



WILDCAT

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Winter 2001

After the storm

Army Reserve commemorates 10th Anniversary of Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm

Story by Sgt. Derrick Witherspoon
81st RSC, PAO

GARNER, N.C. – In the wake of the Army Reserve commemorating the 10th Anniversary of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm many Army Reserve units that deployed in support of the operations are holding 10-year reunions at their local Reserve centers.

The 171st Area Support Group held its 10-year reunion at its Army Reserve Center in Garner, N.C. Approximately 80 soldiers who deployed with the 171st, including former soldiers from the 319th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, attended the reunion. Many said it was long overdue.

Colonel Ross Leidy, commander of the 171st Corps Support Group during its deployment to Saudi, said to see these soldiers come together after being apart for 10 years was remarkable. "This bunch did such a great job for me over there. To see these kids now 10 years older and their eyes lit up and tears rolling down their faces, it's amazing because we were a close-knit group of people over there," Leidy said.

"I think that the 171st and other reservists taking part in Desert Shield and Desert Storm really showed that the Army Reserve could and can do just as good of a job as the active duty soldiers," Leidy said. "I think the Army celebrating the 10-year Anniversary of the war is a great thing because it points out the importance of the citizen soldier 10 years ago and now look at the role the Army Reserve has today."

Many of these citizen soldiers, Leidy believed, played a significant role in the success of war. He said some of these soldiers were members of the 171st and they attended the reunion in hopes of rekindling old friendships and remembering their significance in the war.

Specialist (Ret.) Walter Wilkerson, former vehicle driver for the 171st, deployed to Saudi with the 171st and said it was a great experience for him as a reservist. "We knew that we were doing this for the democracy of Kuwait and for the freedom of Kuwait from Iraq. Although it got rough over there sometimes, there hasn't been a week that has gone by that I haven't thought about being a part of the war, and if I had to do it again I

"...there hasn't been a week that has gone by that I haven't thought about being a part of the war..."

Spc. (Ret.) Walter Wilkerson



Photo courtesy of USAR official Desert Shield/Storm Commemoration website

The Army Reserve Historical Painting above honors Operation Desert Storm and Desert Shield.

wouldn't hesitate," Wilkerson said. Staff Sergeant Lisa Goodman, an administrative assistant with the 171st, expressed the same sentiments as Wilkerson. "Deploying with the 171st in support of Desert Shield /Desert Storm was very exciting. There was a lot of anxiousness to see what was going to happen there, but looking back it was a good experience to actually get to do my job in a real world situation," Goodman said. "The one thing I remember the most was the camaraderie of the soldiers. It was incredible. I think that is what kept us going while we were away from our families."

Camaraderie seemed to play a major role in keeping soldiers sprits up during the deployment, but many

thought it was their commitment to the war that played a significant factor in its success. Lt. Col. (Ret.) Mike Moose, commander of the 319th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment during Desert Shield/Storm, said the reunion was an ideal way to once again show appreciation to the soldiers that deployed with the 171st in support of the war. "Many of these soldiers have not seen each other for up to 10 years and there have been many changes in their lives. Some are still in the Reserve and some are retired, but through all the tears and memories the love they have for one another continues to stay strong," Moose said as sounds of heartfelt greetings filled the air around him. 🐾

Army adopts black beret to be standard headgear

Story by Gary Sheftick
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Black berets, now worn by soldiers in elite Ranger units, will become the Army's standard headgear beginning next June, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki announced in November.

"It is time for the entire Army to accept the challenge of excellence that has so long been a hallmark of our special operations and airborne units," Shinseki said. Adopting the berets will be "another step toward achieving the capabilities of the objective force" of Army transformation, he said.

Soldiers will begin wearing the beret

June 14, "the first Army birthday of the new millennium," Shinseki said.

All soldiers, regardless of rank or branch, will wear the beret if they meet the Army standard, Shinseki said. He added that Sergeant Major of the Army Jack L. Tilley would come up with a plan to establish the standard and implement the change.

"Putting that beret on will become part of a soldier's rite of passage," Tilley said.

Shinseki made the beret

announcement at the end of his speech to more than 2,000 members of the Association of the United States Army Oct. 17 at the organization's annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

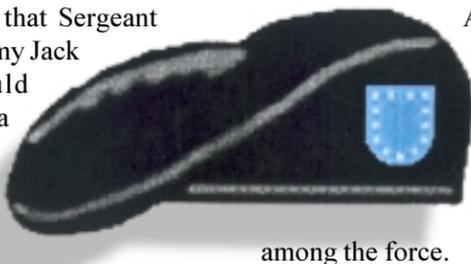
Along with Army transformation, he discussed readiness and personnel issues such as reducing "turbulence" among the force.

"Soldiering is an affair of the heart," Shinseki added as he began to explain the symbolism of the beret. He officiated a change-of-command

ceremony for the Army's Special Operations Command. He said as he watched the troops, he was reminded that the agility, deployability and adaptability of those soldiers was symbolized by their berets.

"Starting next June, the black beret will be symbolic of our commitment to transform this magnificent Army into a new force - a strategically responsive force for the 21st century," Shinseki said. "It will be a symbol of unity, a symbol of Army excellence, a symbol of our values."

Shinseki said special operations and airborne soldiers would continue to wear their distinctive berets. 🐾



Left: Sergeant Christopher Layne, 326th Chemical Co., Huntsville, Ala., participates in patrolling exercises with his British counterparts in Exercise London Pride 2000. (Photo by Paul Adams, 81st RSC, PAO)Page 6 and 7

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GENERAL COMMENTS



Maj. Gen. Michael R. Mayo

Having recently completed my second year as Commander of the 81st Regional Support Command (RSC), I want to thank everyone on the 81st TEAM for your outstanding performance. The 81st RSC continues to lead the way in readiness because of your efforts to "Make a Difference." Thank You.

Families

In the past I have written about families and their vital role in our mission. They are key to our success in every thing we do. Almost as important as the employers we work for on a daily bases.

Employers

While families give us their permission to participate in various Army Reserve missions and events, it is the employers who are required, by law, to let us volunteer to serve this great Nation as Twice the Citizen.

It's because of this that many employers are feeling the brunt of rising deployments. Having to allow their Reserve employees to be gone for weeks, and sometimes months, to defend our nation.

ESGR

Included in this edition of the

Wildcat is a feature on Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR). Read it and then nominate your employer for one of the awards. They deserve your recognition and the thanks of this Nation for their service.

Success

The ESGR program is a combat multiplier for our success. Get them involved in your unit.

By now each unit should have a designated point of contact to work with its ESGR representative. This partnership can only work if you support it.

(*Readiness-Soldiers-Families*)

CHAPLAIN'S CHAT

It is a joyous time of the year. But many people experience extreme loneliness. Loneliness is a difficult emotion. God pronounced concerning Adam, "not good that man be alone." Because of this, God has given us companions.

I think of those the Lord has given to me, to be apart of my life. The list includes my parents and family, my wife, our children and grandchildren, and the special friends that have come into my life over the years. I remember spending Christmas in Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War. War separated me from my family. Alone, God provided for me partners for prayer, encouragement, and friendship.

The Apostle Paul traveling on his second missionary journey received a vision of men from Macedonia calling to him. Paul heard the men calling, "Come over and help us." Luke immediately responded, "We endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them."

Luke was there to go with Paul. God never calls just one man to do a solitary work. God always adds the support system! I think of the work of the 81st RSC, of our commanding general and all those who are in place to assist him. God has indeed called us together to a great task and he has given wonderful people to be supportive and resourceful to that task. As Staff Chaplain I am thankful that God has given us such great chaplains and chaplain assistants



Chaplain (Col.) Tommy W. Smith

who are in place to minister to the hearts of our soldiers. Jesus also had those who were stationed by his side for the task set before him. Even Jesus needed someone to be with him.

Christmas reminds Christians of the Son of God coming to earth through the instrumentality of a virgin birth, of a child with so much hope for the world.

"We all have a calling in life, strengthen yourself for your task..."

Chaplain (Col.) Tommy W. Smith

Jesus was "the Light of the World." But Jesus was met with hate and violence! The foolish crowd cried out, "Away with him, we will not have this man to rule over us, crucify him!" So, he died alone.

Remember as you gather around your family and friends in this new year that there are lonely people out there. In the spirit of the new year let us gratefully share our light with those in darkness. We all have a calling in life, strengthen yourself for your task, and remember, you are not alone.

CSM MEMOS

All of us at the 81st RSC Headquarters trust that your holiday season was as you expected. I think for the majority it was a wonderful time, but for some, tragedy and sadness was an unexpected visitor. For the most part, many of the accidents and or intended mishaps were preventable with just a little forethought.

As much as we communicate the value of safety, there is still something inside some of us that fails to understand the grief bestowed upon us, and those around us, from carelessness. Obviously, the tangents of carelessness are multiple in nature and the impact upon all concerned is everlasting.

Needless to say, our RSC "family" continues to be affected by "accidents." We all must continue the vigil to promote safety for each and every soldier! Our goal is "zero defects." We all must strive for this nearly impossible human goal for it takes thought and planning as well as execution to attain a high mark each and every day. The effort is worth doing in light of the consequence.

As the second through the fourth training quarters face us, a thought that enters my mind is "are we as trainers making the appropriate risk assessments with our soldiers so as to prevent some, if not all, personal tragedy?" These assessments must range from



Command Sgt. Maj. George Johnson

the training environment to the individual soldier. The safety element must include an in-depth knowledge of those being trained as well as those who are conducting the training. Counseling and or communicating at every level of command is paramount. I believe this communication is the "doorway" to safety!

"Counseling and or communicating at every level of command is paramount."

Command Sgt. Maj. George Johnson

When tragedy occurs, one of the groups that become personally involved is our Chaplain Corps. I trust that all will join with me in expressing our sincere thanks for the outstanding effort that they contribute to our team effort as an RSC. The caring and concern for our soldiers and their families is remarkable. I sincerely hope that the Chaplain's will have an easy year in 2001!

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Volunteer of the Year

81st RSC volunteer receives Army Reserve Volunteer of the Year Award

Story by Sgt. Derrick Witherspoon
81st RSC, PAO

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – Throughout the U.S. Armed Forces there are military personnel working everyday to help defend and keep America and its allies safe from harm. For all these soldiers and their families there are also civilian volunteers who support them just as well, and for the Army Reserve that volunteer is Cindy Sykes.

Mrs. Sykes, spouse of Lt. Col. Timothy Sykes of the 75th Combat Support Hospital in Tuscaloosa, Ala., recently received the U.S. Army Reserve Volunteer of the Year Award for her dedication and loyalty to soldiers of the Army and Army Reserve over the years. She received the award from Maj. Gen. Michael R. Mayo, commanding general of the 81st Regional Support Command (RSC), during a ceremony held in her honor at the Headquarters, 81st RSC, Birmingham, Ala.

“I was really surprised to find out I won this award. I thought I was just one of the top ‘five’ volunteers in the United States Army Reserve. Not ‘the’ one,” Mrs. Sykes said. “I am very honored to have won this award and I am appreciative to all those who have invited me to teach and speak. No award happens

without the support of others.”

Mrs. Sykes has volunteered over 700 hours of her time to various events within the 81st RSC. She has also traveled to most of the eight states within the 81st RSC Southeastern region speaking and teaching Army Family Team Building. Sykes said his wife has been volunteering for over 25 years.

“Cindy has been volunteering for as long as I have been in the military. Usually she gets started on one volunteer effort and then runs into something else that she wants to help out with also. She is a person that you don’t have to ask twice for help,” Sykes said.

“I volunteer so much because I do love the United States and all she stands for in the world. There is no other nation where freedom has been paid for by so many lives lost on battlefields at home and abroad. Men and women have been volunteering since our nation began and they continue to volunteer to defend their

families and country,” Mrs. Sykes said, as her passion for what she does pored out in every word she uttered.

Colonel Marietta P. Stanton, commander of the 75th CSH, said Mrs. Sykes has been a fountain of energy and enthusiasm since her arrival in the unit.

“She immediately joined the unit’s

“I volunteer so much because I do love the United States and all she stands for in the world.”

Cindy Sykes



Photo by Lt. Col. William Davis

Cindy Sykes holds the Army Reserve Volunteer of the Year Award as she addresses the crowd at her award ceremony.

Family Support Group and offered to help in any way possible. Ever since then she has continued to be a willing servant and assistant to all who have asked,” Stanton said. “Mrs. Sykes has volunteered over 1,000 hours this past year and has managed to maintain her civilian job; her family responsibilities to her husband, children and grandchildren; and still finds time to volunteer and assist in numerous ways in several different states within the 81st RSC. She is a

shining example of a true and dedicated family volunteer,” Stanton exclaimed.

“My grandfather and dad volunteered and served in the Army. My husband, Tim, volunteered to serve in the Army in July 1974. So for the past 25 years I have been volunteering wherever we have lived and plan to continue volunteering until there is nothing to volunteer for anymore. I’m just doing my part,” Mrs. Sykes said, with an air of joy in her voice. ☺

Making community service work for the Army Reserve

Story by SFC Troy Falardeau
OCAR PALD

ARLINGTON, Va. – Community service is one of the ways reservists can become active members of their communities —along with others like disaster recovery and participation as active citizens.

The tricks to making community service work for the Army Reserve are to find missions that fit with training goals, to ensure that ample positive publicity is generated for units, and to ensure the service has some end goal that will benefit both the Army Reserve and the community. Engineers that build ball fields, military police that teach bicycle safety and medical professionals that provide first aid at community events are just a few examples of soldiers that are using their skills productively while helping their communities.

The opportunities to interact with communities are virtually endless. Here are some ideas for local Army Reserve units looking for some worthwhile community service-type projects:

Finance units. The IRS needs volunteers to help do tax forms through a program called VITA. Volunteers provide training and

software. The volunteers then help the elderly, those with disabilities, and low-to-limited income individuals complete their tax forms. The mission



Photo by Sgt. Derrick Witherspoon

Specialist Danisha M. Crawford, 75th Combat Support Hospital, Tuscaloosa, Ala., pricks a homeless veteran in the finger at Stand Down 2000 in order to check his sugar levels during an examination.

is from January to April 15, and the commitment is only a few hours a week. Volunteers are not liable for any incorrect information or miscalculations. For more information, call the Taxpayer Education Coordinator at 1-800-829-1040.

Military Police and Quartermaster

units. Boy Scouts may have their national jamborees at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia, but did you know that Girl Scouts have similar smaller-

also want to learn computer skills, self-defense, foreign languages, survival skills, physical fitness and more. Contact your local Girl Scout troop for information about upcoming local regional gatherings.

Any kind of unit, but especially engineer units. Want to teach common soldier and survival skills to inner city youth? The Bureau of Land Management has a program called WOW—Wonderful Outdoor World—that introduces inner-city youth to the fun and wonders of outdoor recreation. Kids spend a weekend in the great outdoors and learn community values, teamwork, outdoor skills and respect for the outdoors. Sounds a lot like the things we want soldiers to learn. Not every future soldier joins JROTC. Some of them might get involved with programs like this. For more information about this program call the Bureau of Land Management in Springfield, Va., at 703-440-1745 or 1738.

This information should get Reserve units thinking about unique and fun ways to add community service to the units in Army Reserve commands. ☺

1184th 'rolls' into action at Southeast Texas port

Story by Larry D. McCaskill
Military Traffic Management Command

BEAUMONT, Texas – Army Reservists from the 1184th Transportation Terminal Battalion (TTB) stood poised as helicopters, railcars and convoys assembled at the port of Beaumont. Soldiers of the 1184th TTB were ready to “roll” into action.

Supporting the 25th Infantry Division’s redeployment to Hawaii, reservists from the 1184th TTB, Mobile, Ala., stood ready to load more than 1,050 pieces of military hardware onto the USNS Fisher at the Southeast Texas Port of Beaumont.

Equipment Arrives

Days before the majority of the equipment arrived, Kiowa scout helicopters began flying into the port. Over the next two days, a total of 16 Kiowa, 21 Blackhawk and three Chinook helicopters departed from Fort Polk, La., and flew into the port.

Once all of the equipment arrived, the buzz around the port grew louder as the USNS Fisher pulled into dock. The USNS Fisher is one of the Military Sealift Command’s new large, medium-speed, roll-on/roll-off ships. The Fisher’s six huge levels of cargo-carrying space, interior ramps and on-board cranes make it ideally suited to transport heavy armored tanks, trucks and other equipment to U.S. troops deployed to crisis areas around the world.

Soldier Support

More than 150 soldiers from the 1184th, 25th and Fort Polk were on hand to ensure the success of the deployment.

“I think things are going very well considering this is the first time for many of my soldiers,” said 1184th first sergeant, 1st Sgt. Jeff Whitaker. “We are doing a lot of cross training in case we need to supplement one of the sections at any given time.”

“Until the vessel pulls into dock and we begin to actually load it, many of our soldiers help out the terminal section,” said Lt. Col. Janet L. Cobb, commander of the 1184th. “It just makes sense having people be able to do more than one job. Having people trained in multi-functions makes it a lot easier.”

No matter what he is doing or where he is doing it, difficult task or easy, like a dependable clock he just ... Keeps on ‘ticking’

Story by Lynne Schaack
Parks Reserve Forces Training Area

DUBLIN, Calif. – Insects don’t bug Capt. Lorenzo Rivera, in fact they excite him and provide him with a job he actively and passionately performs.

Here for annual training, Rivera, an Army Reservist with the 452nd Medical Detachment from Perrine, Fla., performed an entomological survey specifically on vector-borne diseases.

Vector-borne diseases are identified as organisms that carry pathogens from one host to another, such as mosquitoes, ticks, fleas, spiders, rodents, and are known to cause disease in humans.

After collecting and categorizing hundreds of ticks found in the local bivouac area, Rivera’s findings were sent to the Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (USACHPPM)

at Fort Lewis, Wash., where they were tested for diseases.

“My job is not to scare people,” Rivera said. “I want to educate them. Forty percent of troops in combat succumb to diseases of the area which they occupy, rather than from wounds inflicted by weapons of combat.”

In this area of California, it is common for ticks to carry Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, rather than Lyme disease. By producing and circulating brochures with photos, Rivera hopes to educate soldiers training here about ticks, diseases and symptoms.

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever can be identified by a rash over the body. The distinguishing diagnosis says Rivera, is a rash on the palms of the hands and soles of the feet.

“We defend the public against all enemies foreign, domestic, small and microscopic.”

Capt. Lorenzo Rivera



Photo by Larry D. McCaskill

Soldiers from the 1184th Transportation Terminal Battalion in Mobile and 3rd Bde, 25th Infantry Division (L) observe a shrink-wrapped Blackhawk helicopter as it is lowered for lashing below deck.

“I believe the MTMC (Military Traffic Management Command) Reserve units are ready to do their missions because of all the training and pride we put into it. Every MTMC commander knows that we are here to support the war fighter and that failure, as they say, is not an option,” Cobb said. “If the force has to go, then the Reserve units are ready to get them there. Every one of my soldiers knows that when we arrive at a port, we are here to work a real-world mission. Arriving at the port to load out a unit is not the time to start learning your job.”

Mission Success

“We had two excellent outcomes from this mission — our Cargo Documentation Section had a perfect pay run, and that makes the customer happy because information must be correct for accurate payment. We were also the first Reserve unit to use the new Radio

Frequency Data Communications System Scanners on a live mission, with excellent results,” Cobb added.

Mission Assessment

In addition to providing the 1184th direct support, the 596th also served as the unit evaluators.

“We want to ensure that the unit learns from anything that happens during the operation, whether it’s something good they have done or something they didn’t do,” said Rose Ann Alderete, a traffic management specialist and evaluator with the 596th.

“We look at everything. We review their battle book, documentation and other reports that are generated,” Alderete said. “We even check on the physical conditioning and how well they work as a team. All the input we provide them will make them an even better unit.” ☺



Photo by Lynne Schaack

Captain Lorenzo Rivera with the 452nd Medical Detachment Preventive Medicine, Perrine, Fla., looks through his microscope at ticks he collected in the bivouac area during his AT in Dublin, Calif.

“Here is an enemy that you can’t shoot, that doesn’t talk, yet this enemy is just as lethal as enemy soldiers with guns — this one can sneak up on you undetected and infect a person without them knowing until it’s too late,” he said.

Last year the unit deployed to El Salvador and did a survey of an area that presented a problem to soldiers and civilians.

Sent ahead of the troops, the preventive medicine team identified the enemy as skunks and mosquitoes, and began measures of protection and elimination.

“Water can be a major source of disease and infection for both soldiers and the general population,” said Rivera. “The people were amicable to our suggestions. They cleaned out garbage dumps and dried up areas of water where mosquitoes laid their eggs.”

Rivera, an operating room nurse in civilian life, gets a kick out of his unit’s motto, ‘We defend the public against all enemies foreign, domestic, small and microscopic.’ “That’s our job,” Rivera said with a grin. ☺

Silver Scimitar 2000

Story by Cpl. Holly Arnold
314th PCH

FORT MCCOY, Wis. – In coming! The thunder of artillery shells fills the night sky. Soldiers run for cover, but a few didn't make it. How will the Army track down the ones who died or were injured? Who will notify their families?

These are tough questions, but ones that 3rd Personnel Command and their subordinate units are prepared to answer. This is just an exercise and the artillery shells are typical at Fort McCoy, Wis., where as many as 1,500 soldiers from various states participated in Silver Scimitar 2000.

Silver Scimitar is the largest multi-echelon, theater level personnel exercise in the Army and lasts 14 days. "We have been planning for Silver Scimitar 2000 since June of last year," said Maj. Gerald P. Coleman of 3rd PERSCOM in Jackson, Miss. "We brought in subject matter experts from the Adjutant General school, Army, and Army Reserve units to teach over 100

"If I didn't get to come here and train, I would really forget the things I have learned so far."

Sgt. Derrick M. Williams

different classes," said Coleman. During the first two weeks, soldiers train on their Mission Essential Tasks Lists and basic soldier skills. These



Photo by Cpl. Holly Arnold

Soldiers from 3rd PERSCOM receive compass training during a land navigation class at Silver Scimitar 2000.

include the Army Casualty Information Processing System and the Replacement Operations Automated Management System. "We created an environment where units can get technical training. For some soldiers this is the first time they will have a chance to train on the ACIPS and ROAMS," said Coleman.

ACIPS is an automated casualty report. "The initial casualty reporting process is 24 hours," said Maj. Mark B. Green Sr. of 3rd PERSCOM. This is no small

task when there are thousands of soldiers to track and thousands of miles for the information to cross. "We want the reports on time, but more importantly it must be accurate," said Green. This is the kind of training that prepares soldiers for realistic casualty processing.

"If I didn't get to come here and train, I would forget what I have learned," said Sgt. Derrick M. Williams, of the 461st Personnel Support Battalion in Atlanta, Ga.

ROAMS training is "a go to war system that supports the projection and management of fillers and casualties," said Maj. John Brundige the functional

ROAMS manager of the United States Total Army Personnel Command. The system is also used to project personnel replacement requirements by Military Occupational Specialty and skill level, according to Brundige. It is unique in comparison to other tracking systems in that it is used to track individuals shipped to the theater from the CONUS Replacement Center above division level, according to Brundige. "We can't win the war, but we can certainly lose it if we aren't bringing in replacements to the battlefield," said Coleman. ☺

101st ADD demonstrates diversity during annual training

Story by Capt. Elaine Weil
101st ADD

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. – While running a division rear operations center is the forte of the 101st Airborne Division Detachment (101st ADD), located at Fort Campbell, it demonstrated its versatility during summer annual training (AT) in exercise EAGLE GATE 01-03N.

The exercise, which took place on Fort Campbell, was part of a Division and Forces Command (FORSCOM) training program known as Gate Strategy. Because the major exercises the 101st ADD usually participates in had been delayed, 101st ADD commander, Lt. Col. William D. Frink, Jr., seized the opportunity to take the unit to the field.

Exercise responsibilities for the 101st ADD included command and control of the exercise response cell, implementation of the operations plan (OPLAN) and master event list, assisting with layout and construction of the command post (CP), and conducting regular in-progress briefings to the division assistant G3 for plans and exercises prior to the exercise. Various members of the Division staff joined

the 101st ADD in implementing EAGLE GATE 01-03N.

The 101st ADD's AT started with a three-day mobilization exercise (MOBEX) on Fort Campbell. The

vaccinations; mobilization briefings; family care plan reviews; and dental, medical and personnel record screenings.

Concurrently the 101st ADD

and camouflage nets of the CP in an ambience of oppressive humidity and an occasional downpour of rain accompanied by lightning. Including 2nd Brigade and 561st CSB, more than 3,000 soldiers participated in EAGLE GATE 01-03N.

For many 101st ADD soldiers this was the first time in the field with the unit.

"This is something I have never experienced in my career to date," exclaimed 1st Lt. Desha Platt, unit S-1. "Nevertheless, everyone adapted to the routine of working 'inside the wire' and sleeping in the woods."

"Even though this was not a typical mission for our unit we were able to perform many of our mission-essential tasks during this exercise," said Master Sgt. Clark A. Pescheck of the 101st ADD.

After an eventful eight days in the field, the end of exercise was announced. Officers, NCOs and enlisted joined together to make short work of teardown, loading and convoy preparations.

Three days of recovery operations followed. Tents, cots, vehicles and other equipment were cleaned and inspected. Items were turned in for repair as needed and the unit stood ready for its next deployment. ☺



Photo by Capt. Elaine Weil

Staff Sergeant Christopher Payne, 101st ADD unit and exercise tactical intelligence analyst, updates an enemy situation template.

3397th U.S. Army Garrison out of Chattanooga, Tenn., conducted the MOBEX.

All 20 soldiers participating were deemed deployable after a round of

deployed by convoy to a field site deep in the woods and to the fields of the vast training areas of Fort Campbell.

101st ADD joined approximately 75 active duty soldiers under canvas tents

London Pride 2000

Story by Paul Adams
81st RSC, PAO

CAMP ROLLESTONE, England – A tense struggle is underway in fog and drizzle on a small World War I-constructed military training camp in the southern part of the United Kingdom, but this contest has nothing to do with battlefield readiness.

Locked in a virtual stalemate with the affectionately named British “Tug-a-War girls,” the U.S. Army Reserve women strain to pull their British counterparts across the designated line to victory.

Athletic competitions, a barbeque and a one-time rising of the U.S. flag over Camp Rolleston, England, kicked off a unique British-American Fourth-of-July celebration that set the tone for an invaluable training experience; Exercise London Pride 2000.

Approximately one hundred and thirteen U. S. Army Reservists from the 415th Chemical Brigade, and four of their subordinate units, including an Arkansas chemical unit, along with 106 reservists from the British Royal Yeomanry, participated in London Pride. The exercise took place on Salisbury Plain, the largest of eight principal Army training areas in the UK. Also participating were 67 soldiers from the British Joint Nuclear Biological Chemical (NBC) Regiment.

The purpose of London Pride was to train and exercise NBC defense procedures and practices, in order to develop expertise through the exchange of British and American knowledge. A reciprocal exercise was held at Fort McClellan, Ala., in October 1998 and was known as Alabama Star.

Providing command and control for London Pride 2000 was the 490th Chemical Battalion, headed by Lt. Col. Robin Byrom. “We came into this exercise thinking it was going to be three good days of staff training, and it turned out to be 10 days of literal staff interaction and training with the British,” Byrom said.

Because the British didn’t have the infrastructure to support a Training Assessment Module (TAM) evaluation that the 490th required for their annual training, Byrom’s staff, aided by the personnel from the 490th, quickly got on board to generate the staff exercise that led to the additional training days. A TAM is the report card indicating where the unit stands at the end of the year.

“We capped this planning off with what we call lanes training and the British call stands. The stands are a multitude of evaluated individual tasks such as patrolling, first aid, vehicle recovery, land navigation and decontamination,” Byrom said.

The U.S. soldiers from the 326th, 318th, 314th, 310th and 392nd Chemical Companies and British troopers from the Territorial Army were fully integrated from the beginning. “We paired up with our British counterparts to participate in the lanes evaluations,” Byrom said. The evaluations were done on joint teams on a point type basis. At the end of the exercise, the team with the highest score won, according to Byrom.

In charge of the rotating the soldiers and troopers through the train-up prior to the beginning of the exercise was Staff Sgt. Darwyn Wang, British Regular Forces, who was attached to the Royal Yeomanry as a staff instructor for W Squadron. One such task was cover and concealment.

“They do some of the same basic things we do, but it is also refresher training for us. We are learning some basic things from them, such as putting on reflectant, and adding long strains of grass and weeds to our Kevlar so we will blend in well with the environment,” said Spc. Chris Layne, 326th Chemical Co., while applying camouflage to his face under the watchful eye of Wang. As the dozen soldiers and troopers complete their tasks, Wang retorts approving with a crisp and snappy “happy bout that” to his students.

Byrom said that the soldiers were trained on the individual tasks they were going to be evaluated on in the lanes. “This joint training enabled our chemical specialists to go into



Photo by Paul Adams

Staff Sergeant Christopher McGruder receives a British “application of reflectant” from 2-Lt. Julliette Ward of the British Royal Yeomanry before patrolling exercises begin.

the FTX portion prepared to operate the types of equipment the British use and accomplish the mission successfully,” Byrom said.

Byrom said that they were broken down by squadrons, which are equivalent to U.S. companies, and then the 490th augmented their squadrons to fully man them to do the FTX.

According to Byrom, they were the coordinating hub for the FTX. As units got contaminated in the field, the 490th would get a report that they needed decon (decontamination) and then they would have a squadron initiate decon operations.

“This training is something different,” said Cpl. Bill Lincoln, a trooper in the British Territorial Army, equivalent of a U.S. reservist and a veteran of Alabama Star. “There we only had one or two missions together, but here we have been together from the start. We are integrated in accommodations and training as well.”

“The learning curve was steep for both U.S. and British forces, but the bottom line is that the end state objectives were flat out met. We successfully ran a complete and thorough decon site, and did it jointly,” Byrom said.

Trooper Neil Lawes said that it was a good idea that the two countries train together. “We have been talking about how both countries are run; what it is like to drive over here and things we have in common. The little things make the difference. In Alabama we went out for a night of Karaoke. That was fun,” Lawes said.

To that Layne added, “They think our ‘HMMWV’s’ are neat and we like their Land rovers.”

“From my perspective we have learned immensely from the British,” Byrom said. “One of the biggest success stories is the fact that we integrated at all levels, and at the individual level our soldiers taught British and the British soldiers taught ours.”

“It was important that we got together so we can work together and understand each other. We brought the people together so much quicker here than in Alabama Star,” said Capt. Christopher Sayer, with the Royal Yeomanry.

The bonding began with the Fourth of July celebration. Some of the events placed nation against nation, as in the tug-a-wars, with the results of the male and female competitions being in favor of the British. Soldiers and troopers unified in other team events such as rugby, volleyball, tent pegging (an accuracy drill using a saber to pop a ballon), jousting, as well as the lanes training and the FTX.

Byrom said towards the end of the FTX, “In the beginning the British and American soldiers were distinctively separate in some of the sporting events and doing the individual training task. And now when you go out into the field and look around you don’t find that separation, you find them integrated sharing ideas, experiences, sharing family life. They share how there are differences in the United States and how we live and even the English language, how some words mean one thing to us and mean something entirely different to them. It was a wonderful experience and everyone had a great time.”

Trooper Angela Williams said it best, “Yes, it has really been good fun.” 🐾

“It was important that we got together so we can work together and understand each other.”

Capt. Christopher Sayer, Royal Yeomanry

Reservists showcase talents in Soldier Show

Story by Maj. James T. Billings
314th PCH

ATLANTA, Ga. – Singing in front of people is a thrill for Master Sgt. Walter Goodrich. “It’s a natural high,” said Goodrich, who doubles as the 81st Regional Support Command’s (RSC) retention noncommissioned officer and chief of human resources. He also is the front man for “The Wildcats,” the 81st’s traveling soldier show that has performed twice this summer at Regional Support Command events.

Major General Michael R. Mayo, the 81st RSC commanding general, conceived of the soldier show in 1999. Its purpose is to show off the talents of the soldiers of the 81st in community events. The Wildcats gave their first performance July 13 at the Family Program Academy in Atlanta.

Soldiers from across the Southeast volunteered to sing, play instruments and even tell jokes as part of the show. Their songs have ranged from the bluesy “Summertime” from George Gershwin’s “Porgy and Bess” to country hits such as “Rocky Top.” The group has tried to include other songs representing the eight states under the 81st RSC, such as “Georgia on My Mind” and “The Stars Fell On Alabama.”

The audience’s favorite song at the first show seemed to be “Summertime,” which Goodrich crooned with Sgt. 1st Class Sharon Lane-Henley of the 3rd Army

“I love to see people enjoying us and getting a lot out of the songs.”

Sgt. 1st Class Sharon Lane-Henley



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Scotty Johnson

Private 1st Class Nadia Burks belts out the patriotic tune “Battle Hymn of the Republic” during an 81st Regional Support Command Soldier Show performance in Jacksonville, Fla.

(Augmentation) in Atlanta.

“I’m so happy, I’m shaking all over,” Lane-Henley said shortly after the show. An accomplished performer, she has sung the National Anthem at Atlanta Braves games and Immigration and Naturalization Service ceremonies. As a civilian, Lane-Henley is senior assistant for the U.S. District Court in Atlanta.

Like Goodrich, Lane-Henley finds excitement in singing. “I love doing

it, I get a thrill out of it,” she said. “I love to see people enjoying us and getting a lot out of the songs.”

The first performance came off after only about 90 minutes of rehearsal, the first time the soldiers had ever met each other.

“The easiest part of the soldier show is the performance,” said Goodrich. The hardest, he adds, is the rehearsal.

Goodrich has been performing for over 36 years.

Other show members, such as Maj. Donzell Moody and Staff Sgt. Vince Perry, have also played professionally.

Goodrich helped assemble the group of volunteers, selecting a mixture of patriotic songs and upbeat “foot-tapping” music. Audience response from the first two shows has been encouraging, he said.

“It’s a great concept, the idea of demonstrating those talents to the community at large,” Goodrich said.

But for him, it’s a way to combine his love of music with his participation in the Army Reserve. He said he only enjoys larger audiences.

“The bigger the crowd, the better time we have,” Goodrich said. ☺

Saying ‘Thanks’ to an employer can go a long way

Story by Maj. Doug Melton
Executive Director, Alabama ESGR

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – The last decade has been unique in the history of the Reserve Components. Since Operation Desert Storm, we have experienced a “peace dividend” which has resulted in the downsizing of the both the Active and Reserve Forces. In this same time period, the commitments of both the Active and Reserve Forces have increased.

Deployments

Reservists are finding themselves deployed more and more in support of military commitments all around the globe. The term “Twice the Citizen” takes on new meaning when considered in the light of the use of Reservists in these Areas of Operations.

This has created hardships not only for the soldiers and their families, but has also increased the workload of those remaining that must “do more with less.” The civilian employer also feels this hardship.

The Reserve Components are no longer “one weekend per month, two weeks per year.” Instead, it is “ready on call.” And that call is coming more and more frequently, separating

soldiers and families and creating problems between the citizen-soldiers and their employers.

Support

While many programs exist in the 81st Regional Support Command (RSC) to deal with the separation of families, we must also address the problems that our civilian employers have to deal with. While it is true that USERRA (Uniformed Services

the “My Boss is a Patriot” award. By completing this form and mailing it to the National Committee ESGR located in Arlington, Va., reservists can say “Thank You” to their employers for supporting them in what is an essential role in our Nation’s defense.

Recognition

Reservists are urged to take time to fill out this form and recognize their

shifts to make up for lost time at drill, or they continue a reservist’s health insurance while their deployed, or they make up the difference in pay if a reservist is called to active duty. Other instances can be that they actively seek out and employ reservists because they feel reservists make better employees, or they ensure that someone within the company maintains contact with a reservist’s family while they are on Annual Training or on a deployment.

Awards

This narrative portion may garner your employer an even more prestigious award such as the “State Chairman Award,” the “Pro Patria,” (Only one is awarded per state) or the “Freedom Award” (Only one per year for the nation).

Reservists requesting more information about Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve or need a contact person within their state can go on the Internet and visit the ESGR website at www.esgr.org. This site provides invaluable information about USERRA, the awards programs and ESGR volunteers in every states. ☺

ESGR

Employment Reemployment Rights Act) guarantees the rights of the soldier to reclaim their jobs with no loss of seniority, it does not guarantee that employers will like to lose a valuable employee, nor does it guarantee a positive attitude on the part of the employer.

Solution

However, reservists can help to change that attitude. In this issue of the Wildcat is a nomination form for

employers for their contribution. Reservists should also take time to fill out the form completely, to include the back portion where they can write comments about their employer. Basically, what’s being looked for here are specific instances where an employer has gone beyond what is required of them to make sure that a reservist can continue their career in the Reserve Components.

Some of these may be that they allow a reservist to work different

478th Eng. Bn. place 'sights' on weapons, soldier training

Story by Sgt. Derrick Witherspoon
81st RSC, PAO

CAMP ATTERBURY, Ind. – Providing soldiers with classroom instruction on their job skills is a necessity, but having them put those job skills to the test in the field is where experience begins to grow. This is exactly what the 478th Engineer Battalion (Corp) (Mech), Fort Thomas, Ky., did last September as they headed to the range to focus their “sights” on their soldier and job skills.

The 478th Eng. Bn. went to Camp Atterbury, Ind., for crew served weapons training and qualification. The engineers occupied three ranges; the 50 caliber, Mark (MK) 19, and the demolition range.

The soldiers got the opportunity to train with and detonate C4 explosives,

and they practiced with charge emplacements, types and methods,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Preston J. Bishop, command sergeant major of the 478th Eng. Bn. “Charge types and methods are dependent on

“Our arsenal is impressive and quite lethal, and it ‘has’ to be to meet our combat mission...”

Command Sgt. Maj. Preston J. Bishop

what type of structure or material is to be breached.”

Bishop said the engineers also detonated the bangalore torpedo, a tube like explosive approximately four feet long and three inches in

diameter that can be connected to other torpedoes for additional length. The principal use for the bangalore torpedo is to clear paths through barbed wire entanglements.

Last November the engineers again arrived at Camp Atterbury for individual weapons fire, where they qualified with the M9, M16 and the M16 mounted 203-grenade launcher.

“Our arsenal is impressive and quite lethal, and it ‘has’ to be to meet our combat mission; To work alongside of and sometimes in front of the infantry to create avenues for them to maneuver or by emplacing obstacles or enhancing natural obstacles to hinder the enemies movement,” Bishop said.

Bishop said the 478th is always trying to find ways to keep their soldiers trained. The Battalion sent a

company size element to the National Training Center (NTC) for annual training at Fort Irwin, Calif., during the spring of 2000 where they supported the 58th Engineer Battalion in an opposing forces (OPFOR) role. The 478th was tasked to emplace minefields, wire barriers, create vehicle fighting positions, tank ditches and breach obstacles.

Bishop added that the 478th will again have a role at NTC in the spring



Photo by Command Sgt. Maj. Preston J. Bishop.

Soldiers from the 478th Engineer Battalion, Fort Thomas, Ky., draw C4 explosives in preparation for training on the use of C4 explosives and also to practice with charge emplacements, types and methods.

of 2001 and he said as long as they training, the mission should be a keep their “sights” focused on success. ☺

Operation SMART

Story by Sgt. Derrick Witherspoon
81st RSC, PAO

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – Operation “SMART” is a program that is designed for Active Army and Army Reserve soldiers, to assist the U.S. Army Recruiting Command with their recruiting mission. This program is entitled Operation “SMART” (Sergeants Major of the Army Recruiting Team). The program is an initiative to assist the recruiting force in providing the strength for America’s Army. The SMART referral program is also used for referring names to the U.S. Army Reserve.

As an integral team effort in helping meet the Army’s recruiting mission, the Sergeant Major of the Army organized Operation SMART. This program provides a certificate for any installation soldier who refers a potential applicant, which then results in an enlistment in the regular Army or the Army Reserve. In addition, any soldier who receives credit for enough referrals to result in three enlistments will receive a special award coin from the Sergeant Major of the Army.

Sergeant First Class Josephine P. Feliciano, retention noncommissioned officer in the 81st Regional Support Command (RSC) Retention Office, said the 81st RSC has received great response from the SMART program. “We have received a good number of responses from the program on civilians who want to join the Reserve. Being able to go on-line and put in the request just makes the whole process easier,” Feliciano said. “The SMART program is a great way to refer new soldiers to local recruiters and an excellent way to strengthen the force of the 81st RSC.”

Another testimony to the success of this program is that of Capt. Monice Jackson-Ferrill, a member of the 640th Area Support Group in Nashville, Tenn. “I



Photo courtesy of Capt. Monice Jackson-Ferrill

Malia A. Jackson, center, stands next to Army Reserve recruiter Staff Sgt. Woodrow C. Jones, Left, after being sworn in to the Army Reserve by her mother Capt. Monice Jackson-Ferrill. Jackson was referred to the Army Reserve through the SMART program.

recently had the wonderful opportunity to enlist my daughter, Malia A. Jackson, into the Army Reserve after her name was given to a local Nashville recruiter through the USAREC Operation SMART Referral Program,” Jackson-Ferrill said. “Anyone can access this program through the USAREC website (www.usarec.army.mil). Being able to enlist her was a great moment for me. I really hope more people take advantage of this program.”

Additionally, this program creates a partnership and promotes camaraderie between the recruiting battalions and the installation/RSC command sergeant majors in their battalion area. Installation command sergeant majors are charged with introducing

Operation “SMART” to all command sergeant majors and sergeant majors on their installation. The program will work as cited below.

At the end of each fiscal quarter, USAREC (United States Army Recruiting Command) Headquarters will publish the names of soldiers and their units who provide the most referrals and the most enlistments. At the end of each fiscal year, the soldier with the best record of referrals and resulting enlistments will be invited along with their unit support officers to the Annual Chief of Staff of the Army, Recruiter of Excellence Award Ceremony in Washington, D.C., where they will be personally recognized for their achievement. ☺

MAKERS

81st RSC NCO of the Year

ORLANDO, Fla. – Sergeant First Class James D. Scott, an Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) soldier stationed at Headquarters, 81st Regional Support Command (RSC) located in Birmingham, Ala., was recently selected as the 81st RSC Active Component/Active Guard and Reserve Noncommissioned Officer of the Year. Scott, a retention transition NCO with the 81st RSC Retention Office, was selected during the 81st RSC Soldier of the Year Board in Orlando, Fla.



Sergeant Major Jose Mojica, 81st RSC command retention NCO, and Scott's supervisor, said Scott is a hard charging and dedicated noncommissioned officer. "Sergeant First Class Scott is what I call a super noncommissioned officer. He is what every other soldier wants to become. I am very happy to have him on our team," Mojica said.

"It feels good to represent this command in this position," Scott said. "I have been with the 81st since February 2000. I consider being the 81st RSC NCO of the Year an honor and a privilege."

Scott has been married to his wife, Cindy, for nine years and they have two children together: Dillion, 3; and Ashlyn, 1. Scott's next step is to compete for Soldier of the Year at Forces Command level, which is the next stage in the Soldier of the Year competition.

(By Sgt. Derrick Witherspoon, 81st RSC, PAO)

Transportation Corps Regimental Officer of the Year

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – The 1999 Transportation Corps Regimental Officer of the Year Award was presented to Capt. Jonathan C. Cox from the Headquarters, 81st Regional Support Command (RSC). Cox is a transportation officer with 81st RSC Deputy Chief of Staff Logistics (DCSLOG) office.

Cox received many endorsements from his chain command. "Captain Cox's outstanding performance throughout his career is a clear indication of his superior technical and tactical knowledge of transportation operations," said Maj. Gen. Michael R. Mayo, 81st RSC commander. "His transportation expertise has made him a tremendous asset to this command," said Maj. Michael W. Yarbrough, chief, Transportation and Services, 81st RSC.

"I am honored to have won such an award. It's really an honor to be recognized at this kind of level," Cox said. "I enjoy what I do and I have been afforded a great opportunity in an interesting career field. It's great to be able to have fun and take advantage of such an opportunity, and hey, it's not bad to win an award while your at it."

(By Sgt. Derrick Witherspoon, 81st RSC, PAO)

Sergeant gets Commissioned

MACON, Ga. – Sergeant Jeffery M. Wilson of Detachment 2, 2145th Garrison Support Unit (GSU), Fort Benning, Ga., graduated from Class 39 of the Georgia Army National Guard State Officer Candidate School in Macon Aug. 5, 2000.

Wilson received a U.S. Army Reserve

Commission as a Signal Corps Officer. During his OCS training, Wilson served as treasurer for Class 39. Wilson was commissioned by the 2145th GSU Detachment 2 Commander, Lt. Col. Frank M. Williamson, and was pinned by his wife, Lauren Wilson.

Wilson has the distinction of being the only soldier from the 81st Regional Support Command to apply and complete OCS during Fiscal Year 2000.

(By Lt. Col. Frank M. Williamson, Det. 2, 2145th GSU)

Supply Excellence Award

WASHINGTON – Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki recognized the outstanding logistical efforts of 43 active, U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard units with firm handshakes, chief of staff coins and award plaques on Aug. 31, 2000.

The 2000 Chief of Staff, Army Supply Excellence Awards ceremony was held in the Washington, D.C., at the Double Tree Hotel, about a mile from the Pentagon.

Shinseki acknowledged while the U.S. Army is recognized as the most successful Army in the world, it would not be so without being successful in supply and maintenance.

U.S. Army Reserve awardees from the 81st Regional Support Command were the 802nd Ordnance Company, Gainesville, Ga., winner for MTOE Company with Property Book, and the 844th Engineer Battalion, Knoxville, Tenn., winner for MTOE Battalion with Property Book.

(By Joe Burlas, Army News Service)

FORSCOM Outstanding Contracting Officer

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – In a ceremony held in July, at the 81st Regional Support Command (RSC) Headquarters in Birmingham, Wanda Lee-Causey was presented a certificate honoring her as



outstanding Forces Command (FORSCOM) civilian contracting officer in the category of Installation Level – Satellite Office. Presenting the certificate were William Schimek, Deputy Chief of Staff Logistics, Headquarters, U.S. Army Reserve Command; and Pamela Lutz, C, Acquisition Support Division, Directorate of Contracting, Fort Dix, N.J.

Lee-Causey was cited for her superior service while serving as Team Leader and Contracting Officer at the Fort Dix Directorate of Contracting Forward Support Cell, 81st Regional Support Command, during the periods of October 1998 through September 1999.

"This is truly an outstanding achievement," Lutz said during the presentation ceremony. "Mrs. Lee-Causey was selected from among the best and brightest of her peers at Fort Stewart, Fort Drum, Fort Irwin, Fort Dix, Fort McCoy, Fort Carson, Fort Lewis and the other RSC Contracting Cells. Ms. Lee-Causey and her contracting team of eight employees have built a contracting office of unquestioned excellence."

Lee-Causey has served as Team Leader/Contracting Officer for the 81st RSC Directorate of Contracting (DOC) Cell since February 1996. Her cell was the first Fort Dix/RSC Contracting

Cell developed by the Fort Dix DOC under the USARC Shop Smart program. With no existing benchmarks to guide her, Lutz said Lee-Causey built an extraordinarily successful contracting office from the ground up.

Schimek got it right when he said that, "Ms. Lee-Causey's professional competence, dedication, and loyalty have contributed significantly to the superior reputation of the 81st RSC throughout the U.S. Army Reserve and other Army agencies. She is regarded as one of the 81st RSC's greatest assets."

(By Sgt. Derrick Witherspoon, 81st RSC, PAO)

Warrant Officer of the Year

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. –

On Friday, Oct. 20, 2000, following the United States Army Warrant Officer Association's (USAWOA) Warrant Officer Professional Development Seminar, Chief Warrant Officer Three Joseph "Mike"



Brown, an Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) soldier with the 81st Regional Support Command (RSC), was selected as the USAWOA Warrant Officer of the Year 2000 among several qualifying nominations. Along with his selection he also received the Chief Warrant Officer Four Albert M. Holcombe Memorial Award.

Brown, who works in the Deputy Chief of Staff, Information, section at the 81st RSC, was nominated by the Vulcan Chapter, USAWOA, located in Birmingham, Ala. Brown said receiving the award was a surprising honor.

"I had forgotten that I was even nominated for the award, but I was extremely excited about receiving it and so was my family," Brown said. "Receiving this award means a lot to me because I will retire from the military in February after 26 years of service. To me this is like the icing on the cake."

(By Sgt. Derrick Witherspoon, 81st RSC, PAO)

Reservists honored by Atlanta Newspaper

DECATUR, Ga. – Two of Georgia's best soldiers were honored at Fort McPherson with the Atlanta Journal Reserve Components Achievement Award.

First Sergeant Billy D. Hammontree and Staff Sgt. Linda G. Daniel are members of the 1188th Terminal Transportation Battalion, an Army Reserve unit in Decatur. The battalion is a subordinate of the 81st Regional Support Command (RSC) in Birmingham, Ala. They also received the Military Excellence Award from the Noncommissioned Officers Association and an Army anniversary coin.

The Atlanta Journal honors three outstanding enlisted personnel each in the Army Reserve and Georgia National Guard. The two components alternate hosting the ceremony, this year's being held at the U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC) in Atlanta.

Among the criteria for the award are exemplary conduct, sound judgment, reliability, leadership ability, military appearance, military courtesy, enthusiasm and citizenship.

Hammontree, a Tennessee native, joined the Reserve in 1981 and served in Vietnam and the Gulf wars. He's a Shriner and works at Olan Mills. Daniel, a terminal operations NCO, is a Georgia native who also joined the Reserve in 1981. She is a recent graduate of the University of St. Leo, with a degree in business management, and she works as an accounts manager in the legal field.

(By Staff Sgt. Gwendolyn Coley, 2125th GSU)

ROUNDUP

81st RSG

3397th GSU

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. – Hundreds of Army Reservists, along with their families and friends, gathered on the front lawn of the Alexander Guerry U.S. Army Reserve Center on Saturday, August 6, 2000, in Chattanooga to witness the change in command of the 3397th U.S. Army Reserve Garrison Support Unit.

Colonel Stephen G. Whitley turned over command of the 3397th to Col. John M. Atkins, who is coming to the unit from the 360th Personnel Replacement Battalion in Myrtle Beach, S.C. "Taking command of the 3397th Garrison is a distinct honor," Atkins said. "It is among the very best of the 16 Army Reserve Garrisons." Atkins said he hopes to continue the group's positive direction and close ties with Fort Campbell that were established under Whitley's command.

The mission of the 3397th Garrison, a unit under the 81st Regional Support Command (RSC) and the Chattanooga area's largest Army Reserve Unit, is to support the 101st Airborne Division and Fort Campbell. Upon mobilization the 3397th assists in specific training of mobilized units and individuals and also coordinates with Fort Campbell to ensure units meet deployment criteria, ensure units deploying through Fort Campbell meet their deployment dates and times and to assist Fort Campbell in ensuring all issues are complete for unit validation. The 3397th Garrison and the Fort Campbell Garrison work closely together all year to ensure that they are ready to carry out this mission.

(By Sgt. Lisa Hatz, 3397th GSU)

812th Tn. Bn.

CONCORD, N.C. – Over 460 registered reenactment troops of the North and South recreated Civil War battles at the historic Bost Grist Mill near Concord on September 9th and 10th.

The reenactments allowed onlookers to step back into time and experience a significant piece of American History. The event featured infantry, artillery and cavalry soldiers representing the Union and Confederate Armies.

Soldiers of the 812th Transportation Battalion (MT) from the surrounding areas of Charlotte, N.C., supported the event providing subsistence and other logistical expertise for the re-enactors. In addition, the re-enactors passed out over five hundred brochures to both onlookers and participants of the event in order to assist the "King of the Road" Battalion in their recruiting efforts.

Major Steve Hall, a member of the reactivated 4th Regiment of the Army of Northern Virginia, helped coordinate the support of the 812th Transportation Battalion and called the support "excellent" and hopes this relationship continues as the event is expected to grow each year.

(By 1st Lt. Richard Green, 812th Tn. Bn.)

332nd MD BDE

345th CSH

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – The 345th Combat Support Hospital (HUB) in Jacksonville has been described as "cutting edge, innovative and visionary" and its new approach to public affairs, community outreach and family support certainly fits the mold and philosophy of this progressive group of soldiers.

First Lieutenant Jeff Burnsed, 345th public affairs officer, said the 345th is actually the first field

hospital in the history of the U.S. Army Reserve to have a public affairs officer or section. "This really demonstrates the vision and insightful thinking of our former unit commander, Col. Leroy Winfield (now Command Surgeon for the 81st Regional Support Command). In the two years that the Public Affairs section has been established, numerous accomplishments have been recorded, demonstrating unit dedication and command support," Burnsed said.

After reviewing the goals and accomplishments of the Public Affairs section, and after closely looking at current needs of the unit, Burnsed said Commander Lt. Col. William Myers and Executive Officer Lt. Col. Garnell Gladden, have approved a new, even more ambitious program for Public Affairs leadership.

"The new ideology will combine Public Affairs, the Community Outreach Program (COPS) and Family Support and Services together under one section. This decision will allow these three elements of Army concerns to be grouped together, with the overall goal being greater efficiency, better publicity and increased support for USAR involvement," Burnsed said.

(By Sgt. Derrick Witherspoon, 81st RSC, PAO)

640th ASG

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – On October 21 soldiers from the 640th Area Support Group, Nashville, aggressively supported "Operation Ready Wildcat," an initiative to use Troop Program Unit (TPU) soldiers to phone soldiers currently assigned to the Inactive Ready Reserve (IRR). As a result of the soldier's efforts, one IRR soldier agreed to transfer to the 400th Quarter Master Company in Maysville, Ky. In addition, the 640th generated two Sergeant Major of the Army referrals.

The 81st RSC needs to recruit a certain percentage of enlisted soldiers per fiscal year in order to reach its end strength objective (ESO). In order to attain this goal, efforts such as "Operation Ready Wildcat" will be used to raise the overall strength of Reserve units throughout the 81st RSC.

(By 1st Lt. Michael Haynes, 640th ASG)

803rd Qm. Co.

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany – The 803rd Quartermaster Company (GS) located in Opelika, Ala., deployed to Kaiserslautern, Germany, from May 29 to June 16, 2000 to train and support the 21st Theater Support Command at the Kaiserslautern Industrial Center (KIC). The unit successfully performed supply and maintenance functions while deployed and aided the 21st TSC with their ongoing missions.

The 803d Qm. Co. mission during its overseas deployment training (ODT) 2000 was to mobilize, deploy and conduct Class II, IV, VII, IX supply operations and maintenance operations at the KIC. The 803rd worked diligently to achieved each of its training objectives. Deploying to Germany with a total of 95 soldiers, the unit was assigned to seven different KIC work sites, plus 15 soldiers were assigned to Pirmasens, Germany, and four soldiers were assigned to Meissau, Germany.

The 803rd soldiers processed more than 6,864 Material Release Orders (MRO), and performed location maintenance on 6,947 lines. They also had 2,065 shipment confirmations, re-warehoused 6286 lines, out packed 540 multi-pack boxes. In addition, the unit was responsible for preparing and processing 7,000 parachutes for shipment to United States. The maintenance team disassembled and reassembled two HMMWV engines and one 5KW generator. Also, the electronic team received, tested, and stored

SINCGARS (radio) equipment listed as unserviceable. The ODT 2000 mission was accomplished well beyond the call of duty and its success was due to the unit unrelenting effort as motivated soldiers.

(By Capt. Kenneth Davis, 803rd Qm. Co.)

641st ASG

ORLANDO, Fla. – The Assistant Chief of Staff, Strategic Planning, of the 143rd Transportation Command, Orlando, Fla., assumed command of the 641st Area Support Group (ASG), St. Petersburg, Fla., in a ceremony May 6 at 1st Lt. Max Stover U.S. Army Reserve Center.

Colonel James E. Payne replaced Col. Hughes S. Turner, who served as commander of the unit since April 1996, and left to go to The Office Chief of Army Reserve, Washington, D.C., to become the Retention Transition Division Commander.

(By Pfc. Nicole Adrian, 204th MPAD)

642nd ASG

FORT GORDON, Ga. – The 642nd Area Support Group (ASG) conducted the first Public Affairs Workshop of any major subordinate command under the 81st Regional Support Command (RSC) in 2000. It was held at Fort Gordon on August 26. Ninety eight percent of the units under the 642nd sent a representative.

The Public Affairs Office on Ft. Gordon conducted the workshop. The main areas covered were public affairs issues, media relations, writing advisories, do's and don'ts of interviews, writing news stories, photography, filling out Home Town News releases and Community Outreach Programs. They also covered media effect on possible deployment.

The feedback was a positive one from the participants. Many suggested that because the 642nd ASG consist primarily of medical units, and due to large turn overs of personnel in the medical profession, there should be at least two workshops per fiscal year.

(By Lt. Col. Nikki McCathy, 642nd ASG, PAO)

7224th USA MSU

CHARLESTON, S.C. – Determination and a significant personal goal was their motivation in the beginning, but what they received in the end was momentous.

Six soldiers from the 7224th U.S. Army Medical Support Unit from North Charleston, S.C., completed the Emergency Medical Technician Basic (EMT-B) course recently held at Naval Hospital Charleston. The soldiers who represented the 7224th were 91 Charlie's (C), Sgt. 1st Class Sandra Ford and Sgt. (P) Lynn Judkins. The 91 Bravo's (B) in attendance were Staff Sgt. Marcella Simmons, Sgt. Marticia Maxie, Sgt. Stephanie Person and Sgt. Cathy Traham.

The core's curriculum was updated to comply with new regulations and policies governing the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT). In a memorandum dated September 30, 1999, new requirements for reclassification for the Army's 91 Charlies (C) and Bravos (B) to 91 Whiskey's (W) (Health Care Specialist) was announced.

According to an information paper dated June 16, implementation of the 91 W MOS will begin on October 01, 2001. Personnel are advised to begin immediate training in preparation for the new requirements.

Additional information on EMT-B and other NREMT courses can be found on the Internet at www.nremt.org and the information paper on 91 W reclassification and transition time lines for active and Reserve components can be found on the Internet at www.cs.armedd.army.mil/91W.

(By Staff Sgt. Marcella Simmons, 7224th USA MSU)

BRIEFS

Army Transcripts

Soldiers can now access their transcripts online. Army Times reports that the transcripts are currently accessible online to current and former enlisted members of the Regular Army, National Guard, and Army Reserve with service entry dates of October 1, 1981 or later.

Online transcripts may become available to commissioned and warrant officers later. With the new system, soldiers will be able to access their transcript via the World Wide Web even if they are on operational deployment and will be able to routinely review their transcript to make sure it is current.

A transcript includes the soldier's rank, military status (active or inactive), time in service, formal military courses, military occupational specialties and special skills held, standardized test scores, and college credit recommendations of the American Council on Education.

The transcripts can be accessed online at <http://leav-www.army.mil/aarts>. Soldiers must provide their name, Social Security number, and service entry date via a secure link on the Web site. Soldiers can also request a transcript through their local education center by calling toll-free (866) 297-4427 or by writing the AARTS Operation Center, 415 McPherson Avenue, Fort Leavenworth, Kan. 66027-1373.

(DOD Webmasters list server)

Medical Assistance

Many Army reserve-component soldiers can now get physical exams, dental screenings and immunizations from Veterans Administration medical facilities and Federal Occupational Health providers.

The expanded service is available due to a recent partnership between the U.S. Army Reserve, VA and Department of Health and Human Services. Patrick T. Henry, assistant secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, presented representatives from the three organizations with Hammer awards for the new alliance.

Vice President Al Gore created the Hammer Award several years ago to recognize outstanding federal teams that have made significant contributions in support of reinventing government and improving how the government does business.

"It is important to note that the cost of providing this service to our reserve soldiers will not be borne on the backs of veterans," Henry said. "While reservists now have better health care access, the VA and Department of Health and Human Services get additional revenue — providing more resources that will be used for caring for our veterans. It's a win-win situation."

That revenue will come from savings in temporary duty and travel costs formally spent to get reservists to a military medical facility when there wasn't one in the area, according to Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Plewes, chief of the Army Reserve. "What we are doing is taking the money already there in the system and stretching it to provide better health care for both our soldiers and our veterans," Plewes said.

The Federal Strategic Health Alliance, or FEDS-HEAL for short, will provide reservists about another 10,000 medical facilities across the nation where they can go for readiness health care service. An estimated 60,000 soldiers are expected to use the new network in the next year, Henry said.

VA medical facilities in the program include medical centers, community-based outpatient clinics and mobile vans. FOHA facilities include Occupational Health clinics located in many federal buildings and FOHA-contracted civilian doctors

and dentists. Soldiers who live or work near a military medical facility will continue to use that facility for needed service, Plewes said.

The new network will not provide reservists with medical profiles, said Capt. Katherine Ponder, a special project officer with the 81st Regional Support Command. However, physical exams from FEDS-HEAL facilities can be used by Army doctors to determine if a medical profile is warranted, she continued.

Ponder was part of the team that tested the FEDS-HEAL concept in Alabama earlier this year. Speaking about the concept test, Ponder said there were very few problems as most of the facilities had reservists on staff who immediately saw the importance of the program and helped identify what was needed to make it work at the local level.

The FEDS-HEAL program is currently offered on a limited basis but is expanding as more funding becomes available, said Maj. Don Donahue, an Office of the Chief of Army Reserve spokesman. Guardsmen or reservists interested in using FEDS-HEAL should check with their chain of command to determine if it is available in their area, Donahue said.

(Army News Service)

AR Officer Training

The Chief of the Army Reserve is the Executive Agent of a DOD joint-service military skills and leadership training opportunity for Reserve officers from all branches of the Armed Forces. Per Army Regulation 350-41, it's an opportunity that commanders are encouraged to support participation. Funding is provided.

The 3-week training camp, run by the U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC), will take place at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, from 17 June to 8 July 2001. Up to 50 reserve officers who apply by 15 April 2001 will be invited to attend by a joint-service selection committee.

Participants are trained at advanced levels in Land Navigation; Rifle and Pistol Marksmanship; Land and Water Confidence Courses; and Combat First Aid to return to their units as resident expert instructors. Participants also receive training in NATO policies including the Law of War, leadership development, and selected fitness and nutrition topics developed by the Army Physical Fitness School.

At the completion of the training, the top 28 performers will be extended for an additional 3 weeks to train further and then test what they've learned against their peers from 19 NATO countries in a 3-day military competition in Madrid, Spain. This competition is also known as the NATO Military Pentathlon, and is sponsored by the Interallied Confederation of Reserve Officers (CIOR). This is a very challenging tour and the standards are high.

WO1 through O4 are encouraged to participate. However, ability to meet standards as listed on web site is the pre-qualifier. TPU/IRR/IMA Officers' pay, travel and per diem is funded by each Service. There is limited travel and per diem funding for AGR Officers. Permissive TDY or unit funding for AGR/TAR/Active Duty officers (with Reserve commissions) who qualify is permitted in all cases.

More information, including applications, is provided at www.militarypentathlon.com. POC at USARC is Maj. Tony Garman, USAR, (404) 464-8268 or e-mail at GarmanTh@usarc-emh2.army.mil.

(Chief Warrant Officer HUBERT D. DENSON, U.S. CIOR Training & Competition Program)

2XCitizen Web Site

ST. LOUIS — The Army Reserve Personnel Command (AR-PERSCOM) recently launched a brand new customer-focused Web site, <http://www.2xCitizen.usar.army.mil>, to better support Army Reservists worldwide, replacing its existing Web site (<http://www.army.mil/usar/ar-perscom/arpercom.htm>) in the process.

The name for the new site was selected from more than 100 entries in a Command-wide contest to rename the site. "We chose the winning entry, 2xCitizen, based on the long association of that phrase with the Army Reserve dating back to World War II. It was Sir Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of England during that period, that said the Reservist was 'twice the citizen,'" explained Col. Timothy Cannon, Commander, AR-PERSCOM.

The site was completely redesigned over a four-month period. Developers created a new home page, significantly improved navigation, and incorporated a comprehensive search capability. Most importantly, more than 60 AR-PERSCOM Subject Matter Experts (SME), serving on 11 different working groups, developed the functional content for the site within a five-week period.

"The site is no longer organized by office; instead it's organized by what the soldier wants to do," explained Mark Tenholder, Lead Developer for the project. "Soldier Services are grouped into 11 different categories. We formed these categories based on statistical data collected from the kinds of calls received from soldiers," said Tenholder.

"By organizing the site by functional categories, Reservists can easily find answers to many of their common questions without having to call AR-PERSCOM," explained Sgt. 1st Class Kimberly Hon, Tours/Training Working Group Leader.

"If it is necessary to call someone for further assistance, we have that covered with newly reorganized contact information. We've made every effort to provide appropriate 800 numbers, e-mail addresses, and mail addresses that link directly to the responsible areas," said Hon.

"Even if someone is not quite sure where to go within the site," Hon added, "with the new search capability, users can enter keywords to get the information they need. I believe any soldier coming to this site will see significant improvements."

(AR-PERSCOM Press Release)

An Army of One

Washington — The Army announced today a compelling new advertising campaign, marking its first major change in advertising direction since 1981.

Ads unveiled today by Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera will open the innovative campaign, which centers on the message "An Army of One." The multimedia campaign, the result of extensive research, will present a powerful, 21st century appeal, highlighting Army values and unity while relating them to the personal aspirations of today's youth.

The exciting television commercials and vivid print advertisements feature real soldiers who personify the essence of "An Army of One." The ads also highlight the vast range of career opportunities — "212 different ways to be a soldier" — available to recruits.

The new campaign employs a full range of media from television to radio, to direct mail to the Web site www.goarmy.com and Internet activities to target youth and those who influence them. The campaign initially will consist of three television spots and ten print ads.

The new communications campaign will be used throughout the U.S. Army, unifying powerful recruiting messages for the active Army, Army Reserve and Army ROTC.

(An Army of One web site)