

Members of the Dagger Brigade C-MATT team attend final briefing and manifesting.

## Dagger Brigade Trains Our Own

By MSG Pat Valdez

Members of Dagger Brigade have received the same training that we have provided to units preparing to serve overseas. For the last 12 months the Dagger brigade has trained over 300 units in basic Soldier skills and has honed units to meet their war time mission. It's now the C-MATTs time to be trained.

The team was trained in individual task and skills; basic rifle marksmanship, NBC chamber, common task testing and equipment issue. Once the team completed there individual task they started on section and unit task. All the team received combat life saver training and combative training. At convoy live fire training Soldiers were to engage target and react to an IED. In simulation one team member was injured and the others had to provide security and call for MEDVAC.

Once validated the team waited for transportation, and waited. Due to the lack of aircraft the team had more to time to train and finish all personnel matters

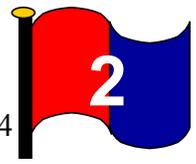


SFC Tillman departs for brigades CMATT mission

**Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless-Service,  
Honor, Integrity, Personal Courage**



COL Miller gives farewell to C-MATT team



## SFC Graf takes Division Non Commissioned Officer of the Year.

By MSG Pat Valdez

Sergeant First Class Tim Graf of 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 361<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment has been named the 91<sup>st</sup> Division, reserve component non commissioned officer of the year. SFC Graf is 2/361<sup>st</sup> Battalion, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade NCO of the quarter. The division NCO of the year will represent the all the division NCOs at the 5<sup>th</sup> Army NCO of the year board on 23 March at Fort Sam-Houston, Texas.

SFC Graf is from Watertown, South Dakota and is a 54B and works as a 21H construction engineer specialist. SFC Graf has been serving in the army reserve for 11 years. When asked about his experience competing he said "It was my first time competing" and "I did not expect to get as far I did" Graf said

"He scored the highest over all the other NCOs that took the written test" SGM Will De Shaw from the division G3. SGM De Shaw also said that "He was glad the SFC Graf was representing the division" because "He came across so well".

SFC Graf bought the study guide from clothing sales. He was awarded an ARCOM and given a Fredric Remington statute for his accomplishment.

## The Chaplains Corner, The Passion;

My personal opinion is that the movie is worth viewing but not for children under the age of 12. Now this is why I believe it is worth viewing:

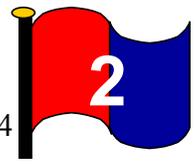
1. It may possibly draw humanity closer together (some way, somehow).
2. It helps us all to adjust our narcissist attitudes; after all it is not always about us.
3. It is a good history lesson.
4. It clearly demonstrated universal culpability.
5. It made us all THINK about our spirituality. There were those who cried. Some were shocked and others contemplated. This is part of spirituality.
6. It causes us to QUESTION. Nothing wrong with this, is there?
7. Perhaps we will all look for the truth now?

There is much to say about this movie but space does not permit me. I hope this gives you some idea of what the historical event can do for the world and for you personally. Keep in mind however, that the movie has some Hollywood in it. However, don't be so analytic when reviewing it or you will walk away analytical without it changing your life somehow.

Chaplain Maestas (MAJ)



An Infantry OC instructs 141st soldiers on Range 29, Squad Live Fire



## Februarys MRX

By CPT Patrick L. Gaydon

In January and February 2004, battalions from 2<sup>d</sup> Brigade, 91<sup>st</sup> Division and augmentees from the brigade staff came together to plan and execute Mission Rehearsal Exercises (MRXs) for company, battalion, and group-sized units deploying in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom-2. 2-362<sup>d</sup> FA (Redleg) took overall responsibility for planning, resourcing, and executing the MRXs. 3-360<sup>th</sup> CS/CSS (Roughrider), 1-361<sup>st</sup> EN (Redhawk), and 2-361<sup>st</sup> CS/CSS (Coyote) had mentor responsibilities over the groups, battalions, and companies conducting the MRXs.

The 116<sup>th</sup> Engineer Company (UTARNG) executed their MRX at Camp Red Devil in mid-January. The 115<sup>th</sup> EN Group (UT ARNG) conducted a Command Post Exercise during the first week of February, with 1/91<sup>st</sup> Division serving at the higher headquarters. Task Force Redleg and Roughrider provided resource support and manned subordinate cells that helped drive the exercise.

The 153<sup>d</sup> (SDARNG) and the 141<sup>st</sup> (NDARNG) Engineer Battalions conducted their MRXs during the second week of February. Task Force Redleg headed the orders group that developed their higher headquarters OPOrd that set the situation and mission for the battalions conducting the MRXs. Individuals from across the brigade came together to build this OPOrd [LTC Powell (Group Commander), CPT Potoczny (Group S3), CPT Smith (Group S2), SFC DeRosia (Group S1/S4), SFC DeLancey (Group S6), MAJ Metro (Group Surgeon), CH (MAJ) Maestas (Group Chaplain), and MAJ Hurd (Group PAO)]. During the execution phase of the MRX, TF Redleg set up a "white cell" that replicated an Engineer Group TOC. Augmentees from 1/91 Division and the 2/91 Division S2 built realistic operation and situation reports that challenged the battalion staffs throughout the MRX.

Redhawk OC/Ts worked with 153<sup>d</sup> EN as they transformed the 1040-block of Fort Carson, encircling their buildings with concertina wire, building fighting positions with sandbags, constructing watchtowers, and manning entry control points. Simultaneously, the 141<sup>st</sup> EN deployed from garrison to Camp Red Devil to conduct their MRX, under the supervision to OC/Ts from Coyote. OPFOR replicating both enemy combatants and civilians on the battlefield continually stressed the deploying soldiers with situations that they would face for real in Iraq.

We planned these Mission Rehearsal Exercises as capstone training events that are the final step to validate that these battalions are ready for deployment. When looking for the ideal location to replicate the current operating environment in Iraq, we found that Fort Carson's garrison area best resembled the urban areas soldiers are facing in Iraq. The multi-story

buildings, road network, and daily activity on Fort Carson tested leaders to determine how best to protect their soldiers in that environment. Trainers challenged these soldiers with the same battlefield effects that soldiers currently see in Iraq: insurgents, civilians, government officials, local police, non-government officials, and improvised explosive devices.

Soldiers participating in these exercises wore MILES, a laser system that adds to the realism of the training. Soldiers mounted laser transmitters on their weapon that emitted an eye-safe laser whenever a blank round was fired. Also, soldiers wore harnesses and halos that beeped to indicate when they were hit. All players in the exercise, to include civilians on the battlefield and the opposing force, wore the MILES harnesses and halos.

Fragmentary Orders issued from the Group TOC tasked both 153 EN and 141 EN to conduct cordon and search missions of local villages (Range 60 and Range 24). These missions challenged the battalion staffs ability to command and control multiple companies during complex missions.

The MRXs ended on 13 February 2004, with OC/Ts from Redhawk and Coyote conducting after action reviews with the units they mentored.

This battle-focused training gave our Army's next rotation to Iraq the best preparation possible—the more practice these soldiers got here at Fort Carson, the more prepared they are now in Iraq.



CPT Gaydon observes training during 116th Eng Bn urban operations.

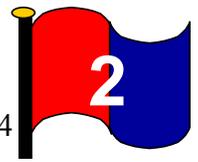
***The Public Affairs office extends a special thanks to the guest contributors of this issue.***



# DAGGER DETAILS

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SSG Liddard, (OPFOR) is interviewed by real world media during MRX.



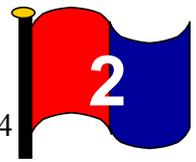
SSG Wesselink, 2/361 loads sub-cal device on the anti-tank range.



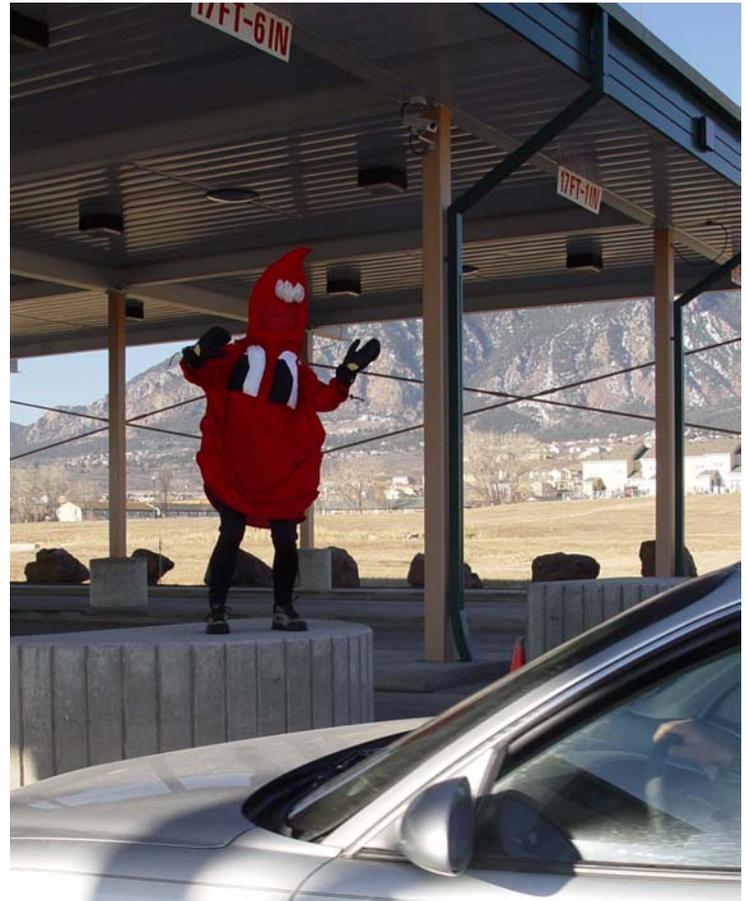
CPT Maldonado, 1/361 ENG observes urban operations.



SSG Bradford, 3/362 AR conducts convoy fire during.



Members of the Brigade OPFOR stand by for 153rd Engineer Battalions MRX.



MAJ Dawn Metro welcomes commuters during the blood drive on 26 February 2004

## A Soldier's Code

**I.** I am an American soldier — a protector of the greatest nation on earth — sworn to uphold the Constitution of the United States.

**II.** I will treat others with dignity and respect and expect others to do the same.

**III.** I will honor my Country, the Army, my unit and my fellow soldiers by living the Army Values.

**IV.** No matter what situation I am in, I will never do anything for pleasure, profit, or personal safety which will disgrace my uniform, my unit, or my Country.

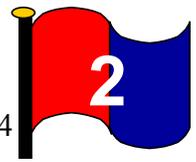
**V.** Lastly, I am proud of my Country and its flag. I want to look back and say that I am proud to have served my Country as a soldier.



LTC Anderson provides medial care at TMC 7.



# DAGGER DETAILS



SFC Raphael August won all three events at the Mid-West Masters track and field meet on 1 Mar 2004. The event was held at the USAF indoor track.



## Thrills and Chills! At SixFlags at Elitch Gardens

SixFlags in Denver welcomes all members of the military to their 3rd Annual Joint Forces Event. On Saturday, 17 April members of all branches are welcome enjoy the park to members of the military only. The park will be closed to the public; this will help shorten all the lines. Gates open noon and the parks closes at 1800. The prices of the tickets are \$17.00 and it includes a meal. Contact ITR at bldg 2429

## Promotions and Awards

### AWARDS

#### AAM

- SSG Jeremy Timmermans
- SSG Nathan Wheeler
- SFC Scott Voeltz
- SSG Richard Stelter
- SPC Beau Devlin
- SGT Ridgway
- SGT Denevan
- SFC Evelia Sullivan
- MSG Brian Wangler
- SFC Robert L. DeRosia
- SFC Edward M. DeLancey
- SFC Robert A Wallace
- CPT Carin Smith

#### ARCOM

- MSG Dawn Fleigle
- SFC Phillip J. Copple
- SFC Joshua Ramirez
- SGT Amy Y. Gholston

### PROMOTIONS

#### LTC

- Lee Fretwell

#### MSG

- Dawn Fleigle
- Peter O'Reilly
- Sherry Blood

#### SFC

- Phillip Copple
- Courtney Hathaway

NOTE: If any of your Soldiers receive awards or promotions during the wee, please notify the 2nd Brigade, 91st Division Public Affairs Office at (719) 526-4750 or (719) 338-0780 cell. If you want photos take of your Soldiers, let the PAO know in time to schedule a photographer.



A personal "THANKS" from Monarch Ski & Snowboard Area owners and staff for your efforts during these difficult times. Come ski for free April 3rd or 4th!!

Free all day lift tickets are available to the first 2000 active Ft. Carson military personnel and their families that contact the ITR office. Limit 2 tickets per Soldier/Family. (One ticket per-person per day required)

Tickets will be available on March 30, 2004 at ITR located in the Outdoor Recreation Complex. Transportation will be available for \$15.00 for first 72 people. For more info call 526-2083