great deal of travel to meet with clients, which is especially challenging because he cannot leave the perimeter without at least two vehicles and about nine other soldiers to provide security. He says flying is an option but very unreliable. It can take 2-3 days to make an hour flight and it's difficult to

By Captain Eric Petersen

get around once you reach your destination. Dygert's weapon of choice is the trusty M-16A2.

Dygert says that one of the amazing transformations that most soldiers go through in the months after arriving in a combat zone is that their "zone of danger" becomes very small. He says when he first arrived in country, he was more anxious and felt more at risk to danger. He says that now, he does not feel anxious unless the danger is very close. He cites the rocket attack as an example. He says that a rocket attack within a mile was close, and now, he does not even notice an attack at that distance.

Captain Dygert is married and has six children. His family has been a huge support for him. One of his passions is rodeo. He spends his rare, spare time honing his "roping" skills. His kids also share his passion for the rodeo. One of the moments he most regretted missing was when his twelve-year-old daughter was selected to carry the American flag on her horse for Clarkston's annual parade. She was also the flag-bearer at the local rodeo, where the town announced that her father was honorably and proudly serving his country in Iraq.

Captain Osmond (a distant relative of the famous Osmond family), 37, from Eden, Utah, has been in Iraq now since March. Osmond had no prior military service when he received a direct commission to the JAG Corps. His unit was activated in January, and he spent two months at Fort Carson training with the rest of his unit before the long trip to Kuwait, Baghdad, and most recently Talill, a joint Army/Air base in southern

Iraq, where his unit is now busily involved in the reconstruction efforts in this war-torn country.

Osmond works closely with Iraqi contractors who do much of the reconstruction work. Osmond's main focus is writing and reviewing contracts between the U.S. Government and Iraqi contractors. In addition, he is also the chief legal advisor to Col. Willis, as well as the creator and administrator of a Commander's Emergency Relief Program for the command, which helps fund humanitarian operations in the community. Osmond is able to work directly with the Iraqis, thanks to his Iraqi interpreter "Norm" (not his real name but no American can pronounce it). He says Norm is a great guy, who wants to come to America some day.

Captain Osmond lives in a trailer he shares with Capt. Dygert and Capt. Baker, the HHC Commander. Because of the lack of water in Iraq, showers are allowed only every other day. These conditions are a far cry from Osmond's accommodations in Baghdad, where he lived in a Baath Party recreation facility with marble floors and other luxuries. The summer temperatures are regularly over 120 degrees. What makes the conditions even more miserable is the constant hot wind, which makes it feel even more unbearable. Fortunately, a barbershop is available on post as well as a reliable laundry service, with a turn-around time of three days. This is a real bonus since the heat, wind, and dust take their toll on the DCUs.

Normal duty hours, if there is such a thing in a war zone, are from 0800 to 1700, but Osmond quickly notes that he often has to work late and on weekends. He and his unit do have some time for fun, however. Volleyball is a popular game, and there is a gym



Capt. Osmond showing the effects of a rocket attack on the perimeter of the compound where he was living

for weight lifting. Osmond is the coach of a softball team that regularly plays against other teams, and which he says is quite good, although he would not reveal their win/loss record.

Osmond also says the Army chow is not too bad, with chicken being a favorite menu item. Osmond also works and interacts directly with local Iraqis and eats with them on occasion. Iraqis eat lots of fish, chicken and lamb. One of his highlights was enjoying a lamb breakfast burrito with the local Iraqi police chief. When the local food begins to take its toll, Osmond says he can fall back on the army chow or the Pizza Hut and Burger King at the base.

Like Capt. Dygert, Osmond's main challenge is the separation from his family. What makes this deployment especially emotionally challenging for Osmond is the fact that he got married in November 2003 and shipped out on December 28, 2003. Between his children from a previous marriage and the children of his current wife, Karen, Capt. Osmond has his hands full with eight children. He says Karen has been a great support by regularly

communicating by letter and e-mail and especially by sending lots of care packages.

Living in a combat zone, Osmond has seen a lot of mortar fire. When he first arrived in Iraq, he was stationed in Baghdad and said the first night he was there they were mortared fourteen times, with the blasts rocking their living quarters. During the nights in Baghdad, Osmond would often hear firefights so close he could hear the combatants yelling at each other. He could also observe the frequent artillery fire and Apache helicopters firing their weapons. When traveling along what is called "assassination road" into what he calls the green zone, Osmond carries a 9mm and M-4 for protection. He says when you're in the green zone: "you lock and load your weapon and get ready to be attacked by small arms fire or an IED. I'll tell you, when you go 'outside the wire' and it is time to lock and load, things get really serious."

The JAG Corps of the Utah National Guard is proud of their combat JAGs and wishes them all the best and a safe return to their families.

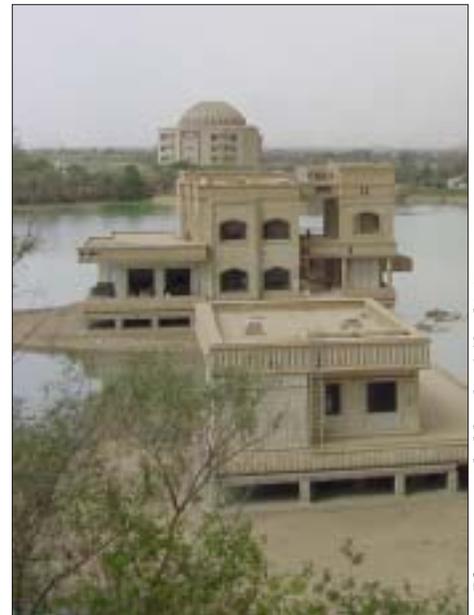
Photos provided by the UTNG JAG Corps

Commendation Letter for the 142nd MI Bn. in Iraq

Compiled by Utah Minuteman Staff



Sgt. 1st Class Jared Kirkwood and Sgt. 1st Class Eric Anderson just returning from a 142nd MI mission



Photos provided by the 142nd MI Bn

Camp Slayer Dome Palace in Baghdad, Iraq

The following letter was sent to Major General Tarbet from Colonel George M. Waldroup the Commander of the Iraq Survey Group Sector Control Point-Baghdad:

“I would like to take a few moments of your time to advise you of the superior performance of the 142nd MI Battalion (Linguists) while OPCON to this command in support of the Joint Coalition Iraq Survey Group (ISG) search for weapons of mass destruction. However, I cannot say enough that will truly tell you the magnitude of the achievement of these soldiers. I can say without embellishment that they excelled beyond all expectation. To say anything less would be the mother of all understatements.

Lt. Col. Ed Gunderson and his command staff supported our efforts here at Sector Control Point Baghdad (SCP-B); and together, we were able to properly train and support their

individual and collective efforts, which resulted in the successful completion of more than two thousand missions throughout the Iraq Theater of Operations. This accomplishment, along with the grace of God, was achieved without injury or loss of life.

These men and women are among the very best of the reserve components and represented the Utah National Guard with honor and integrity.

It has been an honor and privilege to have been their operational combat commander.”



Members of the 142nd MI Bn traveling through the Iraqi countryside

Dedication or Addiction? The 169th Intelligence Squadron

By SMSgt Keith Forman



Photo provided by 169th

First mission in Afghanistan, May 2003 - This was flown out of K2 (Kharshi-Khanadad, Uzbekistan). This mission was the first time in history that a United States Intelligence Asset was based in the former Soviet Union and flew missions from the same.

*Front Row, left to right: Mitch, Greg, Mad Max, Bryan, Truman, R2D2, Peter, and Combat Earl
Back Row, from left to right: Bela, Casey, Paul, John, Mikey, Nick, Pyrex, Ozz, Frankie, and Doug*

It wasn't that long ago when the 169th Intelligence Squadron was the smallest squadron on the Utah Air National Guard Base. In fact, it stayed that way through its first ten years of growth from April of 1988 into 1998. Today, the 169th is still small for its mission, and still marches near the end at Governor's Day Review, but interestingly the unit has more flyers than all other Utah Air Guard units combined.

Reflecting back, as many Utah Guard members return from their 12 to 18 month activations in Iraq and other places, 169th airmen remember that it was just a short time ago that they finished their 2-year activation supporting Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle in places as diverse as

Afghanistan, Colombia, Uzbekistan, Ecuador, and Key West, probably the most diverse and dangerous place of all. Most members feel, that in the last 16 years, 2 years of active duty isn't much of a stretch from what they were already doing as standard operating procedure at the 169th.

The 169th routinely deploys 120-days a year in support of Southern Command missions, in addition to the occasional exercise. Since 9/11 and unit activation from October 2001 to October 2003, an additional 120-days supporting Central Command has really given a new meaning to the term "weekend warrior." Considering the squadron has just reached the 150-member mark, 240 days a year in part-

time status in two theaters is quite an accomplishment. Ask most members of the 169th about activation and their response is, "activation? What's that? We're busier now than when we were activated."

Because of the unique mission of the 169th Intelligence Squadron the familiar phrase, "If I tell you, I'll have to kill you," is trite. Sitting behind a six-foot fence complete with razor wire, the squadron conveys images of Spy vs. Spy, Colonel Flagg, and License to Kill, which to the uninitiated doesn't fairly or accurately convey what the 169th is about and in most cases never will. It's something that members of this unique fraternity have just gotten used to.

(Continued on next page)



Photo provided by 169th

CJTF 180 sign with TSgt Matt “Skippy” Littlefield and TSgt Scott “Loveshack” Loveless

Part of the reason behind this mystique can be attributed to two things: national security and intense training requirements. Each member of the 169th receives an extensive background investigation, which allows access to special compartmented information. This investigation can take from six months to two years. During this “background investigation” period most members complete one year, and usually more, of special training followed by at least one year of on-the-job training. Many prospective candidates never finish, but those who do are considered to be the top one percent of the United States military and are the exception to the oxymoron “Military Intelligence.”

Additionally, most members of the 169th, officers and enlisted, have bachelors and masters degrees; most score higher on military placement tests than 99 percent of the military, active and reserve combined; and most are either highly trained linguists or highly

skilled maintenance personnel responsible for systems that cross many specialties. The majority of linguist and maintenance personnel fly, which requires additional training and currency requirements. Major Mitch Hall, the 169th Operations Officer said, “When one considers two to three years of advanced training and intensive background checks, how could anyone

think something normal is going on behind the fence? The people who complete the training and pass the requirements for certification and qualification on our weapons systems are truly the best in the United States Air Force.”

Lieutenant Colonel William G. Siddoway, the Commander of the 169th, puts it this way: “I work with the best and brightest people in the Air Force, and in the entire military for that matter. All are dedicated; all are willing to serve, and rarely do I need to step in to micro-manage what they are doing. I can just stand back and watch as the men and women of the 169th make me look good.”

SMSgt Jay Hadlow and TSgt Jeff Kennicott, both original members of the squadron, feel that after 17 years the 169th is the best hobby they ever had. “When I joined the 169th, back before it was even called the 169th, I looked at it as an interesting hobby. Now, 17 years later, it’s still the best hobby I’ve ever had,” said SMSgt Hadlow. TSgt Kennicott, who got out of the 169th for several years after serving during Desert Storm, stated, “It’s tough to replace this



Photo provided by 169th

An Su-27 from the former Soviet Union co-located with the 169th in the former Soviet Union, now our compadres in the war on terrorism



Photo provided by 169th

169th Senior Scout getting ready to take off from an air field in Afghanistan

job in the civilian world. Like Jay said, it's a hobby, which I guess has really become more of an addiction with me." An addiction? Probably, but not many men and women have an addiction that makes their boss look good, serves their state and nation, and requires participation in their habit by husbands, wives, and family members. Ask any member of the 169th how they can do what they do and they will tell you they couldn't do it without the support of their family. Most family members, especially wives, would agree that working for the 169th is "an addiction."

"It's refreshing to see parents, husbands, wives, and children who are so selfless in supporting their husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, and children in doing their jobs in the 169th. It is an absolute blessing interacting with family members who support the troops. That's not to say we haven't suffered our share of emotional and financial hardships during our 2-year activation; however, the difference was in how the distraught approached their problems. It wasn't in a loud voice on television or radio, or complaining to their Congressmen or Senator, but in working together as

members of the squadron and getting things taken care of. I can't ask for better support than from the family members of the 169th," says First Sergeant Denise Rager.

That's really all there is to the 169th Intelligence Squadron. A bunch of dedicated, "addicted" people with great leadership, a great support system, and great families. If anything else could be said about this great asset to the State of Utah and the United States of America it would probably not be voiced by anyone in the 169th. "Don't ask, don't tell," has replaced the familiar "If I tell you I'll have to kill you."

Update on the Activities of the 116th Eng. Company



Photo provided by 116th

The 116th touched down in Kuwait around Feb 8th. An advanced detachment flew up to Iraq on February 11th, and the main body arrived in late February. The last month has been filled with earthwork and grading operations in support of the Life Support Area where we are stationed, near Baghdad. Missions are usually grade, gravel, and compact, but we've also been tasked with missions to haul asphalt, gravel, and fill material. We have been tasked to collapse and fill some substandard fighting positions built by either Iraqis or paratroopers, —can't always tell the difference between who built those little death traps. I, for sure, would not get in one during calm or firestorm. They have very little strength in the roofs. Almost anyone with common sense would not walk across the top of one of these positions. We have probably used our equipment to fill about a dozen of these positions in the last few weeks.

Some of our bigger jobs have been to resurface the ammunition supply point yard, repair and resurface the Corp Distribution Center yard. This job is interesting because they handle a lot of military equipment 24-hours a day, so it has taken some brilliant ideas by the platoon leaders, platoon sergeants, and equipment operators to get the work done without interrupting the logistical operations.

The operators have to keep on their toes. In general terms, I can tell you that while the threat is minimal, terrorist

insurgents try not to let coalition forces forget that they are in town and intend to inflict harm. The 116th has sustained no WIA to date, but has had a couple of close calls from inside the base. The biggest threat to date has been unexploded ordinance. Delays to projects for EOD to come dispose of munitions are common. Last week 3rd platoon spotted four unexploded bomb lets from a U.S. bomb. First platoon dug up an old rusty voice recorder box on a project near the airfield. The Air Force S-2 wasn't too interested in recovering anything from it. The soldiers either discarded it or used it as a bookend, I'm not sure. Second platoon exposed an object resembling a land mine that was probably a dud, based on the large amount of traffic that had passed over the location in the last year. This is a captured Iraqi airfield; so finding a land mine is probably only a one-time occurrence unless they put mines on their own bases—not likely.

What about soldier life? The KBR does our laundry once a week, and they do a very nice job. They take care of the mess halls, 4 or 5 of them. Our cooks supervise the preparation and handling of food and inspect weapons clearing when entering the mess halls. Thank heavens for KBR no matter what the press says about any real or perceived impropriety. I can't think there are very many organizations qualified and willing to provide the services they do in this dangerous and

By 1LT Randy Miller XO 116th
 austere environment. The terrorists target KBR, AAFES, Iraqi security, military personnel, and Iraqi civilians, regularly. They shoulder more than their fair share of the dangers in this country. Accommodations are very nice relatively speaking. Three hots a day, and we live in a building with concrete walls and concrete roof complete with air conditioning. Things are getting better too. There is a PX and some local vendors selling everything from cigars to fine jewelry to fine rugs -- I mean very fine rugs. One was about 0.6m x 1 m, made of pure silk and cost about \$2,500 U.S. Dollars. There are of course, other wares more in the range of soldier salaries.

Most of the roads on the installation are paved and, thanks to the engineers, the majority of the motor pools will soon have plenty of gravel covering them. From our building I can look out across the motor pool, across the wire, past the guard tower, across the canal and farm field and see palm trees lining the banks of the Tigris River. Everything outside the wire looks green and plush and inviting; inside the wire looks just like any other military installation. We do, however, have a number of trees and shrubs around our building, including some attractive palm trees. We have a nice population of colorful little birds around, too. The children and parents working the farm fields outside the wire are usually pretty friendly and often are the first to offer a friendly wave. I saw a boy this morning running along the fence to get a good look at our smooth roller. I guess tanks, bradleys and APCs have grown routine, and he was curious about what kind of gizmo that was rolling down the road.

Winning What Counts with the 116th Engineer Co.

By 1LT Neil Miller



Members of the 116th enjoying a meal at Camp Buckmaster

At the end of another hot dusty day of building roads in the desert of Iraq, you will find members of the 116th Engineer Company gathered around a cooked meal at the Camp Buckmaster dining facility. Joined by workers from different Department of Defense civilian contractors, the chow hall is a favorite gathering place to relax and share stories in this “ad hoc” miner’s camp.

After chow, soldiers here basically have two choices: get cleaned up, shoot the breeze and go to bed, or play soccer, get cleaned up, and go to bed. If you walk through the tents, you can usually find a movie playing somewhere as well. Some soldiers have recently discovered the entertainment value of watching camel spider matches. It’s not out of place to hear a crowd roar, gathered in a tent, while these arachnid gladiators fight it out.

The days have started to push the mercury up higher and higher. One hundred and twenty degrees Fahrenheit plus seems to be a daily occurrence by mid afternoon. The nights get downright

chilly. Soldiers sleep under blankets and sleeping bags and occasionally switch air conditioning units to heat to take the chill off.

Down at the makeshift athletic field you will find a ball and a dozen or so Iraqi security workers engaged in a very competitive but friendly game of soccer. From time to time soldiers who are done with their day’s work and dinner, join them. After an hour or so of chasing the ball back and forth, the sun dips below the horizon and Venus appears in the Western sky. A short time later the royal blue Iraqi sky darkens a bit and the stars begin to evidence the symbols of Orion and the Big Dipper.



Members of the 116th pose for a team photo with their Iraqi security force friends.



Hakeem Abid moves skyward to meet the soccer ball with his head.

As the soccer game winds down and the Iraqi security workers ready themselves for the change of the guard, a soldier will reveal a camera and all of a sudden there is a new main attraction. After several smiles, handshakes, poses and pictures, it’s ‘ma salama’ and back to work for the security team and to bed for the soldiers. Another good day in rebuilding Iraq and winning what counts; the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people, one at a time.

Photos by 1st Lt. Neil Miller

Utah National Guard Soldiers Fill the Gap

By Maj. Howard D. Carpenter



Photo provided by 1/211th Avn

Soldiers of the Utah National Guard volunteered to help out the Special Operations Command in Afghanistan during the transfer of authority when soldier shortages were experienced

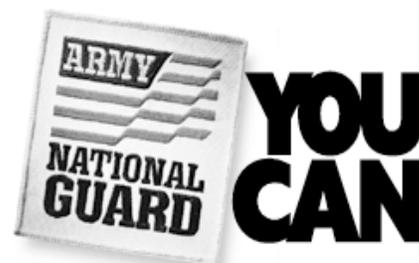
Recently, approximately 100 Utah National Guard soldiers, primarily from the 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne), deployed to Afghanistan as part of a transition force, during a transfer of authority at the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force – Afghanistan (CJSOTF-A). Soldiers were all volunteers and deployed in a Contingency Operations Temporary Tour of Active Duty (COTTAD) status. Soldiers served in many capacities ranging from Sergeant Major of the Joint Operations Center to Mail Clerk, to Liaison Officer to the Coalition Special Operations Forces elements. Deployments were as short as 70-days and as long as 149-days. Many positive comments were received regarding our soldiers and their abilities to adapt to do whatever was asked of them. Col. Herd, CJSOTF-A Commander, asked many of our soldiers to extend from their

initial tours due to the critical need and the great things they were accomplishing. COTTAD is not a mobilization and as such does not count toward a soldier's "mobilization clock". It was a unique solution to an on-going problem in the Special Operations Forces community. That problem being that there are not enough Special Operations personnel to adequately cover all of the current operations and the National Guard Special Operations mobilization restrictions.

Soldiers deployed through the Contingency Readiness Center at Fort Benning, Georgia, where they received mobilization-like screening and last minute training and instruction. All of the soldiers deploying on this mission attended and completed the Combat Lifesavers Course prior to their departure on the mission.

Participating soldiers hit the ground running in Afghanistan and conducted themselves in a very professional way. Many times, active duty soldiers were surprised that these soldiers who worked side by side with them were from the National Guard and a new found respect was solidified between active duty and National Guard personnel.

The 19th Special Forces Group and the Utah National Guard can be proud of its soldiers and the way they performed their duties.



151st SFS Complete Successfully Desert Warfare Training

By Staff Sergeant Jeri A. Cuch



The 151st Security Forces Squadron (SFS) is now more prepared to be deployed to a desert warfare area. On April 12, 2004 the 151st SFS departed for desert warfare training, known as Expeditionary Readiness Training Silver Flag Alpha, located at Indian Springs, Nevada. As a forty-four-man team was sent to this training, several Army troops were tasked to maintain security at the Utah Air National Guard base. The training was used to fulfill the yearly training requirement for all Air National Guard members. The unit met with other guard members, reservists, and active duty personnel to combine together for mission accomplishment.

This training experience consisted of preparing the airmen for deploying to desert terrain. Some of the main areas were conducting convoys, entry control points, reporting and alerting, weapons firing, foreign relations, and patrolling. All these areas are fundamental to being deployed to tactical areas and forward locations. Every aspect was covered in a classroom environment and then moved outside for practical exercise. The instructors also expected everyone to use the information discussed in the short class on Arabic culture and language. The last three days the entire group was split into two flights, Alpha



One of the practical exercises conducted during the training

and Bravo, to conduct 24-hour security for the base. This basically was a 3-day exercise of being probed and attacked by the instructors. The goal of the exercise was to not lose a single resource, which was no small task being mortared and gassed continually. The 151st SFS and the three other small teams assigned together on the same flight completed this successfully. This is the first time a flight never lost a resource with the new course format.

Indian Springs proved a very realistic training environment with all the structures needed for forward base operations.

The realistic weapons course of fire for the M-16, M-249, and M-60 were by far the favorite for the troops and were very effective. Each person was designated a type of weapon and was sent to specialized training for their respective weapons. The M-16 group reported that the course of fire, involving the deployment from vehicles, was the best they had ever experienced. SSgt Sage, a M-249 gunner, said his favorite part was using the Raptor Night Scope and firing from a moving vehicle. Others like Sr. Airman Stevens felt the success of the program was due to the instructors and their superior teaching abilities.

The troops that had already been deployed to desert terrain said they wish they would have had this training prior to their previous deployments. This training was excellent and very informative. The unit is now more prepared, ready, and able to deploy to those demanding desert areas.



Another practical exercise presented during the training

Photos provided by 151st SFS

115th Engineer Battalion Conducts Innovative Readiness Training to Help Utah Communities

By 2nd Lt. Wencke Tate



Photo by 2nd Lt. Wencke Tate

Looking over the pristine land where the new Eureka Motocross Park will be built

Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) is a program that benefits the Utah Army National Guard and cities all across the country. Yet still, many people have never heard of it. Two recent projects the Utah Army National Guard worked on are the Bluffdale City Park Improvement and the Eureka motor cross. At Bluffdale the Guard worked on a soccer field, retention pond and three parking lots. In Eureka earth is being moved to construct a motocross field that will be the envy of other fields.

“The IRT has a double benefit. One is to the soldier who gets real world training and the other is to the community who gets some manpower that might not be otherwise gotten,” said Lt. Col. John P. Moore, Battalion Commander 115th Engineer Battalion. “And the relationship built between the Guard and community is strengthened.”

MSG Shane Rothwell, who now helps put together the proposals for IRT

projects, had the opportunity to participate in an IRT project in the past. “I loved it. It was fantastic. It was very well organized,” said Rothwell. “If a soldier can see a finished project, they’ll think - I helped do that. Doing a project in the community leaves you with a sense of accomplishment like you’ve helped people,” said Rothwell.

Staff Sgt. Steve Bauer worked on both the Bluffdale and Eureka projects and finds it to be a valuable experience for soldiers. “It gives the young troops an opportunity to train on equipment that they normally wouldn’t run.” When asked about his recent Army Achievement Medal for his work at Bluffdale he was humble. “I’m not doing the projects for a medal; I’m way too old for that. It’s the young kids that deserve the recognition and the sense of accomplishment that comes from training those soldiers,” said Bauer.

There is no doubt that IRT is a win-win situation for all involved. “It also benefits us in recruiting and retention—they get to see us working in the community and it allows the soldiers to be a part of the community to,” said, Lt. Kenworthy, Training Officer for the 115th Engineer Battalion.

If you are interested in learning more about Innovative Readiness Training, contact the 115th Engineer Battalion at (801) 766-6420.



Photo by Sgt. Ryan Wright

Once the dust settles, the town of Eureka will have a motocross park to enjoy. The project will benefit both the Guard and the community.

Company C 1/112th Command Aviation Battalion (CAB) Keeps Utah Flying

By 2nd Lt. Deborah Gatrell

With the 1/211th deployed to Afghanistan, Blackhawks are leading the way at home. When people mention aviation in the Utah Army National Guard, Apaches are usually the airframe that comes to mind. But right now, C Company 1/112th CAB (Corps) is actively engaged in a wide range of support missions in the service of state and country.

Two years ago, Utah's only Blackhawk unit was redesignated as a CAB unit. The VIP flights are the new primary mission, but this has not stopped C Company from fulfilling a wide range of real-world missions and training. Fighting fires and ferrying generals are in a day's work for the unit.

This June during annual training, the 2nd Platoon was tasked to support the Patriot West exercises throughout the state. In addition to unit level training and providing stand-by crews for the tactical support unit, 2nd Platoon of C Company also provided transportation for media support missions and numerous VIP delegations. Most notably, C Company was privileged to transport a delegation of high ranking Moroccan military to observe the Patriot West exercises at the Intermountain Power Plant in Delta.

At the same time, the platoon fielded numerous requests for state support missions, to include flyovers and static displays at the opening ceremony for the Utah Summer Games in Cedar City and at the Capitol for the Flag Day ceremony beginning Utah's Military Appreciation Week. At the Hill Air Force Base Thunderbird Air Show, 2nd Platoon provided the only military rotary wing aircraft on static display.



Civilians and military personnel attending the Thunderbird Airshow at Hill AFB view the Blackhawk

Thousands had the opportunity to view a Blackhawk up close and ask questions. Many children waited in line to have the chance to sit in the aircraft, and a lucky few even sat in the pilot seat.

Joint flight operations with the Air Force are also part of C Company's mission. Within the past few years, the unit has provided Combat Search and Rescue support as well as support for recovery operations in the West Desert following aircraft mishaps. These operations have included a wide range of aircraft, to include F-15s, A-10 Warthogs, C-130s and ASTARs. Other support missions involved cruise missile support and HAMOTS, to name a few.

Company C continues to hone its tactical military skills through intensive training. In May, the Company completed annual gunnery qualification with amazing success. The crew chiefs

were on target with 100% qualification. Many commented that their new night sights improved accuracy to the point that they were more accurate on the night portion of the course than the day portion. This August, the 1st Platoon of C Company will deploy to Pinion Canyon, Colorado in support of the 41st Infantry Brigade for annual training in preparation for their deployment to Iraq.



Personnel of Co C, 2nd Platoon, after their final flight of annual training

A Plane Built With Love... And a Few Coke Cans

By Maj. Scott Lythgoe

Retired Tech. Sgt. Clint Royce, Utah Air National Guard, placed his “Labor of Love,” a model of the C-97G, on permanent display in the lobby of the Utah ANG headquarters building here May 16.

Royce had spent the past nine years, the last two years non-stop, building a model of the cargo and troop hauler plane on which he was a crew chief.

Royce calls the model a “Labor of Love” because of the countless hours and dollars spent to put together the model.

He was interested in finding an exact duplicate of the C-97 but was unable to find one. Other than an old technical order that he had kept, Royce began his project without any plans to work from. However, he did have years of model building to rely on.

The model is built mainly of fiberglass, plastic and resin. Some parts required some unique combinations of materials. For example, the cowl flaps on the engines were built from coke cans.

The model is an exact replica of not only the outside but the inside as well. Mr. Royce used numberless paperclips



Photo by Master Sgt. Burke Baker

Archive photo of the C-97G (upper left corner) and the model built by Retired Tech. Sgt. Clint Royce. The model, on display at the Utah Air National Guard Headquarters building, was built over a nine-year time period.

for all of the tubing found in the jet. If you look closely in the cockpit, you can see all of the details of the flight deck.

The Utah ANG flew the C-97 during the 1960s and 70s. Royce flew all over the world in the plane.

Col. Doug Compton, who is the last remaining pilot on base to have flown

the plane, remarked at the ceremony that the only thing louder than the plane’s engines were its brakes. Also, he said that maybe the only thing missing from the replica were the puddles of oil that would accumulate on the ground, directly under the engines, after the plane had been parked for a few hours.

Tenet Units Change Control

By Maj. Scott Lythgoe

Maj. Gen. Brian L. Tarbet, Utah State Adjutant General, has recently directed Col. Brent E. Winget, Utah Air National Guard Commander, to implement a new consolidated wing concept for all units at the Utah ANG base.

For administrative control purposes, tenet units at the base such as the 101st Information Warfare Flight, 109th Air Control Squadron, 130th Electronic Installation Squadron, 169th Intelligence Squadron and the 299th Range Control Squadron are being consolidated under a new group commander titled Command, Control, Communication and

Computers Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C4 ISR).

This change has been made so that commanders at the base tenet units will be under the administrative control of the installation/base wing commander. The idea is to promote better continuity between all units on base and streamline the base chain of command.

Winget said these ANG units report to state commanders administratively and to their major commands operationally. This new idea streamlines the administrative control of the tenet units.

There's No Place Like "Home"

By Senior Airman Ben Nichols

The 151st Operations Group and 191st Air Refueling Squadron are finally ready to come home after waiting a year and a half for building 40 to be renovated. The building was supposed to be finished last February, however, due to one scheduling problem after another it took nearly a year more than was originally planned.

The personnel housed there have been working in building 18, which was scheduled to be demolished. "It was overdue and out of date," said Lt. Col. Quin Bridge, Ops Support Flight Commander, "Everybody is excited to get closer to the flightline."

The basic framework stayed the same, but the building has been opened up to create a lot more space, which makes the Ops renovation unique. Maj. Doug Lindner, 151st Civil Engineering Squadron, said the goal of these type projects is to better align the buildings with the users. Almost \$16 million has been used to update and replace buildings on the base within the last couple of years. The total cost for the new Headquarters and refurbished Operations buildings amounted to \$8 million: operations received \$1.4 million and \$6.6 million went to the Headquarters' project.

When asked about the main challenges with the new buildings Lindner stated, "The biggest problem we are facing is the time between the initial designs [and] the move-in process is about four years. In that time people change and attitudes toward the design change."

Although the initial reaction may be one of unhappiness with the design, Lindner pointed out that with anything new we need to wait and reserve judgment until all the bugs are worked out, which can take a year or two. Overall the additional space and the efficiency of the new buildings is a good deal for the base, reminded Lindner.



The aircrew briefing room, foyer and flying helmet lockers are shown in the various photographs.



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Brad Leiter



1st Sgt. Francis Receives Mario Guerrero Award

By Spec. Matt Smith



1st Sgt. Wade Francis with an Olympic Gold Medal winner

The Mario Guerrero Award was presented to 1st Sgt Wade Francis of the 85th Civil Support Team (CST) at the Intermountain Hazmat Conference that was held in Park City. Francis earned the award for his significant contributions to the Utah state HAZMAT community. The annual award is named after Mario Guerrero, a fire fighter that died in the line of duty. Nominations are submitted from numerous public safety organizations to a special committee from the Department of Emergency Services for Homeland Security. The committee then reviews the nominations and selects the most outstanding candidate to receive the award. Francis was selected for being the top trainer in the state and for outstanding performance with his unit. Francis was very shocked and surprised to receive the award. "I never thought that I would get the award. It took me by surprise," Francis said Tuesday.

Francis has been an integral part of the state's effort to train Utah's first

responders, Utah National Guard personnel and Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness members. Since being designated as the coordinator for the Utah National Guard over five years ago, he has trained hundreds of military and civilian emergency responders in basic and advanced HAZMAT skills. "Wade's

knowledge and expertise in the industry have earned him the respect of his peers in both Utah's emergency response community and across the country," said Maj. Wendy Cline, Commander, 85th Civil Support Team. "Congratulations to a very fine soldier who is working to make the Civil Support Team a superior organization," said Brig. Gen. Stanley J Gordon, Assistant Adjutant General of the Utah Army National Guard.

Training in full protective gear tests and improves the 85th's dexterity skills. Francis has been the units 1st Sgt. since its creation on June 1 of 1999. It was created as a result of the Nunn-Lugar-Domenici Act. The Act required DoD to establish Chemical-Biological Rapid Response Teams for response to domestic terrorist attacks involving weapons of mass destruction including biological, chemical, or radiological materials. Utah's 22-member unit is composed of traditional Army and Air Guards members making it the only joint unit in the Utah National Guard. The team is organized into 6 functions:



Snow and freezing temperatures offer 85th CST soldiers a realistic Utah training scenario

command, operations, administration and logistics, communication, medical, and survey. The 85th CST conducted individual and collective training in a three phase implementation plan in order to be mission operational by September 30, 2002.

As is typical for National Guard units, the 85th is tasked with both a federal and state mission. The unit's federal mission is to provide expertise and support to civilian first-responders (police, fire, medical etc.) in the event of a WMD incident. The 85th's state mission includes sending National Guard liaison personnel to county emergency operations centers or command posts for non-WMD emergencies or disasters and training for participation on the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program response team. This response team provides an emergency response capability in the event of an off-post emergency involving storage and/or disposal of chemical agents at Deseret Chemical Depot.



Photos provided by the 85th CST

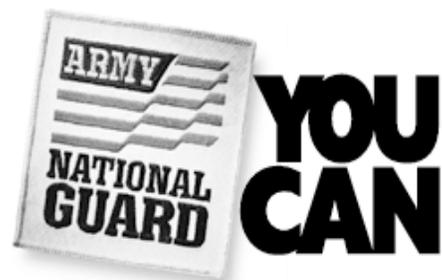
Training for patient transport in full protective gear

The 85th CST was recently fielded as a full-time unit. Last fall the Defense Department established 32 National Guard weapons of mass destruction CST, with 12 new teams to be created this year, "sufficient to ensure that every state and territory will be served by a team," said Paul McHale, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland

Defense. The CST's, McHale added, will enable the United States too sufficiently "respond to multiple, near simultaneous terrorist attacks involving weapons of mass destruction." McHale noted several achievements by National Guard and reservists. As an added level of standard training, he said, nearly every homeland defense exercise conducted now includes a threat scenario involving a terrorist takeover of a commercial airliner. Such exercises, he said have resulted in air defense training that is "realistic, focused and subject to well understood rules of engagement."



Training in full protective gear tests a member of the 85th's dexterity skills



Joint Reserve Intelligence Center of the Year Award



Photo provided by 300th MI Bde

Col. Scot Olson accepts the Joint Reserve Intelligence Center of the Year Award from Vice Admiral Lowell Jacoby

Recently, representatives of the Draper SCIF were presented the Joint Reserve Intelligence Center of the Year Award. Representatives of the facility were flown to the Defense Intelligence Agency at the Bolling Air Force Base in Virginia where they accepted the Joint Reserve Intelligence Center of the Year presented to them by Vice Admiral Lowell E. Jacoby, Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency. This award distinguishes the Draper JRIC as the best reserve intelligence facility in the nation. Unlike the athletes of sports teams who make their clutch shots, throw or catch critical passes in crunch time, the personnel working at the Draper JRIC have done most of their outstanding work quietly and without fanfare.

The award of JRIC of the Year follows on the heels of a Draper soldier winning a JRIP Military Performer of the Year Award the previous year, the equivalent in the sporting world to having an all-star. The award citation read: "The Joint Reserve Intelligence

Center at Draper is recognized for its outstanding contributions and support to the Salt Lake Winter Olympics and the Reserve Component intelligence elements that drill and perform duties in support of their gaining combatant commands during the year. The Draper Joint Reserve Intelligence Center has excelled in making the facilities truly joint through actively promoting the facility to all services. This was demonstrated by representatives of all the services as well as national agencies working in the facility during the year. The Draper JRIC exceeded expectations and improved the war fighting command intelligence capabilities by being one of the highest intelligence and imagery producers. It also completed unique missions and contributed critical information in support of real-world DoD Operations."

The Draper JRIC promotes a joint environment that supported personnel from all military services and several federal agencies during the year. Throughout the year, these personnel

By Staff Sgt. Kade Rolfson

integrated with and worked with other sites and agencies completing missions that aided in accomplishing the policy and interests of the United States of America. This was most evident during the Salt Lake Winter Olympic Games. Because of the capabilities of the JRIC, information and force protection data for all the Olympic security force was received, prepared and transmitted. One of the main quantifiers of the Draper JRIC's effort was that the Olympics successfully took place without casualty or serious incident.

With the many mobilizations that occurred throughout the guard and reserves, the Draper JRIC was one of the first facilities completing home-station mobilizations that allowed soldiers to contribute to worldwide missions while remaining home with their families. This also greatly aided the gaining commands that were able to accomplish their mission as if the soldiers were physically present, without having to provide housing and administrative support, which can create a strain on already, strained resources while saving the taxpayer's money.

Working these real-world missions created an infrastructure that allowed those who work full-time to mentor acquired skills to members of their unit who usually drill only one weekend a month. This enables soldiers who deploy to make immediate contributions because of the extra training they received. Probably the greatest contribution of the Draper JRIC was that it allowed the military to complete critical missions they would have otherwise been unable to meet by having access to the unique language base in the area.

Inspector General Exercise a Success!

By 2nd Lt. Douglas E. Pierson

On May 1st members of 151st Medical Group accompanied by the 151st Services Squadron of the Utah Air National Guard headed off in a KC-135 to Savannah, Georgia to participate in an Inspector General Exercise Inspection of the Decontamination and Mental Health Unit Training Codes. This one-week exercise truly tested the limits of their wartime readiness response and resolve. Demanding twelve to fifteen hour days were common as the decontamination and mental health team suited up in full MOPP gear for up to four hours at a time. During these demanding periods, they medically treated and decontaminated 42 simulated casualties while observing various levels of alert and MOPP conditions.

The Inspector General Exercise Inspectors were truly impressed with the 151st Group participants. The three medical Unit Type Code units that were evaluated were rated as "Excellent" by



Photos provided by the 151st Medical Group

Members of the 151st Medical Group during their Inspector General Exercise in Savannah, Georgia

the inspectors. The 151st Medical Squadron's enthusiasm, Unit Type Code and Airman's Manual knowledge assisted them greatly in generating the "Excellent" rating. This was the first rating of its kind from the Utah Air National Guard for this type of inspection. Even more impressive, was

the Inspector General Exercise Inspectors asked members of the 151st, Group representing the Mental Health and Decontamination teams, if they would assist with future inspections of units with similar Unit Type Codes because of the knowledge and expertise demonstrated while performing their duties.

Despite the smiling faces seen by our team members, this was surely not a vacation for anyone involved. While performing twelve to fifteen hour shifts, free time was spent eating MRE's and being confined to the base installation even after the exercise scenario ended. Despite the hardship, the esprit-de-corps and teamwork demonstrated by the medical group was outstanding and potentially contagious. Even members of the services squadron who accompanied them on this exercise, could be found trying to cover-up an occasional and unexpected grin when observing the exceptional performance of the Medical Group personnel.



Members of the 151st Medical Group Decontamination and Mental Health Unit Training Code working on simulated casualties

1st Battalion 145th Field Artillery (Big Red)



Members of the 1/145th securing the Intermountain Power Plant during the Electric Storm Exercise in Delta, Utah

The Field Artillery is not just about cannons! The Field artillery is about developing great soldiers and great leaders. The soldiers and leaders of the “Big Red” Battalion have proven themselves again this summer by excelling not only in the traditional Field Artillery Tasks of destroying, neutralizing or suppressing the enemy during Global Patriot 2004, but also in securing and defending the Intermountain Power Plant (IPP) during the Electric Storm Exercise.

Both were conducted during the unit’s annual training. The 1-145th Field Artillery deployed to Dugway, Utah and successfully completed a commanders training assessment, which evaluates the unit’s ability to deliver field artillery fires. The Battalion also worked closely with I Corps Artillery who was simulating the 151st FA Brigade and provided general support fires to the simulated 40th Infantry Division.

The Battalion fired over 1,200 155mm rounds. The Global Patriot exercise also afforded the Battalion the opportunity to train on Support and Stability Operations (SASO). The 19th

Special Forces was tasked as the OPFOR and played the simulated role of local tribesman as found in Iraq and Afghanistan. Our leaders learned fast and are now better prepared if called upon to support current combat operations. On, June 13, 2004 the Battalion received a change of mission order to secure and defend the Intermountain Power Plant located in Delta, Utah.

Approximately 120 Soldiers air assaulted to IPP on the 14th of June

and successfully implemented the security plan. The remainder of the Battalion convoyed to Delta and was implemented into the defense of the IPP. This exercise was the first of its kind. It included participation from private industry, local authorities, state government, and the military.

The Battalion coordinated with employees from IPP, the Millard County Sheriff’s Office, the Utah State Department of Public Safety, the Utah Highway Patrol, and the Joint Task Force Utah Emergency Operations Center. Successful communication, coordination, and sharing of information were critical to the success of the mission. The soldiers and leaders of the Battalion were also able to draw on the experiences they gained during their security mission at the Deseret Chemical Depot located near Tooele, Utah in 2002-2003. The Battalion completed their mission successfully with great professionalism and determination. “Hooah” to the Field Artillery Soldiers and the leaders of the 1st Battalion 145th Field Artillery (Big Red).



Photos provided by 1/145th FA

Get High on Life, the Activities of the Utah National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program

Have you heard of the Utah National Guard's Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) program? The program has an extremely important and difficult mission to educate the citizens of Utah on drug awareness. This mission is accomplished with ten dedicated instructors and staff.

The DDR provides drug awareness education, based on the current drug trends throughout the state, to Utah's youth in grades 6 through 12. The DDR also provides drug awareness education to community and religious based organizations. The goal of DDR is to educate both youth and adults on the "high" physical and psychological consequences of illegal drug usage. The culmination of the DDR presentation is a day on a portable climbing wall. This activity encourages a "Get High on Life" concept, showing that challenging physical activities are more exciting and rewarding than drug use. The DDR currently has two presentations, the first is a 4-hour course presented in schools over a 4-day period with the climbing wall on the 5th day. The second presentation is a 2-hour program presented to religious and community organizations, followed up by a visit to the portable climbing wall or rappel tower, located at Camp Williams.

The DDR also runs annual youth camps for at-risk youth. These camps run for one week and include drug awareness education, leadership skills, and self-esteem building activities such as portable climbing walls, Leadership Reaction Course, Rugged Outdoors Physical Experience (ROPEs) course,



Photo provided by DDR

DDR personnel working with youth on the climbing walls

and positive role models for these at-risk youth. Here is an example of the many letters of appreciation that have been received ... "I appreciate so much the presentations that Staff Sgt. Harker and Staff Sgt. Tindell did for Wasatch Youth Center August 18th through August 22nd. They did two presentations a day... I heard very positive feedback from the staff and youth. I attended the climbing wall on the 22nd and was so impressed with the way that Staff Sgt. Harker and Staff Sgt. Tindell worked with the youth. It was a very positive and memorable experience. What a great week it was for all that attended. Thank you for working with our youth. I look forward to working with you in the future in some of our other programs. Thank you for the great role models that you are and for the great job that you do."

The DDR instructors and staff have made a tremendous contribution

to the education of Utah citizens. Since the year 2000 they have made presentations to over 181,000 youth (elementary-high school) and over 18,000 adults making the total audience over 200,000.

Along with their service to the citizens of Utah, each instructor and staff member have deployed in support of either Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom over the past 3 years, some serving multiple tours. Throughout all of the different challenges DDR has faced over the years, the soldiers of the Utah National Guard DDR have continued to provide this vital service to our Utah communities. The DDR looks forward to many more years of service to the communities we support.

For more information on the DDR program and how to request their support call 801-253-5775. "Get High on Life".

State Medical Command, the 144th ASMC, and Company C 112th CAB Conduct Medevac Training

By 1st Lt. Shelley Miller

A Black Hawk helicopter from Company C, 1st Battalion 112th CAB circled different training sites around Camp Williams as several Army Medics from the State Medical Command, and the 144th Area Support Medical Company (ASMC) waited anxiously at the edge of the landing pad. As the helicopter swooped low and flared for its landing, the clock continued ticking. Every second is critical in an emergency medical evacuation.

This time it was an exercise, but next time could be real. In order to be prepared, the State Medical Command and the 144th ASMC conducted medical evacuation training with members of Company C 1-112 Aviation for support.

According to Maj. Peter Adams, Deputy State Surgeon and commander of this exercise, the purpose of the training was to conduct “familiarization with medevac procedures between our medics and aviators from the 112th in order to be able to rapidly respond to a true emergency.”

The training schedule for this exercise called for instruction on how to triage a casualty, discuss and execute different litter carries, approaches to the helicopter, load patients on the aircraft, give instructions to inbound helicopters, mark landing zones, and set up perimeter security. The UH-60A Black Hawk can carry up to six litters or eight ambulatory patients. Company C 1-112th supplied medevac support with three helicopters.

Two separate missions were conducted including a day and a night



Photos provided by 144th ASMC

Members of the State Medical Command and the 144th ASMC participating in the Medevac Training Exercise at Camp Williams

mission involving roughly 140 Utah soldiers. The State Medical Command and the 144th supplied all the medical personnel with non MOS-qualified soldiers being the casualties for the triage.

The basic mission was to conduct mass casualty and evacuation of friendly forces in the Camp Williams area on April 3rd. The opposing force was named “Cedar Valley Citizens for the Immediate Liberation of Camp Williams” who provided the basis for the mass casualty.

The first mission was conducted during the early afternoon with plenty of daylight to triage casualties. The night mission involved training with Night Vision Goggles and minimal lighting used to triage the casualties. Chem lights of

various colors were used to designate different areas of triage, landing zones and NCOs and Officer in charge of training. The day’s training was good because it involved emergency response time and a chance to familiarize with local procedures, which will decrease confusion in a real emergency. The night training was excellent due to the fact that it was practiced in a non-clinical environment, trying to find wounded soldiers to treat while applying IV lines in the dark provided a realistic scenario.

The Medical Command, the 144th ASMC and Company C 1-112th personnel came away from the experience better trained and prepared with insight on what to expect in a real wartime environment with possible terrorist activity on the home front.

Family Support Wife Honored for Hard Work

Story and photo by Sgt. Scott Faddis, 128th MPAD



Sundee Peterson is presented a plaque for her service to families in the 19th Special Forces. (From left to right) 2nd Lt. David Jones, Sundee Peterson and Col. (R) Fred Allen

The Association of the United States Army, Utah Chapter, held a luncheon at the library to honor soldiers and supporters for recent service. The April 6th luncheon was part of the groups' general membership meeting. Col.(R) Fred Allen presented awards to family support workers. Lynnette Wright from the Reserves and Sundee Peterson from the Utah National Guard were both presented with plaques for their hard work and long hours

supporting the families of deployed soldiers.

The Association presented an award to Peterson for her work as the 19th Special Forces family support coordinator. Peterson and her family live in Uinta, Utah, however, much of her work with the family support requires her to travel into Salt Lake. Peterson started in May, 2003, as a volunteer, working with her husbands' company. In July, many of the Special

Forces units were deployed and Peterson responded by working diligently to organize a family support system.

"Sundee was an obvious choice for this award," said 2nd Lt. David Jones, family support coordinator for the Utah National Guard. "When her husband's unit was deployed she went into overdrive, giving 110% effort to the program."

UTE Stampede – “Catch the Flag”

By 1st Lt. Wencke Tate



Skydiver Mark Schlatter maneuvers to land the U.S. Flag on target in the rodeo arena

The second weekend in July is a pretty special one for Sgt. 1st Class Kamron Wright. That is the weekend they hold the annual Ute Stampede in Nephi, Utah. For the past three years Wright has gathered troops to the rodeo arena to catch the flag, the United States of America flag. “I enjoy doing it. It’s pretty important to me because I think it’s a really patriotic act,” said Wright, 115th Engineer Battalion.

Wright, who has lived in Nephi all his life, enjoys being a part of the



After catching the flag, Sgt. 1st Class Kamron Wright leads the troops in holding the flag for the playing of the National Anthem

community and when they called and asked him to help with the flag, there was no hesitation. “The Guard has participated in the Ute Stampede for the past twenty years. It has just been recently they were asked to catch the flag and I’m honored to be part of it.”

Sgt. Andrea Murray, 116th Engineer Company, came down on July 16, 2004 to catch the flag for the first

time. “I felt very proud to be an American Soldier. We ran out there to catch the flag and the audience was cheering and screaming their heads off and I was happy. In my military career I have never been as proud as I was at that event because of the spirit the audience displayed. It was a real adrenaline rush.”

Sgt. Melissa Binns concurs. “I was looking all around and was amazed at all the cheering of the audience and the skydiver came down quicker than I expected and I was caught in the moment enjoying it and then realized, I got to go run and catch it now.”

The flag is flown in each night by a professional skydiver and after the catching and playing of the national anthem the rodeo begins.

“It was a good small town rodeo I had a lot of fun. The thing I liked the most was being recognized at the start of the event and they gave a speech about the National Guard and the units that are serving,” said Spec. Scott Jones, 116th Engineer Company. “I would suggest everyone come out and enjoy this event at least once.”



Troops from the Utah National Guard rush to catch flag

Photos by Donna Wright

Utah Guard Finishes 2nd in Corporate Games

Story by 1st Lt. Wencke Tate and Major Frances Marcus

The Utah Army National Guard participated in the 19th annual edition of the Salt Lake County Corporate Games during May 2004. It had been 9 years since the Guard last took part in this event. Major Fran Marcus, Occupational Health Manger, spearheaded the effort for the Guards revitalized involvement. "I decided the Corporate Games were an excellent opportunity to build camaraderie through good spirited competition. When I first started working here we used to participate and then it just faded away. Bringing this event back is a great way to get to know a lot of people and build camaraderie and team spirit," said Marcus. And this was a double benefit for Marcus and all those who would participate because Marcus' job is to promote health and well being. "It is important to get people out and active and this is a great way to do that," said Marcus.

The Corporate Games was created in an effort to enhance the quality of life of the citizens of Salt Lake County through the promotion of wellness and recreational activities. Two of those recreational activities were bowling and trap shooting. Spec. Scott Jones, 116th Engineer Company, participated in both. "I love the competition and I really like being outdoors," said Jones. Although his bowling and trap shooting team didn't place high, Jones said he had a great time.

The Utah Guard came in second overall in the 2004 Corporate Games. "It was extremely successful. Everybody had a great time and people have asked to participate next year so they can try for first place," said Marcus. If Marcus has her way, the



Biking team: Left to right is Michael Brant, Troy Josie, John McKellar, Joe Parker, Jeff Stuart, and Maylynn Nara. The team placed second overall in bike competition

Utah Guard will participate for many years to come. "We're going for the gold next year."

We would like to thank all the team captains:

- Running: Ray Workman
- Softball: Brady Harrison
- Men's Golf: Robert Lloyd
- Women's Golf: Susanne Blair
- Rifle Shoot: Ray Carsey

- Darts: John Cockrell
- Mountain bike: Jeff Stuart
- Volleyball: Eric Whiting
- Trap Shoot: Dave Adamson
- Bowling: Wencke Tate
- 3 on 3 Basketball: Pat Haws
- Rock Climbing: Rachel Orth
- Pool 8-Ball: Delight Simondi and Jerry Green
- Lip Sync: Maylynn Nara



Left to right: Sgt. 1st Class Troy Taylor, Pvt. 1st Class Reagan Yocum, 2nd Lt. Wencke Tate and Spec. Scott Jones UTNG Bowling Team

Photos by Donna Wright

Utah National Guard Biathlon Team

By Lt. Col. Jeff Stuart



Photo provided by UTNG Biathlon Team

Lt. Col. Jeff Stuart, Chief Warrant Officer Noel Olsen, and Staff Sgt. Doug Bernard at the National Guard Championship at Camp Ripley, Minnesota

This past year was an exciting one for members of the Utah National Guard Biathlon Team. The Team competed in the Western Regional Races in West Yellowstone, Montana; the National Guard Championship in Minnesota; and numerous local races.

This year the Utah National Guard Team had several new competitors that experienced the thrill of competition and did well in their first biathlon races. Staff Sgt. Evan McDonough and Melissa Harvey skied their first biathlon race in Yellowstone at the regional qualifiers. McDonough with his Special Forces 18-B background caught on quickly to the shooting aspect and hit 60% of his targets in his first race. In the team relay Staff Sgt. McDonough joined Staff Sgt. Tuck Miller and Lt Col. Jeff Stuart to take 4th place.

Due to mobilizations, the Utah Team was only represented at the National Guard Championships in Camp Ripley, Minnesota by Staff Sgt. Bernard from the 19th Special Forces, Lt. Col. Jeff Stuart from the USPFO, and the coach Chief Warrant Officer Noel Olsen from the 19th Special Forces. The snow was great and the weather was perfect as the racers competed in the individual and team races. Staff Sgt. Bernard scored in the top ten for both individual races making the All-Guard team for the third time. Lt. Col. Stuart won the local race held at Soldier Hollow in March. Chief Warrant Officer Olsen was selected to help coach the All Guard and CISM Team and spent much of March in Europe with the Team. Congratulations

to all participants for their great efforts in representing the Utah National Guard.

This was Chief Warrant Officer Olsen's last year as a competitor and coach of the Utah National Guard Biathlon Team. Chief Olsen has been involved for over twenty years. During this time he has been on the All Guard Team several times, and coached at the state, national, and international level. Much thanks and appreciation for everything Chief Olsen has done for the Utah Guard Team and the Biathlon program. If anyone is interested in knowing more about participating with the team, contact Sgt. 1st Class Brown, the state marksmanship coordinator at 523-4409 or Lt. Col. Jeff Stuart at 523-4224.

Camp Williams “Love Shack” Burns



Intentional burning of Building 4142 at Camp Williams

Smoke billowed out of windows as fireman deployed hose and ladder teams to control the blaze. The fire intensified and rescue personnel pulled back. A large crowd gathered nearby and watched as the entire building was engulfed in flames and burned to the ground in a matter of minutes. Rest in peace “love shack” was the sentiment of all present.

During a recent training exercise with the Salt Lake County Fire Department and the Utah National Guard Security Department, the so-called “love shack” was selected as a building to be burned over and over as part of cooperative readiness training exercise involving the local agencies. Building 4142 was operational for many years at Camp Williams as the Lone Peak Office for the Department of Corrections. Locally, it was known as the “love shack” because in years past it was used for conjugal visits for inmates. Since that function moved to another facility, the old building fell into disrepair. Instead of paying for its demolition, it was decided to use it as

the vehicle for a training exercise. The exercise allowed Camp Williams Base Operations, Utah National Guard Security and the Salt Lake County Fire Department to cooperate in a combined effort.

As the Fire Department instructors set the interior of the building ablaze,

Photo provided by Security Dept.
 By Dennis Kennedy Security Dept. fire units responded escorted by Utah National Guard Security Officers. As fire fighters deployed their engines and charged hoses the security officers blocked off streets and directed traffic. Other security officers located a simulated injured victim and administered first aid and applied an AED until fire paramedics arrived. The fire was quickly put out and firemen were debriefed. The exercise resumed with partial burn after burn until the final moments when the building became fully engulfed and burned down to the foundation as firemen protected surrounding buildings.

The exercise was an excellent opportunity for Utah National Guard personnel and the Salt Lake County Fire Department to work together and train for real world emergencies. The only thing missing was the marshmallows. So long “love shack!”



Photo provided by Security Dept.

Salt Lake County Fire Fighters join with Utah National Guard Security Officers for a readiness exercise at Camp Williams

Camp Williams Fire Prevention

By Spec. Kelly Collett



Goats being used for fire prevention at Camp Williams

Fire fighting can be tough, so why not just prevent the fires in the first place? That is the job of the Natural Resource Management crew located at Camp Williams. It goes back to the old adage of "An ounce of prevention is greater than a pound of cure." But these men and women are not alone in their fight to prevent fire. This summer, they are being aided by a large group of extra hairy, four-legged fire fighters. In this case, about 520 goats have arrived at Camp Williams on June 8 and became that ounce of prevention, or at least part of an innovative plan for fire prevention.

Goats along with herbicides, chainsaws, trimmers, natural fire resistant grasses and roads, all figure into the Utah National Guard equation for fire prevention. Of course, none of this would be successful without accurate calculations, hard work, leadership and dedication by the crew at Camp Williams.

Doug Johnson is the National Resource Manager for the Utah National Guard. Unlike The Forest Service who manages land for the sake

of the land, Johnson manages the land for sake of the soldiers and their training needs. If the military needs cover and concealment for training, Johnson and his crew make sure they get it. If they need an area with a minimal fire risk for launching 40 mm grenades, then that is also delivered.

Doug Johnson explains more about the goat program. In 2000, his office received a grant from the Inner Agency Fire Committee through the Utah State University to experiment with some innovative fire prevention techniques. That summer, they brought in 100 goats and did some experiments. The goats were "deployed" into two-acre pens in high risk areas on the Camp.

"That concentrates the goats down to where they eat until they are satisfied. And then we move them across the road, so we kind of leapfrog them throughout the area. During the 2001 fire, even though the flames were 40 to 50 foot high, when it hit these pens, the fire only penetrated at most 20 feet high."

"They can reach up to about six feet high to get to a food source," Johnson commented about the goats, "They can even push smaller oak trees over. Goats are mostly responsible for reducing the heavy fuels. We mostly want them to eat the oak brush. That's the really heavy fuels on the landscape and that's what carries really hot fires."

Most people think goats will eat just about anything. "Well that is not true," clarified Johnson. "Contrary to popular rumor, they won't eat everything. There are certain plants that they would just have to be starved to eat. But they'll eat a lot of our heavy fuels pretty readily, like the sagebrush and the oak brush. And they do a great job dealing with those fields."

The big catastrophic fires for Camp Williams have always been in the oak brush. In the last ten years, the fires have burned up to 8,000 acres at a time. But the blazing heat generated by the fires is not the only fire hazard at Camp Williams. On some of the ranges, Unexploded Ordnance could also be a danger to firefighting crews, but the Camp has developed a specialized response for those areas. Highly skilled military personnel, known as Explosive Ordnance Disposal, spray the ranges with herbicides to kill the grass and other fuels, which in turn keep fires from igniting in those areas.

The Utah National Guard also relies upon Red Card holders - rugged individuals who have undergone extensive training on wildfire management - as the front line defense against fires. Currently, the Camp has roughly 40 red cardholders available to fight fires at anytime. To earn a Red Card, a volunteer must first complete a

Photos by Spec. Kelly Collett

rigorous 40-hour course. The course tests both the physical and intellectual toughness of its students. The physical portion culminates in a 45 minute, three-mile road march with a 45 lbs pack to be completed in 45 minutes, echoing basic military training. It also teaches invaluable skills for fighting fire in the wild.

Lt. Col. Stuart, who earned his Red Card this May, elaborates, "You learn about weather conditions you learn about fire fuels, you learn about temperatures, humidity, and all those kind of things that affects how a fire acts. You learn about all the different techniques for fighting fires. You learn about pump trucks. You learn about all the different tools and how to light back fires to burn out fuel before it becomes a fire. You learn about protective equipment that needs to be worn. You learn how to cut fire lines. We actually went out into the field and cut fire lines. You learn how to put out fire in every situation."



Volunteer fire fighters being trained as Incident Commanders as part of the fire prevention program at Camp Williams



Photos by Spec. Kelly Collett

Red Card volunteer fire fighters at Camp Williams

Lt. Col. Stuart explains what comes next for a wildfire fighter, "The Incident Commander course is the next step above the Red Card certification. Those are the guys that are going to be called when a fire is detected. Not only do they know everything about the Red Card certification, they also will be the first guys on the job site to start directing firefighting efforts. They'll be the ones talking to the helicopters, they'll be the ones talking to the bulldozers, they'll be the ones talking to the land crews directing them and managing the fire."

The crew at Camp Williams no longer uses lookout towers, but instead they are trained to look for fires at any given time while they are working. There is pre staged equipment for every range in case of fire. For more high risk locales, range control insures a fire truck is on hand.

"Every single day we monitor our fire fuels, the temperature and the humidity, and make a fire hazard determination. We go out and take grass samples and oak brush samples and we measure the amount of fire fuels. We measure the humidity, how much moisture is in those fuels. And determine

what the fire probability is in those fuels," states Lt. Col. Stuart. In this way, Range Control can determine the fire hazard for the day and schedule training accordingly. If it is extremely dry and the fire hazard is high, then many, or in some cases, all training activities involving explosives of any sort can be canceled.

The men and women of Camp Williams who work on fire prevention crews are a dedicated bunch. Many of them have devoted hundreds of hours in certifications and expanding their knowledge of natural resources and fire fighting. If the hours that they put into the countless certifications and trainings were counted as college credit, they could have multiple degrees in their field, explained one of Red Card holders last week. Clearly, they exhibit a tremendous dedication to their field and enjoy the work. As for the goats, they are also dedicated to the cause, but in this case their stomachs are their driving force. This highly capable crew brings pounds of prevention to the table of fire prevention, and for a little help, they have invited goats to the table as well.

Directorate of Military Support Activities

By Lt. Col. Charles Dressen

The Directorate of Military Support (DOMS) operates in support of Joint Forces Headquarters Utah with Military Support to Civil Authorities, and is responsible for numerous programs and events that involve interaction with the Department of Public Safety, Law Enforcement, Fire, FBI, Homeland Security, and civilian authorities from local government agencies. Some of the programs include the Joint Force Emergency Operations Center, National Guard Security Services, statewide physical security inspections, emergency communications of the state OmniLink network, Anti Terrorism Force Protection, Homeland Defense, Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) Response Teams, and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Emergency Response Teams (85th CST).

During fiscal year 2004, the Directorate of Military Support provided military support to numerous counties with training and exercise support throughout the state. These exercises established a strong working relationship with Weber County, Utah County, Salt Lake County, Washington County, Millard County, Daggett and Summit Counties, Tooele, Dugway Proving Ground, and Local agencies with the Utah National Guard. The DOMS office also supported the State Land & Forestry Department with fire fighting support efforts throughout the state.

A major exercise this year was Operation Electric Storm during June of 2004. The participants included employees from Intermountain Power Service Corporation, Millard County Sheriff's office, Department of Public

Safety, and the Utah National Guard. This exercise was the first of its kind for Millard County, combining private industry, local authorities, state government, and the Guard. The exercise was a great success. The communication, coordination and sharing of critical information among all organizations involved was impressive. The exercise also marked the completion of Phase I of the OmniLink Network, allowing communication between all agencies involved.

The Chemical Stockpile Emergency Response and Weapons of Mass Destruction Force conducted joint mass casualty training, 5-6 June 2004, at the Army Aviation Support Facility in West Jordan. The training consisted of emergency response to mass casualty incidents with specific emphasis on contaminated victims. This was a joint training evolution with the Department of Homeland Security (FEMA), Region VIII and X Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT), and state and local agencies. The purpose of the training was to provide mass casualty decontamination assistance to the Utah Department of Health in support of Utah's Department of Public Safety's Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security.

Utah National Guard Emergency Response Force personnel trained and practiced individual skills and collective tasks for the rescue, recovery and decontamination of casualties and human remains from contaminated environments along with evidence recognition, preservation, and collection techniques. These are some of the skills that would be required to support local,

state and federal agencies in large scale catastrophic incidents such as the use of a Weapon of Mass Destruction.

Officers from the Uinta County Sheriffs' Office Evidence Collection Team provided hands on training for evidence recognition, preservation and collection. A four-section grid was set up complete with human teeth, animal bones, prosthetic body parts, personal effects, pieces of clothing, and a mannequin that was placed in the search grids. Two recovery teams made up of Utah National Guard personnel swept through the grids simultaneously. All suspected evidence materials were flagged with orange marker flags. Following the initial sweep of the grids, documentation and recovery teams were established. Evidence was triangulated from known points, documented and photographed, bagged, tagged, and then collected. It was a great learning experience for the CSEPP-WMD team members who look forward to continue training in evidence recognition, preservation, and collection techniques to improve their skills and capabilities in the event the Utah National Guard is ever called upon to support similar operations at a large-scale catastrophic incident.

A decontamination corridor was set up and operated by Utah National Guard personnel using equipment procured by the CSEPP-WMD team through federal grants from FEMA and the Office of Domestic Preparedness. The decontamination station was set up to provide mass casualty decontamination using roller assemblies stretched the length of the shelters. This allowed the casualties to transit through the decontamination lines while laying

on backboards. Casualties processed through multiple stations within the decontamination corridor. At the first station, clothing and personal effects were removed and the casualties received a gross wash and scrubbing with a soap and water solution. At the second station they were provided with a detailed wash and scrubbing with soap and water followed by a check for residual contamination.

The CSEPP-WMD team mobile decontamination shelters are designed to be configured for the needs of the incident. They can be set up for the "walking wounded" that are capable of self-decontamination inside curtained off areas within the shelters, or for the nonambulatory casualties that need assistance. In the non ambulatory casualty set up, the casualties are rolled right through the decon stations on backboards. Inside the shelter the casualties clothing and personal effects were removed while the casualty underwent an initial medical assessment. The CSEPP team was looking for injuries and areas of liquid contamination. EMT shears are used to cut the clothing from the casualties. Clothing is placed into large plastic bags while valuables are double bagged, sealed and tagged. Several hose lines with either soap decon solution or clean rinse water is suspended from the ceiling of the shelter. Liquid dishwashing soap is used for the decontamination solution when performing mass casualty decon. The soap acts as an emulsifier and aids in the removal of the contaminants from the casualties without the adverse effects of using bleach on human tissue. Water temperature is maintained between 95-110 degrees Fahrenheit during the decontamination process using flash water heaters with a built in decon solution injection system. Soft

bristle long handled scrub brushes and large sponges are used to wash and scrub the casualties. Monitoring and detection equipment is located at the entrance and exit points of the decon corridor. Chemical agent monitors and radiological detection monitors are used to assess initial contamination upon entry into the decon line and to verify casualties are clean when they exit. Upon completion of decontamination the casualties are placed on a new backboard or ambulance gurney for transfer to the receiving medical facility.

Time is of the essence when performing field decontamination. Casualties should receive a gross decontamination within minutes after contact with the contaminant. The gross decon can be as simple as a rapid water wash down and removal of all outer clothing. Fire department personnel immediately upon arrival to the incident usually accomplish this. Field gross decon removes about 80% of the contaminants. After the casualties are removed from the hazard area and have completed the gross decon they may receive a definitive or detailed decontamination at a secondary location. These secondary locations can be at casualty collection points near the incident, at hospitals and medical clinics, or at traffic control points, or victim reception centers. Definitive decontamination can be a slow and methodical process utilizing over 35-50 gallons of water and 10-20 minutes per casualty.

Before the casualties can be decontaminated they must be removed from the "hot zone." Utah National Guard personnel practiced casualty rescue and recovery operations while wearing chemical protective clothing and Self Contained Breathing Apparatus. Casualties were transported from the

"hot zone" to the decon lines using wheeled litter carts. This is a quick and effective way to move the casualties. Working in chemical protective clothing and Self Contained Breathing Apparatus suites can be very difficult, hot and tiring.

The mass casualty joint training evolution was an overall success. The experience gained and the lessons learned will increase the operational capabilities of the Utah National Guard to support local and state response agencies during emergency response operations.

The CSEPP-WMD Emergency Response Force is always looking for volunteer personnel to participate in the program. Personnel with professional emergency backgrounds, chemical, medical, Civil Engineering, and EOD MOS/AFSC are preferred. However personnel with any MOS/AFSC can participate. Utah National Guard members must have their unit commander's permission to participate. Participation consists of an initial 40-hour Hazardous Materials Emergency Responder certification course followed by four quarterly team training drills. Team training drills are usually one day in length and are normally conducted on Saturdays with an annual exercise on a Wednesday in September. Personnel interested in participating in the CSEPP-WMD program should contact the DOMS Office or MSG Wade Francis at wade.francis@us.army.mil or wade.francis@hill.af.mil for more information.



Photo provided by DOMS

Environmental Resources Management Geographical Information Systems (GIS)

What it is, How can it help me, and Where is it going?

By Pat Terletzky, ERM



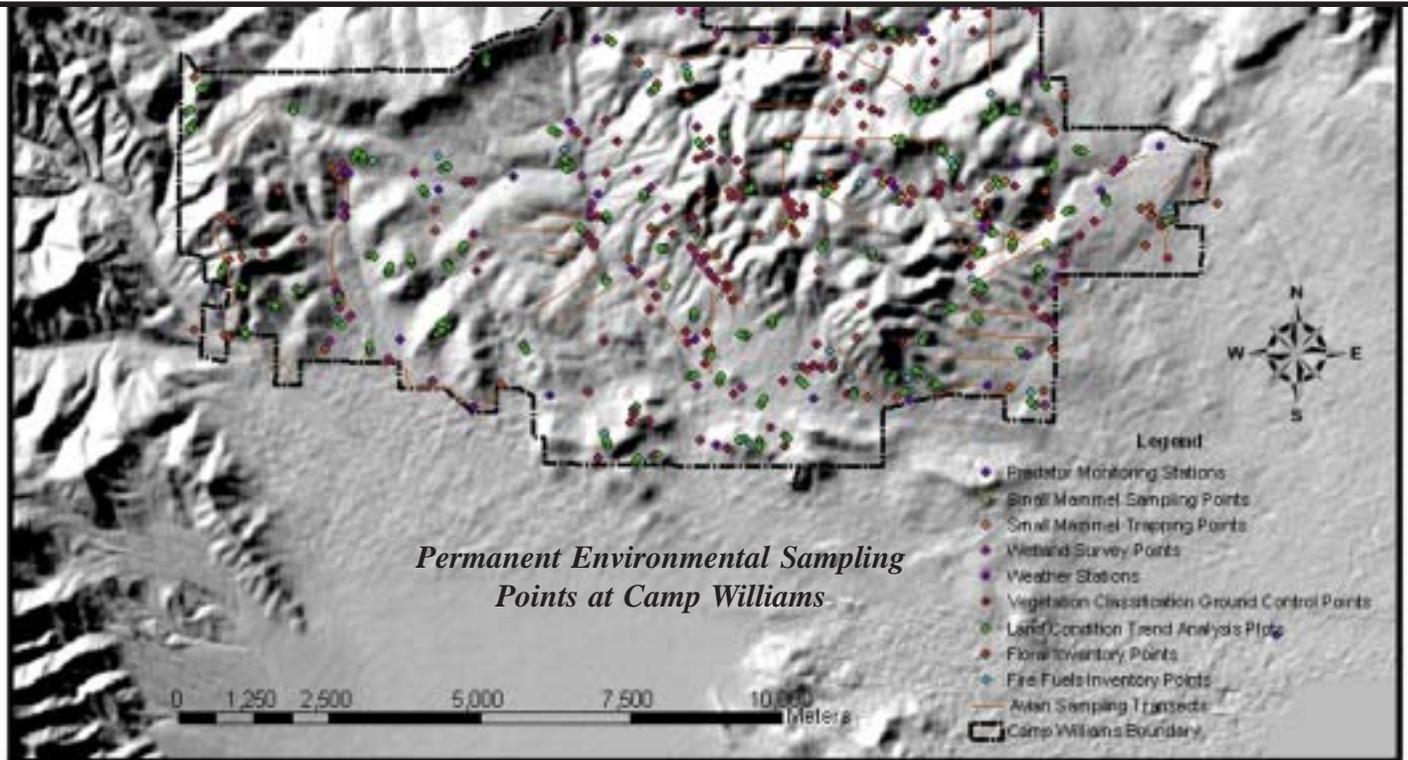
Brian Meisman of the Utah National Guard Environmental Resources Management Office using the Geographical Information System on the Camp Williams Military Reservation

Most of the articles you read about GIS start out with defining GIS the acronym for Geographical Information Systems (GIS). Another common definition is “GIS is a computerized tool for storing, managing, analyzing, and presenting geospatial data.” While both of these definitions are correct, they aren’t particularly helpful. In this article

I would like to briefly explain what it means to the Utah National Guard to have a high quality, fully functioning GIS and why it is beneficial. A more comprehensive and complete introduction is available through Integrated Training Area Management training at <http://www.rsctraining.com>.

At the simplest level, a GIS is a computer or a number of computers. To “use” a GIS a person has to be sitting in front of some type of computer, a desktop, a laptop, a palm pilot, or even some global positioning system units. Second, a GIS requires data. This is often the exciting part but can also be the most time consuming and expensive part. GIS data can be thought of as layers in a sandwich. The bottom layer might indicate elevation values for each 30m² area, the next layer might represent vegetation, the next layer might be roads and the final layer might be the locations of UTNG facilities across the state of Utah. The third part of a GIS is people. A GIS cannot run without people interacting with it and instructing it what to do. So, the three parts of a GIS are the computer, the data, and the people. There is a fair bit of discussion about which component is most important but I will let you decide. In the end, all three components are intertwined and a GIS cannot function if one of the three pieces is missing.

The process of creating a functional and useable GIS starts out small and builds up. First computers need to be purchased and second data needs to be collected. Like the printed word, people often assume that GIS data is “real” or “true” simply because it is digital. It is the job of the GIS team to ensure that data used by a GIS is of the highest quality. Thus, you will often see people on UTNG facilities with bright yellow hand held devices. Sometimes we are collecting original data and other



Photos provided by ERM

times we are cross checking, double checking and reexamining data previously collected. Again, this is to ensure the best quality data is collected and thus the data collection step can often take the longest and bear the highest cost. Environmental Resources Management (ERM) has almost 200 data layers, ranging from the specific such as a layer representing the individual trees at Camp Williams cantonment area, to the broad such as boundary of the State of Utah.

The power of a GIS becomes clear when the data is used to answer questions. For example, the drought in Utah has created potentially high fire risk in certain vegetation types, particularly grasslands and oak brush stands. Using a GIS, we can identify those areas and determine the number of hectares that have high fire potential. When a new training area or firing range is being set up, a GIS can be used to quickly evaluate the most appropriate location for the range based on the land

topography, the potential for noise problems, or other important criteria. The possibilities for using GIS to answer questions are endless and depend only on who is using the GIS and the data available on line to require the needed data.

The next phase for the UTNG GIS is the hardest because it is the step that takes GIS from the realm of “GIS techies” to broad user group. The technical term for this is an “Enterprise GIS.” There are two ways to conceptually think of an enterprise GIS. One is from the technical point of view and the other is from a user’s point of view. Most of the technical aspects of an enterprise GIS are not relevant for this article but it is worth noting that an enterprise GIS is based on a database management system instead of a file and directory structure. An enterprise GIS means simpler, easier, faster, and more relevant access to data from the users’ perspective. For example, in a simple non-enterprise type GIS, a user may

have access to standardized maps with predetermined data layers in them (i.e. Installation Special map). In an enterprise GIS, a user could determine what data they wanted to see and create the map themselves with a few clicks of the mouse. Also, an enterprise GIS allows a user to access other databases, such as PRIDE, WINCASS, or READ. So if you are a new trainer coming to one of the UTNG facilities and want to know where a good location would be for a particular training, you could use the enterprise GIS to select those areas on the installation that meet your needs and create a map showing those locations. Although we are not there yet, an enterprise GIS is on our UTNG horizon.

Please watch for following articles on more GIS technologies discussed in simple, non GIS technological terms. If you have any questions or comments please contact Pat Terletzky, ERM GIS Manager, at pterletzky@cc.usu.edu.

Four Chiefs Retire and are Honored

By Major Scott Lythgoe

On June 12, 2004, the Chief's Council honored four Chiefs from the Utah Air National Guard who retired with more than 126 years of combined service.

All four Chiefs expressed their thanks for the love and support of their spouse and family members who have supported them through their many years of service.

Command Chief Master Sgt. Todd D. Valline; 151 ARW, 34 years, Chief Master Sgt. Michael A Brown; 299 RCS, 34 years, Chief Master Sgt. Edward S. Warfield III; 169 IS, 24 years, Chief Master Sgt. Gary T Bryner; 130 EIS, 34 years, received the Chief Council award for the outstanding service throughout their careers as they retire from the Utah Air National Guard.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Michael D. Evans



Senior Master Sgt. Laurel Lindsay Retires

End of the trail after 31 years

Retiring Senior Master Sgt. Laurel Lindsay is presented with "End of the Trail" statue by Command Chief Master Sgt. Andrew Ocaña. Lindsay accomplished many firsts in her 31 years in the Guard. She was one of the first two females to join the Utah Air Guard, the first female first sergeant at the 299th Range Control Squadron and the first human resources advisor for the 151st Air Refueling Wing.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Wayne Lee

Guard Members Receive Chamber of Commerce Awards



Photo by Master Sgt. Burke Baker

Tech. Sgt. Regina Dekanich (center), 299th Range Control Squadron, and Maj. Lance Whipple (right), 101st Information Warfare Flight, were recognized by the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee as the Utah Air National Guard NCO and Officer of the Year. The two were presented awards by Mr. Lane Beattie (left center) and Mr. Fred Lampropoulos (right center) at the Chamber of Commerce Military Salute Banquet held on February 7, 2004. Utah ANG Commander Brent Winget (left) and Command Chief Master Sgt. Andrew Ocana (second from left) accompanied Tech. Sgt. Dekanich and Maj. Whipple.

“Salty Guard Flyer” Soars in Competition

By 2nd Lt. Maren Barney

Utah Air National Guard’s own “Salty Guard Flyer” won first place in the 2003 National Media Contest in the newsletter format publication category.

“It’s a true honor to receive this award,” said Col. Larry T. Johnson, 151st Air Refueling Wing commander. “We always knew we had a great paper and this award just validates it.”

The newsletter, published by the public affairs office from the 151st ARW, competed against 222 other National Guard entries.

“This notable achievement is the

culmination of efforts by both the public affairs staff and the wing’s visual information staff,” said Lt. Col. David Thomas, wing community manager. “The consistently high quality of work by Master Sgt. Burke Baker and his office is the element that makes the newsletter a national competitor.”

The March and December 2003 editions competed in the contest. Contributors to the editions were, from public affairs: Lt. Col. David Thomas; Maj. Scott Lythgoe; 2nd Lt. Maren Barney; Master Sgts. Kevin Larsen and Ren Willie; Tech. Sgt. Sterling

Poulson; Staff Sgt. Wayne Lee; Senior Airman Ben Nichols and Airman 1st Class Christiana Elieson. From visual information were: Master Sgt. Burke Baker; Tech. Sgts. Keith Campbell, Mike Evans and Brad Leiter; and Senior Airman Lacy Lewis.

The “Salty Guard Flyer” earned the right to compete in the Air Force Media Contest. The results of the contest will be announced in April. If the “Flyer” scores another win in that contest, it would go on to compete at the Department of Defense level.

Sergeant Major Mark Bardwell Retires After 38 -Years

Dedicated Service

by Staff Sgt. Nicholas Pond



Mark Bardwell at Boot Camp Graduation in 1966

The 97th Troop Command has lost its long time Operations Sergeant Major to the “golden years” of retirement. Sergeant Major Mark Bardwell joined the ranks of the retired at a retirement program on the 29th of April 2004. This date marked some 38+ years of dedicated service to our country and the military from November of 1965 thru April of 2004. We will miss his expertise and vast knowledge of military operations both in Troop Command and throughout the Utah Army National Guard.

Sergeant Major Bardwell’s duty assignments included: Assembler and Fire Direction Computer for Battery C, 2nd Battalion, 222nd FA Fillmore, Utah; Mechanic, Supply Sergeant, Career Counselor, Intelligence Sergeant, and Operations Sergeant for the 1/145 FA, Ogden/Logan/Smithfield, Utah; Chemical Operations NCO and Operations Sergeant Major for the

ICA, Salt Lake City, Utah; and Operations Sergeant Major for 97th Troop Command, Draper, Utah.

A few of the many awards garnered by SGM Bardwell during his distinguished career include:

Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Utah Medal of Merit, and the Utah Detur Digniori.

The above assignments and awards only begin to describe the man. Those of us who know this fine leader of soldiers know also his personal side. One of caring service to those who he reported to, and those who reported to him. Whether it was up the chain of command or down the chain of command, we were all treated with

equal respect and care. Perhaps we at the “fighting 97th” can put it this way...

For years Bardwell has been “the man”
Always here to push Troop Command
Though he’s short and he’s stout
He never gives out
A giant in heart and in hand.

Retirement now is the call
To the easy life now he does fall
His wife will be wish’n
He’d do some more fish’n
He’ll be under foot down the hall.

Although he is not really mean
His command voice and bearing we’ve seen
He’ll miss us I’m sure
For a minute or more
As he really bleeds OD Green.



Sgt. Maj. Mark Bardwell, 38 + years, November 1965 to April 2004

Photos provided by 97th Troop Command

141st MI Battalion Involvement in the Ogden Marathon

By Warrant Officer Robert Sandberg

In spite of the cold weather and scattered showers, members of the 141st Military Intelligence Battalion (Linguists) were enthusiastic as they helped with the Ogden Marathon on May 22nd, 2004. The marathon started at 06:30 a.m. near Perception Peak 7-miles east of Huntsville on Highway 39 and ended in downtown Ogden at 25th Street and Washington in the Ogden City Amphitheatre Park.

The Battalion entered a team in the Marathon Relay competition. The 141st MI Battalion running team finished 1st place in the Corporate Division with a time of 3:05:58. The Battalion running team was made up of 2nd Lt. Jeremy Stevenson, Warrant Officer Robert Sandberg, Cadet Clint Shelley, Sgt. Daniel Ogden and Spec. Jonathon Taylor. The relay was made up of 5 legs and each runner ran approximately a 7-mile leg with the last leg being the



Photos provided by the 141st MI Bn

Members of 141st MI Battalion Running Team from L to R Warrant Off. Robert Sandberg, Sgt. Daniel Ogden, Cadet Clint Shelley and 2nd Lt. Jeremy Stevenson. Missing is Spec. Jonathon Taylor who was running the 4th leg of the marathon relay.

5-K course to the finish at the 26.2 mile

finishing line.

Other members of the Battalion set-up and ran the aid station at mile 5, where they gave out water and sports drinks to all participants in the marathon. Many of the runners thanked them not only for their help with the marathon but also for their service to their country.

The 141st Military Intelligence Running Team was organized to set a positive example in the community and to help with retention and recruiting within the Battalion in the local community.

Members of the 141st Military Intelligence Battalion have just recently returned from a one-year tour in Iraq and are highly regarded by the local community for their service to the nation, state and community.



Volunteers from the 141st MI Battalion setting up aid station.

Youth Camp 2004

By Spc Kelly K. Collett



Members of the Blue Tuna Team attending the Utah National Guard Youth Camp at Camp Williams

From June 28th to July 1st of this year, over 100 youth of Utah National Guard members took part in a four-day adventure at Camp Williams to build self reliance, teamwork and coping skills. Nine groups of boys and girls engaged multiple obstacles and missions and completed each task with enthusiasm. They overcame many fears, ranging from vertigo to stage fright.

Family Programs Manager, 2nd Lt. David Jones the camp director, commented, "I have really seen the kids grow in the last four days...I have been impressed by the high caliber of these youth." On the first day of camp, the youth split into groups, gave themselves names and designed a guidon to represent their team. Most of their names coincided with their colors, but others were just a title they preferred. The teams consisted of the following: The Red Hotties (red), Funny Grapes (purple), Black hawks (black), Mean Green (green), Delta (dark gray), Eagles (light gray), The Hornets (yellow), Blue

Tuna (blue), and Team Piranha (light blue).

They competed for multiple awards, which they received in an award ceremony. They were awarded for cleanest barracks, most uniform in appearance, most team spirit, first to

formation, most motivated, winners of the sports activities, service projects and many more. On their 'List of Things to Do' were events such as rappelling, climbing wall, skits, compass course, atlatl, swimming, drill and ceremony, sports activities, field trip to the capitol and Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum, and the Veteran Cemetery service project. To finish off the week, the nine teams participated in a pass and review inspection done by Maj. Gen. Brian L. Tarbet, the Adjutant General of the Utah National Guard. The youth then dispersed and were congratulated by open familiar arms. They embraced one another as they said goodbye to the good friends they had made then returned to journey home with their proud parents and family. They can now be confident in the things they have learned in the last several days spent at Youth Camp 2004 because they have all grown.



Members of the Red Hotties Team at Youth Conference 2004

Photos by Spc. Kelly K. Collett

Aircrew Life Support Gets Parachute Simulator

By Staff Sgt Wayne L. Lee

You are flying a night mission at 3,000 feet. The full moon arbitrarily shows itself in the cloudy sky. Suddenly, your plane has mechanical failure! It begins to descend rapidly. The controls are not responding and you have to jump from your plane. You parachute into the night. The wind is strong. You pull your rip chord and look up to see if your parachute has fully opened. You control your parachute with red tethers. You look down at your feet and see only darkness.

Slowly you realize you will be landing in fog. You can see the shadows of trees through breaks in the fog. You see an opening where you can land. You try to control your chute as much as possible. You turn into the wind and land safely.

This may sound like a scene from a movie or the latest video game. It is neither. It is the new the parachute simulator recently installed by the Aircrew Life Support of the 191st Air Refueling Squadron.

Senior Master Sgt. Rod Davis, NCOIC of Aircrew Life Support, conducted a demonstration of the parachute simulator to the members of the 151st Air Refueling Wing's Public Affairs Office. Sgt. Davis said, "We used to have to go to Hill Air Force Base to get trained and certified. It was a real undertaking to coordinate with Hill's schedule and bus everyone there and back. We have about 200 personnel that have to be recertified every two years. Now, we can do certifications during drill weekends. Having our own



A computer monitor allows a trainer to see exactly what the parachute trainee is looking at. The computer reports detailed information regarding the jump process. There are various types of terrain and weather conditions which can be inserted into the jump scenario.



Photos by Master Sgt. Kevin Larsen

Tech. Sgt. Brian Thomas demonstrates the parachute simulator. Sgt. Thomas is wearing a parachute and harness along with a special helmet equipped with virtual reality goggles allowing him a full 360 degree view of the area he is jumping into as well as full view of his parachute overhead.

simulator makes us more efficient."

The parachute simulator is essentially a steel frame with a harness attached to a computer. However, it is much more than that. With the program, the person jumping has options of landing in a jungle environment, the Montana woods, an urban landscape, or on an aircraft carrier. You can also parachute at night, in rain, fog or strong winds. It is an amazing training tool.

Each Public Affairs member put on a special parachute for the simulator and a helmet with a virtual reality visor that allowed the person making the jump to see a computer simulation of the area they were jumping into.

They were each attached to the system and given a choice of scenarios. Once you landed, the computer told you what you did correctly and where you need to improve, such as how far you landed from your intended target zone.

Asked if this simulator is for seasoned jumpers? Sgt. Davis replied, "No, this is not for seasoned jumpers. This simulator is to train for emergency jumps only. You hope you never have to use it. But if you do, you will be ready."

Staff Sgt. Paul Diamond Recognized With “Angels Among Us” Award

By Greg Bennett, Utah Valley Magazine

The following article was published in the July/August 2004 Utah Valley Magazine as Staff Sgt. Diamond was recognized with an “Angels Among Us” award.



SSG Diamond recovering from knee surgery

Paul R. Diamond felt happy and guilty as he recovered from his knee surgery during last year’s holiday season. The happiness came from enjoying the company of his family and cool temperatures in Utah County at Christmastime. The guilt came from knowing that Paul had left friends in Iraq when he was sent home to Pleasant

Grove to take care of a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee. He had been deployed to Iraq as part of the 142nd Military Intelligence Unit of the Utah Army National Guard and was sent home before the rest of his unit to have the surgery. They were all excited for me to get to come home, but I felt awful,” Paul said. “I told some of them that I didn’t want to go, and they all told me I was crazy and to get on the plane.”

This linguist specialist decided he was going to do something to help his fellow soldiers instead of feeling guilty during his paid recovery time at home. That’s when a little bit of parachute cord on his right wrist reminded him of an idea he had while in Iraq.

“I made bracelets out of parachute cord while I was over there and some of my friends there liked them and asked if I would make them some,” Paul said. “I decided that I would make some of them and sell them as a way to raise money so I could send care packages to my friends in Iraq.”

Paul and his wife, Ginger, eventually found 26 colors of parachute cord and sold custom-made bracelets. Paul contacted his commanding officer in Iraq and asked what he should do with the money he had raised. The officer explained that his unit was doing well and that he should use the money to take care of families left behind in Utah. If he had other money left over he could gather supplies for an orphanage the unit worked with in Iraq.

“I worked with (Utah National Guard) Family Assistance and they already had a Sub-for-Santa program going, so we used some of the money to help three soldiers’ families in the



Photos provided by SSG Diamond

SSG Diamond in Iraq

area,” Paul said. “That was a great Christmas.”

After the holidays passed, he continued his program -- O.S.C.A.R. (Operation Show Charity Always Remember) -- by coordinating humanitarian donations to be sent to orphans in Iraq. Eventually, with the help of others including a pair of Eagle Scout candidates, O.S.C.A.R. was able to donate 12 pallets of clothing toys, hygiene products and other humanitarian supplies to Operation Give -- a large humanitarian program. “From mid-February to mid-March our house looked like a D.I.,” Paul said.

Although Paul’s unit has now returned to Utah, he is still hoping to do more for troops in Iraq. He and his wife have turned bracelet making into a business, with a significant percentage of profits assisting soldiers and their families. “That’s the neatest part of the American spirit,” Paul said, “People here don’t talk about doing things. They get up and do something. That is what makes America so great.”

Introducing Tomorrow's Soldiers to Today's Guard

By Maj. Lorraine Januzelli

For many modern day youths, make-believe adventures such as video games and DVDs dominate their leisure time. This past weekend, many of these same young people tasted some real life adventure, courtesy of the Utah Army National Guard's Engineer Corps and Recruiting Command.

Held annually at Camp Williams, Engineer Day offered willing youths a chance to try their hand at rappelling, the leadership reaction course, testing their driving skills on the Humvee obstacle course, operate big equipment at the heavy dig site, and check out a few of the Army's small arms and crew served weapons.

Rolf and Shaun, two typical digital-age sixteen year-olds, came from nearby Pleasant Grove to try out the Engineer Day activities because they hoped to have a little fun. They left with much more, a richer appreciation of the military and a sincere interest in joining up once they turn seventeen.

Rolf's parents are both in the Utah National Guard and come from a long lineage of soldiers and airmen. Shaun, whose parents are active in the community, had almost no contact with the military prior to Engineer Day. Despite their dissimilar backgrounds, both young men were equally impressed with their experiences.

"I really enjoyed the leadership reaction course," Shaun explained. "I especially liked the problem solving aspect of it." Rolf readily agreed, adding that he would have liked another shot at one of the other problems at the LRC. "I know we could have done the next one faster," he asserted.

Sixteen-year-old C.J. from Vernal joined the two Pleasant Grove youths

at the LRC and the three were tasked with escaping from a simulated prison camp. Initially unsure of their options; the young men quickly formed a cohesive team and devised a number of creative, though not always successful, escape options. Ultimately, they developed a workable solution and escaped their "prison cell." They also experienced first-hand one of the military's most effective and enduring weapons - teamwork.

Sgt. 1st Class Bowcutt, a recruiter for the American Fork and Pleasant Grove region, has seen this kind of enlightenment before in potential recruits. "Getting the kids involved in the actual mission of the engineers really gives the kids a feel for what we really do and gets them excited about being part of the National Guard," he explained. Clearly, the same happened with these young men.

Before this weekend, Shaun had not even remotely contemplated joining the Guard. Since Engineer Day, he's thinking more about it. "I feel I understand the National Guard better. It's more appealing to me now," he said. Although Shaun hasn't decided if the Guard will be part of his future, he's glad he can use his Engineer Day experience to help him decide.

Rolf was already considering joining the Guard, but primarily for the college benefits. Engineer Day made up his mind, but now he's more interested in the challenges. "I'm really looking forward to basic training now and firing some of the weapons. I was thinking about going air assault or airborne as well." Rolf plans on training in an MOS where he can learn foreign language.

C.J., who made the three-hour trek from Vernal to Camp Williams with his



Photo by Maj. Januzelli

Shaun, Rolf, and C.J. trying their leadership skills on the leadership reaction course

recruiter Sgt. 1st Class Wilkenson, intends on signing up after he turns seventeen later this week. His reasons for joining are closer to home. "My father was in the Special Forces, in the 1st Group. He went on missions all over the world while on active duty." His father inspired him to serve his country and C.J. plans on joining the Special Forces as soon as possible. He hopes to be in basic training by July.

The impact of Engineer Day on the three youths will be long lasting. In the course of a single day, they learned something extra about themselves, the strength of teamwork, and the nature of the military. And they liked what they learned. If these young people are the future of our National Guard, then the future almost certainly looks bright.

Returning home... Worth a thousand words....

The 1457th Engineers and 142nd MI Return From the Desert



Family members anxiously await the return of the 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion, Utah Army National Guard, at the Utah Air National Guard Base, Salt Lake City, Utah. The members of the 142nd served over a year in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom.



U.S. Air Force photos by Master Sgt. Burke Baker

U.S. Arm photos by Sgt. Scott Faddis

Fire Prevention is Important to Retain the Great Facilities at Camp Williams

By Spec. David Ray

Just imagine, 40-foot wild fire flames scorching and scarring the mountain side consuming acres of vegetation, training areas, and if not quickly controlled, even homes.

According to Utah State University Forestry Extension experts, even if the public is fortunate enough to not lose any homes or other personal property to wild fire, the price to fight the fires, once they have started, ranges in the millions. To prevent such devastation, Joel Godfrey and Sean Hammond instigated a revolutionary program... using goats.

As natural as nature herself, these ecologically friendly wildfire fighters thrive on oak and mountain brush reducing the amount of vegetation that can be burned. When properly managed, this technique has proven not only to reduce potential damage costs but also the price of operational prevention. This is only a fragment of the prevention program.

Once fire has started, maximizing manpower and resources will put it out. Proper fire fighter management is the key to keeping control of an extremely dangerous situation. Lt. Col. Stuart, Camp Williams Range Control Officer, having completed his training of the Incident Commander Course stated, "I gained an acute awareness of the constant fire threat and learned efficient ways to combat wild land range fires." This training includes supervising resources and managing the effects of fire fuels on top of regular training acquired in Class I Wildfire Fighting, elevating him to Incident Commander.



Students learn how to quickly control fires

Staying sharp, the range control soldiers also earn their class I Fire Fighting Degree from the Utah Valley State College Fire and Rescue Academy. "The fire fighting course was a great benefit to me and to Camp Williams because it gives the first responders at Camp Williams the ability to respond quickly to insure minimal loss of property before other support units arrive," said Staff Sgt. Jason Myers, graduate of the Class I Fire Fighting Course, stationed at Camp Williams Range Control.



Incident Commander and Course Instructor Dan "Bull" Kather and Lt. Col. Jeff Stuart, the Camp Williams Range Control Officer. Their goal is to prevent fires on the Camp Williams Reservation if possible. But if a fire starts, to maximize manpower and resources to put it out as quickly as possible.

Freedom Academy 2004

By Lt. Col. Shaw



The participants of Freedom Academy 2004 in front of the Utah State Capitol Building

The 43rd Annual Freedom Academy, sponsored by the Utah National Guard, was held 1-6 Aug 2004 at Camp Williams. Over 90 high school student body officers attended from throughout the state. The 90+ delegates represented 56 high schools from Logan to St. George, from West Desert to Moab. These delegates listened to speakers and participated in activities and tours that emphasized the freedoms that we all enjoy in this great country. Special speakers included: Kirk Weasler, George Wahlen (Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient), Kitty Dubon, Brad Barton, Chaplain James Montoya, Capt. Gordon Birch, Sgt. Morkel, Sgt. Leedy, LaVar Christensen (State House of Representatives - Freedom Foundation), Chad Hymas, Judge Benson (Chief Judge Federal District Court), Paul Warner (United States Attorney), Chief Wiggles, Maj. Gen.

Brian L. Tarbet, and Scott Anderson. All spoke about principles of freedom and becoming the leaders of tomorrow.

Activities included: Icebreaker (Chief Warrant Officer Mike Cottam), State Prison tour and inmate panel, 23rd Army Band picnic / dance, field games, Firearms Training Simulator, Leadership Reaction Course, static aircraft displays (KC-135E & F-16), fireman's challenge, Capitol Building tour, Federal Court tour, U. S. Flag retirement, speech and talent contests, rappelling, jump tower, M-16 live fire, and a concert presented by T Minus 5. All activities were geared towards teamwork, overcoming differences and creating positive influences.

Those that attend the academy consistently rate Freedom Academy as the best experience of their lives. Each of them departs with a greater appreciation for those who have fought and won our freedoms and those who gave their lives to ensure that our way

of life is maintained. Many pledge to continue their study of freedoms and to become better citizens with a desire to make the world a better and safer place.

The Honorary Colonels Corps again sponsored the academy. All delegates attend at no cost to themselves or their schools and their charge is to return to their high schools and hold a Freedom Assembly, Freedom Day or Freedom Week. Academy speakers make themselves available to the delegates to make their presentations to their entire student body.

The staff and counselors of this year's academy were outstanding and deem it an honor to represent the Utah National Guard in this important program. A special thanks is given to all the soldiers and airmen that provided oversight in the various activities. Dates for Freedom Academy 2005 are July 31st to August 5th.

UTANG Promotions 1 Mar 2004 to 1 Aug 2004

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS

Adam Gatherum, 151 SFS

SENIOR AIRMAN

Mark A. Roberts, 299 RCS
 Jason J. Eddings, 151 LS
 Teddy L. Northrop, 169 IS
 Geoffrey G. Neill, 151 SFS
 Todd W. Conway, 151 SFS
 Lio A. Brown, 151 SFF
 Chris Woodward, 151 MXS
 Curtis M. Adamson, 169 IS
 Landon M. Yost, 151 SFS
 Cade V. Holzer, 169 IS
 Dominick Lagiglia, 151 SFS
 Jeremy D. Mecham, 299 RCS
 Brandon S. Nelson, 169 IS
 Jeremy J. Johnson, 169 IS
 Joshua M. Auvinen, 169 IS
 Jacob S. Bryan, 130 EIS
 Martin A. Montano, 130 EIS
 Vinson T. Williams, 151 SFS
 Neal C. Esplin, 151 MXS
 Rickey D. Casper, 151 CES
 Jonas Grove, 151 MXS
 Justin Lobato, Stu Flt
 Scott Clark, Stu Flt
 James Eckersley, 109 ACS
 Michael Roddey, Stu Flt
 Spencer McWhorter, 169 IS
 Fenton Whetstone, 151 SFS
 Sebastia Rodriguez, Stu Flt
 Aaron Hornok, 151 MXS
 Joshua M. Gygi, 151 SVF,
 Timothy C. Smith, 151 SVF
 Sean K. Morton, 151 MXS
 Nick Da Griego, HQ151ARW
 Matthew W. Duffield, 130 EIS
 Todd K. Coburn, Stu Flt
 Gregory Butcher, 151 MXS
 Jason Prince, 151 CF
 Jason Stevens, 151 Stu. Flt
 Nicholas Taylor, 151 CES
 Christiana Eileson, 151 ARW
 Cameron Dryg, 151 Stu. Flt.
 Casey Hamilton, 151 Stu. Flt.
 Tyler Iund, 151 MXS
 Chad Battad, 151 CES
 Thomas Beck, 151 CES
 Shaun Edwards, 151 LS
 Christopher Isbell, 151 CES
 Damon Johnson, 151 CES
 Lauren Putnam, 151 SFS
 Gordon Worsenroft, 151 SFS

STAFF SERGEANT

Manny V. Lizarraga, 151 CES
 Spencer Johnson, 151 MDS
 George Kalakis, 151 AMXS
 Michael H. Mackay, 130 EIS
 Scott W. Waddell, 109 ACS
 Jennifer Jacobs, 169 IS
 Sarah Eklund, 151 MDS
 Jason Smith, 151 MDS
 Jason Romero, 130 EIS
 Robert Friedel, 299 RCS
 Dana Hoog, 169 IS
 Scot Cameron, 169 IS
 Kevin D. Kesterson, 151 MXS
 Willford T. Williamd, 151 SFS
 Paul L. Glade, 169 IS
 Larry E. Mathews, 151 SFS
 Paul S. Cordner, 151 MXS
 Michael G. Brunt, 151 SFS
 Angela Hall, 151 SFS
 Jennifer Potter, 169 IS
 George Stuart IV, 299 RCS
 Jacob Johnson, 151 SVF
 Keith Lutter, 151 CF
 Cory Rudy, 151 MXS
 Russell Ross, 151 MDS
 Dustin Barnes, 151 MXS
 Nicholas Batura, 169 IS
 Jeri Cuch, 151 SFS
 Dallas Darnell, 151 MXS
 Jason Grove, 151 MXS
 Guy Hood, 139 EIS
 Sandy Lilya, 169 IS
 Spencer Lowe, 151 LRS
 Joshua Wilkenloh, 151 SFS

TECHNICAL SERGEANT

Heath S. Bringhurst, 151 SFS
 Benjamin M. Miller, 151 SFS
 Dana W. Webster, 151 SFS
 Maurisa K. Lewis, 151 SFS
 John Rossmango, 151 MXS
 John Radlund, 299 RCS
 Daniel Frost, 151 LRS
 Melvin Cawley, 151 MXS
 Jeffrey Fleck, 109 ACS
 Juan Vasquez, 151 CES
 William Reid III, 151 AMXS
 Santiago A. Avila, 191 ARS
 Charles P. Maw, 169 IS
 Amber L. Ickes, 169 IS
 Joseph Davis, 151 SFS
 Shawn Hall, 151 MXS
 Michael Knudsen, 169 IS

Vincent Morgan, 151 MXS
 Charles Voeller, 151 MXS
 Jacob Myers, 151 LRS
 Josh Adams, 169 IS
 Kristal Johnson, 151 ARW
 Marc Ranger, 299 RCS
 Steven Voigt, 299 RCS

MASTER SERGEANT

John J. Kubicki, 101 IWF
 Jeremy L. Jensen, 169 IS
 Steven J. Garner, 151 AMSX
 Laura R. Bird, 151 OG
 Max Somsen, 151 AMXS
 Robert Frailey, 151 MXS
 Larry Ciet, 151 MXS
 Ernesto Feliciano, 151 LRS
 James Hughes, 109 ACS
 Vincent Martinez, 151 CES
 Mark Austin, 151 LRS
 Des Townsend, 151 LRS
 Lance Loveland, 169 IS
 James Lock, 151 AMXS
 David Brown, 151 SFS
 Burke Baker, 151 CFT
 Jeffery S. Mulcahy, 169 IS
 Cody J. Mosher, 151 CFT
 Bret L. Anderson, 169 IS
 Stephen Adamson, 151 MXS
 Wyatt Black, 151 MXS
 Richard Burket, 151 MXS
 John Crow, 151 OSF
 James Dekanich, 109 ACS
 Mathew Littlefield, 169 IS
 Steven Oldaker, 151 ARW
 Ralph Mettmann, 151 MXS
 Brian Boley, 299 RCS
 Michael Edwards, 299 RCS
 Douglas Whitney, 169 IS

SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT

Robert L. Wright, 299 RCS
 Jack T. Evans, 151 CES
 Frank M. Crofts, 151 LRS
 Kevin Eaton, 151 MXG
 James Hagggen, 169 IS
 Eric Gale, 169 IS
 James Ickes, 169 IS
 Kyle Dillingham, 151 LRS
 Eva M. McCombs, 151 CES
 William Gentry, 130 EIS
 Donald Johnson, 151 CFT
 Morgan Roberts, 169 IS
 Jeffrey Hamilton, 299 RCS

David Powell, 151 OSF
CHIEFMASTER SERGEANT
Willard L. Fullmer, HQTANG

Jeffery S. Clark, 151 MXS
Thomas Carolus, 169 IS
Ronald Messinger, 130 EIS

John H. Buell, 151 MXS
Douglas Parry, 151 MXS
Curtis Clark, 299 RCS

UTARNG Promotions 1 Mar 2004 to 1 Aug 2004

COL HANSEN, NEIL R
COL WILLIS, EDWARD M
COL WILLIS, MARSHALL F
COL YETTON, DANA R

LTC ABRAM, ANGIE R
LTC BARTLETT, MICHAEL D
LTC BROWN, JAMES A
LTC CHURCH, ROBERT J
LTC LAMB, BRIAN W
LTC PETERSON, VALL
LTC POLSON, WILLIAM C
LTC ROBERTS, CLARK R
LTC SEGUIN, MICHAEL J
LTC SMITH, SIDNEY M
LTC WOOD, ANDREW M

MAJ FITZGERALD, WARREN H
MAJ HALE, BRENT O JR.
MAJ MISMASH, MICHAEL S
MAJ OHARA, JOHN M
MAJ PARSONS, ROBERT M
MAJ SMITH, TYLER B
MAJ TRAVIS, STEPHEN R

CPT CLARK, BRANDEN F
CPT CROCKETT, DAVID L
CPT ELIASON, ERIC A
CPT KOON, CHARLES W
CPT REEVE, DAVID O
CPT ROBINSON, DANIEL J
CPT SPRINGER, GAYLAN R
CPT TANG, MICHAEL L
CPT VOGRINEC, BUDD J
CPT WRIGHT, KEVIN C

1LT ALLEN, JACOB J
1LT BERG, IAN O
1LT BUDGE, KIMBERLY K
1LT CHRISTENSEN, TODD S
1LT HORNING, RYAN R
1LT KELLEY, LEE L III
1LT MORGAN, TOD B
1LT SMITH, CHRISTOPHER L
1LT STEFL, DAVID P
1LT TATE, WENCKE L
1LT TRIPLETT CHARLES B

CW4 BREITENSTEIN, WALLY D
CW4 HYDE, HEBER L

CW4 YOUNG, DANIEL J
CW3 COTTAM, JAY M
CW3 HESS, KELLY S
CW3 JANUZELLI, DAVID A
CW3 ODEKIRK, DAVID E
CW3 STRYKER, BRADLEY J

CW2 BLAKELY, DOROTHY T
CW2 CARTER, DOUGLAS S
CW2 HAMILTON BLAYDE W
CW2 JACKSON, RICHARD R
CW2 JONES, JARED S

SGM ALGER, DON R
SGM TAYLOR, DAVID C
SGM BREWER, KENT D JR

MSG DURRANT, WILLIAM C
MSG LOFLAND, MICHAEL B
MSG QUARNBERG, KASEY S
MSG TOWERS, MICHEL E

SFC ALLMON, KENNETH L
SFC ARRINGTON, NORMAN E JR
SFC BRANCH, MARY A
SFC DEAN, ERIC R
SFC FLITTON, ELDON D JR
SFC HALL, DARYL R
SFC HALLIDAY, MARC L
SFC HANSEN, GRAY K
SFC HARLEY, KEVIN R
SFC LEGGETT, BRETON J
SFC LOGAN, JANELLE P
SFC LUND, CURT C
SFC RANDALL, WACO R
SFC SHURTZ, KERRY D

SSG COBB, MIKEL L
SSG COVERSTON, SAM D
SSG CROCKETT, TABER D
SSG DAVISSON, KENNETH R
SSG DEAN, MATTHEW
SSG DRAPER, GARTH B
SSG FOX, CALVIN L
SSG GAGE, HOWARD A
SSG GALLEGOS, DEANA
SSG GASPARAC, RYAN C
SSG GUNNARSON, EGAN N

SSG HANDLEY, HEATH A
SSG HANSEN, CLINTON D
SSG HAWTHORNE, CECIL J JR
SSG HILTON, CHRISTOPHER R
SSG ISHIHARA, CAVETT S
SSG JACKSON, JAY L
SSG JOHNSTON, GARRAD J
SSG KIRKWOOD, DAVIN D
SSG KITCHEN, DON S
SSG LARSON, ADAM D
SSG LONDON, LAURISA D
SSG LONG, JACLYN R
SSG MARTINEAU, TAD C
SSG MCATEE, TIMOTHY E
SSG MCGREGOR, ERIC J
SSG MCKENZIE, JONATHAN S
SSG MITCHELL, ROBBIE D
SSG NIELSEN, LUKE A
SSG NORTHRUP, RALPH J
SSG OLOFSON, BENJAMIN P
SSG OLSEN, CHRISTOPHER, KAY
SSG PAICE, GEORGE M
SSG PRICE, WARREN D
SSG PULLIN, SHAWN R
SSG REYES, WILLIAM O
SSG ROBERTS, DAVID A
SSG RODGERS, RICHARD J
SSG RUNDELL, CRAIG B
SSG SALERNO, NICHOLAS J
SSG SULIAFU, SIONE F
SSG THOMPSON, MICAH S
SSG WALKER, AIMEE L
SSG WEBB, DONALD A
SSG WHITLOCK, MICHAEL D
SSG WILSON, TODD G
SSG YOUNG, TRISTAN L

SGT ALBRECHT, RYAN J
SGT ANDERSEN, ROBERT W
SGT ARCHULETA, CRAIG M
SGT BAILEY, WILLIAM J
SGT BARTHOLOMEW, JED D
SGT BATE, JOSEPH W
SGT BELL, JAMES T
SGT BINNS, MELISSA L
SGT BLACK, JACOB T
SGT BLANCHARD, KARIA
SGT BRIDGES, RUSSELL T
SGT BRODERICK, VERNON K

SGT BURCH, RYAN K
 SGT BYBEE, JACE K
 SGT CASTILLO, FREDERICK G
 SGT CHURCHTOWN, JAMES D
 SGT COOMBS, ROBERT W
 SGT COWAN, SHAY G
 SGT COX, ROBERT G
 SGT COX, TRISSIE K
 SGT CROOKSTON, THOMAS D II
 SGT DALLAS, SANDI J
 SGT DELLINGER, FORD B
 SGT DIAMOND, STEVEN W
 SGT EDWARDS, STEPHEN R II
 SGT FADDIS, SCOTT S
 SGT FARNES, ROBERT B
 SGT FAULKNER, JASON M
 SGT GAERTE, KYLED
 SGT GONDER, ZANE P
 SGT HANSEN, KELTON G
 SGT HARRIS, BRADLEY R
 SGT HARRISON, KYLE B
 SGT HINDS, JONATHAN W
 SGT HOSKINS, JEFFERY B
 SGT HOWARD, RYAN M
 SGT HUERTA, JORGE O
 SGT HUMPHERYS, KENT J
 SGT HUSEBY, JEFFERY A
 SGT ISAACS, KYLE L
 SGT JENSEN, JASON D
 SGT JOHNSON, JERRY A
 SGT JONES, PAUL M
 SGT KELLEY, PERRY W
 SGT LARSEN, STEVEN D
 SGT LAWRENCE, SHANNON P
 SGT LEMUS, PAPSY E
 SGT LESLIE, DARREN
 SGT LEWIS, RYAN J
 SGT LUNDELL, JED M
 SGT LURKER, TIMOTHY P
 SGT MAKELA, TY C
 SGT MATHEWS, MICHAEL D
 SGT MCCONNELL, RANDALL K
 SGT MCDONALD, BRADY D
 SGT MCFALL, TIMOTHY A
 SGT MEACHAM, JOSHUA R
 SGT MERRILL, JED M
 SGT MORRIS, TRESA M
 SGT MOYES, BRYCE K
 SGT MYERS, AUSTIN C
 SGT NELSON, NATHAN A
 SGT OHARA, PATRICK R
 SGT OLSEN, CHRISTOPHER L
 SGT OLSEN, JASON V
 SGT OLSON, JUSTIN C
 SGT PERRY, TODD W JR
 SGT PONCZOCH, JOHN C

SGT POWELL, JOSEPH S
 SGT RAFTERY, GREGORY B
 SGT REID, MICHAEL S
 SGT RHODES, WILLIAM C
 SGT RICHARDSON, RYAN V
 SGT RICKS, DANIEL J
 SGT RICKS, JAROM M
 SGT ROBERTS, PATRICK D
 SGT SIBIO, ZACHARY B
 SGT SMITH, STEVEN L
 SGT SORENSEN, KENNETH R
 SGT SPENDLOVE, JOSHUA S
 SGT SUMMERS, KELLY W
 SGT SWENSON, AARON I
 SGT THOMAS, AMIE L
 SGT THOMPSON, DANIEL C
 SGT TIRADO, JOSE R
 SGT TULLIS, CORTNEY D
 SGT WALKER, JERROD R
 SGT WALKER, JERROD R
 SGT WALKER, JERROD R
 SGT WARBY, ANDREW G
 SGT WEST, JOHNNIE B
 SGT WHITE, TRAVIS R
 SGT WIGNALL, AMANDA E
 SGT WILLSON, DARRELL C

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 SPC ANDELIN, BRIAN D JR
 SPC ANDERSON, BLAIN A
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 SPC BRINKERHOFF, WALON K
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 SPC FUGAL, BRIGHAM B
 SPC GENTRY, DWAYNE R
 SPC GRAFELMAN, CARL P
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 SPC HAMMOND, BRADLEY R
 SPC HANSEN, KASEY S
 SPC HANSEN, PAUL R
 SPC HANSEN, ROBERT K
 SPC HARMON, RANDAL K
 SPC HARRIS, DANIEL J
 SPC HAYNES, RYAN E
 SPC HEBER, BRENT E
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 SPC HENDRIX, WAYNE A
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 SPC JONES, CHRISTOPHER F
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 SPC LAMB, THOMAS D
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 SPC NELSON, JUSTIN W
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 SPC YOUNG, NATHAN G
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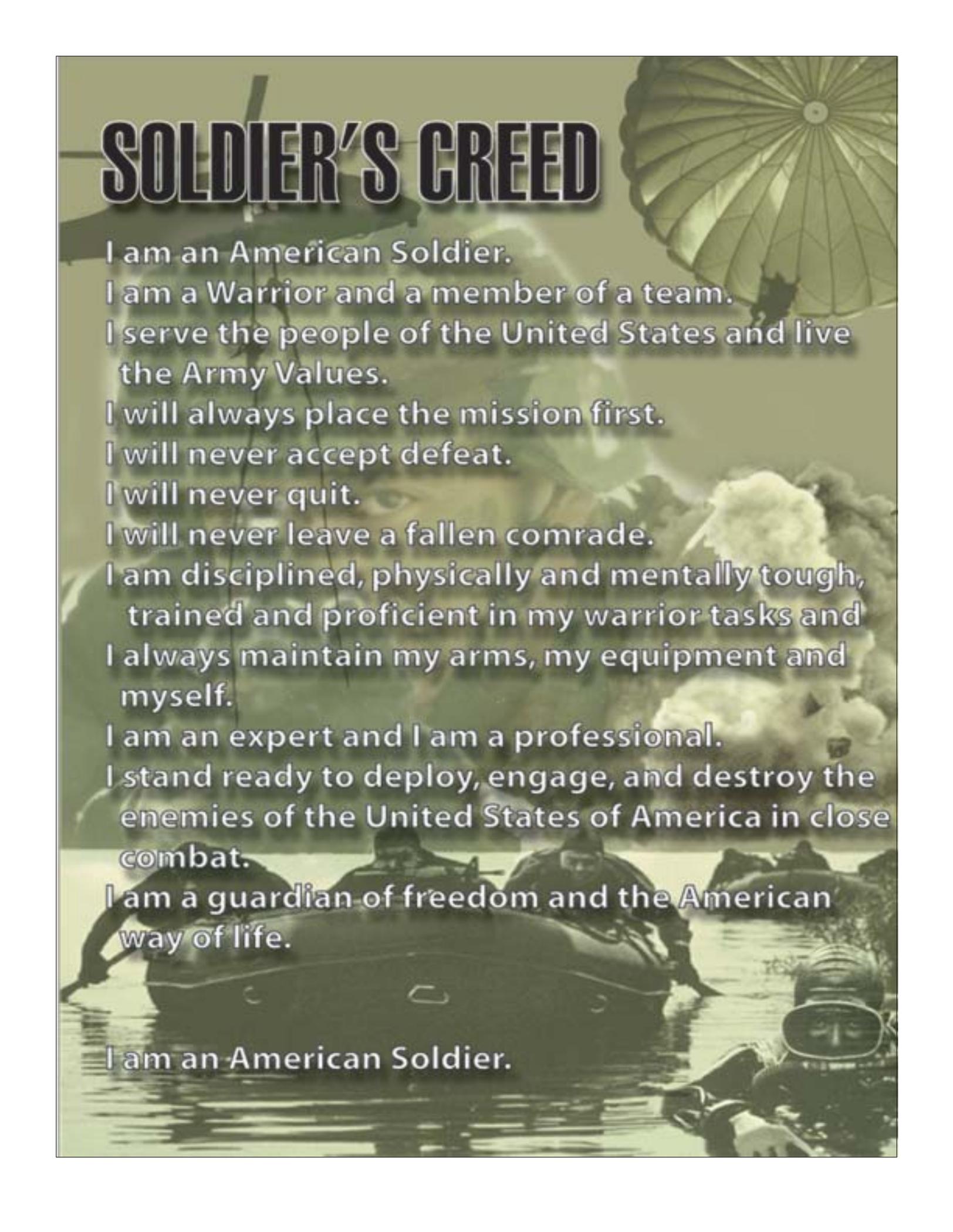
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 PV2 STOCKS, ANGUS K
 PV2 SUMMERS, JAMES K
 PV2 TERKLESEN, CHASE R
 PV2 VALADEZ, ISAAC J
 PV2 WERSLAND, TIMALEE J
 PV2 WHITNEY, CHRISTOPHER G
 PV2 YBARBO, THOMAS JR



SOLDIER'S CREED

The background of the page is a collage of military-related images. At the top right, there is a large, detailed image of a parachute. In the center, a close-up of a soldier's face is visible, looking forward with a serious expression. At the bottom, there is a scene of soldiers in a small inflatable boat on a body of water, with one soldier in the foreground wearing a helmet and looking towards the camera.

I am an American Soldier.

I am a Warrior and a member of a team.

I serve the people of the United States and live the Army Values.

I will always place the mission first.

I will never accept defeat.

I will never quit.

I will never leave a fallen comrade.

I am disciplined, physically and mentally tough, trained and proficient in my warrior tasks and

I always maintain my arms, my equipment and myself.

I am an expert and I am a professional.

I stand ready to deploy, engage, and destroy the enemies of the United States of America in close combat.

I am a guardian of freedom and the American way of life.

I am an American Soldier.



Welcome Home!

141st Military Intelligence
142nd Military Intelligence
1457th Engineer Battalion
1/19th Special Forces Group

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