

THE ENGO JOURNAL

VOL: 14, ISSUE: 3

JULY 2005

A QUARTERLY FORUM FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



WHO WON?
**2005 DRILL SERGEANT
OF THE YEAR**

**QUICK GUIDE:
WHO ARE THE
INSURGENTS**

**MOTORCYCLES:
TWO WHEELED
KILLERS?**

WARNING

Contains graphic
images that may
not be suitable
for all readers.



THE NGO JOURNAL



Soldiers wait to be extracted by helicopter in Iraq, after coming under attack by mortar and small-arms fire. The Soldiers are assigned to the 1st Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade Quick Response Force. This photo appeared on www.army.mil. DoD Photo

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LEADERSHIP

SURE, SOME SURVIVE

When you're standing at ease listening to the safety briefing and hear the word "motor-cycle," think about this photo. Imagine hours upon hours of reconstructive surgery, then think about the next time you get on your "bike" for a cruise. Dave Crozier



ON POINT

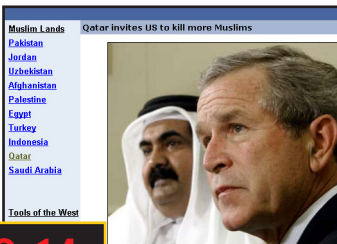
DRILL SERGEANT OF THE YEAR

The best of the best compete for the Army-wide 2005 Drill Sergeant of the Year Award, only two moved on to represent their components. Patrick Buffett



U.S. KILLS MUSLIMS

Propaganda is not a modern tool in warfare but today's technology allows for greater distribution. We try to break through the smoke-screen. Staff Sgt. Krishna M. Gamble



ON THE COVER:

Drill Sergeants Staff Sgt. Latasha Armstrong, Staff Sgt. Adrian Alexander and Sgt. 1st Class Tammy Davis all of 1st Battalion 56th Air Defense Artillery, Fort Bliss, Texas.

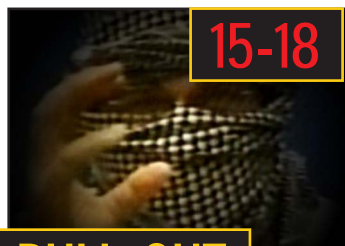
PHOTO BY: Dave Crozier

TRAINING

TERRORISTS

Terrorists threaten peace and stability throughout the world, in Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom they have caused more damage than ever imagined, but who are they?

Master Sgt. Sue Harper



PULL-OUT

ART OF WARRIOR TASKS

Steps to prevent you from becoming a victim in an ambush while dismounted. Learn from the masters of the craft.

Spc. Joseph Edmondson



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Changes in the Noncommissioned Officer Education System have been in the works for awhile, now some of them are being brought to light at NCO academies.

Dave Crozier



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FROM THE FIELD

MENTORS NEEDED

The Army is proposing a program to help new motorcycle riders get all the knowledge and experience they need from other riders to keep themselves safe.

Dave Crozier

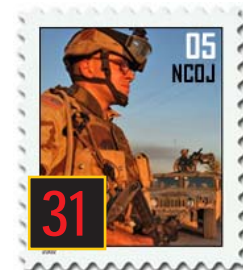


ALIBIS

LETTERS

The *NCO Journal* reaches all across the Army and even into the civilian world. Read a letter from a concerned citizen from Arizona that wants to help deployed Soldiers.

Master Sgt. Sue Harper



HONOR ROLL

In every issue we list the names of the men and women who have given their lives in service to our country to pay tribute to their sacrifice.

Dave Crozier



THE NCO JOURNAL

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JULY 2005

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Our mission is to provide a forum for the open exchange of ideas and information, to support training, education and development of the NCO Corps and to foster a closer bond among its members.

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JULY 2005

From the SMA



U.S. Army Photo

I can't believe 2005 is halfway done. Our Army has been so busy over the last few months, and I'm proud to say our Soldiers are doing a magnificent job furthering freedom and liberty for cultures around the world. Our Soldiers and leaders should stand proud of all they have accomplished so far this year, and I thank you for all you have done, all you are doing and all you will continue to do in support of our Army and the defense of the people of the United States.

I want to talk about two issues that have been in the news lately, recruiting and retention. All of our missions — the Global War on Terror, Transformation, and the thousand other missions lined up behind them — are built on a foundation of recruiting and retention. I am asking that every NCO at every level make it his personal mission to help recruiting and retention in anyway he can.

Recruiting and retention have been misrepresented in the mainstream media. Our goals seem off because we are growing. Recruiters are not just maintaining our old manpower levels. They are mandated to increase them. The common man's math works out to be a growth of roughly 10,000 additional Soldiers yearly. It's not that simple, but that gives you a rough idea of the growth we need. At the start of last year Congress authorized us to grow by 30,000 Soldiers. At that time, the active-duty force was 482,400 strong. Our end state over a three-year period is to have an active-duty force of 512,400.

In order to reach those goals, we implemented higher recruiting and retention goals to grow this additional force structure. In 2003, our recruiting goal was 71,000. That is the amount of Soldiers we need to recruit each year to maintain our normal end-strength of 482,400. In 2004, we raised our recruiting goals to 77,000. We finished last year at 101 percent. This year, we raised the goal again to 80,000. We fell short of our goals in February, March, April and May. For the month of June, we achieved 109 percent. The success in June has helped make up some of the deficit, but we still have much work to do.

The second step in growing our Army is retention. In 2003, our active component retention goal was 52,000. Last year, we raised our goal to 56,000. All of you are responsible for last year's success. This year we challenged you again with a mission of 64,000. To date, we are at 104 percent of our year-to-date retention goals. We are projected to make our retention and end-strength missions. Our goal is to finish the year at 502,400 Soldiers.

Our recruiters are focused and engaged daily to meet this

tough mission. They deserve some positive feedback and so I wanted to share with you that our recruiters are working hard to replenish our ranks with the next generation of patriots.

Where I need your help as NCOs and especially all the senior NCOs is to identify those young men and women who have the potential to make great recruiters. I ask you to first look at our returning veterans. They have the kind of experience we need on the streets right now.

Those young NCOs with combat experience, many of whom are just a year or two older than their potential recruits, can sit in that person's home and speak candidly to their parents about Army life. They can serve as an example and role model of the professional, mature, young man or woman their son or daughter can become.

I encourage those of you who are not in the business of recruiting and retention to tell your good stories every chance you can. The American people deserve to know the great things you are doing. Don't pass up an opportunity to highlight the good news stories that aren't shown on the 6 o'clock news. Tell your families; tell your friends; and tell your local newspaper with a hometown news release.

I ask leaders of departing Soldiers to encourage their subordinate leaders to focus on the departing Soldiers' contributions to the Army. Remind your subordinate leaders that those departing Soldiers will serve as ambassadors and promote their positive experience in the Army to the American public. We do not want to give them an unfavorable experience as they leave the service. Soldiers should be celebrated, honored and recognized at a formal ceremony, receive their award for service, and paid tribute for their desire to serve their Nation.

Ask your subordinate leaders to always suggest Reserve or Guard service in their final counseling sessions with their departing Soldiers. Have them bring in a Guard or Reserve recruiter if necessary to help them understand the benefits of being a Citizen Soldier.

Finally, we are still in the business of keeping our best and brightest. More than anything we must keep talking retention and the benefits of continued service. We are working hard to provide the quality of life for Soldiers and their families. Although a lot of media focus is on our recruiting, the reality is our retention efforts are sky-rocketing. All our components are over 100 percent of their quotas and I'm proud to say the National Guard has the highest retention rates in its long and proud history. It is an incredibly good story you unfortunately won't hear about on the 6 o'clock news. I ask you to pass the word of our retention success to Soldiers and peers. We must tell our own good news stories if the media won't help us.

In closing, I want to personally thank our recruiters and retention NCOs. It is your hard work and personal commitment that directly impacts our stability. I invite all NCOs to shake the hand of the next retention NCO or recruiter you see and thank them for all of their hard work. And for our brave young men and women who have served our country honorably and are looking at getting out of the service to move on to civilian careers, I want to thank you as well for your service to our nation. You are all heroes and will always be Soldiers.

HOOAH!

Kenneth O. Preston

Sergeant Major of the Army

Retaining Soldiers in tough times

Editor's Note: We received this article and thought it was very timely and relevant, therefore we are deferring this space to Sgt. Maj. William Sharpsteen.

"I know [patriotism] exists, and I know it has done much in the present contest. But a great and lasting war can never be supported on this principle alone. It must be aided by a prospect of interest, or some reward.

As to pay, Sir, I beg leave to assure the Congress that as no pecuniary consideration could have tempted me to accept this arduous employment at the expense of my domestic ease and happiness, I do not wish to make any profit from it."

(On his appointment as Commander-in-Chief.)

- George Washington

As the above quote illustrates, persuading our great patriots to continue serving our country has been an important focus since the Army's inception in 1775. In all the history since then, the responsibility for preserving America's freedom and protecting our interests around the world has rested, for the most part, upon those who serve in the military forces of our great nation.

"Our Soldiers are our strength" – these words have echoed from the mouths of leaders for decades. But these are tough times: current conflicts and stresses on our force make retaining Soldiers, maintaining that vital strength, a notable challenge.

Now more than ever, we need Soldiers in every component – active, Reserve and National Guard – to enlist and reenlist. Today, again, we are an Army at war, though in our hearts we always hope tomorrow will bring prevalent and lasting peace.

Until we can be sure our interests, citizens and borders are secure, the Army's strength levels must remain steady, and in some instances increased. The Army works assiduously to keep troop strength robust: recruiters roam the United States, searching for citizens willing to serve. Their efforts are aimed at building our future force, by bringing into the Army youthful Soldiers with new ideas. At the other end of the force continuum, Army career counselors work diligently with commanders and leaders at all levels to retain Soldiers and their families within their units and on active duty.

America's Army has evolved significantly since its beginning, but certain constants remain. Today, as in years past, monetary gain is certainly not the main reason why citizens consider careers with the military. But a Soldier's lot has improved considerably: in proof, read Washington's first quote above. Through eight years of leading the Army through the hard-fought war to establish independence, Washington besieged Congress repeatedly, and often unsuccessfully, to provide pay and basic equipment for Soldiers.

Washington himself never accepted pay for those eight years, and many of his Soldiers likewise got little or no compensation for their service. Today a Soldier can rely on building a career that will provide a comfortable and honest, as well as honorable, living. Still, a sense of patriotism and the opportunity to belong to something successful, with a purpose beyond any personal goals, is in many cases what drives us to serve.

The modern Army offers many incentives to Soldiers willing to make a sustained commitment. At reenlistment, Soldiers may

receive bonuses, assignment choices, or for some, a chance to retrain for a new military occupation. There are other, more long-term advantages as well: tax incentives, medical care, and a retirement pension at the close of a successful career.

Beyond these incentives, however, is another very simple but profound consideration.

Many Soldiers, and many of the best Soldiers, simply bask in the satisfaction that comes from meeting the personal challenges of training hard, aiding others in need, fighting for the common good and protecting our nation. Along with those challenges come the benefits of comradeship, travel to foreign countries, and the chance to do extraordinary things they'd never experience outside of the military.

Washington's Soldiers laid the foundation for the Army we know today, and in his concern for them, he set the standard for Army leaders. At every level of the Army, by the sheer virtue of their leadership, our officers and noncommissioned officers have a tremendous influence on Soldier decisions to remain on active duty.

A passing pat on the back by a platoon leader for a job well done can motivate a Soldier and fulfill a sometimes crucial need to feel appreciated. Train Soldiers hard to be experts in their occupations, and they will know their leaders understand the importance of what they do for the team.

Give any Soldier, and his or her family, as much predictability as possible — allow them to plan for their free time and their futures — and your investment as a leader will pay great dividends not only at reenlistment time, but in the form of a strong, confident, well-trained force. In the final analysis, caring leadership leads to successful careers for Soldiers.

In my tenure with the U.S. Army Europe, I have seen sustained success in retaining great Soldiers and their families. Obviously, there are many benefits for Soldiers assigned to overseas commands, but the leaders of USAREUR provide much more. There is a strong sense of unity among the troops, and they have a confidence in their families' well-being that can only come from strong, caring leadership. As professional Soldiers, we in USAREUR know the mission comes first, but our personal and family needs hold high importance in the overall mix when missions are considered.

If I could make one recommendation designed to strengthen and sustain our Army, it would be directed to the leaders of our great Soldiers. I would suggest that leaders at all levels take the time to talk to Soldiers about their careers, families, promotion potential, place within the unit, and personal impact on the Army.

I would call upon leaders to give Soldiers that pat on the back, the "always important reinforcement." I would ask Soldiers, who are serving honorably, to reenlist and stay with our team.

Leaders: you will never know how you might influence the strength of our active-duty and Reserve Army, and our Army National Guard, unless you ask. Ask your Soldiers to stay with the team. Tomorrow's Army depends upon the role we take in retaining Soldiers today.

*Sgt. Maj. William Sharpsteen
U.S. Army, Europe*

Veterans benefit from training agreement

By Samantha L. Quigley
American Forces Press Service

Veterans Affairs Department and Walter Reed Army Medical Center leaders took a step June 6 toward helping severely injured servicemembers transition to civilian jobs.

VA Secretary R. James Nicholson and Walter Reed commander, Army Maj. Gen. Kenneth L. Farmer Jr., signed a memorandum of understanding at the Army medical center for the VA to offer vocational training and temporary jobs at its Washington headquarters.

“What we’re doing I think is making good on President Lincoln’s promise to care for them who have borne the battle and for their widow and for their orphan,” Nicholson said. “It’s only natural then, it seems to me, that the VA and Walter Reed should ink a partnership like VET IT, which taps into this inexhaustible supply of our young servicemembers’ optimism and ‘can-doism’ that they’re imbued with.”

This agreement, Farmer said, establishes a partnership between VA’s office of information technology and Walter Reed’s education services division.

Servicemembers recovering at WRAMC from traumatic injuries will receive the training and jobs. Farmer said more than 800 veterans on medical hold at the center could benefit from this program.

“From the outset, we have taken the



Veterans Affairs Secretary R. James Nicholson, left, and Army Maj. Gen. Kenneth L. Farmer Jr., Walter Reed Army Medical Center commander, sign a memorandum of understanding at Walter Reed on June 6. The agreement gives severely wounded servicemembers such as, from left, Matthew Braiotta, Eric Franklin and Tristan Wyatt, the opportunity to receive training through the VA while they are recuperating.

approach that there is much more to care and caring of these Soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines than the extraordinary clinical care (at WRAMC),” Farmer said. “As amazing and cutting edge as that care is and as far as that care goes in restoring their health and their physical functions, there is more to restoring lives.”

The VET IT program already has 35 alumni, 15 of which currently have full-time jobs with the VA.

“Our aim was to assist these young disabled servicemembers with training

with the hopes of moving them into new careers in the Department of Veterans Affairs to take the reins as we begin to retire,” Jennifer Duncan, a management director in VA’s office of information technology said.

VET IT has worked so well that there are plans to expand it. Run by volunteers, the program has been so successful because it is personalized for each veteran.

Matthew Braiotta, a pioneer in the VET IT program and a recent VA hire, is grateful for the opportunities. He was an Army scout with the 3rd

Armored Cavalry Regiment and had planned to make the Army a career, when he was hit with an roadside bomb in Iraq. Braiotta said that the program has kept him from ending up, as he put it, dogging it out in college or in a dead-end job.

“I didn’t know what was going on in my life,” he said. “[Without VET IT] I’d probably be at home not getting very far very fast, and that’s not the Army way.”

For more information visit the VA Web site at <http://www.va.gov/>.

How to get the *NCO Journal*

Individual subscriptions to the *NCO Journal* are available through the Government Printing Office at the annual cost of \$16 for domestic and Army Post Office (APO) addresses or \$22.40 for delivery to foreign addresses. The subscription price covers four issues annually. The subscription program is open to all individuals and non-government organizations. Individual copies are available for \$5 domestic or \$7 foreign.

To order online, visit the GPO Bookstore at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov>

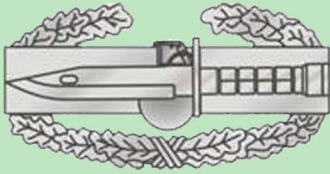
and type in “*NCO Journal*” at the search field. After the search completes, click on the shopping cart next to the title and follow the instructions provided.

The GPO also accepts orders by calling toll-free at 1-866-512-1800.

Any unit with a publications account can update their 12 series to request the *NCO Journal* using the same procedure they use to request all other publications. They can update their 12 series at the <http://www.usapa.army.mil> Web site. The IDN for the *NCO Journal* is 050041.



Combat Action Badge design approved



The Army announced May 27 the design for the Combat Action Badge (CAB). The design was approved by Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, Army Chief of Staff.

The CAB, featuring both a bayonet and grenade, may be awarded to any Soldier performing assigned duties in an area where hostile fire pay or imminent danger pay is authorized, who is personally present and actively engaging or being engaged by the enemy, and performing satisfactorily in accordance with the prescribed rules of engagement. The award is not limited by one's branch or military occupational specialty.

The CAB will go into immediate production and should be available late this summer or early fall through unit supply and military clothing sales stores.

For more information, contact Maj. Elizabeth Robbins, Army Public Affairs, at (703) 697-5343, elizabeth.robbs@hqda.army.mil or Lt. Col. Pamela Hart, at (703) 693-5662, pamela.hart@hqda.army.mil.

Drill sergeants can compete for trophy at next All-Army

Lt. Col. David J. Liwanag, the commander of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit, announced that there will be a new trophy awarded at the 2006 All-Army Small Arms Championships to be conducted in March.

The High Drill Sergeant Trophy will be awarded to the top-scoring drill sergeant (active or Reserve component noncommissioned officer on drill sergeant status) at the All-Army Championships, on the condition that at least 12 drill sergeants compete.

The trophy will be awarded to the drill sergeant with the highest cumulative aggregate total of individual M-16 rifle and M-9 pistol scores fired in the All-Army matches. M-16s are fired at distances from 25 to 500 yards and the M-9 pistol is shot from 10 to 25 yards. Shooters fire all matches wearing helmet and load-bearing equipment or vest.

For more information on the All-Army Small Arms Championships visit the USAMU Web site at www.usamu.com.



Army enlistment process now online

Young men and women interested in joining the Army can now begin the application process without setting foot in a recruiting station.

The U.S. Army Recruiting Command implemented the Army Career Explorer, an online tool that allows applicants who are hesitant about visiting a recruiter in person to begin the process of becoming a Soldier from their homes.

Army Career Explorer is the logical next step in Army Recruiting's use of the Internet. Army Recruiting Command originally developed www.goarmy.com as an information Web site, and over the years has expanded its informational offerings to include video segments and live online chat with cyber recruiters. Army Career Explorer takes the next step, allowing a prospect to not only gather information, but also to begin the actual process of enlisting.



The Army Career Explorer helps applicants become more familiar with the Army and the jobs for which they may qualify. They can watch job videos and also ask questions about the Army and the enlistment process. Applicants create an account to access the tool on the Army's goarmy.com Web site.

In Army Career Explorer, applicants begin filling out their enlistment paperwork. They can take as much time as necessary and will be able to enter and exit the program as often as desired before submitting information.

If an applicant is having problems completing the information at any time during the process, he or she can call their local recruiter to get help.

To find out more about the Army Career Explorer or to create an account, go to www.goarmy.com and click on "Overview."

Warrant officers needed

The United States Army is looking for highly motivated Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and Airmen to fill its warrant officer ranks. Positions are open in all 41 active duty warrant officer specialties, and the following are experiencing critical shortages: Military Intelligence, Special Forces, Food Service, Criminal Investigation, and Airdrop Systems Technicians. Applicants with less than 12 years active federal service (AFS) are encouraged to apply. For more information visit: www.usarec.army.mil/warrant.



'Statues of Servicemen' immortalizes fallen troops

By Steven Donald Smith
American Forces Press Service

A nationwide project is under way to pay lasting tribute to fallen servicemembers in their hometowns.

The "Statues of Servicemen" campaign is an effort to immortalize every American servicemember killed in the war on terrorism by creating a bronze statue of their likeness.

The statues will be placed in the hometowns of the fallen servicemembers.

"These statues will be placed in city and town halls and government buildings throughout the United States to memorialize the brave men and women who have given their lives in the war on terror," said Sam Patterson, national SOS project director.

The organization began in March 2004 as "Survivors of Servicemen," with the goal of bringing attention to the trauma inflicted on the families of those killed, and to highlight the financial distress faced by many military families.

The group began selling "Wear



The first bust in the "Statues of Servicemen" campaign, that of Marine Pfc. Daniel McClenney, was unveiled in Shelbyville, Tenn., on April 22.

Camo" wristbands to raise money for families who lost loved ones. The wristbands were so successful that they decided to use the proceeds to fund the statue campaign, Patterson said.

The first statue was unveiled in

Shelbyville, Tenn., on April 22 with the bust of Marine Corps Pfc. Daniel McClenney. He was killed on June 24, 2004, when his unit was ambushed while patrolling Afghanistan's mountainous Konar province.

The ceremony took place at the Shelbyville Court House, where the Nashville Marine Corps Reserve unit provided a 21-gun salute, and McClenney was posthumously awarded the Silver Star.

The second statue, depicting Marine Capt. Brent Morel, was unveiled in Memphis, Tenn., on May 21.

Morel was killed in Iraq on April 7, 2004, when insurgents ambushed his platoon while they escorted a convoy in the Anbar province. He was awarded the Navy Cross and is nominated for the Medal of Honor.

SOS is working with parents and spouses around the country to memorialize more troops.

For more information on Statues of Servicemen visit the SOS Web site at <http://www.sosfund.us/>.

Soldiers graduate from first MOS course offered in a combat zone since World War II

By Maj. Eric Bloom

Soldiers from the 76th Infantry Brigade, Indiana National Guard, assigned to Coalition Joint Task Force Phoenix, Kabul, Afghanistan, were honored May 28 during a graduation ceremony held for an infantry military occupation skill qualification course.

It is only the second time in history an infantry MOSQ course has been held in a combat zone, the first being in World War II. Task Force Phoenix spearheaded the qualification course during its



Photo by Maj. Eric Bloom

Sgt. Joe McFarren receives a knife from Brig. Gen. Richard Moorhead, commander of Task Force Phoenix, during the Infantry MOS qualification course graduation ceremony at Camp Phoenix, May 28.

deployment to train the Afghan National Army.

Sgt. Joe McFarren, of Headquarters Company, 76th Infantry Brigade, was named the course's Honor Graduate and Spc. Matt Estheiner received the Commandant's Award for academic success during the course.

The two-week course was conducted at Camp Phoenix near Kabul and at the Afghan National Army's Kabul Military Training Center. The course was offered to Soldiers who already held a primary MOS. These Soldiers are now qualified for 11B (Infantry) as a secondary MOS.

While 46 Soldiers began the course, only 35 graduated after two demanding weeks of honing their infantry skills.

The Soldiers also performed squad live-fire and military operations in urban terrain training, adding more realism to their training.

Anytime the Soldiers were in the field, they were aware that a real enemy threat was nearby and live land mines were in the area.

The qualified 11B instructors assured that training and doctrine standards were maintained throughout the course.

The main difference about this course is that the stress factor was real; the instructors conducted the course among real Afghan locals and within an actual combat zone.

Army awards MPs for turning table on ambush

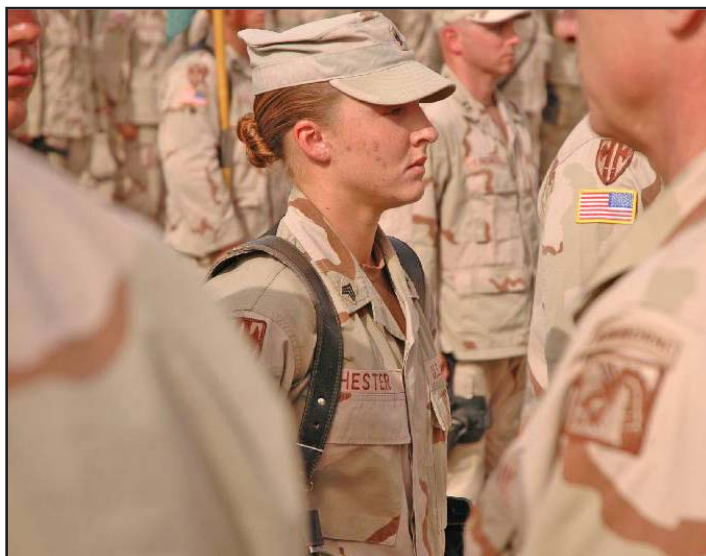


Photo by Spc. Jeremy D. Crisp

Sgt. Leigh Ann Hester, vehicle commander, 617th Military Police Company, Richmond, Ky., stands at the position of attention before receiving the Silver Star at an awards ceremony at Camp Liberty, Iraq, June 16. Hester is the first female Soldier serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom to receive the Silver Star.

CAMPLIBERTY, Iraq (Army News Service, June 16, 2005) – The first female Soldier since World War II was awarded a Silver Star in Iraq June 16, and seven other members of her National Guard military police company received citations for valor after helping turn the tide of a convoy ambush earlier this spring.

Sgt. Leigh Ann Hester received the Silver Star, the Army's third highest award for valor, in a morning ceremony at Camp Liberty, Iraq. Staff Sgt. Timothy Nein and Spc. Jason Mike also received Silver Stars at the ceremony.

Three other members of the same squad received a Bronze Star with valor device: Spc. Casey Cooper, Spc. William Haynes II, and Spc. Ashley Pullen. Sgt. Dustin Morris and Spc. Jesse Ordunez received an Army Commendation Medal with valor device. All are members of the Kentucky National Guard's 617th Military Police Company.

The Soldiers thwarted an insurgent attack against a coalition convoy March 20. The convoy of 26 supply vehicles was ambushed by about 40 insurgents southeast of Baghdad.

The 45-minute firefight left 27 insurgents dead, six wounded, and one captured. Three of the 617th Soldiers were wounded.

The MPs also confiscated a sizable weapons cache, including 22 AK-47 machine guns, 13 RPK rifles, six rocket-propelled grenade launchers, 16 RPG rockets, and about 40 hand grenades.

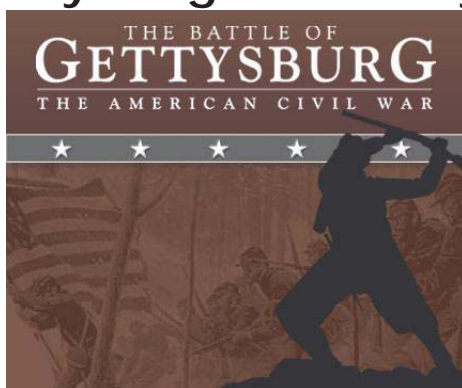
Army marks Gettysburg anniversary with Web site

In an effort to link its past to the present, the Army launched a new historical Web site, the Battle of Gettysburg, in time for Independence Day. The Battle of Gettysburg, which took place 142 years ago July 1-3, was one of America's bloodiest battles. It defined the United States as a nation and the character of its people, said Chuck Jenks, program manager and senior communications strategist.

"We use historical content to articulate Army values and traditions to the global audience," he said. "Soldiers of yesterday are exactly like Soldiers today – they share Army values, a warrior ethos and call to duty. Soldiers understand what it means to be called Soldier and it's no different today than it was in 1863."

One of the goals of the new site is to communicate how Americans during the Civil War era also heeded the call to duty. It's another vehicle that tells the Army's story and reflects the timeless values of Soldiers, Jenks said.

The Battle of Gettysburg Web site, located on the Army's homepage,



www.army.mil/gettysburg, offers users a savvy perspective of the Civil War featuring pop-up icons, narration sound bytes, an animated battlescape, historical

video footage, information on weaponry and statistics, an epilogue and profiles of men and women who served during the war. Web designers opted for a different approach, but still remained true to the historical aspects of the Civil War.

To make the site unique, the animated battlescape allows users to launch the battle, which broke out July 1 at 6 a.m. Historical footage also shows former president Franklin D. Roosevelt at the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.

That all Americans share a call to duty is threaded into the theme of the Gettysburg Web site.

Correction

In our April 2005 issue of the NCO Journal we mistakenly printed the wrong home state for one of the Honor Roll Soldiers. The description for 1st Lt. Jason Timmerman should have read that he hails from Tracy, Minnesota, and not Michigan as stated. We thank everyone who brought this to our attention.

Also in the April issue, on Page 31, Letters to the Editor, "An affirmative philosophy," under the second paragraph the sentence "My Sergeant doesn't follow the rule, and he is not loyal... why should I?" The word "It" should be replaced with "I."

'Premier trainers' compete for Army title

By Patrick Buffett
Fort Monroe Public Affairs Office

Imagine a world in which your ability to transform raw recruits into combat-capable Soldiers could mean the difference between life and death on the battlefield.

The eyes of every Army leader are, figuratively, upon you. They're counting on you to deliver a Soldier who fully understands the privilege of defending a nation and living the seven Army values – loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage.

When others clock out at 5 p.m., you're still on the trail. Your alarm clock is permanently set at "o-dark-thirty." And a good amount of the limited free time you're allotted is taken up by preparations for the next day's training and squaring away uniforms.

That "world" was in the spotlight June 20 through 24 as 13 active duty and six Reserve drill sergeants from across the nation competed for the title of 2005 U.S.

Right, Sgt. 1st Class Herbert Randall, representing Fort Lee, Va., demonstrates his knowledge of the M-249 Squad Assault Weapon during the 2005 U.S. Army Drill Sergeant of the Year competition hosted by Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Monroe, Va.

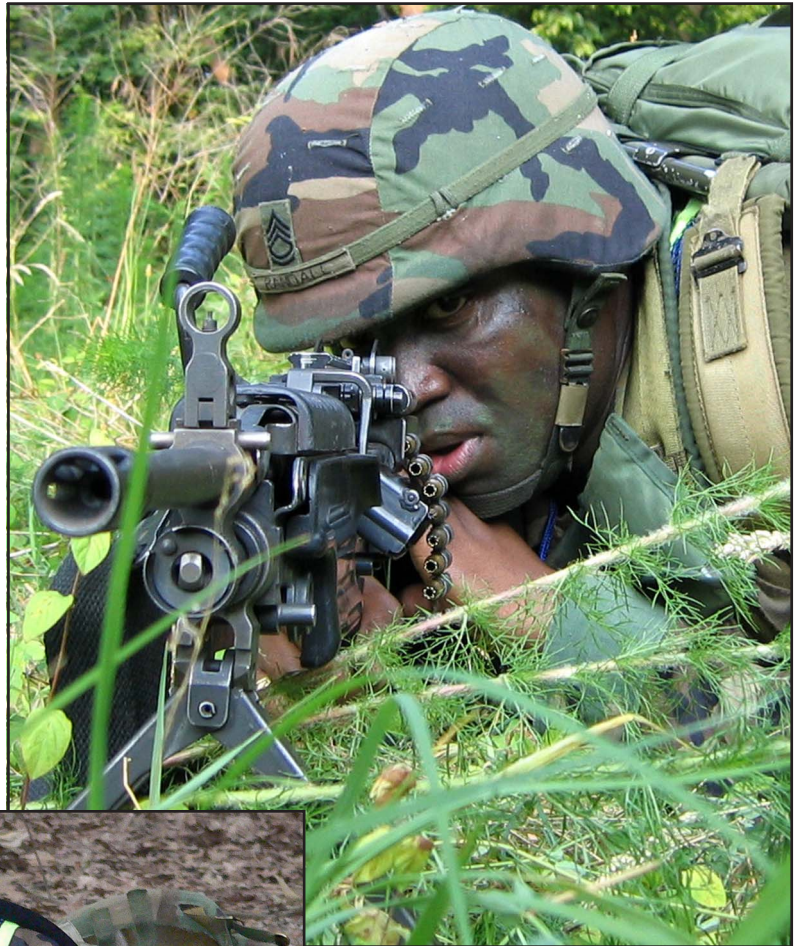


Photo by Staff Sgt. Angela McKenzie



Photo by Romelin Adams

Sgt. 1st Class Nicolette Clara, representing Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., plots points on a map during the land navigation portion of the 2005 U.S. Army Drill Sergeant of the Year competition.

Army Drill Sergeant of the Year. The event culminated with a ceremony at Continental Park, Fort Monroe, in which Staff Sgt. Reynolds Jolly, III, from Fort Sill, Okla., and Sgt. 1st Class Spencer Swearingen, Jr., from the 100th Division, were awarded the title and presented a the Meritorious Service Medal and a gold watch.

"While this is a competition in which we look for the best of the best, it also represents the Army's respect for the drill sergeant," said Command Sgt. Maj. John D. Sparks, lead NCO for Training and Doctrine Command which hosts the event each year.

"Consider for a moment the position



Photo by Patrick Buffett

Sgt. 1st Class Spencer Swearingen
100th Division

2005 U.S. Army Drill Sergeant of the Year for the Reserve Component



Photo by Patrick Buffett

Staff Sgt. Reynolds Jolly, III
Fort Sill, Okla.

2005 U.S. Army Drill Sergeant of the Year for the active duty

these men and women are in,” the sergeant major continued. “The recruits they’re training today may well find themselves in Iraq, or some other forward-deployed area, within weeks of completion of their initial-entry training. That’s a reality these NCOs take very seriously. In fact, many of them (approximately 85 percent) have been deployed, and they’re using every resource, to include first-hand experience, to ensure their recruits are properly trained.”

New events were added to the 2005 contest to reflect this “warrior mentality.” A land navigation course, road march and weapons qualification range supplemented the standards of previous years – the Army Physical Fitness Test, hands-on tasks and the appearance before a board of sergeants major representing several TRADOC training centers and schools.

“The warrior tasks added a whole new dimension to the competition,” said Sgt. 1st Class Jason W. Maynard, the 2004 active-duty DSOY. He and Sgt. 1st Class Jennifer R. Fowler, last year’s title holder for the Reserve component, choreographed the many components of this year’s contest and spent



Photo by Patrick Buffett

After three days of intense competition, the Drill Sergeant of the Year competitors share their warrior spirit with Fort Monroe, Va., during an early morning run. The training session was led by Command Sgt. Maj. John D. Sparks, TRADOC command sergeant major, pictured front and center.

the past week pointing candidates in the right direction and constantly monitoring safety.

“Why shouldn’t we expect these candidates to demonstrate the same warrior skills they teach on a regular basis?” Maynard posed. “We incorporated events that highlight all of the drill sergeant’s strongest attributes – innovation, attention to detail, the ability to perform under pressure, and the desire to lead and train.”

The new tasks also offered more opportunities to advance in the competition, Fowler noted. In previous years, a whole lot was riding on the opening APFT event where a maximum score, according to Army standards, was only considered “average” among competitors. Low scorers had to be nearly perfect in the three remaining events to remain in the running for the title.

“When I competed last year, it was fairly easy to size up the competition almost on the first day. But that wasn’t the case over the past week,” Fowler said. “There were a lot more events to emphasize strengths and weaknesses, and that aspect made it far more psychological.”

Maynard and Fowler also highlighted one of the surprise tasks they wove into this year’s competition. Shortly after lunch on Monday, candidates took turns filing into a fitness center classroom where they were given ten minutes to correctly place an assortment of ribbons, badges, nametags and insignia on a male and female Class A uniform jacket. Incorrect measurements of even a fraction of an inch resulted in a point deduction.

“We used NCO uniforms with a good assortment of ribbons and badges, so it was pretty tough,” commented Sgt. 1st Class Bradley Scott, the event grader from U.S. Army Accessions

Command. Other installation NCOs who served as graders during the competition included Sgt. 1st Class Mark Mounce, Sgt. 1st Class Michael Menapace, Sgt. 1st Class Mitzie Walters, Sgt. 1st Class Laura Reyes and Sgt. 1st Class George Shell. Initial-entry Soldiers from Fort Eustis, Va., also took part in the event.

Each DSOY candidate was asked to demonstrate their ability to instruct an Army fitness exercise and in-ranks inspections with and without weapons during the indoor, hands-on portion of the competition. The reservists were the first to appear before the sergeants’ major board. Their questions differed from the active-duty board, also conducted earlier in the week. General topics for both sessions included current events, wear and appearance of the Army uniform, and regulations associated with Army training. Each appearance lasted up to 40 minutes.

The competition moved to Fort Eustis on June 22. DSOY candidates used a map and compass to locate four points in a heavily wooded training area. That was followed by the road march and an additional set of surprise tasks – load, fire and clear an M-249 SAW; apply a tourniquet and call for a medical evacuation; and teach a class on proper building clearing procedures. The final event was the weapons range where participants qualified on the M-16 rifle. The standard “pop-up” range presented targets 50 to 200 meters away. The drill sergeants fired from kneeling and standing positions.

As predicted by the TRADOC command sergeant major prior to the start of the competition, only a few points separated the 2005 DSOY winners from the rest of the pack. “It’s a close race every year. Drill sergeants are highly competitive by nature. They play to win,” Sparks said.



But they are also creatures of respect, honor and integrity. They may return home doubting some aspect of their performance, but “they’ll look you in the eye and honestly tell you it was a good competition,” Sparks said.

“Everyone uses the expression ‘they’re all winners’ during this type of event, but this is a case where they truly are winners,” the sergeant major added. “Each candidate got to this level because of his or her accomplishments within their training battalion, brigade, regiment and so forth. They are the best of the best.”

They have also played an important role in an annual event that brings well-deserved recognition to the drill sergeant corps. “This puts a face on our profession,” Fowler said. “It downplays the Hollywood image of what we do. And it hopefully encourages young NCOs to sign up for drill sergeant duty.”

Both Fowler and Maynard offered the same words of advice to candidates and the overall competition winners. “First off, communicate,” said Maynard, who will be heading for Fort Carson, Colo., and a possible deployment to Iraq, once he wraps

up his current duties. The new active Army DSOY winner will eventually take his place at Monroe and become the TRADOC advisor on drill sergeant issues.

“You may have an idea or training method that works at Fort Jackson (S.C.) or Fort Sill (Okla.) that could actually benefit the whole Army,” Maynard continued. “And the NCO who sits in this chair can’t do his or her job effectively without input.

“Secondly, tell it like it is,” he added. “Commanders need our honesty. Speak up if it’s broken.”

“Remember also that it’s always about the people, not the image,” said Fowler, who is on her way to nursing school at Lenoire Rhyne College in Hickory, N.C. “Think of the private who recently earned a Purple Heart just six weeks out of [training]. Never speak in terms of ‘if we deploy,’ but ‘when we deploy.’”

“Keep in mind that what we truly emphasized here is the impact of the drill sergeant,” Fowler said. “We have an enormous responsibility as the Army’s first leaders, and it’s our job to maintain the positive image of our profession.”

Below, Sgt. 1st Class Jennifer Fowler, far left, and Sgt. 1st Class Jason W. Maynard, far right, the 2004 U.S. Army Drill Sergeants of the Year for the Reserve and active-duty components, respectively, pose with participants of the 2005 Army DSOY competition. Individuals pictured and organizations they represent are as follows: (back row, from left to right) Sgt. 1st Class Lloyd Mason, Fort Sam Houston, Texas; Staff Sgt. Detrick Smiley, Fort Rucker, Ala.; Staff Sgt. Orlando Gonzalez, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.; Staff Sgt. Todd Drickel, 98th Division (USAR); Sgt. 1st Class Herbert Randall, Fort Lee, Va.; Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Snyder, Fort Eustis, Va.; Staff Sgt. Clint Mitchell, Fort Jackson, S.C.; Sgt. 1st Class Spencer Swearingen, Jr., 100th Division (USAR); Staff Sgt. John Olson, 95th Division (USAR); (front row, left to right) Staff Sgt. Reynolds Jolly, III, Fort Sill, Okla.; Staff Sgt. Roger Matherson, Fort Benning, Ga.; Sgt. 1st Class Nicolette Clara, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; Staff Sgt. Daniel Mendez, Jr., Fort Knox, Ky.; Sgt. 1st Class Benjamin Hartwig, Fort Bliss, Texas; Sgt. 1st Class Cedric Davis, 100th Division (USAR); and Staff Sgt. Eugene Yockey, 104th Division (USAR).



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Rodney White, U.S. Army Accessions Command, Fort Monroe, Va.

Propaganda

He says, she says, they say, we say — who do you believe?

By Staff Sgt. Krishna M. Gamble

Hanoi Hannah tells American prisoners of war that “nothing is more confused than to be ordered into a war to die or to be maimed for life without the faintest idea of what’s going on,” and then plays a rock and roll song that was popular in the late 1960’s. The bewitching voice of this self-proclaimed “fragrance of autumn” can be heard in the background of the A&E movie, *Faith of My Fathers*, based on the five-year imprisonment of U.S. Senator John McCain (R-Ariz.).

This mind game was also used on service-members in 1991 by Baghdad Betty who told Soldiers that Bart Simpson was sleeping with their wives. And it is being used today by insurgent groups in Iraq, Afghanistan and many other nations currently in conflict with U.S. forces to hurt morale, sway public opinion, and recruit and cause dissension between nations.

Insurgent news reports describe U.S. troops as incompetent and falsely reports that U.S. precision weapons technology causes frequent heavy collateral damage, bombing of schools, homes and hospitals with heavy loss of life. Iraqi insurgents distribute leaflets, release videos, and broadcast messages on radio and television portraying U.S. troops as friends of Zionists in Israel, colonial occupiers wanting to steal Iraq’s oil and those who commit atrocities and war crimes against the noble mujahedin.

“In Iraq, I saw one flyer being distributed by the Black Flag element vowing to kill U.S. Soldiers unless we surrendered when we saw their flag,” said one Soldier who spoke on the condition of anonymity. This Soldier deployed to Iraq with the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C., from 2003-2004. “It didn’t work. It just let us know where they were; so they stopped flying their flag.”

But Soldiers today face a machine that is more sophisticated – the Internet. Insurgent messages stream in from pop-ups, web sites, and chat rooms encouraging those who want to

leave war zones to drop their weapons and seek refuge with them. Pleas from those identifying themselves as children pray on the emotions of Soldiers and Internet surfers.

“A Soldier has to do a little research on his own,” said Staff Sgt. Daniel McDonald, team sergeant, 443rd Civil Affairs Battalion, Warwick, R.I., who recently returned from Iraq. “You have to read the headlines and compare the notes, so to speak. You compare it with what you know is truth, because you’re living and breathing it, against what you see and read.”



Snapshot of Albarash.net

Insurgent activities use Web sites such as Albarash.net above to garner support, sympathy and membership in their organizations.

Propaganda, defined by the Institute for Propaganda Analysis of New York, means deliberately designing messages so that people will be influenced to think or act in predetermined ways. Web site propaganda is known as “passive propaganda.” Dr. Marc Sageman of the University of Pennsylvania said in a *Jane’s Intelligence Review* article that passive propaganda is most often used by groups that fall under the “Global Salafist Jihad.” It is most closely related to the

root causes of Islamic violence.

Goals of passive propaganda are to pit Muslims against non-Muslims, show globalization of Muslim suffering and demonstrate alienation from Muslim regimes. Web site propaganda solutions are to reestablish rule of the Khalifa in order to prepare for future consolidation of the Islamic state, the conquest of non-Muslim lands, and by participating in Jihad in non-Western conflict zones. Specifically, violent Jihad against “all enemies of Islam” as advocated by Al Qaeda.

“We used our Iraqi interpreters to translate a variety of things like local newspapers, graffiti on public buildings or posters displayed at public centers. All these methods are useful to determine the meaning of the information out there and to determine what is worth believing and what isn’t,” McDonald said.

Persuading rather than compelling physically, psychological operations (PSYOPS) rely on logic, fear, desire or other



Photo from Albasrah.net

The message projected by insurgent propaganda is of innocent Iraqis being abused by the “occupation army.” The caption released with this photo on Albasrah.net reads: So if this was your daughter, how would you feel ?

mental factors. The cornerstone of PSYOPS is truth, credibly presented to convince a given audience to cease resistance or take actions favorable to friendly forces (http://www.soc.mil/usacapoc/capoc_default.htm). But what is truth? The American truth is that U.S. forces are there to help the Iraqi people achieve a democratic society. American troops and allied forces bring food, medical aid and other supplies to the country. The Iraqi truth is that U.S. troops are there to steal Iraq’s oil and commit war crimes against the noble mujahedin.

“The Iraqi government runs a propaganda machine involving a high-level of sophistication and also a high-level of cynicism,” said Hamish

Robertson, ABC Radio correspondent in a Feb. 27, 2003 broadcast. “A tragic example was the tactic used during the last Gulf War of co-locating civilians and military targets and then allowing CNN to film the horrific consequences. Other techniques include creating the impression that the Iraqi authorities are co-operating with the UN weapons inspectors and blaming UN sanctions for the widespread suffering among Iraq’s civilian population, especially children. So it’s a fairly safe bet that the Iraqi people are not getting the full story.”

On Friday, April 16, 2003, a videotape showing a uniformed man who identified himself as a missing U.S. Soldier was broadcasted on the Arabic-language television network Al-Jazeera. The videotape showed six men holding rifles and pistols standing behind a Soldier seated on the ground and wearing a U.S. Army uniform, who gives his name as Spc. Keith Maupin. Here is a quote from the videotape:

“He is in good health and being treated based on the tenets of Islamic law for the treatment of Soldiers taken hostage. We will keep him until we trade him for our prisoners in the custody of the U.S. enemy. We want them to know — and the whole world to know — that when we took him in, he came out of his tank holding a white flag and he lay face down on the ground, just like other Soldiers.”

“A Soldier has to do a little research on his own. You have to read the headlines and compare the notes, so to speak. You compare it with what you know is truth, because you’re living and breathing it, against what you see and read.”

Staff Sgt. Daniel McDonald

443rd Civil Affairs Battalion, Warwick, R.I.



This snapshot taken from Al Basrah.net comes from the Abu Ghraib section of the Web site that definitely fueled the tensions of not only the insurgents, but the entire civilized world. The depiction is that of Pfc. Lynn England showing the strong arm of America.

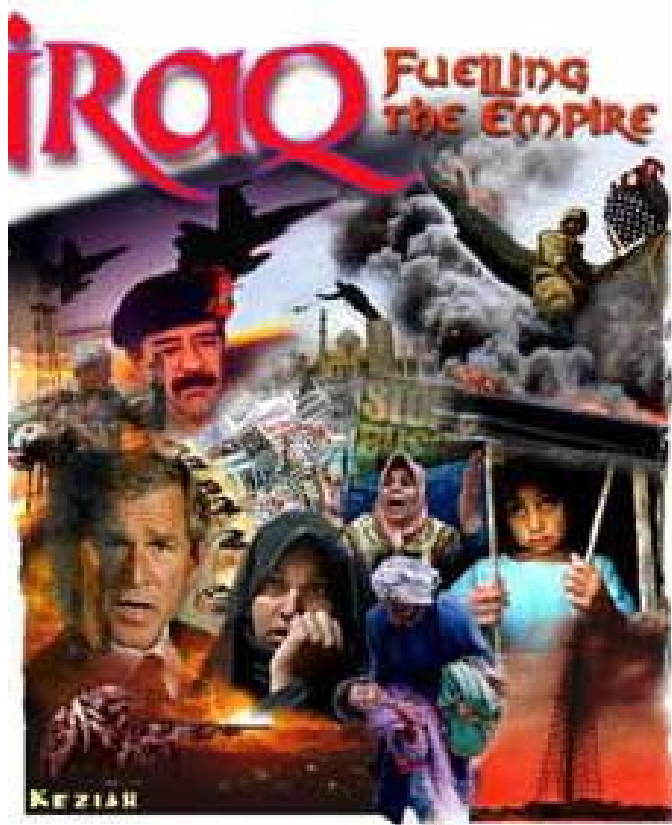
Iraqi militants allegedly killed Maupin after holding him hostage for nearly three months, saying the killing was because the U.S. government did not change its policy in Iraq, as reported by Al-Jazeera Television. Maupin was assigned to the 724th Transportation Company, 88th Regional Readiness Command, an Army Reserve unit out of Bartonville, Ill. He has been promoted twice since he was declared missing in action, first from private first class to specialist, and then to sergeant in absentia. As of April 6, 2005 he is the only U.S. Soldier unaccounted for in Iraq.

“I don’t think the Iraqis believe much of what was told to them. Most can’t read, so they rely on pictures and Al Jazeera broadcasts, which was when most of the large attacks against us occurred,” Soldier X said. “Although some of them don’t have a formal education like we have, the Iraqis are very intelligent.”

And so are the people around the world watching the war unfold. Insurgents have killed 600 Iraqis since the new government was formed and recent reports from the International Institute of Strategic Studies indicate that “it will take up to five years to create anything close to an effective indigenous force able to impose and guarantee order across the country.” These endless reports of insurgent attacks, troops killed in combat, and children suffering has a profound effect on Soldiers, families, civilians, government officials and the enemy.

“Television is probably the most effective technique being used to whip up passions and keep recalcitrant citizens in line, or otherwise promote nationalistic ideas,” said Leonard Sussman, a senior scholar in international communications at Freedom House, New York, in a recent *U.S. News and World Report* article.

“My message to my Soldiers is that we’re here, we’re going to accomplish the mission, and we’re going to show dignity and respect to the Iraqi people,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Samuel Rhodes, Sr., Task Force 2nd Squadron, 11th



Albarash.net

Fliers, leaflets, posters, and magazine covers such as the one pictured above are distributed via the Internet on sites such as www.ramadhan.org; www.khilafah.dk/explore/explore.html; www.khilafah.com.pk; www-personal.umich.edu/~luqman; and www.khilafah.com/home. Several of these Internet sites have been closed or renamed. Right, blogging, a new Internet craze for servicemembers and their families, also serves as another means of access for insurgents to target potential supporters.

Armored Cavalry Regiment, Kalsu, Iraq. “I think that Iraqis are going to be very successful in the future.”

The U.S. State Department launched a series of multimillion-dollar programs designed to improve America’s image and win the hearts and minds of the Arab and Muslim world, but troubling questions have emerged over whether an elaborate marketing campaign can be effective in a region where mistrust of the United States is nearly universal. Steven Kull, director of the Center on Policy Attitudes, said that when Americans look at events in the Middle East they do not have a clear and simple response.

“The extent of conflict and instability they see bewilders them, and they do not see a side they identify with,” Kull said.

“I’ve been out and about in Iraq for the last 24 months and I have not had a confrontation where there are Iraqis who don’t like us being there,” Rhodes said. “They were very receptive, open-minded and most of them speak English.”

So, how can one recognize propaganda? It could be considered as propaganda if any information, ideas, doctrines or special appeals are used to influence the opinions, emotions, attitudes or behavior of a specific group. It will call for a person to take some sort of action or draw a conclusion based on half-truths. Propaganda is most often associated with negative campaigns used to rally support or sympathy.

Insurgent groups are trying to portray U.S. troops as evil, uncaring about Iraqis and unable to provide a safe, stable environment for Iraqi citizens. They claim that the United States is misleading the public about its goal in Iraq. Insurgents use the Internet to exploit bad public relations for the U.S., i.e. prisons at Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo Bay, in hopes of gaining Muslim support to defeat the “infidels.”

It is said that Germany lost World War I because of propaganda. It collapsed spiritually. Adolf Hitler wrote in *Mein Kampf*, “The more modest its intellectual ballast, the more exclusively it takes into consideration the emotions of the masses, the more effective [propaganda] will be.”

Iraqi Web logs

- Baghdad Burning
- Hammorabi
- Iraq the model
- A Family in Baghdad
- Iraqi American
- Pictures in Baghdad
- Iraqi letter to America
- Baghdadee
- Dear Raed
- Nabil’s blog
- Iraq and Iraqis
- Raed in the middle
- Baghdad Update
- Baghdad Dweller
- G in Baghdad
- Disgruntled Americans

Arab and Middle East Web logs

- From My Rock
- Mahmood’s Den
- Angry Arab
- Arab Street Files
- Israellycool
- Arab Blog Count
- Big Pharaoh
- Free Arab Forum
- The Religious Police
- Kuwait Unplugged
- Best Arab Blogs

Khilafah

Terrorism

Al Qaeda

By Master Sgt. Sue Harper

Global jihad might reach into Detroit not because of Iraq or Al Qaeda but through Khilafah

Detroit could become an Islamic state governed by the same culture of fear the Taliban fostered when they ruled parts of Afghanistan if jihadist who emulate Al Qaeda had their way.

Farfetched? Yes.

But it is not science fiction according to the definition of "Islamic land" by the Hizb-ut-Tahrir. Hizb-ut-Tahrir is the "media operations" for the jihadists who struggle for a great Islamic-based religious government also known as Khilafah or "Islamic state." Hizb-ut-Tahrir says Khilafah should exist in "Islamic land."

"The Islamic land, by definition, is the territory where the Islamic rules had been implemented, or where most of its people are Muslims," according to a Hizb-ut-Tahrir open letter to Indonesia's president posted on Khilafah.com, <http://www.khilafah.com/home/index.php>.

In the wake of the London bombings, media reported Al Qaeda has recently become a global "enabler" of terrorism on the heels of the Iraq war. But other experts say that Al Qaeda has always been global, but now also serves as an inspiration and an icon to jihadists who want to reinstate a religious government that existed around 600 AD, known as Khilafah, in lands that were once or now have a majority of Muslims.

It's interesting that jihadists want to claim territory that has a Muslim majority since only a small percentage of Muslims are jihadists.

"If we're talking about percentages, maybe the supporters of global jihad are only 1 percent of the Muslim world," says Reuven Paz, the head of the Project for the Research of Islamic Movements in Israel in a article called Iraq, Internet fuel growth of global jihad by Dan Murphy, a The Christian Science Monitor staff writer.

Khilafah appeals to those one percent because of globalization according the book, Jihad vs. McWorld by Benjamin Barber.

Barber says an unchecked global market economy races ahead of a community that could balance it and marginalizes religion and other community values and even the indigenous population, frustrates the Muslim community it seems to displace. Jihadists use the most convenient tools available to promote what they perceive as the counter culture to this movement; globalization. Muslims in these communities use more peaceful methods.

They also try to distance themselves

from the jihadists. This is what the more than one million Muslims who live in Spain did recently, according to The Christian Science Monitor article Spanish Muslims decry Al Qaeda recently March 14, 2005 edition <http://www.csmonitor.com/2005/0314/p06s01-woeu.html> Muslim clerics in Spain issued a Fatwa saying the jihadists aren't even Muslim.

"Since [Osama] bin Laden and his organization defend the legality of terrorism and base that defense in the sacred Koran and the Sunna ... [they] have made themselves apostates,"

See Khilafah, page 18

Khi•la•fah [key-lah-fah]: The state or Caliphate that is governed by the Khalifa is called a **Khilafah**

The Muslim Khalifa is the successor (in a line of successors) to Prophet Muhammad's position as the political, military, and administrative leader of the Muslims. The prophetic role of Muhammad is strictly not included in this definition, as the Qur'an and Hadith clearly state that Muhammad was the last of the prophets. Khilafa is a related Arabic word which, in the context of Islam, is used to denote the government of the Muslim state, of which the Khalifa is the head. A workable analogy of Khalifa and Khilafa is president and presidency or king and monarchy. The Khilafa is a fard kifaya on the ummah Source <http://www.usc.edu/dept/MSA/politics/khalifa.html>.

ENEMIES OF THE STATES

Since the beginning of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom there have been more than 5,000 fatalities as a result of terrorism. It could be said that terrorism is now conventional warfare, one must know the enemy to defeat them this is our attempt to help you know yours.

Research by Arthur A. Aguirre
Layout by Spc. Joseph Edmondson

Iraq



Groups operating in Iraq:

Tanzim Qa'idat **Mission:** Overthrow Iraqi government, establish Islamic state by forcing out U.S.-led coalition. **Number of Attacks:** 108 **Fatalities/Injuries:** 581/1160 **Key Leader:** Abu al-Zarqawi **Related Groups:** Ansar al-Islam, Ansar al-Sunnah, Islamic Army in Iraq, Tawhid and Jihad, al Qaeda

Ansar al-Sunnah **Mission:** Establish an Islamic State **Number of Attacks:** 22 **Fatalities/Injuries:** 332/614 **Related Groups:** Ansar al-Islam, Army of the Followers of Sunni Islam, Islamic Army in Iraq, Tanzim Qa'idat, al Qaeda

Islamic Army in Iraq **Mission:** Drive all U.S. and Coalition forces out of Iraq **Number of Attacks:** 18 **Fatalities/Injuries:** 29/14 **Key Leader:** Ishmael Jubour **Related Groups:** Ansar al-Sunnah, Tanzim Qa'idat

Ansar al-Islam **Mission:** Drive all U.S. and Coalition forces out of Iraq, Islamic State **Number of Attacks:** 3 **Fatalities/Injuries:** 17/20 **Key Leader:** Krekar, Mullah (Imprisoned) **Related Groups:** Ansar al-Sunnah, Tanzim Qa'idat, Tawhid and Jihad, al Qaeda

Tawid and Jihad **Mission:** Dedicated to committing terrorist attacks against the U.S.-led coalition and Iraqi government and security forces **Number of Attacks:** 25 **Fatalities/Injuries:** 195/221 **Key Leader:** Abu al-Zarqawi **Related Groups:** Ansar al-Islam, Tanzim Qa'idat, al Qaeda

Saraya al-Shuhuada **Mission:** Oppose U.S. policies in Iraq **Number of Attacks:** 2 **Fatalities/Injuries:** 19/7

Army of the Followers of Sunni Islam **Mission:** Oppose U.S. and supporters **Number of Attacks:** 1 **Fatalities/Injuries:** 3/0 **Related Groups:** Ansar al-Sunnah

Mujahedin-e-Khalq (MeK) **Mission:** Overthrow Iranian government **Number of Attacks:** 18 **Fatalities/Injuries:** 36/80 **Key Leader:** Maryam and Massoud Rajavi **Related Groups:** National Council of Resistance of Iran, National Liberation Army of Iran



al-Faruq Brigades Mission: Cleanse Baghdad, the City of Peace, of the invaders, by the grace of God **Number of Attacks:** 1 **Fatalities/Injuries:** 7/1 **Key Leader:** Abd al-Maghribi

Afghanistan

Groups operating in Afghanistan:

Taliban Mission: Disrupt efforts in Afghanistan **Number of Attacks:** 118 **Fatalities/Injuries:** 213/205 **Key Leader:** Naqiblah Khan (Imprisoned), Mohammed Omar **Related Groups:** Jaish-ul-Muslimin, Mujahideen Message, al Qaeda

Al Qaeda Mission: Overthrow non-Islamic governments and establish Islamic states **Number of Attacks:** 27 **Fatalities/Injuries:** 3521/6476 **Key Leaders:** Osam bin Laden, Kalid Mohammed, Mustafa Nasar **Related Groups:** More than 28 groups operating in 65 nations

Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan Mission: Regional Islamic State **Number of Attacks:** 4 **Fatalities/Injuries:** 7/8 **Key Leaders:** Jumaboi Khojev, Tohir Yuldeshev **Related Groups:** Taliban, al Qaeda

Hizb-I-Islami Mission: Islamic insurgency against the Daud regime **Number of Attacks:** 1 **Fatalities/Injuries:** 10/4 **Key Leader:** Gulbuddin Hikmatyar **Related Groups:** Taliban



NOTE: The maps of Iraq and Afghanistan are both marked with major cities; the red shaded area is the area in which attacks are most likely to occur. This is not meant to be used as a safe zone it is for illustrative purposes only. All information contained on this page was obtained through the National Memorial Institute to Prevent Terrorism - Terrorism Knowledge Bank. Terrorist groups listed are only those found on the site whose attacks resulted in fatalities and/or injuries. Other notable groups are listed on the back of this document. You can visit the Terrorism Knowledge Bank at <http://www.tkb.org/Home.jsp> for further information.

Kalifah Continued from page 15

according to the Fatwa issued March 11 against Osama bin Laden and his followers.

Bin Laden did not create Al Qaeda. Bin Laden assumed control of Al Qaeda after he approved the murder of his former mentor and friend, Abdullah Azzam. What bin Laden did as the head of Al Qaeda was to convince diverse terrorist groups to cooperate. Khilafah was one of the concepts he used to bridge differences between Sunni and Shia terrorists according to *Inside Al Qaeda, Global Network of Terror* (May 2003, Third Edition) by Rohan Gunaratna.

Khilafah morphed beyond a concept that bridged differences between separate groups into a cause, according to former CIA case worker in Afghanistan and current professor at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Marc Sageman. The concept itself became the cause or rather the solution.

Khilafah is being held aloft by Web site propaganda as the solution to many perceived and real Muslim ills such as Iraq. It could be said that Khilafah is the end state and all conflicts and issues are being used to fuel it. The struggle for Khilafah, also known as “an Islamic State,” is the main component in what Sageman calls the “Global Salafist Jihad.”

The “Global Salafist Jihad” is most closely related to the root causes of jihadist violence, Sageman said in a February 1, *Jane’s Defense Weekly*.

Salafi jihad is a worldwide religious revivalist movement with the goal of re-establishing past Muslim glory in a great Islamist state stretching from Morocco to the Philippines, eliminating present national boundaries, Sageman said in an interview for a December 1, 2004, CBC News broadcast, *War without Borders: the Salafist Movement*.

But where Sageman gives definitive boundaries for Khilafah, Hizb-ut-Tahrir supporters like, a self-styled political party and Khilafah’s main quazi legitimate proponent do not.

The group stated in a recently posted open letter that Khilafah should exist in all Islamic lands. Those “Islamic Lands” can exist anywhere on the globe.

Al-Qaeda, Sageman said in the CBC interview, is the front line of this movement, which includes many other terrorist groups that collaborate in their operations and share a large support base.

While Al Qaeda is leading the jihadist pack of the quest for Khilafah, it has also become the icon for the violent, militaristic arm of this movement to like minded but perhaps unaffiliated terrorists and would be terrorist.

“Al Qaeda is no longer a hierarchical organization, but rather an enabler for myriad



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terrorist groups and sympathizers to fight the jihadist holy war,” says Ivo Daalder, senior fellow in foreign policy studies at the Brookings Institution.

The “how” of waging the holy war has shifted. Muslim collateral damage is OK and even necessary according to a statement attributed to Abu Musab Al-Zarqawi posted on jihadist Web site. But even Zaraqawi aligned himself to Al Qaeda and pledged his allegiance to Osama Bin Laden in the fall of 2004. His group is known in the western press as “Al Qaeda in Iraq.” Al Qaeda in Iraq is related to and enables many other terrorist groups in Iraq. See page 13 and 14.

Al Qaeda in Iraq is relatively new, but Al Qaeda, according to *Inside Al Qaeda*, has always supported other like-minded groups.

Some examples of support to other terrorist groups from the book *Inside Al Qaeda*, states that Al Qaeda has been supplying money, training resources and even personnel to other groups since the beginning of the 1990s :

- Al Qaeda’s Muhammed Atef trained men in Somalia prior to the American pull out.

- Abu Abdallah, an American from New Jersey, trained and led a 14-man Al Qaeda team consisting of retired U.S. military personnel that entered Bosnia through Croatia to train those mujahidin.

- Al Qaeda sent trainers and fighters to Chechnya in 1994. In addition, Chechen fighters were brought to Afghanistan to train.

- Al Ansar mujihidin were responsible for the Chechen conflicts suicide attacks— unheard of before then.

Editor’s note: The information on these pages was pulled from open sources. This is not intelligence information. Please alert your S2 to anything suspicious. Copy, save and send web pages of interest to your S2. Links on some pages change overnight.



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THE ART OF WAR



WARRIOR TASKS

REACT TO AMBUSH (NEAR AND FAR) DISMOUNTED

Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey
III Armored Corps and Fort Hood

“When we talk about Warrior Tasks such as Reaction to Ambushes, we need to realize the life or death of our Soldiers hangs on our capability to respond quickly. As leaders we must coach, teach and mentor our Soldiers through the many different Battle Drills by being there and going through the drills with the Soldiers. There is nothing that takes the place of actually seeing and experiencing what our Soldiers are going through first hand. Once we have certified them as trained, we must give them the authority to take the actions needed to stay alive in combat and stand by them if they make an honest human mistake.”



Photo by Pfc. John S. Gurtler

Vigilance

Cpl. Torria Maynard, from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 24 Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, patrols Mosul, Iraq.



Photo by Chief Photographer's Mate Edward Martens

Alert

A member of the 2nd Battalion 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (ACR) provides cover for his squad.

Sgt. 1st Class Scott A. Pinkham
NCO Academy (PLDC), Chief Instructor
Fort Bliss, Texas

“I feel that the Warrior Tasks, such as Reaction to Ambushes, are a very important part of our everyday training. Without this training we are putting the life of many of our soldiers on the line. Every soldier should take this training very seriously and constantly rehearse this in their head, because if the time ever comes that they need to react, they will be ready and not hesitate.”

React to Ambush (Near and Far) Dismounted**GO****NO-GO****Near Ambush (Within Hand-Grenade Range)**

1. Depending on the terrain, soldiers in the kill zone carry out one of the following two actions:

a. Return fire immediately. If cover is not available, immediately, without order or signal, assume the prone position and throw concussion or fragmentation and smoke grenades.

b. Return fire immediately. If cover is available, without order or signal, seek the nearest covered position, assume the prone position, and throw fragmentation or concussion and smoke grenades.

2. Immediately after the explosion of the concussion or fragmentation grenades, soldier in the kill zone return fire and assault through the ambush position using fire and movement.

3. Soldiers not in the kill zone identify the enemy location, and then place accurate suppressive fire against the enemy's position. Fire is shifted as the personnel in the kill zone begin to assault.

4. Soldiers in the kill zone continue the assault to eliminate the ambush or until contact is broken.

5. The platoon conducts consolidation and reorganization.

Far Ambush (Out of Hand-Grenade Range)

1. Soldiers receiving fire immediately return fire, take up covered positions, and suppress the enemy -

a. By destroying or suppressing enemy crew-served weapons.

b. By sustaining suppressive fires.

2. Soldiers (squads/teams) not receiving fire move by a covered and concealed route to a vulnerable flank of the enemy position and assault using fire and movement.

3. Soldiers in the kill zone continue suppressive fires and shift fires as the assaulting squad/team fights through the enemy position.

4. The platoon FO calls for and adjusts indirect fires as directed by the platoon leader. On order, he lifts or shifts fires to isolate the enemy position or to attack them with indirect fires as they retreat.

5. The squad/section leader reports, reorganizes as necessary, and continues the mission.

Crawl, walk, run relevance

It's not your platoon sgt.'s PLDC

By Dave Crozier

General Douglas MacArthur once said, "We are bound no longer by the straitjacket of the past and nowhere is the change greater than in our profession of arms. What, you may well ask, will be the end of all of this? I would not know! But I would hope that our beloved country will drink deep from the chalice of courage."

Even though he was talking about another time, his words ring true today especially when looking at the Global War on Terror and how the Army has had to adapt to a new form of warfare.

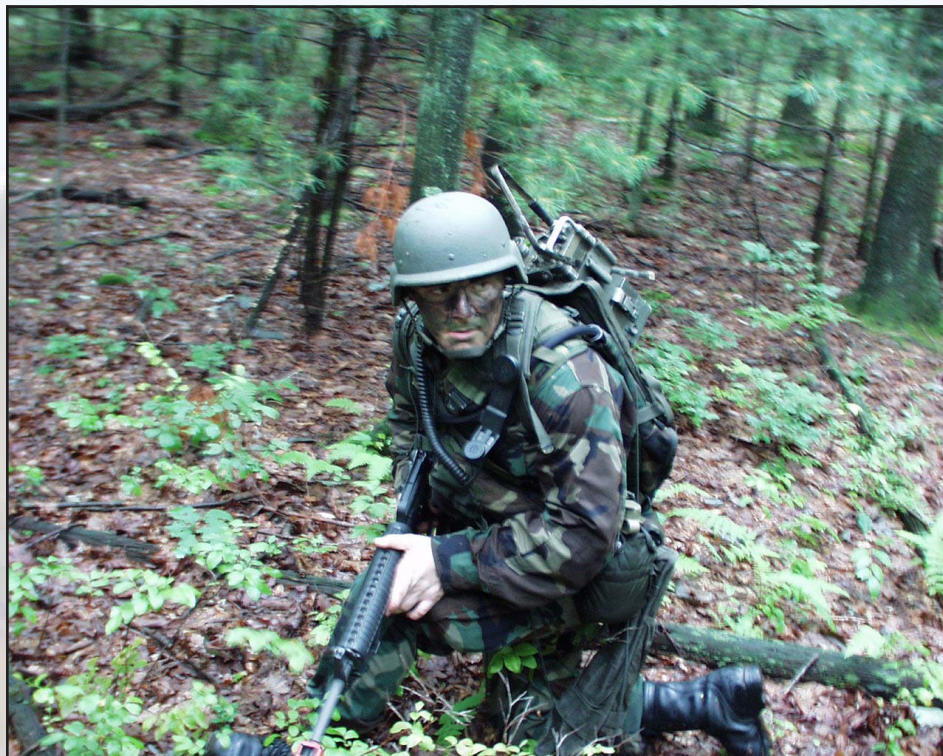
More than 2,400 years ago, another general had some profound thoughts on the profession of arms. Chinese General Sun Tsu, who wrote *The Art of War* noted, "The general who wins the battle makes many calculations in his temple before the battle is fought. The general who loses makes but few calculations beforehand."

Together these quotes have profound context and could be construed as the basis for how the Army has looked at its Primary Leadership Development Course (PLDC). And in some ways it has.

Taking into account today's battlefield and the Global War on Terror the Army leadership quickly realized that current doctrine and training wasn't up to the task of dealing with this new asymmetrical war. Because of that, Army leadership directed that all training must become relevant and incorporate the lessons learned in Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

For PLDC that means what your platoon sergeant learned several years ago wouldn't cut it on today's battlefield, hence, changes in curriculum had to happen, and they had to happen fast.

To effect that change, the Army's leadership turned to the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy, Fort Bliss, Texas. The folks in the Directorate of Training and Doctrine (DOTD) led that change, DOTD turned to Sgt. Maj. Victor LeGloahec, PLDC Chief for the directorate. In five short months, January through May, LeGloahec and the PLDC team molded today's PLDC into something that even yesterday's squad leaders wouldn't recognize.



U.S. Army photo

A Soldier at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa., goes through training at the Primary Leadership Development Course taught by the 3rd Battalion 166th Regiment NCO Academy. The Academy is the only Reserve Component unit to try the 96-hour STX and is now in the process of finding ways to keep it in their course curriculum.

"I don't know if everyone saw the editorial in the *Army Times* from that Soldier who wrote that an Army at War needs a revamped PLDC, but I wish I could get him to go through PLDC again," LeGloahec said. "He obviously [attended the course some time ago]."

PLDC has gone through two major changes over the past three years; the first was in October 2002 when PLDC became more tactical.

"The days of having your infantry company guard your Tactical Operations Center went away in 2002 because we didn't have the manpower," he said. "So more tactical lessons were thrown into PLDC to compensate for that change. It's the same for today. Now we are doing a 96-hour Situational Training Exercise (STX) where you spend that entire time in the field rather than the old 24-to 30-hour STX."

LeGloahec said, the main point of the 96-hour STX is to give the Soldiers more time to practice their troop-leading procedures, work on mission planning and to execute the



U.S. Army photo

Classroom instruction remains an integral part of the PLDC experience. Soldiers learn about a variety of subjects including leadership, counseling, Army writing style, NCO Evaluation Reports, risk management, planning and troop-leading procedures. Above, a Soldier attending the Fort Bliss PLDC takes an open-book test.

mission in the field instead of just being taught how to do them in the classroom and then going straight to an evaluation – go, no go – phase of the instruction.

He said that the Army uses the crawl, walk and run-method of instruction and what was taking place with the old PLDC was that the Soldiers were getting the classroom (crawl) time possibly followed by practical exercises (walk) right outside their classroom in the cantonment area and then it was straight to the STX and evaluation (run).

“It is really not a good way of doing things. So what we have now with the 96-hour STX is that you still have the crawl portion, which is the classroom instruction where they are exposed to it. Then they go to the STX, where each Soldier serves as a squad leader and do a mission (the walk portion),” he said. “They have to go through their troop-leading procedures, and they have to execute the mission. The only difference is that it is a rehearsal, and they can learn from their mistakes.”

This walk phase also allows the small-group leaders (SGLs) the opportunity to take immediate corrective action, thus everyone in the platoon benefits from the instruction and has time to make adjustments when they take the squad-leader role.

“So by the time they go to the evaluation (run) part of the STX, it really clicks because the Soldiers have done it once before,” LeGloahec said. “With the old course, they didn’t get the chance to rehearse it in the field. The Soldiers like the new way of doing things.”

LeGloahec qualified that by relaying his experiences of watching the Soldiers go through the new course at Fort Indiantown Gap in Pennsylvania and at the 7th Army Training Command in Germany.

“I have actually observed PLDC training, and the students were absolutely thrilled. I mean it is just a huge difference; I call it the confidence they’ve got,” he said. “You have to remember that the majority of the Army is not combat arms and have never been exposed to this and by the time they get to their evaluations, they are cooking because they got the chance to rehearse it.”

The PLDC format changed in August 2004 after the Army Chief of Staff said that the training needed to become relevant. In January, the new course began its validation phase at Forts Campbell, Ky.; Benning, Ga.; Bliss, Texas; Indiantown Gap, Pa.; and 7th ATC in Germany. By May 1, LeGloahec said, the active component received the go ahead to implement the new course.

Under the new course, LeGloahec noted, there is a major emphasis on troop-leading procedures, planning and the team concept. Now, during the STX, Soldiers have to react to an ambush while mounted and dismounted, react to an improvised explosive device (IED), perform medical evacuation procedures, call in for fire, combat reports, send spot reports, send SALUTE reports and other tasks that they didn’t do before.

“I have talked to junior leaders in the field, and they can tell the difference in the confidence levels of Soldiers going through the new PLDC as compared to the old one. [Confidence



U.S. Army photo

The most common reason for not completing PLDC is a Soldier’s inability to meet the height, weight and Army Physical Fitness Test standards. All Soldiers are required to pass the APFT before they graduate.



U.S. Army photo

While participating in the 96-hour STX Soldiers are faced with many tasks they must perform including casualty evacuation, react to an improvised explosive device, react to ambush and more. Above, Soldiers attending the Fort Bliss PLDC evacuate a wounded Soldier.

is shown in] the way the Soldiers act; the difference in the way they execute,” he said. “It basically comes from the troop-leading procedures being hammered home, the rehearsals, the sand tables, the planning, backwards planning and anything those Soldiers had to execute during the STX; they have got it down pat.”

“PLDC doesn’t make them the best Soldiers in the field, but it does make them better than those who have not gone through the course and the students have confirmed that themselves,” LeGloahec said.

“Every single student that I talked to, across the board, every student has said, ‘I learned something. I was challenged,’” LeGloahec said. “And that’s a big plus.”

At the Fort Bliss NCO Academy which has already gone through two iterations of the new PLDC, the results are also overwhelmingly positive.

“When we are out in the field, I ask the students, ‘are you learning anything? What have you learned?’ And what some of the veterans, mainly, are telling us is that this is exactly what they are doing over in Iraq and Afghanistan,” said Sgt. 1st Class Scott Pinkham, PLDC chief. “For what the Army mission is right now, PLDC is totally

relevant. Our SGLs are seeing the more time we have to train as being exactly what we needed. Before we had the expanded STX, the Soldiers were going straight to evaluation from the classroom and getting dinged left and right. Now the Soldiers are tracking because they have had time to [rehearse it in the field]. They really like the new STX.”

Pinkham noted that at Fort Bliss he sees a lot of non-combat arms Soldiers coming to PLDC, which actually works to the Soldier’s benefit.

“They come in here kind of blind so to say and they walk away loving what they have done, what they have learned because it is something they haven’t done before,” Pinkham said.

The expanded STX also allows each Soldier to practice his or her leadership roles.

“It is working better for the simple fact that they are having more time to rehearse, getting more time to plan, do their sand tables; all the things they need to

do as a leader,” he said. “They are not going from the crawl phase straight to running. There is a walk phase in between, and it really works to their benefit come evaluation time.”



U.S. Army photo

Providing realistic scenarios is always a challenge in a training environment. The new PLDC is no different, however, Soldiers have remarked favorably on the realism of the training they receive.

At Fort Indiantown Gap and the rest of the Reserve Component, however, the full implementation of the 96-hour STX will have to wait until the RC can get approval to modify its standard 15-day PLDC course to incorporate the additional field time.

“What we are looking at right now is each part of the course to see what we can cut or change because we want to keep the 96-hour STX,” said Master Sgt. Steve Pachini, PLDC chief for the 3rd Battalion, 166th Regiment. He added that there may be a possibility of doing some of the course requirements online that could open up needed schedule time.

Soldiers’ experiences at Fort Indiantown Gap are similar to those at Fort Bliss, and Pachini agreed that the Soldiers like the new PLDC. He sees more of a team effort during the STX because of the Soldiers’ ability to rehearse.

“They learn from each other and by the time they get the evaluation, they really get it,” he said. “What you usually find with Soldiers at this level is they try and do everything by themselves, not utilize their team leaders and other Soldiers to carry out other missions. With the emphasis here being on troop-leading procedures you see a big difference.”

Command Sgt. Maj. James Vail, commandant of the Fort Indiantown Gap NCO Academy, said he hopes that they can get back to the 96-hour STX soon and the biggest frustration he hears from the Soldiers and the SGLs is that they would have been better prepared for what they faced in Iraq and Afghanistan had they been through the PLDC course prior to deploying.

“They make the comment that they would have benefited from this training, so our hope is that we are going to make this course more relevant,” Vail said. “By doing that, Soldiers will go back and talk it up at their units. Commanders are going to be more informed as to what is going on here and be more willing to send Soldiers to PLDC at the right time before they deploy. The seats are out there. We have just got to get the commanders and first sergeants to push PLDC early.”

While the academies and chief instructors can tout the expanded STX effectiveness and acceptance by the Soldiers, no one says it better than the Soldiers themselves.

“I learned a lot,” said Spc. Joseph Vidal, a unit supply specialist at USASMA who has been in the Army two and a half years and graduated from the second cycle of PLDC at Fort Bliss with the new 96-hour STX. “The SGLs really know their stuff, and the STX was good.”

“It was good. The classroom stuff dragged out sometimes, but the STX was really good,” said Spc. Samuel Salter, administrative specialist at USASMA with almost four years in the Army. “The training was good because we don’t get to do this much, and it really opens your eyes.”

Both Vidal and Salter said that being around other Soldiers



U.S. Army photo

A new addition to PLDC at Fort Bliss is weapons immersion. Soldiers must have their weapons with them at all times during training, even during PT. This, officials say, has led to a better understanding of safe weapons handling.

who have had combat experience in Iraq and Afghanistan was a great help in that the veterans had a lot of good input for the platoon. They also said that being with other non-combat arms Soldiers was a plus because they all learned at the same levels.

“There was a real team effort out in the field, and you got to learn from others in their leadership role, and that just made it better for you,” Salter said.

“The veterans were like our mentors, and they helped us a lot by telling us about things they did over in Iraq,” Vidal said.

To prepare for PLDC, both Vidal and Salter said they were told if they maintained their discipline and listened to details; everything would go smooth. While they successfully completed the new PLDC, LeGloahec said that Soldiers can better prepare themselves for the course by going online and visiting the USASMA Web site at <https://www.bliss.army.mil/usasma/> and then clicking on to the “Training and Doctrine” link.

“Every lesson that is taught is right there on the site. So if a Soldier goes there he or she can see where they might be weak, and then they can download the information, go through it and train up on it,” LeGloahec said. “The student evaluation plan is there as well. It tells them what they are going to be tested on, what the requirements are for passing, everything – it’s all there.”

The only other thing LeGloahec said that Soldiers should know is “you still have to pass the APFT, meet the height and weight standards and be ready for long days, long hours and a great course of instruction. Those SGLs are going to do everything in their power to make sure the Soldier passes. The real key is the Soldier should want to be a success also. We don’t want them to fail. We want them to go back to their units a highly trained leader and to spread that training around.”

As for the Soldier who wrote the editorial, LeGloahec said, “the invitation to go through PLDC again is open.”

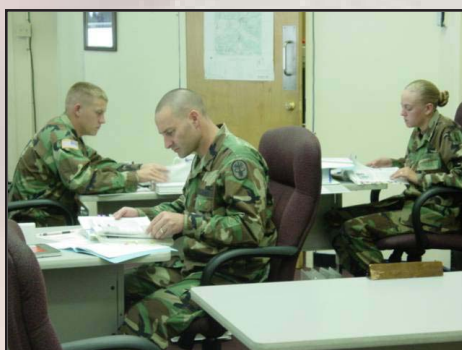
PLDC mission planning

Do you have a Soldier that is scheduled to attend PLDC? Or perhaps you are a Soldier who is slated to attend the course. Here is some important information that might help you succeed. The below course information is taken from the PLDC Course Management Plan, located on the USASMA Web site at <https://www.bliss.army.mil/usasma/>.



Physical requirements

- Pass the APFT
- Negotiate rough terrain under varying climatic conditions
- Conduct, demonstrate and lead physical fitness training
- Walk a minimum of 3200 meters with load carrying equipment in a maximum of three hours
- Lift and carry all required packing list items (OCIE and CTA 50-900) for short distances
- Carry a 50-pound combat load containing mission-essential equipment (helmet, weapon, LCE, and uniform are part of the 50 lbs)
- Occasionally lift and carry fuel, water, ammo, MREs, or sandbags
- Low crawl, high crawl and rush for three to five seconds
- Move over, through and around obstacles
- Carry and fire individually assigned weapon IAW applicable regulatory guidance
- Don Mission-Oriented Protective Posture (MOPP) gear.



Classroom instruction

- Introduction to Army Leadership
- What a leader must BE, Know, DO
- The human dimension role in leader development
- The four direct leadership skills
- The three direct leadership actions
- Maintain discipline
- Conduct developmental counseling
- The Army writing style
- Commandant's orientation
- Introduction to PLDC
- ID historical progression and significant contributions of the NCO
- NCO Evaluation Report
- Sexual Assault
- Risk Management
- After Action Review
- Battle-focused training
- Physical fitness, train the trainer
- Supervise implementation of preventative medicine policies

Note: Some instruction is also accomplished in the field during the rehearsal phase of the STX.



STX

- Map reading
- Combat orders
- Conduct movement
- Occupy an assembly area
- Combat operations
- Land navigation
- Tactical operations reports
- React to possible improvised explosive device
- Casualty evacuation
- After Action Review
- Situational Training Exercise

Note: Much of what the Soldiers do during the STX is taught in the classroom first. Soldiers receive several opportunities to rehearse the field portion of the training before going into the graded portion of the STX. While in the field Soldiers will react to many scenarios to include react to ambush far and near, mounted and unmounted; react to contact; as well as having to deal with civilians on the battlefield.

1,000ccs of OTC Dynamite

Motorcycle accidents/fatalities on the rise

By Dave Crozier

"She turned in front of me thinking she could make it. Instead, she hit me head-on. I flew over the handlebars and into her windshield. The back of my head bounced off her steering wheel, and then I was thrown face first into a telephone pole ... If I hadn't been wearing my helmet, parts of my head would have been smashed into the windshield and the left side of my face would have been left on the pole... I was in and out of consciousness for the first four days... My brain swelled so bad the doctors thought they would have to drill holes in my head to relieve the pressure ... I lost most of my memory and even had to learn how to walk again... It took years of hard work to get me back to normal – well about as normal as I will ever be ... I am living a life that would have ended if I hadn't been wearing my helmet the night that girl turned in front of me."

Master Sgt. Shane Curtis, Aviation Systems Safety Manager, U.S. Army Safety Center, Fort Rucker, Ala., recounting his accident on a Yamaha 650. Excerpt taken from the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Web site.

Don't stop reading now because you've heard this story before, or you think this is just going to be your typical "you must wear a helmet and all required personal protective equipment (PPE)" type of article. Well, it is sort of, but keep on reading anyway because this is really more about your chances as a motorcyclist to become a statistic, whether it is your fault or not, whether you wear all the proper PPE or not, and whether you attend a motorcycle safety course or not.

In 2004, 3,927 motorcyclists were killed and another 76,000 were injured in traffic crashes in the United States. Motorcycle fatalities have increased each year between 1997 and 2004, with a total increase of 1,184, or more than 85 percent. About 60 percent of the increase in motorcycle fatalities for 2004 came from the 40-and-over age groups. Nearly one out of four motorcycle operators (24 percent) involved in fatal crashes in 2003 were operating the vehicle with an invalid license at the time of the crash. Alcohol plays a major role in motorcycle fatalities; almost half of the motorcycle operators who died in single-vehicle crashes in 2003 had blood/alcohol concentrations (BAC) levels of .08 or higher.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the number of persons killed on motorcycles has out-paced, percentage-wise, all other fatalities involving motor vehicles, an increase of 7.3 percent in 2004 alone.

You see these statistics and you say, "So what! That seems small for the entire U S of A. Besides, I am in the Army. I have

survived Iraq and Afghanistan. That kind of thing won't happen to me." According to officials and those who are tracking the trends in the Army, you are wrong, dead wrong.

Privately owned vehicle accidents in the Army remain the number one non-combat killer of Soldiers.



Courtesy photo

A motorcycle is no match for a dump truck. Notice the lightened area on the grill where the rider's helmet is wedged.

“POV [statistics] all around are killing more people than IEDs are,” said Michael Evans, Chief of Programs for the Army Traffic Safety Program, U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center, Fort Rucker, Ala.

And the trends for motorcyclists are rising at an alarming rate. The reason officials say ... it's the sense Soldiers have of being invincible; having survived the Global War on Terrorism, coupled with the fact that many Soldiers now have money they normally would not have because of the tax-free and combat pay they received while deployed. Hence, they can afford, and are buying the biggest and baddest bikes there are ... Harley Davidson's, Suzuki's, Yamaha's – “Ninja bikes and crotch rockets” that can go from zero to 60 in less time than it takes you to say it.

The folks at the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center heard rumors about Soldiers buying thousands of bikes from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) and picking them up as soon as they got back to the States and decided to look into the trend.

“We had initial indications that [AAFES] had in the area of about 5,000 motorcycle orders, but once we did some checking it wasn't quite that many,” Evans said. “There were like 5,000 orders for vehicles, but motorcycles only made up 1,700 to 1,900.”

After finding that the rumors weren't quite true, Evans did note that the number of motorcycle purchases still reflected 40 percent of all the new vehicles ordered by Soldiers returning to the states.

One Army unit that found a lot of these statistics to be true was the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment based out of Fort Campbell, Ky. Not only were a lot of their Soldiers coming back to the States and buying “big bikes” but they also mirrored the national statistics for average age of riders and accident rates.

According to Sgt. 1st Class Lance Hoffman, the regiment's Safety NCO, the 160th SOAR held the distinction of being the highest rates in Special Ops for motorcycle accidents. It was so bad he said, his commander was trying to find ways to outlaw motorcycles in the regiment.

“We had a rash where we were just losing guys to motorcycle accidents left and right and it was becoming the most costly thing for our Soldiers, not necessarily to fatalities, but to injuries and days lost at work,” Hoffman said. “So our commander was trying to find a way to curb that, and obviously [outlawing motorcycles] wasn't going to happen, but it did show his concern about the problem.”

What the 160th did instead was launch a multi-phased approach to see if it could correct the problem. Through a unit survey the regiment found it had more than 500 Soldiers who rode motorcycles, and since OIF and OEF, that number has risen to almost 800 riders. Using spot inspections, Hoffman and others checked the Soldiers for licenses and Motorcycle Safety Founda-

tion (MSF) course cards, whether the rider had an approved DOT helmet, and was wearing a safety vest and so on. What they found, Hoffman said, was that some riders didn't have all the required inspection items and were turned away from the compound.

“The Army standard is that they must have all these things, but sometimes it gets lost in the transmission. So we started an education campaign and started talking about non-line of duty statements, and we talked about the two Soldiers from Ft. Campbell who were killed on motorcycles and were determined to be non-line of duty accidents (generally meaning the Soldier's family or estate would have to reimburse the Army for all costs associated with the accident),” said Hoffman. “The problem we initially ran into at the regiment is that Kentucky and Tennessee have different laws regarding helmets. Kentucky doesn't care if you wear one and Tennessee makes you wear one. We got that fixed through education [on the Army regulations].”

Hoffman noted that Army Regulation 385-55 supersedes state laws for Army riders and that regulations requires that riders will wear a DOT approved helmet and other personal protective equipment at all times.

The other phase of that fix came in the form of the regiment providing aggressive motorcycle safety training through the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Basic Riders Course, and by giving Soldiers an opportunity to ride a motorcycle under supervised conditions before they bought a motorcycle.

“The Army says a Soldier must have an MSF card before he or she can ride a motorcycle. So we are providing that opportunity for Soldiers to ride a motorcycle before they purchase one and get hurt or get a non-line-of-duty determination.”

The 160th has contracted with the state of Tennessee to have an instructor come to the regiment and teach the MSF Basic Riders Course on motorcycles that the regiment has bought just for that training. The 160th has five motorcycles it owns and maintains – mostly smaller 250cc bikes with two larger bikes for handling comparisons. The first day of the two-day course consists of classroom instruction on the laws regarding motorcycle operations and a familiarization with the motorcycle itself. The second day is spent riding the motorcycle, learning emergency braking techniques, turning the bike in all directions and general traffic laws.

“We found out that this really worked for us because the first class had 60 riders and... 18 of them said they found out that they just couldn't ride. It wasn't for them,” Hoffman said. “So we considered that a success because we asked those same Soldiers if they were going to purchase a bike before they took the course, and they all said they were going to until their commander told them they had to come to this course first. They basically told us, if they hadn't taken the class they would have

Army Fatalities

FY05

26



From FY99 through FY04 the Army lost 94 Soldiers to motorcycle accidents; 22 in FY04 alone. Current trends have the Army leadership searching for ways to reduce these numbers.

bought big bikes and probably would have gotten hurt. They realized by riding these smaller bikes we have, they couldn't control them."

Through Hoffman's and the regiment's initiatives, some 250 riders have been trained as of June, and the 160th SOAR went from the worst in Special Ops for motorcycle accident rates to the best.

"We were leading the pack in accidents, and now we have the lowest accident rate. In 2005, we have had only one accident and it was not the rider's fault. He was hit from behind while stopped at a stop sign," Hoffman said. "So right now we are doing well. We are at zero for at-fault accidents and just two years ago we were top dog for having [at-fault] accidents."

Hoffman said, the biggest problem the regiment was seeing with riders who were coming back from OIF/OEF was what he called the "bullet-proof mentality."

"We found out that was really leading the charge for these new riders, and it wasn't necessarily the young guys with the crotch rockets, but the older guys who – because they had the money – wanted the status of a big bike like a Harley," Hoffman said. "With us being an aviation unit, many of the Soldiers have said that riding a bike is the closest thing to flying – the freedom of movement, the wind in your hair type of feeling. It's that adrenaline thing."

The trend both in the Army and nationally is that more riders fall in the 40-and-over age group. The NHTSA reported in 2004 that 1,835 motorcyclists were killed in the 40-and-over age group as compared to 244 in the under-20 age group; 991 in the 20-29 age group; and 853 in the 30-39 age group. The only vehicle outpacing the motorcycle in alcohol-related fatalities in the United States is the SUV. But when it comes to getting injured in an alcohol-related accident, motorcycles had seen an increase of 33 percent from 2003 to 2004, far more than any other vehicle type reported by NHTSA.

But is it always the motorcyclists' fault? Not according to statistics compiled by the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP).

"A big part of safe motorcycling is awareness by other vehicle drivers that motorcycles are on the road," states a June 22 motorcycle safety awareness media release from the OSHP. "Ohio crash statistics for 2004 show 1,357 motorcycle-involved crashes were caused by non-motorcycle drivers, including 35 fatal crashes."

Back at the Combat Readiness Center, Evans said that because of the trends the Army is seeing, the Center was chartered in October 2004 to set up a driving task force to look at the problem and come up with some solutions. What the center came up with is an Army Driving and Lifestyle Initiative that is now being looked at by the Army leadership. The main focus Evans noted is that current Army program is good, but it is not properly resourced, including personnel, to the point needed to conduct a good driver's training program. The program, he said, will consist of four modules that will be taught throughout a Soldier's time in the Army. It will have a basic defensive driver course, an intermediate and advanced driver course, and a supervisor's course.

As for the motorcycle side of things, Evans said that it is up to each individual installation to determine what course of instruction they will provide, but he added that the Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) is currently on the GSA schedule and that installations can contract with MSF to provide the course. For

more information on the MSF course, visit www.msf-usa.org/. The U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center Web site is located at <https://crc.army.mil/home/>.

PRELIMINARY LOSS REPORT 0572
MOTORCYCLE CRASH CLAIMS 2 LIVES -- ACCIDENT
 Two V Corps Soldiers died in a motorcycle accident on 13 May 2005 at 2350 local in Buedingen, GE. The 33 year-old operator (SGT) and his 30 year old passenger (SGT) were killed when the driver lost control of his Buell motorcycle and struck a guard rail. Both NCOs were wearing helmets and were thrown from the motorcycle. Speed was a factor in this accident. Alcohol is not believed to be a factor in this accident. The driver completed the Motorcycle Safety Foundation course and was properly licensed. Including this accident, there were 62 Class A-C Army Privately Owned Motorcycle accidents from the start of FY05 to 13 May 2005, resulting in 25 Soldier deaths.



Courtesy photo

Motorcycle fatalities have increased 85 percent over the last seven years in the United States.

CRC proposes Motorcycle Mentorship Program for Army

Walt Beckman
United States Army Combat Readiness Center

The U. S. Army Combat Readiness Center (CRC), following the lead of the Air Force, has developed a proposed Motorcycle Mentorship Program for the Army. The CRC plans to staff this program at the Army level during the fourth quarter of FY05.

Annual motorcycle fatalities have doubled in the past five years. Motorcycle mishaps resulted in 94 fatalities from FY 99 – FY 04 (FY 04 = 22, FY 03 = 24, FY 02 = 20, FY 01 = 9, FY00 = 8 and FY 99 = 11). Already in FY05 the Army has experienced 67 motorcycle and ATV accidents, resulting in 26 fatalities. The data collected revealed that more than 50 percent of the fatalities were the result of single-vehicle crashes that involved riders exercising poor risk decisions and judgment. The Army's major "at risk" population are males between the ages of 18 and 25 years which comprise 60 percent of the motorcycle fatalities over the last two years.

The challenge for the Army is to proactively engage commanders and young leaders in our effort to curb the growing number of motorcycle fatalities, while providing a positive learning environment for young, less-experienced motorcycle riders. Every Soldier in the Army is critical for readiness and mission success. On the job, we exercise good composite risk management in performing difficult and dangerous tasks. We take care to train new operators in the safest practices of our profession and we pass on the benefits of our experience and correct mistakes to help our Soldiers succeed. We must use this process for our off-duty activities. This is where Soldiers deserve and need leaders' concern and attention.

What better way to ensure a young, inexperienced motorcycle rider starts out on the right foot than providing them a mentor who is an experienced, trained and seasoned veteran of the open road? Someone who can show them what "right" looks like. This is the basis of the Motorcycle Mentorship Program.

Motorcycles are a very popular way for our Soldiers to enjoy the areas surrounding our installations. However, motorcycles

are extremely unforgiving when it comes to an accident. Our Soldiers don't want to die in a motorcycle mishap and the Army may be able to influence this, as the Air Force has, through a Motorcycle Mentorship Program. If we are successful, our



Photo obtained from <http://mail.magnaspeed.net/~cbates/>

Combat Readiness Center officials believe that mentors will help new riders gain essential safety skills and keep Soldiers off the statistical list of POV/motorcycle injuries and fatalities.

Soldiers will reduce the number of motorcycle fatalities through learned safe riding behavior.

The Motorcycle Mentorship Program is based on formation of motorcycle clubs that will allow our veteran riders to pass on their knowledge, training, life experiences and learned safety skills to a new generation of motorcycle riders. The clubs will provide an outlet for our Soldiers to get out and safely enjoy the experience of being a motorcycle owner and in the process teach them how to do it the right way. What better way to make a Soldier feel like a member of the team than to take an active interest in his or her well-being.

Motorcycle mentors will have the opportunity to get to know their Soldiers and hone their leadership, teaching, and coaching skills by making them better noncommissioned, warrant and commissioned officers in the process. By providing young riders a positive role model who enjoys the same activity they do, mentors will help the Army to reduce motorcycle fatalities. Soldiers want and deserve our best the Motorcycle Mentorship Program is a way for us to provide them that.

For more information on the program, contact Walt Beckman at (334) 255-9377, DSN 558-9377, or by e-mail at walter.beckman@safetycenter.army.mil.

"SOLDIER"

I was that which others did not want to be.

I went where others feared to go, and did what others failed to do.

I asked nothing from those who gave nothing, and reluctantly accepted the thought of eternal loneliness ... should I fail.

I have seen the face of terror, felt the stinging cold of fear, and enjoyed the sweet taste of a moment's love.

I have cried, pained, and hoped ... but most of all, I have lived times others would say were best forgotten.

At least someday I will be able to say that I was proud of what I was ... a soldier.

George L. Skypeck

**By Sgt. Maj. of the Army (Retired) Julius W. Gates and
Command. SgJ. Maj. (Retired) Jack Hardwick**

George L. Skypeck's words should ring loud with all United States Army officers and Noncommissioned officers leaders. The Soldier's Creed charges leaders to adhere and enforce its tenets. Army leaders must take the Soldiers Creed mandate seriously.

But why do Army leaders refer to Soldiers as "Joes, Grunts, Snuffy, Gun Bunnies, G.Is" and many other buzzwords that degrade the Soldier? Why do military-oriented media articles refer to Soldiers as Grunts, G.Is and other degrading buzzwords?

In our humble opinions, if anyone refers to our Soldiers as anything other than a Soldier it is a clear demonstration of poor leadership and lack of respect. Our Soldiers have earned the right to be treated with dignity and respect.

After volunteering to serve their Nation and completing their training, Soldiers (men and women), earn a title, "Soldier." The title is not free; it must be earned. No one should degrade an American Soldier by referring to him or her as anything other than Soldier.

Thousands upon thousands of our brave young men and women — our Soldiers — have volunteered to lay their lives on the line in the defense of our Nation. They serve in combat in faraway countries such as Iraq and Afghanistan. As in the past, our Soldiers endure the burden and pure hells of war. As

we are well aware, many have become battle casualties. Many more will also. Many have and will make the supreme sacrifice. Our Soldiers give 100 percent and then some. Why can't we treat our men and women with dignity and respect by referring to them as Soldiers?

They are not Joes, Snuffy, Grunts, G.Is nor anything other than SOLDIERS!

Another point: Why does the United States Marines leadership,



officers and noncommissioned Officers, always refer to their Marines as Marines? The answer is very simple: Marine leaders demonstrate dignity and respect for their Marine comrades-in-arms and will not allow anyone to degrade their fellow Marines by allowing someone to refer to them by using some buzzword.

Fellow Americans, no matter what was done in the past for whatever reason, it is time to fix this problem. It is time for all United States Army leaders from the Army Chief of Staff, Sergeant Major of the Army to the newly commissioned Second Lieutenant, to the newly promoted sergeant and corporal, to demonstrate the proper respect and require everyone who serves in the ranks of our United States Army, to include the media, to respect our Nation's finest by addressing them by their earned title, "SOLDIER."

Editor's Note: Sgt. Maj. of the Army (Retired), Julius W. (Bill) Gates served his Nation as a Soldier during war and peace for more than three decades. He currently serves as the United States Army Research Institute, liaison officer with the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La. Command Sgt. Maj. (Retired) Jack Hardwick served his Nation as a Soldier during war and peace for three decades culminating as the Joint Readiness Training Center, Operations Group command sergeant major. He currently serves as the senior enlisted trainer with the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La.



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Letters to the Editor

The NCO Journal

11291 SGT E Churchill Street

Fort Bliss, Texas 79918-8002

How can I help?

Please be advised that I recently read a copy of your magazine, the *NCO Journal*, my first. This was in a rack at a nursing agency by whom I am employed. This is a wonderful and informative brochure for civilians like myself. I have four brothers and a brother-in-law who previously served, mostly Vietnam, also a niece who served for four years and a nephew who has been in two years. Could you please send me a name, male or female, that I could write to. This should be someone preferably from Arizona. This grandmother is ready to bake some cookies and send a quilt. God bless you for the wonderful work you are doing to keep the public updated and God bless America!

*Edith Ann Powell
Mesa, Ariz.*

Editor's note: We thanked Mrs. Powell personally with a letter and an information package for an organization in Arizona that can help her with her desire to support the troops. There are a host of independent organizations that are willing and ready to help citizens who wish to support the troops. The military currently does not accept "Any Servicemember" mail; the troops can still receive mail and care packages through these organizations. A good place to start is www.americasupportsyou.mil.

Where are the leaders?

My name is Staff Sgt. William Wallace stationed at Fort Knox, Ky, assigned to US Army Armor School. The reason I am writing is for the last couple of weeks I have read articles of Soldiers dying in Iraq and Afghanistan due to vehicle accidents, and have also seen pictures of Soldiers in the war zone riding waist high in the hatches of HMMWV's.

When I was stationed at Fort Polk, La., in the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, as a vehicle commander it was my duty as a leader to make sure that my Soldiers were seat belted into the vehicle and that my gunner was name tag defilade in the vehicle when the vehicle was moving. I could have sworn that at one

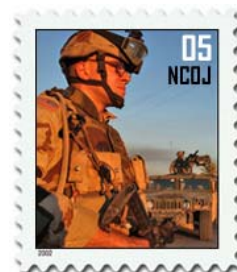
time this was a safety violation and was mandatory for the gunner or commander depending on what type of vehicle to be name tag defilade in all vehicles no matter if it was a tank, Bradley, or HMMWV.

The question I have is where are the leaders enforcing the standard of riding in a vehicle? I can understand at a short halt for the gunner to rise up to a better view of the area, but not while moving. I observed two pictures on the army.mil Web site, one from Afghanistan and the other from Iraq where it clearly shows the gunner standing in the hatch while the vehicle is moving. I read in some of the articles of the accidents that a Soldier thrown from the vehicle, but the other Soldiers in the vehicle had seatbelts on. Could this be the gunner that was thrown from the vehicle and was crushed when the vehicle rolled over on him? We as leaders need to enforce the standard of riding in a vehicle whether you are inside wearing a seat belt or riding in a hatch at name tag defilade, and maybe when an accident does happen the Soldier riding in the hatch can have enough time to drop and hold onto something during an accident.

*Staff Sgt. William D. Wallace
Fort Knox, Ky.*

Journal seeks your input

The *NCO Journal* welcomes your thoughts and encourages you to write to: *The NCO Journal*, 11291 SGT E Churchill Street, Fort Bliss, Texas, 79918-8002 or e-mail us at ATSS-SJ-NCOJOURNAL@bliss.army.mil. We reserve the right to edit your comments for clarity, grammar, spelling and length.



Roll call

o f t h e f a l l e n

Operation Iraqi Freedom

1st Lt. Louis E. Allen, 34, Milford, Pa., June 7, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Travis W. Anderson, 28, Hooper, Colo., May 13, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Roberto Arizola Jr., 31, Laredo, Texas, June 8, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Larry R. Arnold Sr., 46, Carriere, Miss., June 11, 2005 ◆ Spc. Bryan Edward Barron, 26, Biloxi, Miss., May 23, 2005 ◆ 1st Sgt. Michael J. Bordelon, 37, Morgan City, La., May 10, 2005 ◆ Spc. Joshua T. Brazee, 25, Sand Creek, Mich., May 23, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Scottie L. Bright, 36, Montgomery, Ala., July 5, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. William J. Brooks, 30, Birmingham, Ala., May 3, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Jeremy A. Brown, 26, Mabscott, W.V., July 3, 2005 ◆ Spc. Eric T. Burri, 21, Wyoming, Mich., June 7, 2005 ◆ Cpl. Lyle J. Cambridge, 23, Shiprock, N.M., July 5, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Deyson K. Cariaga, 20, Honolulu, Hawaii, July 5, 2005 ◆ Spc. Rafael A. Carrillo Jr., 21, Boys Ranch, Texas, June 28, 2005 ◆ Spc. Casey Byers, 22, Schleswig, Iowa, June 11, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Virgil R. Case, 37, Mountain Home, Idaho, June 1, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Samuel T. Castle, 26, Naples, Texas, May 11, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Gavin J. Colburn, 20, Frankfort, Ind., April 22, 2005 ◆ Sgt. 1st Class Randy D. Collins, 36, Long Beach, Calif., May 24, 2005 v Pvt. Charles S. Cooper Jr., 19, Jamestown, N.Y., April 29, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Victor M. Cortes III, 29, Erie, Pa., May 29, 2005 ◆ 2nd Lt. Matthew S. Coutu, 23, North Kingstown, R.I., June 27, 2005 ◆ Spc. Tyler L. Creamean, 21, Jacksonville, Ark., May 22, 2005 ◆ Lt. Col. Terrance K. Crowe, 44, Grand Island, N.Y., June 7, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Anthony J. Davis Jr., 22, Long Beach, Calif., April 23, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Kevin D. Davis, 41, Lebanon, Ore., April 8, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Darren A. Deblanc, 20, Evansville, Ind., April 29, 2005 ◆ Cpl. Tyler J. Dickens, 20, Columbus, Ga., April 12, 2005 ◆ Spc. Christopher W. Dickison, 26, Seattle, Wa., July 5, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Christopher W. Dill, 32, Tonawanda, N.Y., April 4, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Charles A. Drier, 28, Tuscola, Mich., May 24, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Arnold Duplantier II, 26, Sacramento, Calif., June 22, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Gary A. Eckert Jr., 24, Toledo, Ohio, May 8, 2005 ◆ 1st Lt. William A. Edens, 29, Columbus, Mo., April 28, 2005 ◆ Spc. Phillip C. Edmundson, 22, Wilson, N.C., June 1, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Mark O. Edwards, 40, Unicoi, Tenn., June 9, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Wyatt D. Eisenhauer, 26, Pinckneyville, Ill., May 19, 2005 ◆ Capt. Phillip T. Esposito, 30, Suffern, N.Y., June 7, 2005 ◆ 1st Lt. Michael J. Fasnacht, 25, Columbus, Ga., June 8, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Robin V. Fell, 22, Shreveport, La., May 19, 2005 ◆ Spc. Dustin C. Fisher, 22, Fort Smith, Ark., May 24, 2005 ◆ Capt. Stephen W. Frank, 29, Michigan, April 29, 2005 ◆ Spc. Carrie L. French, 19, Caldwell, Idaho, June 5, 2005 ◆ 2nd Lt. Clifford V. Gadsden, 25, South Carolina, April 29, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Javier J. Garcia, 25, Ft. Stewart, Ga., April 5, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Juan De Dios Garcia-Arana, 27, Los Angeles, Calif., April 30, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Charles C. Gillican III, 35, Brunswick, Ga., May 14, 2005 ◆ Spc. Steven R. Givens, 26, Mobile, Ala., May 8, 2005 ◆ Sgt. 1st Class Peter J. Hahn, 31, Metairie, La., May 24, 2005 ◆ Spc. Robert E. Hall Jr., 30, Pittsburgh, Pa., June 28, 2005 ◆ 1st Lt. Noah Harris, 23, Ellijay, Ga., June 18, 2005 ◆ Capt. Ralph J. Harting III, 28, Delaware, April 29, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Michael R. Hayes, 29, Morgantown, Ky., June 14, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Manny Hornedo, 27, Brooklyn, N.Y., June 28, 2005 ◆ Spc. Christopher L. Hoskins, 21, Danielson, Conn., June 21, 2005 ◆ Pvt. Aaron M. Hudson, 20, Highland Village, Texas, April 16, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Sam W. Huff, 18, Tucson, Ariz., April 18, 2005 ◆ Spc. Nicholas R. Idalski, 23, Crown Point, Ind., June 21, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Thor H. Ingraham, 24, Murrysville, Pa., May 8, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Anthony G. Jones, 25, Greenville, S.C., June 14, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Douglas E. Kashmer, 27, Sharon, Pa., June 8, 2005 ◆ Spc. Charles A. Kaufman, 20, Fairchild, Wis., June 26, 2005 ◆ Sgt. 1st Class Stephen C. Kennedy, 35, Oak Ridge, Tenn., April 4, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Timothy C. Kiser, 37, Tehama, Calif., April 28, 2005 ◆ Pvt. Joseph L. Knott, 21, Yuma, Ariz., April 17, 2005 ◆ Sgt. 1st Class Steven M. Langmack, 33, Seattle, Wash., May 31, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Casey M. LaWare, 19, Redding, Calif., April 9, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Samuel S. Lee, 19, Anaheim, Calif., March 28, 2005 ◆ Spc. Terrance D. Lee Sr., 25, Moss Point, Miss., June 11, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Tommy S. Little, 47, Aliceville, Ala., May 2, 2005 ◆ Cpl. William A. Long, 26, Lilburn, Ga., June 18, 2005 ◆ Spc. Manuel Lopez III, 20, Cape Coral, Fla., April 12, 2005 ◆ CW4 Matthew Scott Lourey, 40, East Bethel, Minn., May 27, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Angelo L. Lozada Jr., 36, Brooklyn, N.Y., April 16, 2005 ◆ Spc. Audrey Daron Lunsford, 29, Sardis, Miss., May 23, 2005 ◆ Spc. Derrick J. Lutters, 24, Burlington, Colo., May 1, 2005 ◆ Sgt. John E. McGee, 36, Columbus, Ga., May 2, 2005 ◆ Sgt. 1st Class Robbie D. McNary, 42, Lewistown, Mont., March 31, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Mark A. Maida, 22, Madison, Wis., May 27, 2005 ◆ Chief Warrant Officer Keith R. Mariotti, 39, Texas, June 27, 2005 ◆ Pvt. Anthony M. Mazzarella, 22, Blue Springs, Mo., July 5, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Chad M. Mercer, 25, Waycross, Ga., June 30, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Nicolas E. Messmer, 20, Franklin, Ohio, May 8, 2005 ◆ Spc. John W. Miller, 21, West Burlington, Iowa, April 12, 2005 ◆ 1st Sgt. Timmy J. Millsap, 39, Wichita, Kan., April 25, 2005 ◆ Spc. Ryan J. Montgomery, 22, Greensburg, Ky., July 3, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Carl J. Morgain, 40, Butler, Pa., May 22, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Eric W. Morris, 31, Sparks, Nev., April 28, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Kelly S. Morris, 24, Boise, Idaho, March 30, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Benjamin C. Morton, 24, Wright, May 22, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Robert W. Murray Jr., 21, Westfield, Ind., April 28, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Louis E. Niedermeier, 20, Largo, Fla., June 1, 2005 ◆ Sgt. John B. Ogburn III, 45, Fruitland, Ore., May 22, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Kenya A. Parker, 26, Fairfield, Ala., April 30, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Saburant Parker, 43, Foxworth, Miss., May 23, 2005 ◆ Spc. Jacob M. Pfister, 27, Buffalo, N.Y., April 19, 2005 ◆ Sgt. 1st Class Christopher W. Phelps, 39, Louisville, Ky., June 23, 2005 ◆ Cpl. Kevin W. Prince, 22, Plain City, Ohio, April 23, 2005 ◆ Sgt. 1st Class Neil A. Prince, 35, Baltimore, Md., June 11, 2005 ◆ Spc. Aleina Ramirezgonzalez, 33, Hormigueros, Puerto Rico, April 15, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Miguel A. Ramos, 39, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, May 31, 2005 ◆ Spc. David L. Rice, 22, Sioux City, Iowa, April 26, 2005 ◆ Cpl. William D. Richardson, 23, Moreno Valley, Calif., April 3, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Kenneth L. Ridgley, 30, Olney, Ill., March 30, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Wesley R. Riggs, 19, Baytown, Texas, May 17, 2005 ◆ Spc. Ricky W. Rockholt Jr., 28, Winston, Ore., April 28, 2005 ◆ Spc. Brian M. Romines, 20, Simpson, Ill., June 6, 2005 ◆ Spc. Phillip N. Sayles, 26, Jacksonville, Ark., May 28,

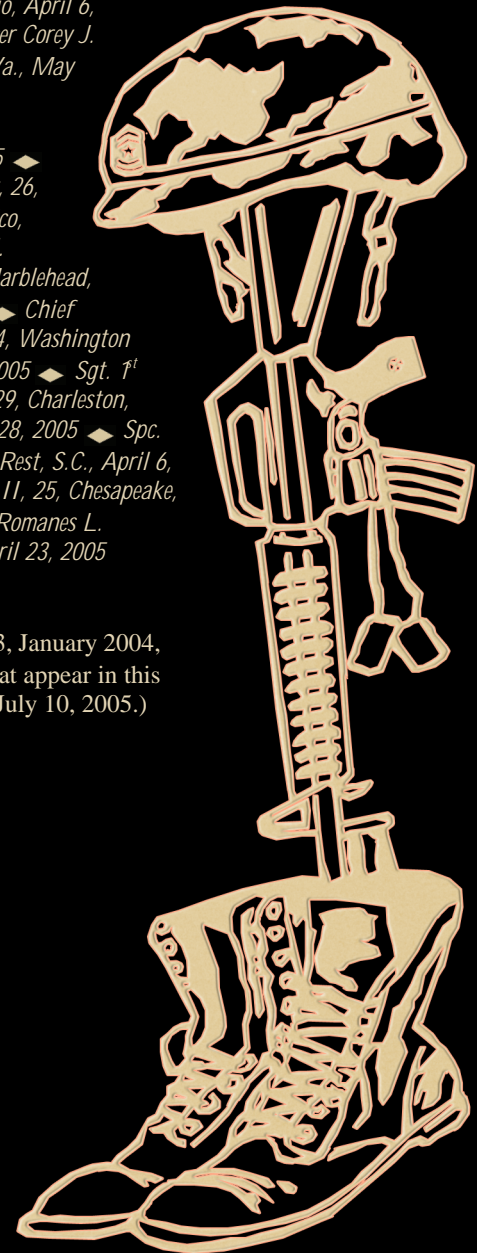
2005 ◆ Sgt. Stephen P. Saxton, 24, Temecula, Calif., May 3, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Kenneth J. Schall, 22, Peoria, Ariz., May 22, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Kurt D. Schamberg, 26, Euclid, Ohio, May 20, 2003 ◆ CW2 Joshua Michel Scott, 28, Sun Prairie, Wis., May 27, 2005 ◆ 1st Lt. Aaron N. Seesan, 25, Ohio, May 22, 2005 ◆ Spc. Bernard L. Sembly, 25, Bossier City, La., May 19, 2005 ◆ Chief Warrant Officer Steven E. Shepard, 30, Purcell, Okla., June 27, 2005 ◆ Sgt. James A. Sherrill, 27, Ekron, Ky., April 3, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Alfred B. Siler, 33, Duff, Tenn., May 25, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Jacob M. Simpson, 24, Ashland, Ore., May 16, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Steven F. Sirko, 20, Portage, Ind., April 17, 2005 ◆ Lt. Col. Albert E. Smart, 41, San Antonio, Texas, May 28, 2005 ◆ Sgt. John M. Smith, 22, Wilmington, N.C., May 12, 2005 ◆ Spc. Randy L. Stevens, 21, Swartz Creek, Mich., April 16, 2005 ◆ Sgt. James D. Stewart, 29, Chattanooga, Tenn., June 21, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Joseph M. Tackett, 22, Whitehouse, Ky., June 23, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Ioasa F. Tavae Jr., 29, Pago Pago, American Samoa, April 2, 2005 ◆ Maj. Steven W. Thornton, 46, Eugene, Ore., April 18, 2005 ◆ Spc. Eric L. Toth, 21, Edmonton, Ky., March 30, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Tomaine K. Toy Sr., 24, Eastville, Va., April 16, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Daniel Ryan Varnado, 23, Saucier, Miss., May 23, 2005 ◆ Spc. Brain A. Vaughn, 23, Pell City, Ala., June 21, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Russell J. Verdugo, 34, Phoenix, Ariz., May 23, 2005 ◆ DA Civ. Linda J. Villar, 41, Franklinton, La., June 3, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Antwan L. Walker, 22, Tampa, Fla., May 18, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Jeffrey R. Wallace, 20, Hoopston, Ill., May 24, 2005 ◆ Spc. Gary W. Walters Jr., 31, Victoria, Texas, April 24, 2005 ◆ Spc. Glenn J. Watkins, 42, Carlsbad, Calif., April 5, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Brad A. Wentz, 21, Gladwin, Mich., May 20, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Kevin S. K. Wessel, 20, Newport, Ore., April 19, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Charles T. Wilkerson, 30, Kansas City, Mo., May 22, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Kenneth E. Zeigler II, 22, Dillsburg, Pa., May 12, 2005

Operation Enduring Freedom

Staff Sgt. Leroy E. Alexander, 27, Dale City, Va., June 3, 2005 ◆ Chief Warrant Officer David Ayala, 24, New York, N.Y., April 6, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Maj. Barbaralien Banks, 41, Harvey, La., April 6, 2005 ◆ Sgt. 1st Class Victor H. Cervantes, 27, Stockton, Calif., June 10, 2005 ◆ Spc. Anthony S. Cometa, 21, Las Vegas, Nev., June 16, 2005 ◆ Capt. David S. Connolly, 37, Boston, Mass., April 6, 2005 ◆ Spc. Robert W. Defazio, 21, West Babylon, N.Y., April 24, 2005 ◆ Spc. Daniel J. Freeman, 20, Cincinnati, Ohio, April 6, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Shamus O. Goare, 29, Danville, Ohio, June 28, 2005 ◆ Chief Warrant Officer Corey J. Goodnature, 35, Clarks Grove, Minn., June 28, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Kyle M. Hemauer, 21, Manassas, Va., May 24, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Emmanuel Hernandez, 22, Yauco, Puerto Rico, June 8, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Stephen C. High, 45, Spartanburg, S.C., April 6, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Kip A. Jacoby, 21, Pompano Beach, Fla., June 28, 2005 ◆ Sgt. 1st Class Allen C. Johnson, 31, Los Molinos, Calif., April 26, 2005 ◆ Sgt. Michael J. Kelley, 26, Scituate, Mass., June 8, 2005 ◆ Master Sgt. Edwin A. Matoscolon, 42, Juana Diaz, Puerto Rico, April 6, 2005 ◆ Sgt. 1st Class Marcus V. Muralles, 33, Shelbyville, Ind., June 28, 2005 ◆ Maj. Edward J. Murphy, 36, South Carolina, April 6, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Christopher N. Piper, 43, Marblehead, Mass., June 16, 2005 ◆ Master Sgt. James W. Ponder III, 36, Franklin, Tenn., June 28, 2005 ◆ Chief Warrant Officer Clint J. Prather, 32, Cheney, Wash., April 6, 2005 ◆ Maj. Stephen C. Reich, 34, Washington Depot, Conn., June 28, 2005 ◆ Capt. Charles D. Robinson, 29, Haddon Heights, N.J., June 3, 2005 ◆ Sgt. 1st Class Michael L. Russell, 31, Stafford, Va., June 28, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Charles R. Sanders Jr., 29, Charleston, Mo., April 6, 2005 ◆ Chief Warrant Officer Chris J. Scherkenbach, 40, Jacksonville, Fla., June 28, 2005 ◆ Spc. Michael K. Spivey, 21, Fayetteville, N.C., April 6, 2005 ◆ Spc. Crystal G. Stout, 23, Travelers Rest, S.C., April 6, 2005 ◆ Spc. Sascha Struble, 20, Philadelphia, N.Y., April 6, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Pendelton L. Sykes II, 25, Chesapeake, Va., April 6, 2005 ◆ Pfc. Steven C. Tucker, 19, Grapevine, Texas, May 21, 2005 ◆ Staff Sgt. Romanes L. Woodard, 30, Hertford, N.C., April 6, 2005 ◆ Pvt. Robert C. White III, 21, Camden, N.J., April 23, 2005

(Editor's note: This list is a continuation of previous lists printed in the October 2003, January 2004, April 2004, July 2004, October 2004, January 2005 and April 2005 issues. The names that appear in this Honor Roll are those that have been released since March 31, 2005 and are current as of July 10, 2005.)

*You Are Not
Forgotten*



"At this very hour, more than a million of our fellow citizens are standing watch for America. We are grateful to them all; and we are grateful to their families. We pray for our troops; we pray for their families. And on this night, as we celebrate the blessing of liberty, America honors the spirit of service that keeps our nation strong and free."

-- President George W. Bush, at "Celebration of Freedom" concert at The Ellipse in Washington, D.C.



U.S. Navy photo by Chief Photographer's Mate Edward G. Martens

Pfc. Ray Brownlee stands a night watch at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Hotel as a storm rapidly approaches, Najaf, Iraq, April 26. Brownlee is attached to Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 155th Brigade Combat Team. U.S. military personnel are forward deployed to FOB Hotel in central Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

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