

*Dedicated to positive change in Africa*

# U.S. ARMY AFRICA



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# PARTNERING

*with Africa today  
for tomorrow*



**A**frica is indeed a continent with complex challenges and incredible opportunity. U.S. Army Africa (USARAF) is at work supporting our African partners as they turn promise and opportunity into reality.

With 54 sovereign nations, Africa is a diverse region covering 11.6 million square miles, more than three times the area of the United States. Its one billion people make up 400 ethnic groups who speak 2,000 languages. It is home to seven of the world's fastest growing economies, 13 percent of the world's oil supply, and vast natural reserves – including uranium and copper – and tremendous human potential. Yet the African continent leads the world in humanitarian crises, failed states, and deadly conflicts.

At USARAF learning about – and more importantly, learning from – our African land forces partners helps us to better accomplish our

mission. During a recent visit to USARAF, Lt. Gen. Njuki Mwaniki, commander of Kenyan land forces, provided critical insight on the condition of Africa: many African states are transitioning from a state of colonialism to regime survival, to representative government. Understanding how African leaders perceive the political unrest in North Africa and the transnational security issues they deal with daily is critical to our ability to gain influence and provide meaningful assistance in an increasingly important region of the world. USARAF is working to increase situational awareness, foster regional cooperation, and improve interoperability toward the end goal of supporting our nation's strategic security interests in Africa. We accomplish our mission through building partner capacity, establishing enduring relationships and supporting our African land-forces partner in finding African solutions to African

security challenges.

### Why Africa?

As the world becomes increasingly connected and USARAF downsizes its presence in Central Asia and the Middle East, our limited presence in Africa is arguably more critical. Many African nations are endeavoring to remove the vestiges of post-independence autocracy and strife, and establish good governance, effective institutions and a responsive security sector. In support of their efforts, USARAF in partnership with other services, the U.S. interagency and international organizations, provides critical assistance to African land forces.

The African security sector is confronting an array of nonconventional threats, including violent extremism, trafficking in persons, drug smuggling, piracy, kidnapping, and persistent conflict. These threats cross borders and



often have a direct impact on U.S. citizens. Africa's complex challenges require transnational solutions, both in terms of African participants and partners from the rest of the world. That's why you will rarely see a picture of a U.S. Soldier in Africa by himself. The U.S. Army is in Africa to support our African land forces partners as they develop the capabilities they need.

### Small Investment, Strategic Impact

USARAF covers one of the largest land masses of any Area of Responsibility (AOR), with the

fewest assigned personnel and the smallest budget of any theater army, and we are making a difference. As the Army Service Component Command (ASCC) supporting U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM), USARAF is responsible for enabling any U.S. Army operations in the region, synchronizing all Army activity in Africa, and leveraging joint, interagency, intergovernmental, and multinational relationships. As an ASCC, USARAF conducts sustained security engagement, supports ongoing operations, and carries out congressionally mandated "Title 10"

responsibilities for approximately 1,300 Army personnel deployed and living on the continent in Africa, including those supporting Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA).

Based on worldwide demand for forces and enablers, USARAF does not have any permanently assigned units, requiring the command to reach back to U.S. Army Europe and U.S.-based units to accomplish its mission. Without assigned forces and enablers, USARAF will continue refining its processes for accessing the capabilities of the Active, Reserve



U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force service providers treat Malawian citizens during a Medical Readiness and Training Exercise (MEDRETE) at the Kamuzu Central Hospital in Lilongwe, Malawi. (U.S. Army Africa photo)

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Sgt. Jeffrey S. Niemi of the 399th Combat Support Hospital assists Sgt. McDonald Linyama of the Malawi Defence Force in assessing Sgt. Robert E. Waight of the 404th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade during training to become a certified Combat Lifesaver during MEDREACH '11. (U.S. Army Africa photo)

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and National Guard components, and developing creative concepts to support its interagency partners. One such creative concept is USARAF's mobile command post, a compact command and control element that can be tailored and deployed to a crisis site in support of contingency headquarters

In support of current operations in the AOR, USARAF stands prepared to deploy a contingency headquarters when directed in support of crisis response. In preparation for leading a Joint Task Force, USARAF has participated in the U.S. Africa Command-led exercise JUDICIOUS RESPONSE, which will, upon completion, result in the validation of USARAF as a JTF-capable headquarters. Also in 2011, USARAF led planning efforts for several non-combatant evacuation orders. During the Libyan crisis in early 2011, USARAF provided personnel in support of a coalition of more than a dozen nations, including France, Great Britain, Qatar and

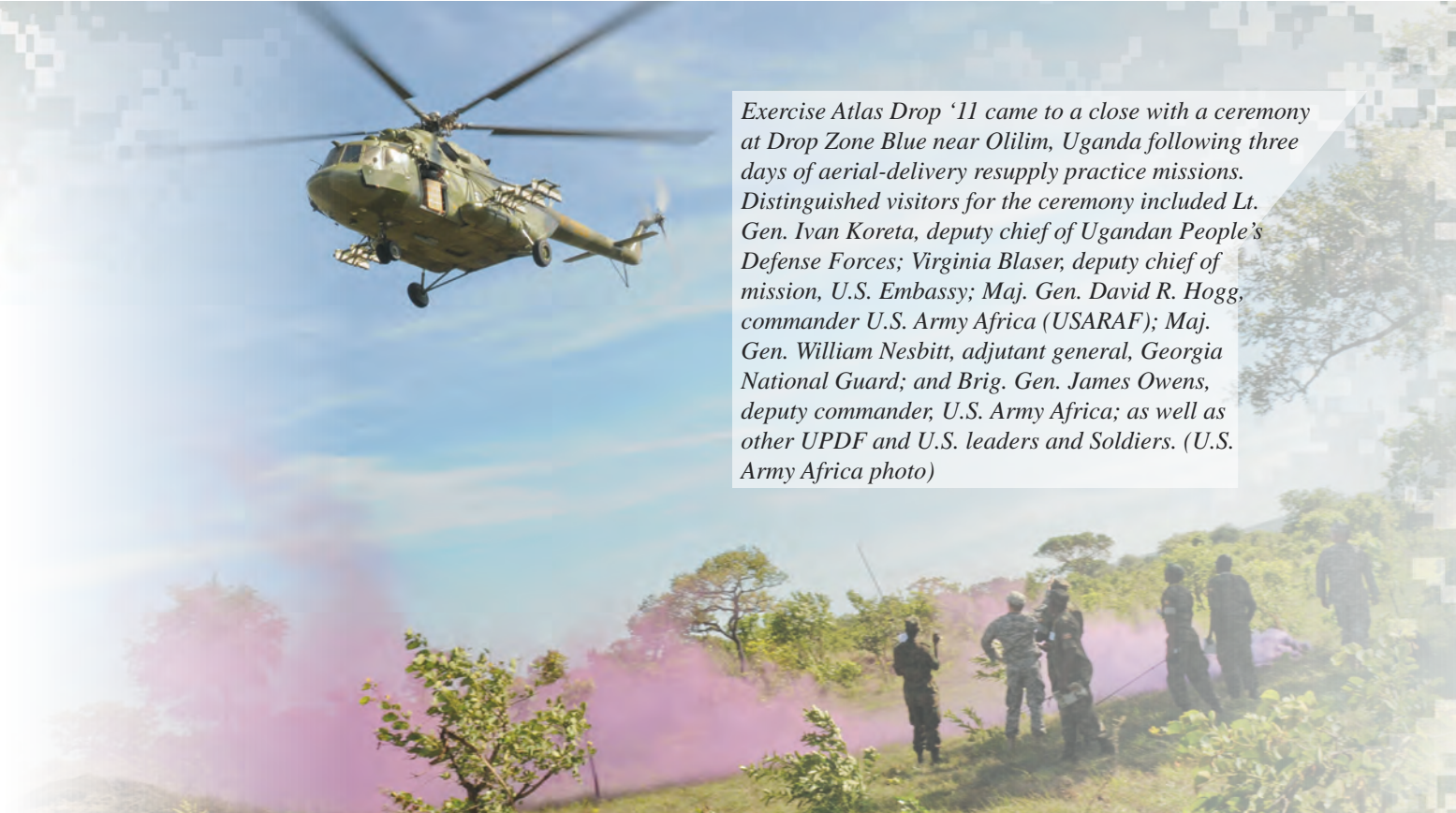
the United Arab Emirates, for Joint Task Force Odyssey Dawn. The U.S. task force and the other national efforts transitioned to the NATO-led Operation Unified Protector March 31.

### Strengthening Relationships

The cornerstone of USARAF's engagement strategy with partner nations is building partner capacity – to enable our African partners' homeland defense and civil support capabilities, to help train and equip our partners, and to help develop mutually supporting crisis response capabilities in support of U.S. strategic interests. Put simply, we "train the trainer" through theater security cooperation, exercises and engagements leveraging other programs like State's Africa Contingency Operations Training and Assistance (ACOTA) and the Africa Deployment Assistance Program Training (ADAPT). Thanks to these efforts, in Fiscal Year 2011, USARAF conducted or participated in more than 250 theater security

cooperation events; we expect these numbers to steadily increase in Fiscal Year 2012 and beyond. These include numerous medical exercises, leadership development and functional area exchanges, such as intelligence, chaplain, and communications exchanges.

Exercises are a critical element of U.S. Army Africa's strategy. In April 2011, we and the Uganda People's Defense Forces (UPDF) conducted ATLAS DROP '11, a bilateral aerial-resupply exercise to build the UPDF's proficiency in supporting forces in remote areas. In 2011, we executed MEDREACH '11 in Malawi (May), MEDFLAG '11 in Ghana (July), and Natural Fire in Tanzania (September). Each exercise increased the capacity of participating nations to respond to crises. Especially important was MEDREACH '11, our first Medical Readiness Training Exercise (MEDRETE) in Africa. In specific response to Malawi's request for cataract treatment support, the MEDRETE team shared surgical



*Exercise Atlas Drop '11 came to a close with a ceremony at Drop Zone Blue near Olilim, Uganda following three days of aerial-delivery resupply practice missions. Distinguished visitors for the ceremony included Lt. Gen. Ivan Koreta, deputy chief of Ugandan People's Defense Forces; Virginia Blaser, deputy chief of mission, U.S. Embassy; Maj. Gen. David R. Hogg, commander U.S. Army Africa (USARAF); Maj. Gen. William Nesbitt, adjutant general, Georgia National Guard; and Brig. Gen. James Owens, deputy commander, U.S. Army Africa; as well as other UPDF and U.S. leaders and Soldiers. (U.S. Army Africa photo)*

techniques to build medical capacity within the Malawi Defense Force.

USARAF also utilizes senior leader engagements to facilitate enduring relationships with African land forces leaders through direct and personal dialogue. The intent of these engagements is simple: We want to listen to and learn from our African partners to better help them achieve their land forces goals in concert with our nation's strategic

security objectives.

### Looking Toward the Future

By strategically mixing all these tools, we have made progress in a short period of time, but we must remain engaged over the long-term to achieve lasting results on the continent.

As USARAF continues to mature, the relationships we cultivate and the capacity we are helping our African partners build will be of critical strategic

importance to the United States.

The collective vision for Africa's future should be one of systematic and sustained cooperation and engagement that reinforces ongoing efforts already underway. USARAF is seeing success through our own engagements and activities. For example, the second biennial African Land Forces Summit (ALFS), which promises to be a unique forum where African land force commanders can exchange ideas and develop regional relationships, will be held on African soil in 2012. The willingness of an African partner to host ALFS 2012 signals both the strategic impact of our military-to-military activities and the enduring relationships cultivated between USARAF and African land forces.

In the three years since USARAF's inception, we have witnessed increased access for senior leaders on the continent and the restructuring of the African exercise program to address regional concerns and build multilateral relationships. These successes support a shared vision of 54 stable, secure nations. To continue the path of success, we must remain in close collaboration with and responsive to our African and interagency partners in the years to come. We must continue to partner today for Africa tomorrow.



*(Left to right) Maj. Gen. Mathieu Amoussa Chabi Boni, Beninese army chief, U.S. Ambassador James Knight and Maj. Gen. David R. Hogg, commanding general, U.S. Army Africa, salute Beninese military forces at the military headquarters in Contonou, Benin. Hogg met with senior military leaders in Benin to discuss future partnership opportunities between the two countries. (U.S. Army Africa photo)*



*Kenyan Army Sgt. Peter Wachira (left) monitors Burundi Defence Force Warrant Officer Celestin Nzisabira as he crimps a timed fuse to a blasting cap during counter-IED training in Nairobi, Kenya. A team of U.S. Army Soldiers from Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa conducted a month-long operation in concert with the Kenyan Army to develop a counter-Improvised Explosive Device (counter-IED) training program for East African militaries. (U.S. Army Africa photo)*

# Summit gathers African nations, military leaders

## What is it?

African Land Forces Summit is a premiere engagement opportunity that brings together land forces chiefs of staff from African nations and military leaders from the U.S. Army to discuss topics based on the theme "Adapting Land Forces to 21st Century Security Challenges."

Maj. Gen. William B. Garrett III, then U.S. Army Africa commander, hosted the inaugural African Land Forces Summit in Washington, D.C., on behalf of Gen. George W. Casey Jr., then U.S. Army Chief of Staff.

## What has the Army done?

U.S. Army Africa invited 44 African land forces chiefs of staff to attend the summit. Gen. Casey opened the event, and the summit presented a number of high-level guest speakers and multiple opportunities to discuss topics

relevant to each areas specific needs. Speakers addressed topics such as African Security Challenges, Peace Support Operations and Institutional Adaptation, followed by small-group discussions. The event will also included a visit to Fort Benning, Ga., where African military leaders saw the full-spectrum of Soldier training.

## Continued efforts for the future

The next African Land Forces Summit will take place in May 2012 in a yet-to-be-determined location in Africa. The forum will meet every two years because the invited leaders recognize global trends affecting the region and are dedicated to working collectively to keep pace with the changing environment. U.S. Army Africa is the Army Service Component Command (ASCC) assigned to U.S. Africa Command, and is America's

premier Army team dedicated to positive change in Africa. U.S. Army Africa will continue to build cooperative relationships and enduring partnerships that contribute to African capabilities.

## Importance to the Army

This was the first African Land Forces Summit, which opened attendance to land forces chiefs of staff from African nations. The African Land Forces Summit provided an opportunity for U.S. participants to hear issues and concerns directly from African military leaders. It also provided a forum for our partner nations to freely express their opinions, concerns, desires, goals and ideas. Developing cooperative relationships and enduring partnerships among our militaries will help promote security, stability and peace in Africa.



(Above) General (R) Martin L. Agwai, a recently retired four-star general from the Nigerian Armed Forces, emphasized the need to reduce insecurity as a means to achieve the desired environments described by Herbst during panel discussion at the 2010 African Land Forces Summit. (Right) John M. McHugh, Secretary of the Army, speaks at the African Land Forces Summit. (U.S. Army Africa photos)



Rangers from Fort Benning, Ga., demonstrate a waterborne insertion during the African Land Forces Summit at Fort Benning, May 13, 2010. (Insert) Rangers from Fort Benning, Ga. demonstrate hand-to-hand combat during the African Land Forces Summit while at Fort Benning.

African delegates shake hands with the Ranger team after a demonstration of Rangers in Action during a tour of Fort Benning, Ga., during the African Land Forces Summit. (U.S. Army Africa photo)

# African Land Forces Summit

# USARAF organizes partnership team

A U.S. Army Africa (USARAF) organized Africa Deployment Assistance Partnership Team (ADAPT) recently trained, and for the first time ever, certified 25 soldiers of the Uganda People's Defense Force (UPDF) as C-130 aircraft load planners in Entebbe, Uganda.

A five-person team, led by Gordon Christensen of Army Africa's G-4 Mobility Division, completed Phase III training with UPDF soldiers Aug. 27 in Entebbe, Uganda, said John Hanson, chief of the G-4 Policy and Programs Branch.

"This was the first actual air load certification we've done, of all the previous ADAPT engagements," Hanson said. "That's what makes it unique."

Two weeks of classroom instruction and hands-on training enabled 25 of 31 students to earn U.S. Air Force Air Mobility Command Form 9 certification, significantly augmenting the Uganda land force's air deployment capability, while developing greater interoperability with U.S. military forces, Hanson said.

The ADAPT program, developed to enhance the force projection capabilities of African militaries, is managed by the USARAF G-4 staff. Its aim is to bridge the gap between limited deployment capacity and the need to provide forces in support of peacekeeping or humanitarian relief operations, Hanson said.

"We're building capacity for people to deploy, to do their

own missions," he said.

Even when the training doesn't lead to actual U.S. Air Force certification, as it did this time in Uganda, it contributes to an enhanced deployment capacity for the land force involved, Hanson said.

"That's the intent. They can't do the certification, but they can continue to train their own people. Then we back off and they continue to do that," he said.

The program is a Title 22 tactical logistics engagement funded by the U.S. Department of State, and focuses on African countries that contribute troops to peacekeeping operations, Hanson said.

Training is executed in four installments in order to create a long-term, phased approach to building deployment capacity, Hanson said. Instructors take students from a general orientation to tactical deployment principles to an advanced level of practical proficiency.

Instructors for the UPDF course were sourced using the Request For Forces (RFF) process, Hanson said.

Christensen was accompanied U.S. Army Capt. Jedmund Greene of 21st Theater Support Command's 16th Sustainment Brigade, based in Kaiserslautern, Germany, and three Air Force noncommissioned officers: Tech. Sgt. Venus Washington, Robbins Air Force Base, Ga.; Tech. Sgt. Byran Quinn, Pope Air Force Base, N.C.; and Senior Master



Uganda People's Defense Force (UPDF) logisticians crunch numbers during a classroom segment of Uganda ADAPT 2010, a mentoring program conducted in Entebbe, Uganda, that resulted in certifying 25 soldiers as C-130 aircraft load planners. (U.S. Army Africa photo)

Sgt. Anthony D. Tate of the Illinois Air National Guard.

"The training helped to strengthen the relationship with our Ugandan partners, and also helped them build a self-sustaining deployment capacity," Greene said. "I hope 21st TSC can increase its support to USARAF logistics theater security cooperation events in the future."

Army Africa's G-4 staff is presently working to synchronize ADAPT with the Africa Contingency Operations Training and Assistance (ACOTA) program. A proof of concept joint training was conducted with ACOTA in Rwanda earlier this year, combining tactical- and support-staff training in logistics with the more complex operational techniques of force deployment and mobility, Hanson said.

The Rwanda training demonstrated the feasibility of

combining available U.S. government resources to achieve the most efficient and focused effort to advance common foreign policy objectives with U.S. partners in Africa, he said.

To date, ADAPT missions have been funded for eight African countries. Previous training sessions have been conducted in Rwanda, Ghana and Burkina Faso as well as Uganda, and the number is likely to grow in coming years, Hanson said.

"The programs were identified as being of interest to several other countries during the Army Africa Theater Army Security Cooperation Conference, held in Vicenza in August," Hanson said.

The next planned ADAPT mission is for Phase I training in Botswana, scheduled for the first quarter of 2011, he said.



A Uganda People's Defense Force (UPDF) logistician moves a forklift into position during a hands-on segment of Uganda ADAPT 2010, a mentoring program conducted in Entebbe, Uganda, that resulted in certifying 25 soldiers as C-130 aircraft load planners. (U.S. Army Africa photo)



# Exercise focuses on humanitarian mission

Participants arrived in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo and began to prepare for MEDFLAG 10, a joint medical exercise focused on humanitarian assistance from Sept. 6-18 in Kinshasa.

MEDFLAG '10 is the latest in a series of exercises involving U.S. military forces and partner militaries in Africa with the aim of establishing and developing military interoperability, regional relationships, synchronization of effort and capacity building.

"As we approach the culmination of months of strenuous preparation on both our parts, we look forward to the beginning of a successful exercise and ongoing efforts with the Congolese forces," said Lt. Col. Todd Johnston, MEDFLAG 10 Task Force Commander for U.S. forces.

Approximately 100 U.S. military personnel and 250 Congolese military personnel will work together to increase the combined readiness of their medical forces to respond to humanitarian emergencies.

"When working on the same objective it is important to have the same procedures," said Col. Gilbert Kabanda, the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo Surgeon General. "Without uniformity it is hard to reach our goal."

MEDFLAG is an annual medical exercise that brings together U.S. military personnel with counterparts from militaries throughout Africa. MEDFLAG was initiated in 1987 as a U.S. European Command-sponsored, bilateral medical

exercise to facilitate an exchange of medical information and techniques with militaries in Africa. In 2009, the MEDFLAG exercise transitioned to AFRICOM oversight.

Congolese forces participating in the exercise include the Unit Medical Immediate Response of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

U.S. forces participating in the exercise include U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM); U.S. Army Africa; U.S. Marine Corps; 5th Signal Brigade; 21st Theater Sustainment Command; 139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Illinois

Army National Guard; 349th and 482nd Aeromedical Dental Squadrons; 404th Civil Affairs; 409th Contracting; 814th Medical Company, North Dakota Army National Guard; 772nd Civil Support Team; the 943rd and 940th Aeromedical Dental Flights; and Naval Reserve Support Activity, New Orleans

Team; and the 943rd and 940th Aeromedical Dental Flights.

Previous MEDFLAG

exercises have taken place in Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Gabon, Georgia Republic, Ghana, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Lesotho and Malawi.

Congolese and American medical specialists participating in MEDFLAG '10 conducted a mass casualty exercise Sept. 16 as the culminating training event of the 10-day exercise.



Soldiers of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo quick reaction force (UMIR) assesses a patient during a simulated mass casualty bus crash exercise in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo. (U.S. Army Africa photo)



(Clockwise from top) Maj. Gen. David R. Hogg, commander of U.S. Army Africa, arrives at the mass casualty event site in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo. Hogg is greeted by the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) military police and music battalion; Maj. Angie Allmer of Jamestown, N.D., a nurse with the North Dakota National Guard's state medical detachment, helps a woman walk to the humanitarian assistance waiting area during the MEDFLAG 2010 medical training exercise in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo; Group of Soldiers from the North Dakota National Guard and Kinshasa actors dressed as casualty victims during the simulated mass casualty bus crash exercise in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo. (U.S. Army Africa photos)



Soldiers from the Ministry of Defence/Namibia Defence Force during World AIDS Day ceremony in Namibia. (U.S. Army Africa photo)



Lt. Col. Clyde Scott, deputy command chaplain for U.S. Army Africa introduces himself to his chaplain counterpart from the Ministry of Defence/Namibia Defence Force during the World AIDS Day ceremony in Windhoek, Namibia. (U.S. Army Africa photo)

## USARAF chaplains raise awareness, learn through partnership in Namibia

Strengthening relationships. Raising awareness. Learning through partnership. Two U.S. Army Africa chaplains recently traveled more than 4,000 miles to participate in the Ministry of Defence/Namibia Defence Force World AIDS Day ceremony in Windhoek, Namibia.

Col. Jonathan McGraw, U.S. Army Africa's command chaplain, and Lt. Col. Clyde Scott, deputy command chaplain, stood alongside their chaplain counterparts to gain a better understanding of how the Namibia Defence Force commemorates World AIDS Day. More than 1,000 Namibian soldiers and civilians took part in the celebration.

"We appreciate the positive impact of our joint efforts in the Namibian military," said Adrienne Fuentes, coordinator for the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), in remarks made during the ceremony on behalf of the U.S. Mission in Namibia.

"I applaud the leadership of the Namibian military for your robust leadership where stigma and discrimination is strongly discouraged, and where people who are living openly with HIV are supported without any discrimination," Fuentes said.

McGraw said his Unit Ministry Team's close relationship with the Namibian chaplains is an essential part of sharing experiences and techniques to counsel soldiers and families

from a spiritual perspective.

"Facing the challenges of AIDS, the Namibian Defence Force has established an impressive commander-led, community-based, chaplain-integrated program that is working," McGraw said. "I was very impressed with the number of Namibian soldiers lined up to voluntarily test their HIV status during the World AIDS Day event. It was three to four times what was experienced in past years."

The U.S. chaplains World AIDS Day participation follows a previous visit to Namibia in which the ministry team led a seminar about counseling soldiers and family members about the impact of HIV/AIDS.

In addition to observing the World AIDS Day commemoration, the U.S. chaplains met with several key U.S. Department of Defense partners to discuss possible areas of collaboration. A highlight of the event was an invitation to march in a two-mile AIDS Day Parade sponsored by the Namibian Defence Force. Led by the NDF Army Band, the chaplains marched with more than 800 NDF soldiers.

"Despite the challenges of AIDS/HIV there is optimism about the future and love of their families and country," said McGraw. "This was a great example of the NDF and USARAF's shared commitment to AIDS/HIV prevention in Namibia."



(Left) Col. Jonathan McGraw, U.S. Army Africa's command chaplain (right rear) stands with attendees of the World AIDS Day ceremony in Windhoek, Namibia. (Above) Supporters came out during World AIDS Day ceremony in Windhoek, Namibia. (U.S. Army Africa photos)





# Joint Task Force Odyssey Dawn

Army Maj. Scott Sendmeyer (center) leads the Campaign Development Team aboard the amphibious command ship USS Mount Whitney (LCC/JCC 20) in support of Joint Task Force (JTF) Odyssey Dawn. (U.S. Navy photo)

USS Mount Whitney, Mediterranean Sea – For Army Lt. Col. Leamond “Bo” Stuart, a 40-year-old Special Forces Soldier from Atlanta, Ga., the order to deploy happened fast and the prospect of serving on a ship seemed like an interesting opportunity.

“My wife was a little disappointed that I was going to be gone on yet another deployment,” Stuart said. “We really didn’t have much time to think about it.”

The deployment order arrived within days and the task at hand was quite unique. Stuart didn’t really know exactly what to expect, where he was going or how long he would be away. All he knew was this deployment, in support of U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa-U.S. Sixth Fleet, would be unlike any assignment he’d ever had.

“The work of the JTF has alleviated the suffering of the average Libyan citizen, which is certainly a worthy goal.”

—Lt. Col. Leamond Stuart  
Task Force Liaison Officer

“It is always difficult when there is little information on where you’re going and when you’re coming home,” said Sgt. First Class Steven Terrell, a 36-year-old Detroit, Mi. human resources manager. “We make it through by staying close and supporting each other.”

Stuart, Terrell, and approximately 60 soldiers packed their duffle bags, said goodbye to family and friends, and traveled to Gaeta, Italy, where they joined more than 300 airmen, Coast Guardsmen, Marines and Sailors embarked upon the USS Mount Whitney (LCC/JCC20), headquarters of Operation Joint Task Force-Odyssey Dawn.

“I was actually excited to have the opportunity to serve on a Navy ship,” said Stuart, a task force liaison officer permanently assigned to Headquarters, U.S. Army Africa in Vicenza, Italy. “It is a new experience for most soldiers.”

U.S. Africa Command, the regional command that oversees and coordinates U.S. military activities



Campaign Development Team aboard the amphibious command ship USS Mount Whitney (LCC/JCC 20) in support of Joint Task Force (JTF) Odyssey Dawn. USARAF, the regional command that oversees and coordinates U.S. military activities in Africa, established the joint task force to provide operational and tactical command and control for emergency evacuations, humanitarian relief, and potential future missions in support of the international response to unrest in Libya. (U.S. Navy photo)

in Africa, established the joint task force to provide operational and tactical command and control for emergency evacuations, humanitarian relief, and potential future missions in support of the international response to unrest in Libya.

With a growing coalition of more than 13 nations including France, Great Britain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates, Joint Task Force-Odyssey Dawn set out to enforce United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNCR) 1973, which “authorizes all necessary measures to protect civilians in Libya under threat of attack by Qadhafi regime forces.”

“I think that JTF-Odyssey Dawn was a resounding success,” Stuart said. “We [the Army] had planners in every part of the JTF and you could see results of our work in all of the JTF’s products.”

“Overall, my experience has been very good, although challenging,” said Maj. Scott Sendmeyer, a 39-year-old Indianapolis, In. native. “Having the entire JTF staff on the ship enabled rapid team formulation and also mitigated many outside distractions.”

An Army Engineer Corps officer by trade, Sendmeyer led the overall Campaign Development Team, a group of planners responsible for organizing operations according to task force objectives and desired effects. He says that while working as a joint plans officer was a great learning experience, life on a ship was very different from army life.

“I never thought of serving from aboard a ship, and it has proven to truly be an opportunity that I shall cherish,” Terrell said. “I know that I’m a much better human resources

manager after serving in such a challenging billet.”

Terrell, who served as the JTF’s resident expert on personnel tracking, U.S. Army finance and personnel procedures, and strength management, says being deployed aboard a ship was an eye-opening experience that showed him how the U.S. Navy operates.

“Getting to participate in this operation feels like a privilege,” said 23-year-old Army Staff Sgt. Nichell Sauls of Sonora, Ca, a military intelligence analyst also assigned to U.S. Army Africa. “Working with all of the different services gives a new perspective of how things come together to get results. Seeing a piece of the world from a new angle has been amazing.”

At the conclusion of Operation Odyssey Dawn, U.S. forces fulfilled a supporting role in the NATO-led Operation Unified Protector, charged with the mission to “to reduce the flow of arms, related material and mercenaries to Libya, as called for in UN Security Council Resolution 1973.”

“I really got a chance to see how a large JTF works in a multinational environment,” said Stuart. “It was so interesting to work so close to national policy-level decisions. It was a great experience and I’m glad I got to be part of it.”

Stuart says being able to watch the news and see how the efforts of the JTF helped improve the lives of others was an awe-inspiring experience.

“A few short days ago, the Libyan people were being systematically attacked by their own government,” Stuart said. “The work of the JTF has alleviated the suffering of the average Libyan citizen, which is certainly a worthy goal.”

# USARAF Soldiers return home from Operation Odyssey Dawn

Following more than two weeks at sea supporting Operation Odyssey-Dawn, 22 of 26 U.S. Army Africa (USARAF) Soldiers were greeted by several Family members and their commander, Maj. Gen. David R. Hogg, March 31 at USARAF Headquarters Building.

In a short ceremony, Hogg thanked the assembled team for their work in support of the operation.

"Thank you for your efforts and your service," Hogg said. "You realize that you just made history – it's the first time that U.S. Army Africa has been deployed in support of a named operation," the commanding general said.

USARAF Soldiers trained to work within a joint environment during an exercise called Judicious Response.

"That exercise helped everyone to understand how a joint task force works," Hogg said. "When U.S. Navy Africa picked up the mission and needed Army support, USARAF Soldiers responded and responded well," he said.

During the Operation Odyssey-Dawn mission the team was aboard the USS Mount Whitney in the Mediterranean Sea.

Lt. Col. Bo Stuart from USARAF Civil Military Operations section served as the USARAF liaison officer and team leader during the mission.

According to Stuart, 26 Soldiers from USARAF took part in the mission working in areas spanning from operations and administration to logistics and supply. Representatives from the Judge Advocate General's Corps were also part of the team and continue to play an ongoing role.

Stuart praised the work of the team.

"Everyone did a great job, and the plans and operations section really rose to the occasion," Stuart said.

USARAF operations planners played an important role during the mission, and the briefings they provided were often translated into action.

"We briefed one day and it was on the television the next day. And that was an effort led primarily by USARAF planners," Stuart said.

Stuart mirrored Hogg's statement concerning training as a key for the success of the mission, saying they had some exercises prior to this mission that replicated a joint task force. So for the team, it was business as usual, and execution was just like they had practiced.

For Stuart and other team members, working with the U. S. Navy was a new experience.

"It was interesting learning how the Navy does things," Stuart said. "The task force was made up of predominantly Navy personnel so we had to adjust to their terms and acronyms rapidly, but after the first few days we picked up on the lingo and everyone found their niche," he said.

For Infantryman Sgt. 1st Class Joseph M. Kaminski, the mission was his first experience working on a U.S. Navy vessel. On the ship, Kaminski was the noncommissioned officer in charge of the Joint Operations Center.

"Being out at sea and observing the Navy at work was a good learning experience," Kaminski said.

"Working with the Navy and the other services was a highlight of the mission. We worked through some challenges and completing the mission was great," he said.



Maj. Gen. David R. Hogg greets Soldiers from USARAF who took part in Operation Odyssey Dawn. These Soldiers worked in areas spanning from operations and administration to logistics and supply. (U.S. Army Africa photo)



Lt. Col. Christopher Emond carries his daughter after she jumped into his arms during the reunion of Soldiers and family upon completion of Operation Odyssey Dawn. (U.S. Army Africa photo)

“You realize that you just made history – it's the first time that U.S. Army Africa has been deployed in support of a named operation.”

Maj. Gen. David R. Hogg, commander, U.S. Army Africa



Uganda Peoples Defense Forces soldiers from the 27th Infantry Battalion set-up a drop zone with U.S. Soldiers from 3rd Squadron, 108th Cavalry Regiment, Georgia National Guard, at Drop Zone Red near Kapelebyong, Uganda, during Atlas Drop '11. (U.S. Army Africa photo)

## UPDF, Georgia National Guard Soldiers carve DZs, understanding out of Ugandan bush during Atlas Drop

Soldiers from the Uganda Peoples' Defense Forces and Georgia National Guard trained and lived together in the bush north of Soroti as part of Atlas Drop '11.

Infantrymen, cavalry scouts and pathfinders from 3rd Squadron, 108th Cav. Regiment, 560th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, and the soldiers from UPDF's 27th Infantry Battalion trained alongside each other on patrolling and clearing aerial-resupply drop zones in three locations in the Olilim and Kapelebyong areas.

"We've been out here since yesterday (April 13), and by here I mean at Drop Zone Red in Kapelebyong, working with the 27th Infantry, UPDF, training with them on pathfinder operations and some of our troop tactics and procedures," said 1st Lt. Steven Russell of Dahlonaga, Georgia, a member of Troop A, 3rd Sqdn., 108th Cav., Georgia NG, who serves as the pathfinder team leader and lead instructor for the UPDF training team at DZ Red. "In addition to that, we've been working hand in hand with the UPDF. They have been showing us how to conduct field operations and how they operate in tactical and combat environments."

DZ Red (Kapelebyong), along with DZ White and Blue (Olilim), was used during three days of live aerial-resupply practice drops that will conclude AD '11. The training conducted during this year's iteration of the annual exercise, sponsored by U.S. Army Africa, increased the capability of both UPDF and U.S. forces to resupply Soldiers operating in remote areas.

UPDF Lt. Stephen Omuya, instructor from Olilim

Training School, said the training conducted as part of AD '11 will be helpful in whatever environment Soldiers may find themselves working in.

"This (training) is very important for us to have such technical and tactical training exercises," he said.

In training and living together, the U.S. and Ugandan soldiers have come to know each other better, both as professional soldiers and as people.

The UPDF soldiers have been eager to learn and many of them have been filling up notebooks with information presented during classes, even remaining after a training class is over to get any notes they may have missed, said Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Stafford, a native of Charleston, S.C., who serves as a pathfinder with 3rd Sqdn., 108th Cav. Regt.

"The UPDF soldiers are all very eager to learn," he said.

The main challenge the Ugandan and U.S. Soldiers training at DZ Red have noted has to do with communicating the technical nature of aerial delivery operations.

"Our biggest challenge out here has been the language barrier, absolutely," Stafford said.

To help with the language differences, one of the UPDF noncommissioned officers stepped forward to translate the U.S. instructors' English into Swahili, and a few of the U.S. Soldiers figured out their own means to communicate.

"The guys came up with some training aids to help with the language barrier," said Staff Sgt. Gabriel Brooks of Douglasville, Georgia, who serves as a section leader



A Uganda Peoples Defense Forces soldier smiles during a light moment in training at Drop Zone Red near Kapelebyong, Uganda, during Atlas Drop '11. (U.S. Army Africa photo)

with Troop A, 3rd Sqdn., 108th Cav. During some of the breaks in the busy training schedule a few of the Georgia Soldiers created a miniature C-130 Hercules aircraft and a Blackhawk helicopter with rotors that actually turn out of water bottles, duct tape and sticks. They used the models to provide the UPDF soldiers with visual means of grasping the technical information they were presenting.

Working together to make the training as beneficial and pertinent as possible to each soldier on the ground at DZ Red, the UPDF and U.S. forces have not only become more proficient at establishing drop zones but also how to see challenges as opportunities that, if overcome, can lead to greater understanding and perhaps even friendship.

"(We are getting) an immense sense of fulfillment and enjoyment from working with a very professional force, getting to see a beautiful part of our world and getting a tremendous amount of multicultural and multinational experience and working with one of our strong allies," said Russell.

During a recent radio broadcast at an FM station in Soroti by the Ugandan and U.S. leadership of AD '11, Lt. Col. Jeffrey Dickerson, commander of 3rd Sqdn., 108th Cav. Regt., and deputy director of the exercise, said that the enjoyment expressed by Russell will be the most valuable of all outcomes for everyone involved with AD '11.

"Years from now the most valuable thing that will come out of this for both the soldiers of the UPDF and the Soldiers of the U.S. Army...is the memory of the interactions that we had, when we were able to learn about each other's cultures and gain a much greater appreciation for each other."



Spec. Dustin Terry of Hiram, Georgia, from Troop C, 3rd Squadron, 108th Cavalry Regiment, Georgia National Guard, instructs soldiers from the 27th Infantry Battalion, Uganda Peoples Defense Forces, on how to set up drop zone marking panels at DZ Red near Kapelebyong, Uganda, during Atlas Drop '11. (U.S. Army Africa photo)

# PRIMARY PRAYERS



## Georgia National Guard chaplain 'goes the extra mile'

Overseas training opportunities like Atlas Drop '11 gave U.S. and host-nation Soldiers the opportunity to share knowledge, tactics and skills. Training days are often long and the nights short.

Sometimes, during such training missions, opportunities present themselves for Soldiers to step outside military responsibilities and expectations inherent in such training environments and do something more.

The primary mission given to Capt. Andy Shepherd of Moreland, Ga., chaplain for 3rd Squadron, 108th Cavalry Regiment, Georgia National Guard, and Sgt. Desmond Manning of Stockbridge, Ga., Shepherd's assistant during AD '11, during their time in Uganda was to take care of U.S. Soldiers' spiritual needs and provide any counseling services should the need arise. However, they also discovered another role they could fill while walking around Soroti for the first time.

"I just went out one day walking downtown to pick up some supplies. The locals were really glad to see us. One of the locals said 'I'm glad that you came to see me while you were here,' and that really just touched my heart," said Shepherd. "That really just put a drive in me to go visit more people out in the community to let them know we're here and that we care and as a chaplain—as a Christian—just to show the love of God and that I do care, that I am concerned."

That first walk around Soroti sparked a desire in Shepherd and Manning to get out more and meet people and visit

schools, churches and orphanages to see what needs there were and what they could do to help. Since that first walk they have played soccer and prayed with school children, talked to numerous clergy from various faiths about their ministries and have shaken hundreds of hands. All this in addition to taking care of and talking to Ugandan and U.S. Soldiers.

Shepherd said that the people of the Soroti area have touched his heart during his short stay.

"Going out into the community has really affected me in several ways," he said. "One, it has really humbled me as a person, to see how the people live here and how they are so happy and enjoying life with so little. And also it has really affected me spiritually. I have been touched and challenged to, even when I leave here, continue to give to some of the places that I have visited. I feel just kind of challenged to do more."

Manning has also been deeply moved by the people he has met and the lives they lead.

"It's really touched me just to see the kinds of conditions the people live in. It's something that I will take with me the rest of my life," he said. "I go to bed and I cannot sleep...I just lay there going over all the things I saw during the day."

In coming to Uganda, Manning was focused on providing spiritual support for Soldiers, but after going out and meeting people and seeing the conditions in the schools, his desire to also provide spiritually for the people in Soroti grew.

Maybe we cannot give them the material things they need but we can provide them a little support and let them know that

there's a God, that there's hope, he said. "That's what we do as chaplains and chaplains' assistants: We reach out not just to our people but we go out there and give what support we can give."

Shepherd and Manning have plans to help some of the schools and orphanages they have visited with the limited means available to them by asking for donations from the Soldiers serving with them in Uganda.

"What we're actually doing now is asking Soldiers to donate food and water so we can deliver to the schools," said Shepherd. "We also asked for first aid supplies and anything else they want to donate."

Shepherd said the response to his call for help has been heard among the Soldiers and leaders of U.S. Task Force Atlas.

"We have actually gotten a great response. Everybody sounds like they are willing to help and support so that we can show the love of God to the people of Uganda."

When Atlas Drop '11 ends, Shepherd and Manning will both returned to Georgia having done their best to follow the scriptural admonitions of going the extra mile and succoring the weak that they believe deeply in. And it is also likely that both of them would say that they wish they could have done more.

"This experience in Uganda has also been a blessing to me, to experience the people here and how they have so much hope with the few resources they have," said Shepherd. "It has really challenged me to figure out ways to minister and show the love of God to the Ugandans. I have been very fortunate to have this experience. I think it's something that I will never forget."

*During a visit to Ududui Primary School near Soroti, Uganda, a young boy smiles for the camera. (Top) Capt. Andy Shepherd of Moreland, Georgia, who serves as chaplain for 3rd Squadron, 108th Cavalry Regiment, Georgia National Guard, prays for the school children of the Ududui Primary School near Soroti. (U.S. Army Africa photos)*

# Combat Lifesaver

## Malawi Defence Force receives vital training

Soldiers from the 399th Combat Support Hospital instructed Malawi Defence Force (MDF) medical staff and Soldiers from the 404th Maneuver Enhancement Battalion at the Kamuzu Barracks, on a variety of procedures to help them better respond to combat-related injuries. The four-day course was designed to be an information-sharing exercise between the MDF and U.S. Soldiers participating in MEDREACH '11, a joint humanitarian medical exercise in Malawi.

"Their soldiers are very intelligent," said 1st Lt. Jason J. Proulx, a Combat Lifesaver instructor with the 399th Combat Support Hospital in Mass. "They are asking very appropriate questions and answering appropriately. I have no doubt that there will be a 100 percent pass rate."

Proulx, a Londonderry, N.H. native, says the confidence he has in the medical abilities of the Malawian Soldiers comes from the competence many of them have displayed throughout the Combat Lifesaver course. Several Malawian Soldiers in Proulx's class have attended and completed the same U.S. Army medical schools required of military combat medics.

While the Malawi Forces have not had to respond to combat injuries in recent years, MDF soldiers like Staff Sgt. Crantor A. Mwase, a regimental health orderly, believes there is still a great need for trauma training and that U.S. Soldiers have valuable medical instruction to share with their servicemembers.

"This Combat Lifesaver has come at the right time," said Mwase. "It is giving us more knowledge than we had in the past. I think it will make the Malawi Defence Force stronger and more capable."

Mwase said the training is especially important due to the possibility of future military contingencies, including ongoing MDF mobilization to support the United Nations peacekeeping mission in Ivory Coast. He said the training is timely for the MDF and equips them with the knowledge to save lives.

"The Malawian Defence Force is more or less specialized in tropical medicine so trauma, in general, is not their specialty and that is what we are here to help with," said Spc. Ian P. Powers, combat medic with the 399th Combat Support Hospital in Mass. "This would not only benefit them on the battlefield, but also with local motor vehicle accidents and any other kinds of trauma that they would find in their own country."

The Combat Lifesaver training included classroom instruction, followed by hands-on practical exercises to validate of what the participants had learned. Soldiers

from both forces learned things like the application of a tourniquet, assessing a wounded Soldier, and finished with practicing needle-chest decompression using a special training aid – a goat cadaver, which later became the main course at the class barbecue.

Focused on building relationships, participants and instructors share information and experiences to ensure MDF Soldiers have the capability to teach the information to others. Once the medical staff of the MDF is able to become proficient on Combat Lifesaver skills, they will then be able to start training their non-medical Soldiers. The 399th Combat Support Hospital is donating books and instruction guides to make this initiative a reality.

"Our goal is to teach the Malawi Defence Force the essentials of the Combat Lifesaver's course so they can, in turn, teach. That's the biggest mission here," said Proulx. "It's important because the more people that you have that can provide any form of medical treatment the more lives you can save."

"I hope that this helps a little," said Spc. Angela T. Langley, a combat medic with the 399th Combat Support Hospital. "I know that they were talking about some of them being deployed to the Ivory Coast and I hope that they benefit from this and they take away from it. I hope we enhance their medical capabilities."

Both forces benefit from the training, as MDF Soldiers will later don the instructor role by teaching U.S. servicemembers about tropical diseases, like malaria, and how to prevent them. The culminating event of the Combat Life Saver course included testing to affirm all troops Combat Lifesaver-certified. Given the number of personnel involved and the overall success rate of the practical exercises, participants believe the entire training audience walked away having achieved their goals.

"I am very excited that the U.S. Armed Forces are here," said Mwase. "You have been helping us for a long time and we ask your country, the USA, to continue helping us."

MEDREACH, a key program in the United States' efforts to partner with the Government of Malawi, is the one in a series of exercises involving U.S. military forces and African partner militaries with the aim of establishing and developing military interoperability, regional relationships, synchronization of effort and capacity-building.

The goal of MEDREACH '11 was to enhance U.S. and Malawi Defence Forces capabilities to work together and to increase the combined readiness of their medical forces to respond to humanitarian emergencies.



(Above) Maj. Jack Twomey, an instructor during MEDREACH '11, tests combat lifesaving skills in Lilongwe, Malawi. Twomey is assigned to the 399th Combat Support Hospital. (Right) 1st Lt. Miriam A. Ursua of the 399th Combat Support Hospital assists Staff Sgt. Jose R. Ruiz of the 404th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade in assessing Sgt. Rogers S. Chimdeya of the Malawi Def. Force during training to become a certified Combat Life Saver. (U.S. Army Africa photos)

# Joint Logistics Over-the-Shore



(Above) Soldiers with the 33rd Transportation Company, Modular Causeway, and 1098th Medium Boat Company build a fire during survival training at Cap Draa, Morocco. (Insert) A Soldier serving with the 331st Transportation Company, Modular Causeway, tries to ignite a fire with a piece of flashlight during survival training at Cap Draa, Morocco. (Top) The sun sets on the Joint Logistics Over the Shore camp. (Top right) U.S. service members watch as U.S. Army vessel Landing Craft Utility 2006 (USVA Buena Vista) makes its way to shore at Tan-Tan, Morocco. (U.S. Army Africa photos)

## JLOTS tests Soldiers' ability to perform anyplace, anytime

Following a 14-day open water sail from Puerto Rico, the LT-805 tug towing two Army Landing Craft Utility watercraft rolled into the coast of Morocco to participate in the Joint Logistics Over-the-Shore (JLOTS) training exercise as part of African Lion 2011.

JLOTS tested Soldiers' ability to discharge a vessel without benefit of a pier in support of a tactical or humanitarian situation.

A training exercise such as JLOTS contributes significantly to the brigade's ability to perform this type of mission anywhere in the world. At times a ship may have to be downloaded farther away from a port or berth based on the location or due to an austere environment.

### JLOTS fulfills need

To fulfill the Moroccan request to increase the exercise's size, Marine Forces Africa requested the Deployable Joint Command and Control Systems, DJC2 CORE Package, and the capabilities of Joint Logistics Over-The-Shore, JLOTS. These new elements have allowed the exercise to include twice as many tanks as last year, M777 howitzer artillery pieces, and the inclusion of JLOTS enablers such as the U.S. Army tugboat Winfield Scott, the USNS Bobo, USNS Pillilau and the HSV-2 Swift, as well as F-15 Eagle fighter jets.

The 16 member detachment, based in Vicenza, Italy, has counterparts all over the globe, including two who have recently been deployed to respond to the

real world crises in Haiti and Japan. The DJC2 provides e-mail, Defense Switch Network phone and secure video and telephone conference capabilities.

"Having the DJC2 here is a huge improvement for our tactical communication operations," said Marine Sgt. Ryan Kish, radio chief with Marine Forces Africa, who is serving in his third African Lion exercise. "We can now keep constant [communication] with each forward unit, and have the ability to support a full [Joint Task Force]."

The DJC2's ability to communicate has already proven essential as the exercise planners have been forced to contend with harsh weather conditions on the Atlantic Ocean. The JLOTS team has been forced to reroute from delivering their equipment from Tan-Tan to Agadir.

The JLOTS operation allowed African Lion 2011 to increase in size and scope so dramatically. The U.S. Transportation Command and Africa Command's planners worked together to ensure JLOTS support and fulfill the Moroccan request that this year's exercise be improved. The introduction of the U.S. ships has already enabled more interoperability with the Moroccan frigate Mohammed V providing security for the U.S. ships.

### No wasting time

In the desert of the African coast, dark and dreary clouds loomed in the sky. With the weather unpredictable, Soldiers were making use of their time in training.

Soldiers with the 331st Transportation Company and 1098th Medium Boat Company, out of Fort Eustis, Va., took part in survival, escape and evasion training to improve their skills and combat efficiency during exercise African Lion 2011 at Cap Draa, Morocco.

Exercise African Lion '11 was a chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff-directed, U.S. Africa Command-scheduled, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Africa-conducted, joint and bi-lateral exercise between the Kingdom of Morocco and the U.S. that involves more than 2,000 U.S. service

members, consisting of elements from the Army, Navy, Marines and Air Force, training alongside approximately 900 members of the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces.

### Task Force 24

The Soldiers participating in the exercise formed an element titled Task Force 24. "Survival skills are good for all Soldiers in the Army to know," said Sgt. 1st Class Nathan Almaas, the training instructor and Juneau, Alaska, native with TF 24. "If you are ever stuck out in the desert, this is good training to have."

Almaas demonstrated to Soldiers techniques to purify urine into drinking water, find true north, determine edible foods and benefits of eating certain animals, and starting fires.

The Soldiers became more inventive by learning unorthodox methods to start fires such as using household accelerants and items for ignition. Soldiers were shown how insect repellants and hand sanitizers are flammable and can be ignited by using pieces of glass, personal glasses, and flint in order to survive.

Almaas said the survival training gives Soldiers one-on-one experience in advanced and reliable techniques they would normally have to learn from a more advanced military course. He said this knowledge is potentially lifesaving and invaluable for each and every Soldier partaking.

The training was serious, yet some Soldiers like Staff Sgt. James Brogan from Boston, with the 331 Transportation Company, Modular Causeway, tried to make the training fun while keeping its effectiveness. Brogan kept his group of Soldiers motivated by calling them "Brogans Team Elite" and by comically giving them constructive criticism when correcting their errors instead of the usual military seriousness.

Survival is the most basic instinct of anyone, but the knowledge needed to survive without modern commodities can only be gained by proper training.

"We've tried to harness the power of fire since the dawn of man," said Brogan, "and today we have."

# U.S. Army Africa 'Train the Trainers' in Ghana

As part of the ongoing Africa Contingency Operations Training & Assistance (ACOTA) program, two U.S. Army Africa (USARAF) Soldiers trained members of the Ghanaian Defense Forces recently at Bendasi Training Site, Accra, Ghana.

1st Lt. Salvatore Buzzurro and Sgt. 1st Class Grady Hyatt, USARAF ACOTA Military Mentors, assisted the Department of State as they trained the Ghanaians in preparation for a United Nations (UN) deployment.

"ACOTA is a train-the-trainer program, first and foremost; therefore, military mentors monitor

the classes given by the Ghanaian cadre and then advise them on ways to enhance their classes, teaching techniques, and practical application piece," Buzzurro said. "During the practical exercises, the mentors then attached or embed themselves with the Ghanaian Defense Force platoon commander and platoon warrant officer\* and advised them on problem solving techniques and tactics," he said.

ACOTA is a State Department, Bureau of African Affairs Program that originated in 1997 to enhance the capacities and capabilities of its

African Partner Countries, regional institutions, and the continent's peacekeeping resources as a whole so they can plan for, train, deploy, and sustain sufficient quantities of professionally competent peacekeepers to meet conflict transformation requirements with minimal non-African assistance.

"The system has been very well received by the Ghanaian forces, and the mentors have seen vast improvements in the classes taught, the tactics being used, and the use of Troop Leading Procedures," Buzzurro said.



# ACOTA

## Africa Contingency Operations Training & Assistance Program



1st Lt. Salvatore Buzzurro and Sgt. 1st Class Grady Hyatt, USARAF ACOTA Military Mentors, assisted the Department of State as they trained the Ghanaians in preparation for a United Nations (UN) deployment. ACOTA is a State Department, Bureau of African Affairs Program that originated in 1997 to enhance the capacities and capabilities of its African Partner Countries. (U.S. Army Africa photos)

# USARAF conducts deployment capability training

VICENZA, Italy — At the request of the Burundian military, U.S. Army Africa's Africa Deployment Assistance Partnership Team (ADAPT) conducted a deployment capability training event with uniformed members of the Burundian Defense Forces June 6 – 10 at the Bujumbura Military Airfield in Bujumbura, Burundi.

Traffic Management Specialists Sgt. First Class Joseph Shaw and Sgt. First Class Christopher Labugen of the 21st Theatre Support Command in Kaiserslautern, Germany, along with Ammunition Specialist Sgt. First Class Luis Febles and Theater Security Cooperation Program Manager Alexander Menzies from USARAF Logistics Directorate in Vicenza, Italy, taught and monitored the training event.

ADAPT is a USAFRICOM program managed and executed by USARAF. The team was in Bujumbura to share best practices on deploying personnel

and equipment via aircraft, and to enhance force projection capabilities of African militaries to better support peace keeping operations, humanitarian relief operations and UN missions.

"This is our first ADAPT with the Burundian military," Menzies said. "This event was based off of a pre-deployment site survey we conducted last year so the lesson plan was specifically tailored to meet existing Burundi training requirements."

Menzies said another focus of the training is to foster positive relationships between the U.S. and African military forces.

"This successful military-to-military ADAPT event demonstrates the important partnerships between U.S. Army Africa and African partner nations in increasing deployment capabilities and capacity," Menzies said.

Increasing deployment

interoperability with U.S. forces in joint/combined operations, training and exercises is a focal point of this military-to-military training opportunity.

"Training and having the capability to deploy personnel and cargo are crucial enabling components to a deploying force. As a matter of fact, Burundian forces soldiers are already applying the ADAPT training to their real world operations," Febles said.

During the graduation ceremony before students and instructors parted, Burundi's Air Base Commander Col. Jean Claude Niyongeko's commented, "Africa Command said it would help Burundi... and they followed-through and did what they said. Not every country can say that!"

ADAPT is a four phase program, that occurs every 12 months and USARAF has already conducted training in Rwanda, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Botswana, and Ghana.



**A D A P T**  
AfricaDeploymentAssistancePartnershipTeam



Traffic Management Specialists Sgt. First Class Joseph Shaw and Sgt. First Class Christopher Labugen of the 21st Theatre Support Command in Kaiserslautern, Germany, along with Ammunition Specialist Sgt. First Class Luis Febles and Theater Security Cooperation Program Manager Alexander Menzies from USARAF Logistics Directorate in Vicenza, Italy, taught and monitored the training event. (U.S. Army Africa photos)





The U.S. Army Africa Forward Command Element (FCE) is a self-contained, mobile command post capable of worldwide communications, and can deploy within 72 hours. (Inset) Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, stopped by Longare, Italy for in-depth briefings on USARAF's Contingency Command Post and Forward Command Element. (U.S. Army Africa photos)



## U.S. Army Africa's Forward Command Element

# READY 2 ROLL

VICENZA, ITALY – When the U.S. Army Africa Forward Command Element rolled onto a C-130 to head to Ghana in August, it was with state-of-the-art electronics allowing worldwide communications.

The USARAF FCE, similar to a tactical operations center with sophisticated internet and video teleconference capabilities, is a flexible command post that responds to deployment requests through U.S. Africa Command.

USARAF executed an Operational Needs Statement to validate and resource requirements for a Command Post Platform (CPP) vehicle and a SIPRNET NIPRNET Access Point (SNAP) satellite terminal. USARAF then combined it with additional equipment from their Army-fielded Standardized Integrated Command Post System (SICPS); specifically with one Trailer Mounted Support System (TMSS) Medium system and associated network, video, and radio systems. Working with DA G3/5/7 Land War Net, DA G6, and PEO-C3T; USARAF designed the ECP to be rapidly deployable, highly mobile,

self-powered, self-air-conditioned, provide all the networks and radios to command and control (C2) operations, and function in a Joint, Inter-agency, Inter-governmental, and Multinational (JIIM) environment.

To meet this JIIM requirement, USARAF added two networks to the ECP: a CENTRIX-ready network for use with and by coalition partners; and a commercial internet network for use by Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO), as well as inter-governmental and inter-agency partners who may not have authorization to work on DoD NIPR or SIPR networks.

Finally, USARAF worked with several program offices and field service representatives to integrate all of the Army Battle Command Systems (ABCS) and several joint systems into the ECP to ensure effective C2 of Army and joint units.

During a recent tour of the mobile command center, USARAF Commander, Maj. Gen. David R. Hogg saw

firsthand the power and flexibility of the mobile command post. "Our C-130 version of a crisis command headquarters makes USARAF capable of deploying anywhere in the world if needed, but more specifically, anywhere in Africa. We can roll off the plane and within two hours have a fully operationally command and control system to cover any environment, Army pure, joint or inter-agency. We have tremendous capability now," Hogg said.

Hogg expressed his gratitude to Soldiers of the USARAF G-6, Communications and Information Services and higher headquarters. "Col. Joe Angyal and his G-6 staff have done a wonderful job and none of this would have happened without the support of Headquarters Department of the Army. So we definitely want to thank them," Hogg added.

Recently, USARAF communications Soldiers with the FCE took on the challenges that new electronics can pose. The new system provides worldwide communications capability along with the added ability to work from a remote

location with few amenities.

With the ECP, USARAF can deploy its FCE within 72 hours of receiving a deployment order from U.S. Africa Command. While the limited size of the ECP can only facilitate up to 20 users, it can easily scale up to support 50 users with additional tents or building space. This gives USARAF the ability to quickly deploy a small element in support of a Non-combatant Evacuation (NEO) or Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief (HADR) mission, with the full suite of communications systems required to conduct initial coordination with an embassy, gain situational awareness, and C2 subordinate units.

Spc. James Lagerstrom, an information technology specialist assigned to USARAF, deploys with the ECP as one of the Soldiers ensuring its communications gear is set up and operational. "Wherever we go... we can communicate," Lagerstrom said. "We have internet and even have video teleconference ability, as well as being highly mobile."



# MEDFLAG '11

## GHANA, U.S. SHARE KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE

ACCRA, Ghana -- MEDFLAG 11, a bilateral exercise sponsored by U.S. Army Africa, finished the first of two stages in Accra, Ghana July 15.

The first portion of MEDFLAG 11 has strengthened the relationship between the U.S. and Ghana through five days of collaborative training, during which medical expertise is shared by the joint-team effort to improve medical treatment in their home countries.

The second half of the exercise includes hands-on application of the skills reviewed and shared during the classroom segment of the exercise.

"Together, we will learn from each other," said Lt. Col. Rodney Boyd, officer-in-charge of the U.S. MEDFLAG forces and the commander of the 405th Brigade Support Battalion, a National Guard unit from North Riverside, Ill. "Once we leave here, both armies will be smarter and stronger."

Soldiers from U.S. Army Africa, the 405th Brigade Support Battalion (Illinois Army National Guard), 814th Medical Company (North Dakota Army National Guard), 949th Veterinary Company (Army Reserve, Iowa), 965th Dental Company (Army Reserve, Texas), and the 411th Civil Affairs Battalion (Army Reserve, Connecticut) have joined together to create the team of U.S. participants in the exercise.

Classroom instruction was provided by both the Ghanaian army and the U.S. team to ensure both teams come out of the experience with a new understanding of medicine and a better understanding of their own unit's capabilities.

The U.S. instruction began with classes taught by Lt. Col. Clyde Scott, deputy U.S. Army Africa chaplain, whose hometown is Vicenza, Italy, and Maj. Robert E. Geaschel, Chicago, Ill., native and chaplain with the 405th BSB. The chaplains focused much of their attention on addressing issues regarding servicemembers' emotional and spiritual needs during both war and peace times.

"The Ghanaian soldiers live life through trying to understand each other and support each other," said Geaschel. "They really keep a community mentality in the military."

The 949th Vet Co. brought a dynamic team including a food safety officer, a veterinary field officer, and several veterinary technicians. The 949th conducted classes on field sanitation, food handling and storage, and water testing.

"While the U.S. team led many of the classes, the GAF has taught us a lot about diseases we aren't familiar within the U.S.," said Maj. Kathy Knake, Unadilla, Neb., native and veterinary field officer for the 949th.

During the HCA portion of the exercise, the 949th will provide deworming medicine for cattle, goats and sheep.

"Our team is split down the middle in terms of how much experience we have, and this is a great chance to work as a team," said Knake.

The 965th Dental Co. focused much of its attention on learning cultural differences and ways their medical techniques might be different.

"This opportunity allows us to become more proficient in dental care, allows us more time to practice our work, and gives us more experience," said Staff Sgt. Charles Bagley, platoon sergeant from the 965th and native of Dallas, Texas.

For one section of the training, the Ghanaian dental team escorted the doctors and dental technicians from the U.S. team to the 37th Military Hospital in Accra. The two teams spent several hours touring the

facilities and discussing similarities and differences in equipment.

One of the biggest differences the teams found was the amount and types of medicine the two teams have access to.

"In Ghana, we don't have [inhalation sedation], so we have to bribe a child to have his teeth looked at," said Cpl. Felix Armah, a dental technician for the 37th Military Hospital. "They are scared of the instruments, so we have to give them a cookie or candy to convince them to let us look in their mouths," added Armah.

The last main section of class exercises is led by the 814th Med Co. and GAF personnel and includes classes related to both field and peace time medical care.

The 814th conducted classes on a large spectrum of topics, to include how to perform rescue breathing, transporting a casualty, treating a chest injury, and performing a trauma casualty assessment.

"As a nurse, much of this training is a good review," said Lt. Cmdr. Ruby Amegavluie, a nurse with the 37th Military Hospital. "We have many people who are not nurses or doctors, but it shouldn't just be a doctor who knows how to provide medical care in the field."

The U.S. doctors who attended this event were able to travel with the dental teams to the 37th Military Hospital to view the equipment the doctors and nurses use as well.

"This training is good for all of us," said Amegavluie. "You only get experience in this training by actually applying the skills learned, so the practical exercises we are doing are very important."

After all classroom training is complete, the two teams will begin working at a humanitarian civic assistance site. An HCA is similar to a walk-in clinic where doctors from both teams will help diagnose and treat common illnesses such as coughs and colds.

"Doing the classroom training will help us prepare to work as a team at the HCA site," said Spc. Kerry Thompson, a medic in the 814th Med Co and a native of Bismarck, N.D. "We have learned new ways of treatment that will be beneficial in the future."

The point of the HCA is not to teach local clinics how to perform their jobs in a different manner, but rather to help the clinics treat more patients than it normally could accommodate.

"The important thing to remember is that this exercise is about building a partnership with the GAF while learning from them," said Thompson. "This experience will make me a better person and medic. Being able to learn from new people while working in an environment we are not used to will allow us to work together as a team to get the job done."

A key program in the United States' efforts to partner with the government of Ghana, MEDFLAG 11 is the latest in a series of exercises involving U.S. military forces and African partner militaries with the aim of establishing and developing military interoperability, regional relationships, synchronization of effort and capacity-building.

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*MEDFLAG '11 is a key program in the United States' efforts to partner with the Government of Ghana, MEDFLAG '11 is the latest in a series of exercises involving U.S. military forces and African partner militaries with the aim of establishing and developing military interoperability, and capacity-building. (U.S. Army Africa photo)*





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