

Duty First!



Duty Honor Country

The Big Red One

Creed

TEAMWORK is the foundation of the Big Red One. I shall never fail my team, for I maintain the standard. My conduct and self-discipline set the example for others to follow.

HONOR is what I stand for – an American Soldier on duty for my country. My loyalty is intense. I display care for my fellow Soldiers and my chain-of-command through courage, respect, integrity and compassion.

I have learned to **ENDURE**, to thrive in adversity. The harsh reality of combat gives me the enthusiasm for realistic training. I am physically and mentally strong to meet the demanding situations my unit encounters.

We are one in the Big Red One. Our **BROTHERHOOD** gives us strength to fight on to any objective and accomplish the mission as our veterans have done before us. I live the legacy of my division.

READINESS is my priority. To be ready for any mission, anytime, anywhere. My business is first-class training and living high standards of care and equipment, weaponry and tactical and technical competence.

My **ORGANIZATION** is my strength. The BRD is bigger than any one individual. It gives me purpose, self-confidence, competitive spirit, intestinal fortitude and the desire to fight with all my heart.



Duty **1** First!

No Mission too Difficult. No Sacrifice too Great.

April 2009

www.1id.army.mil

**1st Infantry Division
Commander**
Brig. Gen. Perry Wiggins

1st Infantry Division CSM
Command Sgt. Maj.
Jim Champagne

1st Infantry Division PAO
Lt. Col. Matt Hackathorn

Editor
Gary Skidmore

Staff Writers
Ty Abney
Anna Staatz

Illustrator
Tammy Dinger

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Bldg. 580
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DSN 856-8857

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Duty First!/Skidmore

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Commanding General **Danger 6**

Safety First

Brig. Gen. Perry Wiggins

Now that spring is officially here, we're all looking forward to enjoying the warm weather and time outside with friends and loved ones. But with the increased temperatures also comes an increased responsibility to remain focused on safety. This means being alert and aware of everything from fire hazards to children playing outdoors.

I remember as a young child my parents opened the door, kicked me outside to play and didn't worry about me until dinner time rolled around. They didn't have to worry much about cars racing down the street or suspicious people hanging around the playground. The neighbors were friendly and they looked out for us.

Unfortunately, that isn't always the case today. I'm not advocating keeping your kids locked up inside the house. In fact, most kids today probably don't spend enough time outside. But make sure they're responsible enough to be out on their own. And if you happen to be enjoying a good book on your front porch, keep an eye on the kids riding their bikes down the sidewalk or playing soccer in the parking lot. We're all a Family and we need to look out for each other.

Another aspect of keeping our children safe is making sure they understand the dangers of playing with matches and fireworks. It's our responsibility as parents to educate them on what can happen when a fire gets out of control, particularly with extremely dry conditions.

This spring I'll be attempting to take my first turkey and I'm looking forward to getting back out in the woods

again. But I know I won't be the only one out there. We have plenty of nature enthusiasts who will also be out and about, taking a stroll, watching birds or perhaps looking for morel mushrooms. We all need to be cognizant of each other and remember that there are procedures to follow when venturing off the beaten path in our training areas. To get a list of current open recreation areas on Fort Riley, visit :



<http://www.riley.army.mil/view/article.aspx?articleId=622-2002-10-31-35221-8>.

Be sure to check the link daily to confirm the area you want to go to is open.

Lastly, I want to address traffic. Fortunately, we don't have to deal with icy road conditions anymore. But you'll begin to see more motorcyclists on the roads as the temperatures climb. All motorists need to be aware of motorcycles and give them the same amount of space that you would any other vehicle. And the riders need to be sure they're riding in a safe manner, too. Burn-outs at the

stoplight and weaving in and out of traffic do not constitute safe riding. Danger 7 addresses safe motorcycle riding specifically in his column and you can read even more on pages 17-18.

Though this winter was relatively mild compared to last year, we still had our share of bitter cold temperatures and slick streets. I'm just as excited as you are about the warm temperatures. We just all need to keep safety in mind as we get out and enjoy the beautiful weather.

Duty First! 

Command Sergeant Major **Danger 7**

Motorcycle Safety

Division Command Sgt. Maj. Jim Champagne

If sports history has taught us anything, it's that even the world's best athletes aren't safe from accidents. In June 2006, Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, who at 23 became the youngest starting quarterback to guide his team to a Super Bowl victory, was badly injured in a motorcycle accident. The NFL star, who had been riding motorcycles for years, wasn't wearing a helmet in the accident.

That's just stupid!

What this accident should show motorcycle riders in the 1st Infantry Division is the necessity for safety each and every time you get on your bike.

First of all, no one is allowed to ride their motorcycle, ATV or moped scooter on post without the proper training and safety equipment.

Every rider must have a U.S. Department of Transportation approved helmet. Riders must also have impact or shatter resistant goggles, wrap around glasses or a full face shield properly attached to the helmet that meets the American National Standard for impact and shatter resistance. Additionally, riders must wear full-fingered gloves designed for motorcycles, a long sleeved shirt or jacket and sturdy footwear like leather boots that at a minimum cover the ankle. Reflective vests or belts must also be worn anytime you ride on post.

But before you worry about all that, you need to take a Motorcycle Safety Foundation-based Basic Rider Course. Don't think that since you've ridden for years, you won't need the course. You will!

The classes are free to Soldiers, their Family members, Department of the Army Civilians and retirees. They are aimed at riders who haven't attended a basic course. You don't need a motorcycle to take this course, we provide that for you.

After successfully completing the basic course and at least six months of riding experience, I recommend you take

the Experienced Riders Course. The course is designed for riders who have a motorcycle license.

Once all of the requirements are met and you're ready to take off, remember a few little secrets I've learned for riding my bike.


Drive defensively, more so than if you were driving a car.

Many motorists don't feel comfortable sharing the highway with motorcycle riders. Nerves often set in and drivers of cars or trucks tend to drive more offensively than they normally would, hoping to pass a motorcyclist as quickly as possible. This makes things extra difficult for bikers who don't have nearly as much protection from an accident as someone driving a heavy truck. Always pay attention to what the drivers around you are doing and always keep your eyes on the road. A good rule of thumb is to imagine you're invisible to other motorists. When driving down the highway, position yourself to be seen by your fellow motorists and never sneak up on them.

Know the road conditions. While a pothole won't do much damage to a car, it can be dangerous for anyone on a motorcycle. Even puddles can be danger spots for bikers.

When driving on wet roads, realize that even the painted lines and directionals on the roads are substantially more dangerous when wet than when they're dry, so always slow down when crossing such spots.

The weather is getting better for riding every day. For those of us who have motorcycles, the urge to get on the road is growing. For those that feel the urge to get a motorcycle and get on the road, that urge is calling as well... I know. But before you jump on your bikes remember: safety first. Know your motorcycle; check it over before you get on it. Know what to wear and how to display your reflective garments and finally, have fun! I hope to see you on the road.

Now...Get after it! 

1ST BDE

Transition Team Trainers Visit

By Tyler Abney
Duty First! Magazine

Big Red One Soldiers recently visited Kuwait to learn more about transition team training in theater and how to improve training done at Fort Riley to prepare transition teams for battle.

Small group advisors teach tactical maneuvers, proper weapons handling and urban operations to service members tapped to become part of transition teams sent to Iraq and Afghanistan. Capt. Mike Barnett, commander, Company C, 1st Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade, and Capt. Wynne Beers, commander, Co. B, joined seven other SGAs from the battalion during a two-week trip to Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Transition team members undergo further training in Kuwait before heading to Iraq. Barnett and Beers not only took notes, but also participated in drills to get a better understanding of the tasks.

“We were asked to observe the training that is supported by the Iraqi Assistance Group, Kuwait Detachment and how they support and get the combat advisors ready to go further north into Taji,” Barnett said.

Barnett and Beers are both in the same battalion, but the training they supply at Fort Riley is aimed at troops headed for

two separate locations. Barnett’s cadre trains Soldiers headed for Afghanistan while Beers deals with Soldiers routed to Iraq. Barnett said even though the things he saw at Camp Buehring were not aimed directly at his Soldiers, he was able to bring home some beneficial information.

The group’s two weeks in Kuwait allowed them to take part in weapons training, improvised explosive device identification and avoidance, driving schools, communications and medical training, along with dry and live-fire situational training exercises.

Although the scope of the training covered all aspects of upcoming missions, a major portion of the training was devoted to weapons training.

“The weapons training classes were very extensive and very well conducted,” Barnett said. “The primary marksmanship instruction was conducted hands on, run step-by-step, but in such a way you had to work the weapon, take it apart, put it back together and understand why certain things had to be a certain way.”

The same type of training has since been implemented at Camp Funston.

The SGAs also went through courses designed to familiarize them with IEDs used in theater. Barnett said the training was divided into classroom and training lane settings. The

classroom part consisted of a briefing on historical and current examples of IEDs while the training lane tested Soldiers’ responses to a situation involving explosives. In one case, Soldiers were lined up and a car was driven toward them to test their reaction time.

Barnett said the instructor counted as the vehicle moved toward the group, but before he reached two, the vehicle had already passed them.

“I thought this was very insightful because that’s something we can replicate here and reinforce that learning objective,” Barnett said. “SGAs could take our teams out to the back end of Funston where nothing is going on and run the same drill.” In addition, Beers said Soldiers learned how to operate mine resistant ambush protected vehicles – something he thinks could be replicated on Fort Riley. Even though the vehicles are not identical, Beers said he would like Soldiers to drive five-ton trucks as part of their training. If feasible, it would allow transition teams to be more familiar with driving a much heavier vehicle and understanding its capabilities.

In the final portion of the training, Soldiers completed a two-day capstone exercise in which advisors operated from a forward operating base. The teams were taken to a remote location where they linked up with a host-nation counterpart and traveled through various training lanes. Beers said exercise included both blank and live rounds.

Barnett, Beers and the other SGAs participated in the majority of the exercises, but decided to observe the capstone rather than play a part. Observing helped them recognize improvements that need to be made in the training teams get at Camp Funston.

“There are some things we took away that he [Beers] sees as a benefit and I see as a benefit,” Barnett said. “Then there were some things we’re doing about the same and some we’re doing better. I don’t think anyone who is training advisors or any kind of troops has the end-all-be-all of training. There’s always something you can learn from any location you go to. I think we got a pretty good insight and ability to take things back to bring in our training.”



Transition team members execute a humvee recovery drill at Camp Buehring, Kuwait.



Soldiers participate in close-quarters marksmanship training at Camp Buehring, Kuwait.

Courtesy Photos

1ST CAB

Unit Wins Parker Award

By Anna Staatz
Duty First! Magazine

They dealt with dust and sand storms, difficult combat conditions and long, hard hours, but at the end of a 15-month deployment, the Soldiers of 2nd General Support Aviation Battalion, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, proved they were the best in the Army.

The battalion was awarded the Lt. Gen. Ellis D. Parker Award as the top battalion in the combat support category. The unit accepted the award during a week-long Senior Aviation Leaders Conference Jan. 26-30 at Fort Rucker, Ala.

The "Fighting Eagles" deployed to Iraq in September 2007 as part of the 1st Combat Aviation Brigade. The unit returned to Fort Riley in December 2008. The "Fighting Eagles" are the largest flight unit in the CAB, with 643 Soldiers who carry out seven different missions. During deployment, the unit operated with 10 UH-60 command and control Blackhawk helicopters; 12 CH-47 assault and heavy lift Chinook helicopters; 12 UH-60 MEDEVAC helicopters; six air traffic control towers; two 24-hour aviation and ground maintenance companies and a battalion headquarters company.

Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Michael Tetu said during deployment, the unit's pilots faced some of the most austere weather conditions Iraq has seen in the last 30 years.



Courtesy Photo

Soldiers of 2nd Bn., 1st Avn. Regt., received the Lt. Gen. Ellis Parker Award as top battalion in the combat support category. Pictured from the left are retired Lt. Gen. Ellis Parker, Maj. Gen. James Barclay, commanding general of the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Mike Tetu, Chief Warrant Officer Jess McGee, Battalion standardization officer, and Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Don Wright.


"We had an unbelievable amount of sand and dust storms during what the weather people said was the driest year in more than 30 years," Tetu said. "After the sun would set, the dust would just hang in the air."

Tetu said the battalion really began to come together during the deployment. Even with seven companies performing a wide variety of missions, Tetu said his Soldiers went above and beyond to support and take care of each other.

"Fifteen months requires a ton of trust and commitment from the guys and gals in uniform, and also an incredible amount of trust and faith from

Families back home," Tetu said. "We hang our record on our NCOs, from sergeant to first sergeant. They did the long, hard work in the worst of the dust and heat or the bitter cold, and made everything else look easy for the officers, warrant officers and Soldiers."

Tetu also credited the Families of his Soldiers for helping the unit complete a successful deployment.

"A significant part of this battalion's success was due to the sustained support from the Families over a very long 15-month period," Tetu said. "It was a lot to ask. They help tremendously and allowed us to focus forward. They know sacrifice. This is as much their award as it is the people in uniform." 

1ST SB

WALKER ASSUMES BRIGADE COMMAND


By Tyler Abney
Duty First! Magazine

Col. Flem B. "Donnie" Walker, Jr. and Command Sgt. Maj. Miguel Rivera took the reins of the 1st Sustainment Brigade as Col. Kevin O'Connell and Command Sgt. Maj. Frank Cardoza bid farewell.

"Today is a bitter sweet day because we're going to say goodbye to an incredible command team," said Brig. Gen. Perry Wiggins, commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley. "That makes it bitter. What makes it sweet is what the Army always does. It always finds quality people to step into your footsteps, carry on, and continue the mission."

The "Durables" recent 15-month deployment was lengthy and challenging as they provided logistical support to seven battalions — approximately 90,000 Soldiers and 50,000 contractors. Wiggins said the brigade's ability to provide support for such great numbers was mind boggling and O'Connell's command team will be remembered more for their dedicated service to Soldiers and Families rather than for the statistics of their deployment.

"Today we proudly turn over the formation to a great new command team," O'Connell said. Both are proven warriors and sustainers and there are no two individuals I'd rather see take on the brigade.

Walker said he was very grateful for the opportunity to command the "Durables" and vowed the brigade's philosophy would be based on leadership, governed by common sense and Soldiers and their Families would be taken care of during deployments. 



Duty First!/Abney

Former 1st Sustainment Brigade Commander, Col. Kevin O'Connell passes the unit's colors to 1st Infantry Division, Brig. Gen. Perry Wiggins commanding general, 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley on Feb. 9 at King Field House. O'Connell handed his command responsibilities over to Col. Flem B. "Donnie" Walker Jr.

2ND HBCT

Teeing Off The Stress




By *Spc. Dustin Roberts*
2nd HBCT PAO

BAGHDAD – Soldiers serving with the 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team can now work on their golf swing and tee-off the strains and stresses of deployment.

Named the “Ridgefield Country Club Driving Range in Iraq,” the range pays tribute to a group of golfing veterans in Ridgefield, Conn., who donated the equipment for the range.

“The men are friends of mine through my parents and in-laws and are great supporters of the military,” said Lt. Col. Christopher Beckert, deputy commander, 2nd HBCT. “When they heard our brigade was deploying, they felt one thing they could do was contribute to the morale of the Soldiers by sending used golf clubs and used golf balls, along with some mats. Soldiers could relax and pass time when they have free time.”

Beckert said the group of golfers in his home state sympathized with his Soldiers’ situation.

“They are all veterans themselves so they know what Soldiers go through. They also understand that it is hard sometimes to be away for a long time without things to do,” he said. 



2nd HBCT/Roberts

Sgt. Ryan Greve, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, shows off his golf swing at the driving range on Camp Liberty. The new range is a way for golf-loving Soldiers to hone their skills after work.

3RD IBCT

SCOUTS WATCHIN’ OVER ME

By *Staff Sgt. David Hopkins*
3rd IBCT PAO

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan — Cavalry Scouts of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 6th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, along with the Afghan National Army, perform regular missions along the unpaved roadways in the Konar province of northeastern Afghanistan.

“We do about 20 to 25 missions a month,” said troop commander Capt. Paul Roberts. “We do combat logistics patrol overwatch, night patrols and route recon.”

Recently, 3rd IBCT conducted an CLP overwatch at one of the most frequently attacked locations running through its area of operations.


“CLP overwatch missions are the hardest. They require the most combat power and there are a lot of moving parts,” Roberts said.

During the mission, the scouts took up their position on a plateau along the river giving them a vantage point along the road. Members of the Afghan National Army watched from a mountainside position.

The scouts saw some suspicious signs along the road and mountain ridges, but the mission went off without incident. The supplies were delivered and no shots were fired.

“I’m really proud of my guys,” Roberts said. “They’ve been doing exactly what I expect of cavalry scouts. They are out there all the time doing a tough job.”

The scouts’ leadership has many hopes for the future of their troop, but their main hope is for the Afghan National Security Forces.

“My biggest hope for the future of the unit is for the ANSF guys,” Roberts said. “My hope is that all the ANSF guys get better and take on more responsibility, extending the face of the government, take the fight to the bad guys. Until then we’ll be there doing our job.” 



3rd IBCT/Hopkins

A Humvee belonging to Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 6th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team sits on a plateau overlooking the route of a combat logistics patrol delivering supplies to the area. The scouts were there to watch for enemy activity and protect the patrol from attack.

4TH IBCT

RANGE READY MEANS COMBAT PREPARED

By Anna Staats
Duty First! Magazine

The efficiency of combat operations is completely dependent on the efficiency of training before Soldiers deploy. Soldiers in the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team spent part of March in the field, testing communications systems and honing the assets needed to make their pre-deployment test at the National Training Center a success.

The brigade headed to the field in early March and set up a tactical operations center and then spent the following days testing equipment and communications systems. Battalions also set up TOCs — while most of them were conducting their own ranges and field training.

The field training exercise is the largest exercise the brigade has completed before heading to the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., where it will be tested on its ability to handle full spectrum combat operations.

Maj. Mike Volpe, brigade plans officer, said the training exercise validated unit systems and operating

procedures and brought to the forefront any shortfalls that needed to be fixed prior to going to NTC.

Battalions conducted a wide range of field training prior to the brigade exercise, drilling in needed combat skills. Soldiers in 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, spent time at the end of February perfecting skills needed to clear houses and gather intelligence. For members of 3rd Platoon, Company B, the training was also about gelling as a team.

“Some of the guys were here for the previous deployment,” said 1st Lt. John Enderle. “But we’ve got a lot of new guys, either coming from somewhere else in the Army, or who are coming to their first duty assignment in the Army. Having those veteran guys who were here for the last deployment to show them how it’s done adds a lot to the team.”

Capt. Joshua Hunsucker, commander, Co. B, said the situations his Soldiers faced during field training were very similar to what they would see both at the NTC and while deployed to Iraq.

“This is the same kind of stuff,” Hunsucker said. “It’s good preparation for the bigger operations we’ll be doing at NTC.”

Soldiers in 2nd Bn., 32nd Field Artillery Regt., also headed to the field in late February for combat artillery drills. It wasn’t all about the big guns that an artillery unit brings to the field, however.

Because Soldiers are asked to be ready to meet a wide range of missions, the battalion also sent its Soldiers through several other scenarios — such as mounted convoy training and battle drills in close quarters combat. Two of the unit’s batteries also conducted an air assault mission — when the Howitzers are moved by Chinooks to another location to support infantry units in a hostile area.

“My objective is to provide them an opportunity that puts them out of their comfort zone as much as possible,” Lawson said. “That forces them to have to deal with a variety of complex things at the same time.”

The brigade is slated to go to the NTC for a month of training sometime in May. Operations at the NTC will focus on using all of the brigade’s elements in a variety of combat operations. The “Dragons” are scheduled to deploy to Iraq later this summer.



1st Lt. John Enderle and Pfc. Andrew Mueller, Co. B, 2nd Bn., 16th Inf. Regt., listen to radio traffic during a field training exercise Feb. 25.



Duty First!/Staatz

Sgt. Phillip Goral, Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 32nd Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, loads an M119A2 Howitzer during training on Feb. 19.

Soldiers from Company B, 2nd Bn., 16th Inf. Regt., head towards a building during a training exercise Feb. 25.

History Of The Big Red One

Lost But Not Gone

By Anna Staats
Duty First! Magazine

Hours after the guns and battle cries of combat faded, Big Red One Soldiers taken as prisoners of war found themselves fighting for survival. Many prisoners of war didn't survive the grueling conditions, severe weather, lack of food and long road marches. However, some managed to beat the odds and survived with plenty of stories to tell.

Robert Roenna

Robert Roenna was drafted in 1943 at the age of 18. After some intelligence and communications training, Roenna was sent to the 3rd Ranger Battalion where he became a member of "Darby's Rangers." The Darby Rangers were attached to the 1st Infantry Division, and commanded by Col. William Darby. The famed unit became well known in World War II, initially for its campaigns in North Africa. In early 1943, the unit pushed out of North Africa toward Italy.

Roenna worked in the communications cell for Headquarters and Headquarters Company as the unit completed the Anzio landing and moved towards Cisterna. The 3rd Ranger Bn. pushed ahead of other units working with them on the campaign, a move that turned the odds against them. The unit became separated from its supporting forces and smacked up against an entire German motorized infantry division.

"We were out of ammo in about five hours," Roenna said. The major he was handling radio communications for was one of the first killed in the battle.

Roenna and other Soldiers were captured by the Germans, who took them in trucks to spend the night in an old castle. They were then taken to the Coliseum in Rome, where they were tossed in with another group of American POWs and paraded through the streets of Rome.



Bob Roenna at a POW Reunion on Oct. 17, 2007. Roenna was captured while serving with the 3rd Ranger Battalion, attached to the 1st Infantry Division.

Roenna was wounded in the leg during the battle, but managed to limp along with the other Soldiers.

"If you didn't walk, you didn't come out of that battle," he said.

The Americans were then put on a train and taken to Germany. Roenna volunteered to work during his time in captivity.

"I had done some farming in Illinois, so I volunteered to go to a potato farm," Roenna said. "I was at least able to feed myself a little."

Towards the end of his time as a POW, Roenna said the Germans took the Soldiers on a march for about three months, moving the Soldiers daily in order to stay in front of the Russians.

"One morning, we got up, and all the guards had taken off," Roenna said. "Next thing you know, three American tanks came rolling along. Some Soldiers popped out of the gun turrets and said 'who the heck are you guys?'"

The tanks and Soldiers were on their way to link up with another unit. They told the POWs to go down the road to

the next town and that they would call for trucks to come and pick them up. Roenna weighed 90 pounds when he was picked up by his fellow American Soldiers.

After some recovery time in the states, Roenna spent his remaining duty days closing American POW camps full of German Soldiers in Wisconsin.

"I had to go pick up those fat Germans and get them on their way back to Germany," Roenna said with a chuckle. "I did that until my discharge papers came in 1945, and two hours later, I was gone and on my way home."

Roenna worked for a printing plant and then sold packaging for large franchises for many years. He lives in Illinois now, and volunteers for a national organization, American Ex-Prisoners of War, which assists former POWs.

James Everett

In 1941, James Everett was assigned to the 1st Anti-Tank Bn., which later became the 601st Tank Destroyer Bn. The 601st Tank Destroyer Bn. invaded North Africa and Sicily with the 1st Inf. Div., but eventually ended up in the 3rd Inf. Div.

When the 1st Inf. Div. invaded North Africa, the 601st landed in Arzew, then drove 800 miles to Tunisia.

Everett's time with the 601st came to an abrupt end on Jan. 2, 1943, when he was captured in the Ousseltia Valley. That day, Everett was sent out on a reconnaissance mission when he spotted about 37 tanks. He was told to take eight men and go forward to destroy a German tank with rifle grenades so that it would block the road and slow down the rest of the tanks. Later, Everett learned that the French officer who had been placed with his unit was feeding the Germans information.

After he and his men had picked a spot at the top of a hill about 100 yards from the tanks, Everett went back down the hill to his vehicle to radio back to the unit. When he turned, he saw three Germans coming down the hill toward him; his men had already been captured. The Germans fired on him as he hid behind the vehicle, trying to load his rifle. After a brief struggle, they took him prisoner.

Everett was kept in North Africa for three days and interrogated. From there, he was flown to Rome. There, they put him in a box car with other prisoners for a very cramped, crowded and extremely uncomfortable trip to Germany.

Everett was taken to a small shack to have his POW photograph taken. As he stepped up for his photo, the German photographer told him not to smile. Everett decided he would smile, just to spite the photographer. He was helped along in his intentions when up popped a tassel, followed by a face, in the little window behind the photographer. A Scottish POW who had never seen an American before had decided to sneak a peek.

Everett was a prisoner in Germany for two and a half years and attempted to escape three times. On the first attempt, he didn't even get out of camp, and was placed in solitary confinement for 25 days.



James Everett was captured in North Africa in 1943, while serving with the 601st Tank Destroyer Battalion. The unit was attached to the Big Red One during the invasion of North Africa.

With his second attempt, Everett was able to get out of camp and hide on a train. He was about 200 miles away when the train slowed up and then stopped in a spot with guards surrounding the train. He was recaptured and beaten severely. He spent 10 days in a hospital and then was shipped back to the camp, where he spent another 33 days in solitary confinement.

On his third attempt, Everett finally succeeded. While the German Soldiers marched POWs along the road Everett saw a little ditch along the side of the road and was able to dive into it when the guards were distracted. Once the group passed him by, he headed toward American lines.


On his first day of escape, Everett's feet hurt so much he took his shoes off. Unfortunately, they were so swollen that he couldn't put his shoes back on and had to walk the next day and a half in his socks. Everett met three other escaped American POWs on the road. Fortunately, one of the others had come by some rubber boots that didn't fit, so he gave them to Everett. The group was hungry and cold and eventually resorted to eating grass to fill their stomachs and using snow to drink.

In early April, after about 10 days of walking, the small band of POWs had almost reached the

American lines north of Magdeburg. To reach it, though, they had to cross the Elbe River. In a small town along the Elbe, the four were able to find a rowboat and its half-drunk German owner. They convinced the owner to ferry them across the Elbe.

By the time he reached American lines, Everett weighed about 98 pounds. He was so thin that the American unit he had stumbled upon decided not to send him back in his current state. They kept him at the front lines until the first week in June to try to fatten him up. They even gave him a gun and put him on guard duty.

Eventually, the Americans put him on a plane and flew him to France. From there he took a ship back to the U.S.

Everett eventually retired from the Army after 20 years of service. 

Rebecca Tharp of the Bridgehead Sentinel contributed to this story. Photos courtesy of Cantigny First Division Museum.

Paving The Way

By *Spc. Brandon Sandefur*
3rd IBCT PAO

JALALABAD AIR FIELD, Afghanistan — Soldiers from the 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, are improving accessibility into the Lal Por District of the Nangahar province by building a bridge and improving three miles of road.

Prior to the construction, access was limited to small vehicles and those able to walk, isolating the villages in the Reneh-Parchaw area of the district.

“Isolation creates a situation that can and will be exploited by enemies of the governments of Afghanistan and Pakistan,” said Lt. Col. Patrick Daniel, Special Troops Battalion commander. “People who are not reached by the legitimate government will be reached and exploited by the enemies of the government in an insurgency.”

Since the completion of the project, Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles and large cargo trucks can now gain access into the area, enabling International Security Assistance Forces to reach out to local citizens that may not have seen them before.

Daniel explained that projects like this help establish trust

and confidence in the Afghan government and the U.S. forces assisting them. “The best way we can counter the enemies of Afghanistan in these areas is by assisting the government in creating access and reaching the people of remote areas like Reneh and Parchaw. This operation was a definite positive step in that direction,” he said.

Despite terrain and security issues, the project was completed in three days by Soldiers from Troop C, 6th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment.

The unit also helped widen, smooth and harden certain stretches of the road between Lal Por Village and Reneh while integrating with Afghan National Security Forces to establish security along the route.

“Because the road has been so restrictive, the government has not been able to provide large-scale projects in the area. As a result of this inability, the people have felt abandoned,” said Capt. Jay Bessey, officer in charge of the project. “We wanted to use this project to show them we could and would support them. Hopefully, this project ties them closer to the government and opens the door to increased security through a prolonged ANSF presence.”



3rd IBCT/Bessey

Local Afghan citizens stand by as Staff Sgt. Olen Ice with 6th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade combat team, lifts a plank to be used for a bridge in the Lal Por District of the Nangahar province. The bridge, along with road construction, will allow the Afghan government to reach the people of remote areas like Reneh and Parchaw.

Pride In Your Accomplishments

By *Tyler Abney*
Duty First! Magazine

Soldiers of the 1st Sustainment Brigade spent 15 months in Iraq, and now that they have boots back at Fort Riley, they can look back at a long list of accomplishments.

The 1st Sust. Bde. deployed from Fort Riley in September 2007 and returned to the post in December 2009.

The brigade's Soldiers provided all aspects of logistics, human resources, financial management, force protection and convoy security to Soldiers and contractors and assisted with projects that promoted Iraqi self-reliance. The “Durables” were spread across approximately 1,613 square miles in the Baghdad area, but succeeded in supporting approximately 90,000 Soldiers and 50,000 civilian contractors. The brigade also commanded seven subordinate battalions, supported as many as 14 brigade combat teams and five different brigades from two divisions during their deployment. They also supported at least one brigade combat team from every active division in the United States Army.

“We were so proud to be in Baghdad; we're probably partial, but for us, Baghdad is where it is,” said Col. Kevin O'Connell, former brigade commander. “That's the strategic hub where we were able to support the different forces.”

While at Camp Taji, the Durables assisted with restoring law and order and improving Iraqi life. Daily responsibilities included producing and delivering goods, starting a financial management program, rebuilding the Iraqi Army and civic institutions and instilling a sense of Iraqi self-reliance.

The “Durables” also worked to build relationships with Iraqi Security Forces. They ate together, trained together and accomplished missions together. O'Connell said the two organizations did everything alongside each other so coalition forces would eventually be able to step aside and give full reign to the ISF.

“The individuals we dealt with had a strong work ethic and they wanted to improve their Army,” O'Connell said. “They wanted their Army to be as good as the U.S. Army. As far as the work ethic, they are hard working. They want to do well and they have good attitudes. On a social side, they are very gracious; they want to treat their guests well and they were very kind and giving to us.”

In partnership with the ISF, the brigade delivered everything from tanks and medical supplies to repair parts, mail, food and school supplies – all by truck. Over the course of 15 months, 6,963,923 rounds of ammunition and 17,218,971 cases of water were delivered. About 4,152,766 meals were served at the

Cantigny Dining Facility on Camp Taji and 47,305 tons of ice were produced.

Convoy security was vital to accomplishing missions. The brigade's location had the second highest improvised explosive device attack rate in Baghdad, so security was always on high alert. O'Connell said the convoys operated mostly at night because a curfew prohibited civilian vehicles on the road past a certain time.

Besides distributing goods, Soldiers were also asked to install cement barriers to section off safe zones to protect Iraqi civilians. O'Connell said just like the transport convoys, these missions also took place at night and included approximately 60 Soldiers – some responsible for setting the barriers and some providing security. In an eight hour night, as many as 60 barriers could be set up and at the end of the 15 months; the “Durables” had put about 70,000 in place.

A financial management plan was put into place and human resource services were contracted out to Iraqi employees. While the brigade was in Iraq, \$4.1 billion was processed by brigade Soldiers to help pay contractors. Iraqi civilians were helping U.S. forces by hauling supplies, bottling water, working in the dining facility and post office. Paying civilian contractors boosted the Iraqi economy.

O'Connell noted that providing Iraqis with a feeling of self-reliance was the overall mission of the Durables' deployment and allowing the Iraqi people to see their own countrymen participating in the effort sent a message that things were turning around. O'Connell also said that the Iraqi Army and civil institutions such as banking, railroads and trucking companies were vastly improved from when his Soldiers first arrived.

“It puts Iraqis first, so the local population sees the Iraqis are moving supplies and equipment and their trucking industry is up and running,” O'Connell said. “Secondly, it takes our Soldiers off the road, which reduces risk to our Soldiers. Thirdly, it puts money in the economy by paying these contractors. That dollar then gets spent two or three more times. There were definite advantages to contracting Iraqi trucking.”

O'Connell credits the brigade's success to an attitude focused on doing the job right every single time.

“I think the focus of ensuring the maneuver commanders had what they needed to do their job was the key,” O'Connell said. “The sheer attitude that we're going to do this right, do anything we can to ensure our supported units had what they needed to accomplish their mission. That took a climate, a drive, an attitude and team effort all focused on getting the job done.”

Motorcycle Safety

By **Gary Skidmore**
Duty First! Magazine

The weather is getting warmer, which is a sure sign motorcyclists are about to hit the highways. Some diehard early birders are already out and about, but the majority will be on the roads soon.

Motorcycle riders face an unfortunate and brutal reality: make a mistake and the consequences can be grave. Permanent, catastrophic disability, physical therapy or even death, are just around the next corner the rider takes too fast.

Motorcycle riders are not 10 feet tall and bulletproof. The laws of physics apply to them just as much as anyone

else. Go into a turn too fast: crash. Misjudge the speed of an oncoming car and turn in front of it: crash. Accelerate too fast for the roadway and traffic conditions: crash.

According to the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, a not-for-profit organization, 90 percent of riding a motorcycle is mental. The other 10 percent — physical activities involving balance and operating the controls — becomes second nature as riders become experienced with their bike. But doing things right involves keen judgment, no impairments or distractions, and the proper attitude.

According to Rick Hearn, Fort Riley installation safety officer, there are a few things to remember before you push that bike out of the garage and turn the ignition key.

“Far too many Soldiers, Family members and civilian employees are injured every year in preventable accidents,” said Hearn.

“Take a safety course. Fort Riley offers the Army standard motorcycle rider’s course which is the basic riders course,” he continued. “The course is free and future riders don’t even need a motorcycle to attend.”

Hearn said the course is primarily for operators who have not attended a safety course before or have not ridden for some time and are returning to motorcycle riding.

Fort Riley also offers an experienced riders course. That course is for riders who have a valid state license with motorcycle endorsement and for those who have completed the basic course and have at least six months riding experience.

Aside from the courses offered, Hearn said every rider on Fort Riley and every Soldier riding off the installation are required to wear specific safety equipment.

“All personnel, including Soldiers, civilians, contractors and their passengers operating a motorcycle, moped, scooter or an ATV on Fort Riley will wear a helmet that meets the U.S. Department of Transportation standards, impact or shatter resistant goggles, wrap around glasses or a full faced shield,” said Hearn. “Riders need to wear full-fingered gloves designed for motorcycle riding, a long-sleeved shirt or jacket and boots that cover their ankles.”

Finally, Hearn said riders need to wear a high visibility outer garment or reflector that can be seen during the day and night.

Sgt. 1st Class Michael Wright is the 1st Infantry Division senior motorcycle riding mentor, an additional duty he picked up because of his years and experience with riding a motorcycle.

“Mentors are located in battalions and brigades,” Wright said. “The whole idea behind the program is to have the most experienced riders act as mentors and role models for new and less experienced riders.”


According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, statistics are dominated by the usual suspects that have appeared since traffic studies first gained national attention. Fifty-five percent of fatalities are white males most likely caught in a multi-vehicle accident.

In 2005, 27 percent of all fatally-injured motorcycle operators had BAC levels of .08 or greater.

An interesting term used in all traffic accident studies is single vehicle accident.” In plain English, it refers to accidents where no other vehicle was involved, much of the blame for the accident and death solely on the vehicles operator.

The statistics tragically reach 41 percent among those who died in single vehicle crashes in 2005, and drivers who had BAC levels of .08 or higher. Move over to weekend nights and the number increases to 61 percent. According to these numbers, the majority of riders who lost control of their motorcycles had alcohol in their bloodstream at the time of the accident.

Findings from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System illustrate possible reasons for motorcyclist fatalities in single vehicle motorcycle crashes:

- More motorcyclist fatalities are occurring on rural roads
- High blood alcohol levels are a major problem among motorcycle operators
- Half of the fatalities are related to negotiating a curve prior to the crash
- Undivided roadways account for a majority of the fatalities
- Almost two thirds of the fatalities were associated with speeding as an operator contributing factor in the crash
- Almost 60 percent of motorcyclist fatalities occur at night
- Collision with a fixed object is a significant factor in more than half of the fatalities
- More riders age 40 and over are getting killed
- Almost one third of the fatally injured operators did not have a proper license
- Head injury is a leading cause of death in motorcycle crashes.
- In 1998, 46 percent of fatally injured motorcycle drivers were not wearing helmets at the time of the crash.
- Nearly one out of five motorcycle drivers involved in fatal crashes in 1998 was operating with an invalid license at the time of the collision.
- Motorcycle drivers involved in fatal crashes in 1998 had higher intoxication rates than any other type of motor vehicle driver. 



A group of motorcycle riders head onto post for Apple Day Sept. 22, 2007.

1st Inf. Div. PAO

Fighting Polio

By U.S. Navy Lt. James Dietle
3rd IBCT PAO

KONAR PROVINCE, Afghanistan — With the help of the Konar Provincial Reconstruction Team, the government of Konar province began an extensive vaccination drive targeting polio.

Although vaccinations of the polio virus are common and have been very successful throughout established nations, Konar's developing health services, road quality, and regional conflicts have all created an environment that makes it

challenging to administer the vaccine.

"The [Konar] PRT has used more than \$71 million from the Commanders Emergency Response Program to build and enhance roads and bridges, which is one of the first means to getting better quality health care to the people of Afghanistan," said Capt. George Hupp, Konar PRT Civil Affairs.

The oral polio vaccine was provided by Afghanistan's Ministry of Public Health.

"These vaccinations will prohibit the people from several diseases that can be life threatening. Not only have we worked on this with roads, but we have also contributed money to

attaining ambulances for people on a more routine basis," Hupp said.

However, Konar Provisional Governor Sayeed Wahidi understands that ambulances are limited by the primitive road infrastructure, and that health care professionals are difficult to train and educate in this area. These factors have slowed the implementation of vaccination programs until now.

With plans to contract pack animals to reach remote areas, Wahidi and his volunteers plan to distribute the vaccine to the most remote areas in the province.

"Where we cannot go, we will take animals and walk" said Wahidi.

"The vaccine should reach more than 130,000 children across the province," Dr. Sayed Ameer Fatimi, Konar's Public Health Minister, explained to the crowd.

Local officials are hoping this will be enough to vaccinate every child under the age of five across the region in two months.



Konar's Provincial Governor, Sayeed Wahidi, administers the oral polio vaccine to a young Afghan girl, starting off the 2009 vaccination campaign.



3rd IBCT/Dietle

Ambulances in Sarkani Clinics, provided by AMI, help volunteers and clinicians reach village locals.

MOS of The Month *CREW/IED* Instructor

What is your name, your age and your hometown?

My name is Staff Sgt. John Wichgers, I'm from Muskego, Wis. and I am 31 years old.

Why did you join the Army?

It's kind of a family tradition and I felt obligated. I think every male should join the military. My dad, his dad and his dad before that were all in the Army.

How long have you been in the service?

Nine years.

What responsibilities does this MOS entail?

I'm the CREW (Counter Radio Controlled Improvised Explosive Device Electronic Warfare) instructor and alternate instructor for IED training. We have several different systems in country, so I brief the transition team guys on ones they might be working on, the issues they might have with each other, their interoperability and then the fundamentals of how the systems work.

What skills have you learned from this MOS that may help you after the Army?

I'm able to teach a large group and I have research ability. I also went to several schools that are going to be beneficial on the civilian side. I went to the Tactical Electronic Warfare courses, all the other IED courses we go to mostly transition to college credit so it's beneficial towards the degree. I have 44 credit hours from Barton County Community College so far.

What is your favorite part of being a CREW/ IED instructor?

My favorite part is giving training that saves lives and aides in catching the enemy.



Duty First!/Abney

Staff Sgt. John Wichgers, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, gives hands-on instruction to a group of Afghanistan-bound Soldiers.

1st Infantry Division at War



Staying Healthy After Deployment

By *Carla E. Jones*
 Directorate of Health Promotion and Wellness

It is not uncommon for Soldiers to report health concerns after deployment. According to the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center, during post-deployment reassessment, 39 percent of active duty Soldiers reported they had health concerns (not a wound or injury) and 29 percent reported that their health was worse than before deployment.

Many Soldiers experience minor, temporary changes in their health after returning from a deployment. These short-term changes are mostly due to reintegration into home and Family life, deployment travel, jet lag, and getting used to a different schedule and diet. Soldiers also may feel tired, have a change in appetite, or experience sore or achy muscles. These effects should be temporary and decrease as the days go by. If these effects do not improve, or if they get worse, Soldiers should be sure to see a health care provider as soon as possible.

It is important to be aware of your health after returning home. Most illnesses related to deployment occur while troops are still in theater. However, some diseases and other medical conditions may not cause noticeable symptoms until several months after Soldiers arrive at their home station.

Almost all symptoms will show up within the first six months after returning from deployment. If you experience any of the symptoms below in the first few weeks or months after returning home, you should get medical care as soon as possible:

- Fever
- Muscle or joint pain
- Stomach or bowel problems
- Swollen glands
- Skin problems
- Excessive tiredness
- Emotional problems
- Difficulty sleeping
- Shortness of breath
- Weight loss

It is very important to tell your health care provider that you were deployed and tell them where you were deployed. The earlier that tests are done to determine the cause of the symptoms, the sooner the correct diagnosis can be made and treatment can begin.

It is not unusual for Soldiers to experience difficulties when readjusting to their home duty station. A number of strategies can be used to stay healthy during this time:

- Eat regularly. Make healthy food choices. Stay away from high-fat, high-sugar foods.
- Get plenty of exercise.
- Don't let medical problems go untreated. Keep regular appointments with your health care provider. Keep up with preventive medicine screenings.
- Make sure you get a good night's sleep.
- Balance the amount of time you spend at work, with friends and with Family.
- Make time to relax. Take time to do activities you enjoy. Remember to pay attention to your health after you return home from deployment. If you have any health concerns, be sure to contact your health care provider, the chaplain or your chain of command. They are all excellent sources of information that can help you and your Family.



With warmer weather here, more motorcycles are back out on the road – drivers of passenger vehicles **NEED** to be alert.



KC Royals Visit Fort Riley

By Tyler Abney
Duty First! Magazine

Applause echoed through the Post Exchange on Custer Hill as players, office personnel and hall of famers from the Kansas City Royals made their way through the crowded foyer.

Baseball fans or not, everyone wanted to catch a glimpse of Royals pitchers Kyle Davies and Brian Bannister, Royals Hall of Famers Frank White and John Mayberry and radio announcer Steve Stewart. The Kansas City Royals Caravan stopped at Fort Riley on Jan. 22 as part of a six-day, 35-stop trip.

Before heading to the Post Exchange, the caravan stopped by Camp Funston to eat lunch and mingle with transition team members.

The two organizations shared a meal and interacted as friends rather than professional athletes and fans.

White and Mayberry were a hit with the older demographic as many remembered watching them play in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. Davies and Bannister took their place at the other end of the table talking baseball, upcoming deployments and making general conversation with interested Soldiers.

Transition team member Maj. John Gillespie took the rare opportunity to chat with White. Gillespie said that even though he is from Baltimore, Md., and raised as an Orioles fan, it was still a great honor to talk with the Royals' Hall of Famer.

"I think the majority of Americans definitely care about the Soldiers deploying," Gillespie said. "I know the ongoing conflict has been six years running...but the mission is not over and won't be for the foreseeable future. We may be winding down, but there are still troops having to go in and complete the mission, so it's good not to be forgotten. Everybody in the very beginning was gung-ho, but six years later to have this kind of commitment and to have these Hall of Famers come out

here, I think is just fantastic."

Gillespie was just one of many Soldiers who spent their lunch hour talking with the Royals. Staff Sgt. Darrin West and Lt. Robert Holmes, both transition team members from Georgia, were happy to see Davies was part of the caravan. Holmes said since he is from Georgia, he mainly roots for the Atlanta Braves and used to watch Davies when he played for the Braves from 2005-2007.



Duty First!/Abney

Radio announcer Steve Stewart, Royals Hall of Famers John Mayberry and Frank White, along with pitchers Brian Bannister and Kyle Davies pose with Royals fans at the PX.

"It shows a lot of support and that Americans are supporting us and what we're doing," Holmes said.


From the dining facility, the caravan made its way to the PX where Brig. Gen. Perry Wiggins, commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, and 1st Inf. Div. Command Sgt. Maj. Jim Champagne were joined by Soldiers and Families to welcome and thank the Royals.

Aside from meeting fans, the Royals donated a total of \$25,000 to the family readiness groups of the 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team.

Leann Martin, wife of 2nd HBCT Commander, Col. Joseph Martin, said it was fabulous the Royals gave such a large amount of money and showed the Families located

on Fort Riley they have not been forgotten.

As presentations concluded, Soldiers and Families were invited to get autographs and talk to members of the Royals organization. Some joked they were fans of other teams, but were very appreciative of the time and donations the Caravan made.

"I think it's very easy for us to come to a fort like this and show our support back to the people who have supported us," Davies said. "Soldiers are a different breed in the fact that they give the ultimate sacrifice. I can sit here and say I play baseball for a living so it's just pretty humbling to come to a place like Fort Riley and see so many fans of ours, where I don't think they realize how much we're fans of them." 

Legal Team Helps With Quality Of Life, Quality Of Combat

By Anna Staatz
Duty First! Magazine

There are three attorneys and seven paralegals. The list of responsibilities is long, but for the legal team of the 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, that list is summed up with the words, “we do a lot of cool stuff.”

The “Dagger” legal team focuses its efforts in several areas of the law: financial and humanitarian; the detention process; the Rule of Law, and the prosecution process.

Capt. Jeremy Jacobs primarily oversees financial issues – such as grants given to local entrepreneurs or money that goes to fund projects like placing solar panels in a hospital, solar powered lights along a busy market and others. Jacobs and Sgt. 1st Class Mark Dennison, senior paralegal noncommissioned officer, Spc. Nick Heystek, Spc. Kristy Phillips, and Spc. Marc Brito also work with the Iraqi people to process claims made under the Foreign Claims Act, which allows local citizens to file a claim for compensation when property is damaged. Claims are filed for things from traffic accidents to damage caused to a home and its contents during a cordon and search mission by U.S. Soldiers.

“In all aspects of what we do, we do it with an eye toward ensuring peace and security, and winning the hearts and minds of local Iraqis,” Jacobs said. “Paying claims for damage caused by U.S. forces allows us to do all of these things at once by communicating to Iraqis that we will pay legitimate claims – possibly preventing an ally from becoming an enemy.”

As the brigade prosecutor, Capt. Vincent Shuler’s primary responsibility is assisting the command group with preventive and corrective measures to enforce troop discipline.

Shuler also focuses on overseeing the detention process of insurgents and terrorists detained by Soldiers. A new security agreement between the United States and Iraq took effect Jan. 1, requiring Soldiers to have a warrant to detain suspected terrorists and criminals. The exception is if Soldiers witness the individual engaging in terrorist or criminal behavior. The


new agreement has required a higher level of engagement between U.S. forces and Iraqi National Security Forces the transfer of detainees to Iraqi custody. As the cases come to trial, Shuler and his staff ensure that the Iraqi judge has all the evidence collected in the case and that witnesses are present for the trial.

“It is exciting and inspiring to work with these brave Iraqi officials who put their life on the line every day to make Iraq a safer and more secure place by upholding the rule of law,” said Capt. Jeff Dietz, brigade staff judge advocate. “The judges have continuously demonstrated that they will not compromise when it comes to adhering to the rule of law — an excellent demonstration that Iraq is a nation of laws where justice will overcome terrorists, insurgents or sectarian division.”

Dietz oversees operations of the entire legal office. On a day-to-day basis, Dietz focuses on engaging Iraqi judges and helps develop cases for prosecution before a warrant is issued to detain a terrorist. Part of Dietz’s job also includes advising the brigade’s senior leaders on the best ways to use force and conduct operations under the new security agreement, the Geneva Conventions and other applicable international laws. Dietz also contributed to the development of a “prosecution based targeting” concept which helps Soldiers target an enemy while focusing effort on the follow through of successful prosecution in an Iraqi Court of Law.

The responsibilities of a legal team deployed are very different from what SJA attorneys and paralegals deals with while stateside.

“The military justice system dominates operations at Fort Riley, whereas operational issues dominate the deployed environment,” Shuler said.

Dennison added that paralegals do not have much exposure to the Foreign Claims Act, targeting, detention operations or other international law issues at Fort Riley, except in select field exercises, so this deployment has given them an incredible opportunity to broaden their professional experience and capabilities. 



Courtesy Photo

The 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team Legal team, from left: Spc. Nickolas Heystek, Cpt. Vincent Shuler, Sgt. 1st Class Mark Dennison, Capt. Jeffrey Dietz, Spc. Kristy Phillips, Staff Sgt. Dalphnie Terrell, Spc. Marcos Brito, Sgt. Ryan Greve and Capt. Jeremy R. Jacobs. Not Pictured: Spc. Efran Leal.

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