

1001st completes training missions

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The 1001st Training Detachment, Redstone Arsenal, Ala., has had a very busy year, probably like most units throughout the United States considering the ongoing circumstances.

Briefly we will cover the numerous missions we have ongoing or have completed.

The 55B Ammunition Specialist CMF has been very busy since starting in November 2002 with an IDT 55B10 Phase 1 course under the lead instructor Master Sgt. Robert Pickers.

This course finished in May and numerous students from that course will be attending Phase 2 at our June annual training mission.

In January 2003 we conducted a pop-up mission Phase 1 Ammunition Specialist course, which was funded by USARC, with the lead instructor

being Master Sgt. Scott Campbell. The other instructors included Sgt. First Class David Beier, Sgt. First Class Ranford Beasley and Staff Sgt. Philip Emmendorfer.

Following the completion of this course we immediately started a 55B10 Phase 2 course with the assistance of additional instructors, which included Master Sgt. Kenneth Reding, Sgt. First Class Clint Williams, Sgt. First Class Dynetha Childs and Staff Sgt. John Boyd.

In conjunction with this Phase 2 course, we also had Sgt. First Class Jackie Coats and Sgt. First Class Robert Clark preparing for F3 Functional Courses.

Also during this time a mobile training team was requested to give F3 Functional Course refresher training to a unit at Ft. Bliss, Texas, that was being mobilized.

Sgt. First Class Jackie Coats, Sgt. First Class Robert Clark and computer specialist, Staff Sgt. Tracy Williams

were sent to Ft. Bliss and successfully completed the training for the deploying unit.

The 1001st Training Detachment is also proud to have six of our instructors mobilized to support the training at the Ordnance Missile and Electronic Maintenance School at Redstone Arsenal. The instructors are Sgt. First Class Michael Causey, Boyd, Beier, Childs, Clark and Coats.

All five of the sergeants first class are currently serving as team leaders for their respective classes.

Following the success of our earlier training missions we also conducted the first of our five Annual Training missions with a 55B Ammunition Specialist Phase 1 course.

Conducting that training were sergeants first class Bennie Drinkard, Ruby Clarke, Sonia Evans and Cecil Taylor (an out of region instructor from Texas).

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duty soldiers. Capt. Myers goes on to say "I have the active duty platoons come in on the weekend. We train our soldiers together."

From getting orders, to training on the equipment, our 100th Division soldiers faced many challenges as they mobilized. However, as Sgt. Dorica Craven states, "The 360th bent over backwards to help, they have really taken good care of us..."

The four soldiers from the 100th arrived from three states to Ft. Carson. They were aware that others from the 100th would be there, but they didn't know whom. The four

quickly became a cohesive team. Staff Sgt. Freddie Turrentine was able to coordinate the staffing so that they all were serving in the same squad. Staff Sgt. Turrentine was quoted as saying, "we're going over together, and we're coming back together."

When asked what the hardest part of the training has been so far, the overwhelming consensus was the FTX during validation. That week, a late winter blizzard hit the region, piling drifts of snow up to four feet in places, with winds coming off the mountains gusting to almost 60 mph. Sgt. Dorica Craven stated, "This was harder than Desert Storm – pure mis-

ery." The tents were no match to the winds.

The 360th Transportation Company shipped out March 26 to support the continuing operations in the Central Command area of operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. They spent their first week over in Kuwait readying their equipment, after which they moved into operation. Within two weeks, a convoy of vehicles from the 360th Transportation Company came under harassment from Iraqi mortars. No one was injured, no equipment was hit, and the convoy protection forces quickly eliminated the threat.