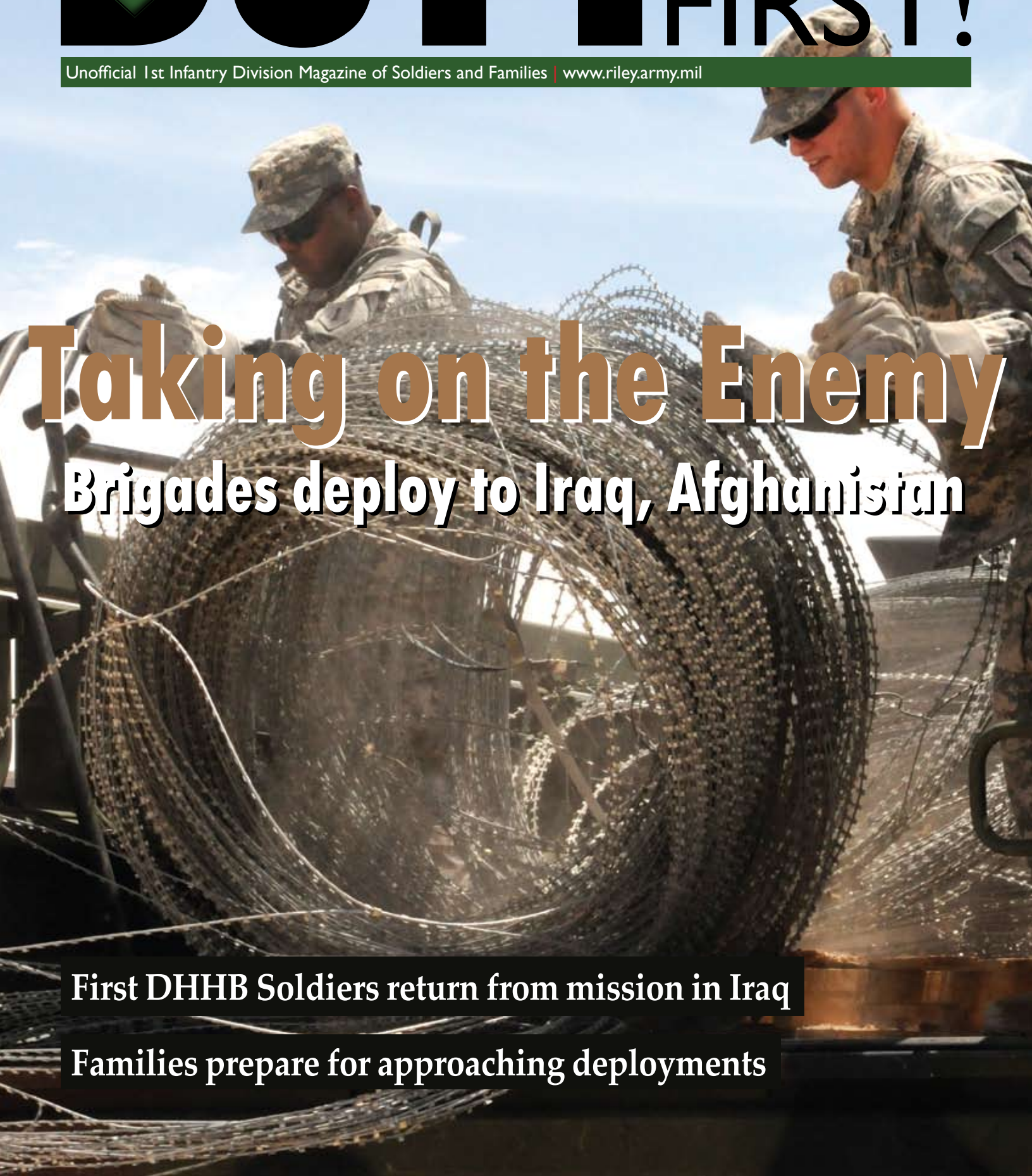


DUTY FIRST!

SEPTEMBER 2010

Unofficial 1st Infantry Division Magazine of Soldiers and Families | www.riley.army.mil



Taking on the Enemy **Brigades deploy to Iraq, Afghanistan**

First DHHB Soldiers return from mission in Iraq

Families prepare for approaching deployments

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 BRO 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.

September 2010 | www.riley.army.mil

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Cover: Soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team roll out wire at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif.

PHOTO BY THE 3RD IBCT PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

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The benefits of stability

Maj. Gen. Vincent Brooks

Throughout the history of this great division, the Big Red One has been first to fight in numerous conflicts—and then continued that fight as long as necessary. Our current conflict has stretched over eight years and 1st Infantry Division units have, and continue, to contribute to operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. In fact, by the time Thanksgiving hits, nearly all of our Big Red One units will be deployed in some form or fashion, as you'll read about in the following pages of Duty First! magazine.

Each of these units will have a unique mission, from our own Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion in southern Iraq, to our 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, which will deploy for a second time to Afghanistan under Operation Enduring Freedom. Our 1st and 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Teams are deploying on an accelerated timeline, as they will take on the important mission of advising and assisting Iraqi security forces under Operation New Dawn. The Combat Aviation Brigade is still moving through the skies of all of Iraq as the only Aviation Brigade remaining in Iraq, and 1st Sustainment Brigade stretched across four countries in the middle east has an extremely important mission of transporting, refurbishing and reallocating



equipment as part of the responsible drawdown of forces in Iraq.

So as you can see, our Big Red One Soldiers are clearly demonstrating the versatility of today's Soldiers and proving for them, there is no mission too difficult.

And while our Soldiers are down-range taking care of business, there are Families left behind back home who are taking care of business that is just as important. They are supported by rear commands who become the anchor for the commander. After eight years of war, our Army Families have sacrificed much. Many only get one year at home with their Soldier before

he or she deploys again. That time at home is precious because during that year, Soldiers are busy going through resiliency and reintegration training, resetting equipment and then training up again in preparation for whatever mission they are given.

We are working toward making life more stable and predictable for Soldiers and Families when they are in garrison. We aim to have a predictable training schedule, with training events locked in six weeks out and a duty day that starts at 9 a.m. and ends by 6 p.m. We will give Soldiers and Leaders the time to keep their lives in balance. Block leave and training holiday opportunities also are part of the effort to help Soldiers and Families rest, reset themselves and grow stronger. We're working to bring mobile training teams to our troops, instead of sending them TDY to school and, ultimately, away from their Families.

In this era of persistent conflict the development of strength for the fight comes from developing fitness and resilience in the individual. That is what being Army Strong is all about. Thanks for your service; your sacrifices and your contributions to this segment of the history of the 1st Division.

Duty First! 

Absence a price of freedom

Division Command Sgt. Maj. Jim Champagne

In the coming months, the 1st Infantry Division will deploy thousands of Soldiers out the doors of posts across four states.

Elements of the 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team and all of the 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team will deploy to Iraq from Fort Riley, where they will work to advise and assist Iraqi Security Forces as the Iraqi people continue to work towards strengthening their nation.

The 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, at Fort Knox, Ky., elements of the 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and parts of the 75th Fires Brigade at Fort Sill, Okla., are headed to Afghanistan. There, our Soldiers will work to increase security for the Afghan citizens and loosen the grip of terrorist groups there.

The Big Red One has a long history of taking the fight to the enemy and the many campaign streamers that hang from the division colors are testament to this. In World War I, Soldiers in the newly organized 1st Division set sail just 36 days after the division's creation. That didn't deter them at all—



our Soldiers fought with distinction in the battles of St. Mihiel, Argonne, Picardy and many others.


A lot has changed in the past 93 years since the division was created. The one thing that has not changed is the tenacity and courage of a Big Red One Soldier.

In the past 12 months, every element in our division has deployed this year in support of the global fight that our nation continues to wage. The Combat

Aviation Brigade, Sustainment Brigade and the Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion are all in the midst of deployments to Iraq and Kuwait. Each time 1st Infantry Division units leave their home stations, our Soldiers rise to the occasion, pass the test and raise the standard. Our Soldiers are well-trained, fit and prepared for the challenges ahead of them. While they will miss their Families and friends, they realize the task before them is vitally important.

For those of you headed out the door, there is no more important task on your shoulders than to take care of each other. For noncommissioned officers, that means taking care of your Soldiers, whose lives and well-being depend on you. For Soldiers, that means taking care of the man on your right and left. Make sure that your training and physical fitness standards do not slip, even while deployed. Ensure that morale within your unit doesn't begin to fall. Take care of each other.

We'll be here to welcome you home.

Now...get after it. 

TRAINING

By J. Parker Roberts and Stephanie Hoff | *Duty First! Magazine*

Devil Brigade's latest mission one of communication & cooperation GROUNDS



PHOTO COURTESY OF STAFF SGT. MICHAEL ZIMMERMAN

PHOTO COURTESY OF STAFF SGT. MICHAEL ZIMMERMAN

ONE: A Soldier of 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, 1st HBCT, unloads weapons and ammunition in preparation for the unit's training at the National Training Center. The Soldiers completed two weeks of training at the center that provides realistic training of theater operations. **TWO:** Soldiers of 1st Bn., 5th Field Artillery Regt., 1st HBCT clear a town during an exercise at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif. **THREE:** Soldiers of 1st Bn., 5th Field Artillery Regt., stack up against a wall before clearing a courtyard during a July 11 exercise.

FOUR: Staff Sgt. George Pass, 1st Bn., 5th Field Artillery Regt., covers his sector during an exercise at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif. **FIVE:** PFC. Raymond Jennett, 1st Bn., 5th Field Artillery Regt., aids fellow Soldiers injured by insurgents during an exercise July 15.

What was once a deployment set to include nearly 3,500 Soldiers has now decreased by approximately 2,600 servicemembers.

Soldiers of the 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team were recently notified the "Devil" Brigade will not deploy as an entire unit as initially planned.

"The dynamics of the deployment have changed, not everybody is going. Four battalions are staying back," said Maj. Eric Schmidt, rear detachment commander for the unit.

Approximately 900 Soldiers of the 3,500 Sol-

dier-strong brigade will deploy this fall. The units set to deploy are the brigade's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, the Special Troops Battalion and 101st Forward Support Battalion.

The "Devil" Brigade is now preparing for the Army's latest mission in Iraq, one of communication and cooperation. Unlike previous deployments, the brigade's main focus will be supporting Iraqi security forces in their peacekeeping efforts.

"We're way past the kinetics of the surge," said Brig. Gen. David C. Petersen, deputy commanding general-rear, 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley. "Quite honestly, it's all about supporting civil authority. And that's difficult, something that the U.S. Army doesn't have formal training for."

The brigade recently returned to Fort Riley

after several weeks of training at the National Training Center, a large area in the California desert staffed and managed by Soldiers stationed at Fort Irwin, Calif. Its remote location and open terrain allow for the recreation of many settings that the brigade will have to face in theater.

"The National Training Center is, without a doubt, the best training the world has to offer. It not only has the best equipment, the most realistic conditions, but it brings in a myriad of enablers that allow us to work together and transition this force into our theater of operation," said Col. Eric Welsh, Devil Brigade commander.

The training includes actors who serve as insurgents to allow the Soldiers to grow accustomed to working with their Iraqi counterparts, citizens and even insurgents. The units


additionally learned how to work with and through translators.

Petersen said the role players on the ground aid in training Soldiers to work together with their Iraqi counterparts.

Such a transition may be difficult for some armies, Petersen said, but "the American Army is so adaptable; we've seen changes pretty readily, and this is just one more."

Welsh added that the NTC exercise served as the capstone of four months of deployment training for his Soldiers. "We're going to come out of this well prepared, well equipped and well trained to do what we need to do."

Petersen noted the NTC rotation was the brigade's first opportunity for collective training.

"How you train is how you fight," he said. 



Getting mission ready

By Jordan Chapman
Duty First! Magazine

By definition, the dagger is a double-edged blade used for stabbing. It can be used in a moment's notice, is quick to strike and with proper training the damage it can inflict is lethal. The same can be said for the 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, which has been called to deploy three months early to Baghdad in November, its second deployment to the area. Like the weapon, the "Dagger" Brigade remains sharp and ready for action as it continues to train and prepare for its mission as an advise and assist brigade overseas.

"The only effect (with an earlier deployment) is that the training calendar shifted to the left," said Col. Paul Calvert, 2nd HBCT commander, who explained that despite the shift in timeline, each Soldier will complete all of their tasks required to be "mission ready." To prepare for deployment, each "Dagger" Soldier completed small unit training and weapon range operations per the Army Forces Generation cycle, in addition to a mission rehearsal exercise Aug. 15 to Sept. 11 at the Joint Readiness Training Center in Fort Polk, La. "JRTC trains all the brigade's Sol-

diers on their specific war time tasks," Calvert said. He noted that every capability within the brigade will be tested and graded based on Soldier reactions. "The Soldiers of the Dagger Brigade have spent the last few months training hard in preparation for this (exercise) and I expect they will perform well above the standard when they are faced with this tough mission." Part of that confidence comes from the experience the brigade carries with it. "Many of the Soldiers in the brigade were with the brigade during its last deployment and will be very familiar with the operating environment in Iraq and able to adjust quickly to working



2ND HBCT PAO



SSG BRIAN TIERCE, 2ND HBCT



LT. JOHN WORSINGROFT

Dagger Brigade remains sharp training at JRTC

By Jordan Chapman
Duty First! Magazine

The 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team won't deploy until November, but for the Soldiers making up the "Dagger" Brigade, dirt and dust are already underneath their feet. The entire brigade traveled to the Joint Readiness Training Center in Fort Polk, La., from Aug. 15 to Sept. 11 where each "Dagger" Soldier was tested and treated as though the deployment had already begun. While there, Soldiers participated in exercises that will help them act as an advise and assist brigade to their Iraqi counterparts and set conditions for Operation New Dawn, which launches Sept. 1 as the follow-on campaign to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"It will be their job to plan and execute and our job to advise them to the best of our abilities," said Col. Paul Calvert, Dagger Brigade commander, feeling as though the training gained at JRTC will be a great opportunity for the young Soldiers in the brigade to adjust to the advisory mission while at the same time giving a chance for their leaders to prepare in mentoring their counterparts in the Iraqi Army.

The training isn't easy, though. Immersion into the field environment at JRTC is crucial to proper training. "[The Soldiers] will not have a link to the outside world," Calvert said. "The environment will simulate an Iraqi town. Soldiers will not just be able to communicate with the people by speaking English, they will have to use interpreters and any language skills they have developed while training for the mission."

Not only does immersion help Soldiers with their own mission, but it helps them become accustomed to Iraqi culture in the process. "It helps our Soldiers develop ... awareness so as not to offend the people of Iraq through purposeful or accidental actions," Calvert said, describing the importance of learning such customs as to not offend those who they are advising or to earn the trust and respect of the local populace.

Without any outside contact, Soldiers develop a keen sense of situational awareness that will help in the success of their mission, but it also induces the same, if not more, stress that will be felt during the deployment.

"You generally have 12 months to accomplish a mission, while at the JRTC you have about 2 weeks ... this causes a bit of a frantic pace that will cause the stress level to rise," Calvert said, though he noted that this extent of immersion into the environment is what keeps Soldiers ready for the days to come in Iraq.

It helps our Soldiers develop ... awareness so as not to offend the people of Iraq through purposeful or accidental actions."
— Col. Paul Calvert, Dagger Brigade commander

OPPOSITE PAGE: A Soldier from HHC, 1st Bn., 18th Inf. Regt., leaps from a hovering Chinook helicopter into Milford Lake during the sniper section's "Helocast" exercise July 30. **TOP:** Troopers assigned to the 5th Sqdn., 4th Cav. Regt., prepare to raid an urban cluster while taking part in their squadron "Spur Ride" June 9 at Fort Riley. **MIDDLE:** Soldiers from the 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team stack against the side of a building before entering during a training exercise. **BOTTOM:** On the 22nd of June Soldiers of the Mortar Platoon of HHC, 1st Bn., 63rd Inf. Regt., conducted their mortar live fire exercise.

PHOTO BY SPC. TOBEY WHITE
Spc. James Reckley and Sgt. Blakely Griffin of Co. B, 2nd Bn., 2nd Inf. Regt., 3rd IBCT, train on a 60 mm mortar on August 2 at Fort Irwin, Calif.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. BEN NAVRATIL
Soldiers of Co. A, 2nd Bn., 2nd Inf. Regt., 3IBCT hone their skills in map-reading and terrain association Aug. 2 at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif.

PHOTO BY SGT. JOHN P. ZUMER
Spc. Michael Paderas and Spc. Thomas Kozai, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd IBCT work together to install radio components in a vehicle before an exercise at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif.



Soaking in the Sun, Sand & Sweat

Duke Brigade goes through NTC training for Afghanistan deployment

By Sgt. John Zumer
3rd IBCT Public Affairs Office

FORT KNOX, Ky.—Soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team will soon write another chapter in the “Duke” Brigade’s history as they head to Afghanistan in early 2011.

For now, though, the emphasis is on adequately training and preparing for their mission. The Duke Brigade last deployed to Afghanistan in 2008 from Fort Hood. The unit returned a year later and immediately faced the challenge of moving its Soldiers and Families to Fort Knox, Ky., its new home station.

Once settled in, Soldiers quickly moved on to the more pressing task of training for an upcoming deployment.

“The brigade has been training hard for months for our upcoming deployment to Afghanistan,” said Col. Christopher Toner, brigade commander.

The training at Fort Knox centered on small to large unit exercises and frequent trips to gunnery and maneuver ranges focusing on individual, team and unit proficiency. Soldiers honed their proficiency in knowing how to call for artillery support, launch a flanking attack, and clear houses of insurgents.

The Duke Brigade then packed up vehicles, equipment and Soldiers and headed to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif. Toner said the mission at NTC validated the training the brigade has conducted to date and allowed its Soldiers to fully employ combat assets in an operational and terrain environment closely replicating Afghanistan.

Duke Soldiers spent most of August training at NTC, reacting to various combat scenarios based on what Soldiers currently in Afghanistan are facing. Dealing with situations similar to combat allows Soldiers to acclimate better to

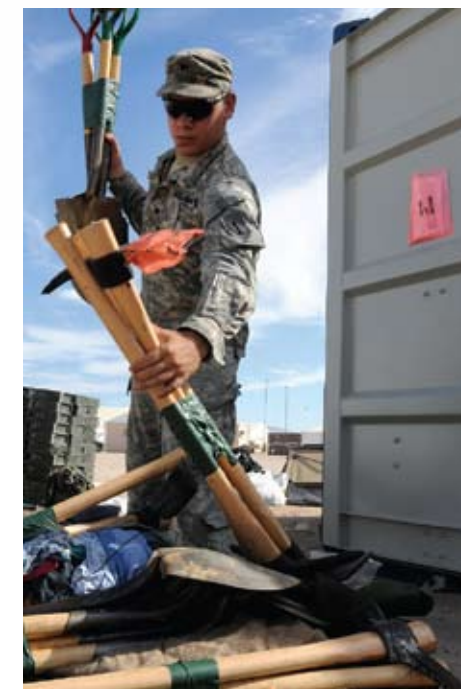


PHOTO COURTESY SPC. TOBEY WHITE

Spc. Ian Watson of the 2nd Bn., 2nd Inf. Regt., 3rd IBCT unloads vehicle basic inventory items Aug. 2 at Fort Irwin, Calif.

the country and culture and improve safety while deployed.

“Just about every element or enabler [contractor, interpreter, security forces] that we will have in Afghanistan will be employed by us at the National Training Center,” Toner said.

While at NTC, the Duke Brigade is evaluated by combat trainers, formerly known as observer/controllers, who have studied operations in Afghanistan.

“Combat trainers will help coach and mentor all of the brigade’s units and staff sections down to the Soldier level throughout the rotation, and allow us to improve daily,” Toner said.

Those at that most crucial level readily acknowledge the importance of the NTC coaching and mentoring that takes place under the hot California sun.

“I think it’s a good experience for younger Soldiers to get to see what it’s like overseas,” said Spc. Anthony Holbrook, an infantryman with Company A, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment.

Holbrook has been a Soldier almost three years, but this was his first trip to NTC. He deployed with the Duke Brigade to Afghanistan in 2008, joining the unit just a few weeks before leaving the country.

“It was scary as hell learning everything on the job,” Holbrook said.

He added that NTC provides the chance to learn how members of a squad work together and improve combat skills before deployment, and said he was thankful that many new Soldiers will experience training opportunities on this rotation that he didn’t have previously.

Sgt. Jason Kavgazoff, an infantryman with Co. B, 2nd Bn., 2nd Inf. Regt., echoed the invaluable lessons to be had at NTC.

“It gives Soldiers the opportunity to experience the desert first-hand,” Kavgazoff said, adding that NTC is very large scale, with more training area and training aids than Fort Knox could offer. The most important of those, he said, are training aids, including a larger opposing force, as depicted by role players to serve as adversaries and the ability to employ more air power assets, allowing for full spectrum operations.

“We’re still expecting to bring more guys into the unit up to deployment,” Kavgazoff said, emphasizing that Soldiers with NTC experience will be able to better mentor those who didn’t or couldn’t attend.

The Duke Brigade is currently scheduled to deploy to Afghanistan in January 2011 for one year. ■



STEPHANIE HOFF, DUTY FIRST! MAGAZINE

Spc. David Walls of the Eng. Canine Co., 5th Eng. Bn., shares water from his camelbak with his military working dog, Homer, a german shorthair pointer, March 16, 2010, at Yuma Proving Grounds, Ariz. Walls and Homer completed a total of three weeks of training and certifications at YPG in preparation for deployment to Afghanistan.

THE
ARMY'S
NEW
BREED

Dauntless Brigade provides unique capabilities

Story by

Stephanie Hoff

Duty First! Magazine

AS THE UNIT ITSELF ILLUSTRATES A NEW AND UNIQUE CONCEPT TO THE UNITED STATES ARMY, IT SEEMS ONLY FITTING THAT THE 4TH MANEUVER ENHANCEMENT BRIGADE'S ELEMENTS WOULD DEPLOY IN AN INNOVATIVE AND UNCOMMON APPROACH AS WELL.

(continued on page 12)



STEPHANIE HOFF, DUTY FIRST! MAGAZINE
After receiving a mock wound to the head, 1st Lt. Jeremiah Nichols of 232nd Horizontal Engineer Company, 94th Engineer Battalion, 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, receives medical attention from Sgt. 1st Class David Street while completing a simulated scenario, May 18 at the Home Station Training lanes. BELOW: Soldiers of 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, 1st Infantry Division prepare to evacuate 1st Lt. Jeremiah Nichols after he received a mock wound to the head during a simulated training scenario, at the Home Station Training lanes.



(continued from page 11)

The “Dauntless” Brigade was established in October 2008 and demonstrates the Army’s recent approach to transition to a more modular, lighter-force structure. The maneuver enhancement brigades are designed to be a support unit that can control a sector of the battlefield, a new and growing concept for U.S. military forces.

The 4th MEB consists of a Headquarters and Headquarters Company, the 92nd Military Police Battalion, the 5th Engineer Battalion, the 94th Engineer Battalion, the 193rd Brigade Support Battalion and the 94th Signal Company.

“I think the MEB provides a unique capability that we don’t see,” said Col. Frank Rangel, the brigade’s commander. “We’re configured with a lot of subject matter expertise to deal with an array of stability operations. We are a very robust staff. We have many of the same capabilities that a [brigade combat team] does, but what makes us distinct is we can operate and provide that type of command and control that are particular to military police, engineer and [chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high-yield explosives] units.



STEPHANIE HOFF, DUTY FIRST! MAGAZINE
First Lt. Jeremiah Nichols of 232nd Horizontal Engineer Co., 94th Eng. Bn., 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, speaks through the assistance of a translator, played by Samimula Satorzoda, right rear, and the leader of a simulated town, played by Ahmad Sultani during a simulated training scenario, May 18 at home station training lanes.

The brigade is responsible to train the Soldiers of the 5th Eng. Bn., the 94th Eng. Bn. and the 92nd MP Bn. for current war-fighting conflicts. In addition, the brigade simultaneously trains with its remaining units for its mission with the Consequence Management Response Force. The CCMRF assets are utilized to support in the event of attacks by chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high-yield explosives CBRNE. The CCMRF is composed of three task forces: Task Force Operations, Task Force Medical, and Task Force Aviation.

The Dauntless Brigade serves as CCMRF’s Task Force Operations and its mission can include initial response force, facility decontamination, surveying, monitoring, engineer and transportation support.

The unit’s leaders recently conducted their second ‘Vibrant Response,’ simulated training exercise. Vibrant Response is a rehearsal exercise designed to train and exercise staff in homeland defense. The training exercise was first conducted in summer 2009 and is designed to prepare leaders in the brigade’s CMRF to be prepared in the event they were to deploy or assist state-side in response to a CBRNE attack.

“This particular exercise is a simulation of a nuclear detonation somewhere within the continental United States,” said Lt. Col. John Grady, the brigade’s executive officer. “This is a leadership training exercise and it also serves as validation for units conducting the CCMRF mission during Fiscal Year 2011.”

An additional exercise is scheduled for the beginning of 2011 that will include CBRNE training down to the individual Soldier level, Grady said.

As well as preparing its units that would react in the event of a CBRNE attack; the Dauntless Brigade continuously trains and deploys several small units that can range from an entire company to an individual Soldier and his military working dog.

The Engineer Canine Company, 5th Eng. Bn., has continuously had a handler

conducting area and route clearance and providing quality assurance for contractors, Smith said.

The total training time for a handler and canine companion assigned to the company is a little more than 19 weeks. During that period, the team is instructed in how to handle their dogs, maintain their dogs, and react to threats in a high threat environment.

“In preparation for deployment, the teams must undergo rigorous training standards,” Smith said. “Soldiers have been training with their assigned dog from as little as six months to as long as two years.”

In addition to its continually deploying military working dog teams, the 5th Eng. Bn. is currently preparing to deploy two of its companies in early 2011. The 55th Mobility Augmentation and 515th Sapper

La., this November, where they will receive realistic, joint and combined arms simulated training.

“For the Soldiers, it’s pretty rigorous. It’s good training for them,” Fleming said. “They’ll be pretty worn out after the three to four weeks span.”

Within a few weeks of the two companies’ Soldiers returning from JRTC, their fellow 5th Eng. Bn., comrades will be departing for the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif. The battalion’s five other companies are scheduled to begin a month long training rotation at the NTC where they will receive realistic battlefield training across a range of military operations.

Just a few days after their fellow “Dauntless” Brigade Soldiers leave, the Soldiers of the 92nd MP Bn., will arrive at the JRTC for a mission rehearsal exercise. The training will serve to better prepare



STEPHANIE HOFF, DUTY FIRST! MAGAZINE
Sgt. Corey McCourt, Canine Eng. Co., instructs his military working dog, Mina with a hand signal, March 16 at Yuma Proving Grounds. The team’s upcoming deployment will be the sixth deployment in Mina’s military career.

and their military working dog deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom since 2003.

“The first [mine detection dog] teams deployed in 2003; since that original deployment, there have always been Soldiers of the Engineer Canine Company deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom,” said Capt. Jennifer Smith, the company’s commander. “The company is the only unit in the U.S. Army that offers this asset to maneuver commanders.”

The company is currently set to deploy six handlers and their canines along with a headquarters detachment before the end of the year. The teams will work for Engineer Battalions across theater

Companies are gearing up to deploy in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

“The biggest thing that we’re doing now is pretty much going through our deployment order and getting all the essential training that we have to have in order to deploy,” said 1st Lt. Ryan, Fleming, the 55th MAC’s executive officer. “We have to complete our medical SRPs and we’re also doing route clearance simulations and weapons qualification. Pretty much we’ll just be doing weapons qualifications, certifying on all the warrior tasks and battle drills, completing demo ranges and CLS training.”

The two companies will receive advanced training for their upcoming deployments when they attend the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk,

the Soldiers of the unit’s Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment that are set to deploy in early 2011.

With such an array of units and missions; it is unlikely that the 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade would ever deploy as an entire unit, similar to the brigade combat teams commonly known to the 1st Infantry Division. However, it is certain the Dauntless Brigade and its Soldiers will continue to train and be prepared for whatever deployments, whether requiring large or small portions of the brigade, that come their way, said Lt. Col. Jeffery Andersen, the battalion commander for the 94th Eng. Bn.

“We’re ready. That’s why we’re training;—we’re always ready.”



STEPHANIE HOFF, DUTY FIRST! MAGAZINE

Children of Soldiers in the Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 1st Infantry Division, prepare to sing the National Anthem on the field at the July 8 Junction City Generals' baseball game. Family members of the unit received complimentary tickets and food to the game as well as participating in events throughout the game. The unit deployed to Iraq in December 2009.

Family Matters

Deployment preparations often include keeping Family members connected at home

By Stephanie Hoff
Duty First! Magazine

Packing uniforms and weapons and loading rail cars as well as training to perfect war-fighting skills have all become well-recognized preparations that take place before a unit is set to deploy. One vital aspect of the unit's preparation phase that may not generally receive as much consideration is the planning and ground-work Families complete before saying goodbye to their Soldier.

Almost exactly a year after their planes touched ground to return them to Fort Riley, the "Dagger" Soldiers of 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team are scheduled to re-board and return to Iraq.

"We have received some new Families [since the brigade returned to Fort Riley], but a lot of them are very seasoned. They're going through it for the second time around," said Bobbi Hanlon, the family readiness support assistant for the 2nd HBCT. "I think a lot of them are anxious this time because they know what to prepare for. They know what they went through the last time so they are just gearing up for another one."

Meeting other spouses and forming social networks before their Soldiers deploy is one of the preparations that Hanlon recommends to Family members to help ease stress and difficulties on the Family members throughout the deployment. The establishment of support

groups or a simple "night out" with individuals who are experiencing the same situations can be very rewarding to the Family members as they wait out a deployment, she added.

"I think it's good that the Family members form bonds before the Soldiers leave so that they know they have a support group already in place for when their Soldier is deployed," Hanlon said. "We have to form friendships and bonds because those spouses become each others' family. They need to have someone to turn to and who is going through the same thing they are."

Most Family members would agree they would prefer to spend the remaining time with their Soldier before the

deployment, going on fun outings or visiting friends and family, but the time should be set aside to complete the necessary "deployment red tape" while their Soldier is still home, noted Noel Waterman, the family readiness support assistant for the 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team. Verifying that their spouse or significant other have access to power of attorneys, financial accounts or simply renewing Family members' military identification cards are some of the items Families and Soldiers should prepare prior to the deployment, she said.

"Check to see if your military ID is going to expire while your Soldier is deployed," Waterman said. "It's a painful process to get one when your Soldier is not here."

Making copies of their Soldiers' essential information and placing those documents in an easily accessible location is one of the key pre-deployment preparations recommended by Stephanie Rolston, the family readiness coordinator for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 299th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd HBCT.

"I have a binder and in it I place copies of his driver license, his military ID, all the different power of attorneys; everything that you might be asked for during the deployment," she said. "You never know what you're going to be asked for. A lot of things ask for your Soldier's driver license number. Who would've thought to write that down? If you have a copy; you'll have it easily accessible to you."

Rolston added that she additionally prepares paperwork and power of attorneys, in the unfortunate event that something was to happen to her while her husband was deployed. She also places copies of her children's birth certificates and necessary information in the binder.

"If something was to happen to me, all my necessary information for my children and Family is right there in that one folder," she said.

Waterman reiterated the need for Families to be prepared in case an unfortunate event happened to a parent or spouse back at home.

MAILING CARE PACKAGES

When mailing your Soldier a package down range, please note that the following items are prohibited. A Soldier found in possession of a prohibited item can be held subject to punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

- Alcoholic beverages
- Any weapon or weapon replica
- Any controlled substance
- Unprescribed prescription medicine
- Pornographic or sexually explicit items such as: photographs, DVDs or magazines

"Is there a will in place not just for your Soldier, but for yourself? You may never think of something happening to a spouse while their Soldier is deployed; but I have been in unit where a spouse has passed away. It really makes you think," Waterman said.

In preparing for their Soldiers' nearing departures, Hanlon and Waterman both recommended the Family members and Soldiers take advantage of new options that are available. Communication sites such as the vFRG and unit's Facebook pages provide a bridge to communicate with fellow spouses without requiring them to even leave home.

"Facebook has been the biggest hit since the battalions and the brigade all have a page," Hanlon said. "vFRGs are a great tool for putting out secure information. There are things that we can't post on Facebook for security purposes, but we can tell them on Facebook to go check the vFRG."

In addition to providing an opportunity to reach out and meet fellow Family members, the new technologies can also assist with staying in frequent contact with their Soldier throughout the deployment, she noted. Sites such as Skype, Yahoo messenger and other online tools have become a popular form of communication between Soldiers and their Family members back home.

"The new communication tools are



STEPHANIE HOFF, DUTY FIRST! MAGAZINE

A Soldier with 4th Infantry Brigade's Advance Party, is welcomed home during a redeployment ceremony April 26. The establishment of support groups and forming social networks can help to ease stress and difficulties on the Family members throughout a deployment, said Bobbi Hanlon, the family readiness support assistant for the 2nd HBCT.

one of the greatest things. A lot of the Soldiers now have their own computers in their rooms so it's been a big benefit for the family members because they can communicate instantly or chat online. It's easing the burden a little bit so they can talk more frequently," Hanlon said.

Whether it's joining their units' online vFRG or scheduling play dates and barbecues, all spouses are advised to stay active and take advantage of meeting other spouses and Family members who are experiencing the same situations as them, she noted.

"I think it helps to get to know the people who have been through it before because they may have already experienced some of the instances that the new spouses are going through and can assist them through the process," Rolston said. "Keep yourself busy and know that others are there to assist or talk to if you need them. It may not be pleasant every day ... but you can get through it."

Personnel professionals with heart

By Sgt. Jason Kemp
1st Inf. Div. Public Affairs Office
COB BASRA, Iraq – The 1st Infantry Division human resources’ team of personnel administration professionals contribute much to the service members of United States Division-South.

They are responsible for monitoring the personnel strength of the USD-S units, awards and personnel actions, battlefield promotions, casualty operations, environmental morale leave management, and much more.

“In my opinion, my entire section makes it happen. The G1 Section is an all-star team of HR professionals that I would gladly stack up against any G1 section anywhere,” said Sgt. Maj. Teddy Compton, 1st Infantry Division human resources sergeant major.

As a team, the 1st Inf. Div. HR section not only works hard to support USD-S, but also each other as well.

“I was selected as the deputy G1 and had to quickly learn a new skill set in support of the G1 and commanding general,” said Maj. William Bonilla, 1st Inf. Div. human resources deputy and a Lauderdale, Fla., native. “The only way I have been able to survive as the Deputy G1 is through the hard and dedicated work of our Soldiers, NCOs and officers.”

Bonilla said one of his duties sticks out to him as having one the greatest personal meaning.

“Purple Heart actions have the biggest impact on me personally,” Bonilla said. “These wounded warriors are entitled to



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. CHRIS CARNEY

Col. James Rainey, commander of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, pins the Combat Infantryman Badge on Spc. Patrick Dettmer and PFC Chad Sippy, 1st Bn., 68th Armor Regt., 3rd BCT, 4th Inf. Div., during a ceremony held on Contingency Operating Base Basra June 27. The 1st Infantry Division human resources section processes every award in United States Division-South.

this award by placing themselves in harm’s way. It speaks volumes of the character of the American Soldier and how they keep heeding the call to action.”

Staff Sgt. Rosetina Fitts, 1st Inf. Div. human resources noncommissioned officer in charge, said the stories of the Soldiers she works for motivate her to do her job.

“I had an individual’s award that was really late, but this Soldier was way overdue for a Combat Action Badge,” Fitts said. “This Soldier had saved a lot of others’ lives and he really deserved the badge.”

Since 1st Inf. Div. took over from 34th Infantry Division, the personnel actions

section has processed almost 2,000 individual awards.

“We ensure that each and every Soldier and civilian receives the appropriate award recognition prior to them redeploying back to the States,” Fitts said.

Bonilla said his section embodies the values of their branch, something he is proud to be affiliated with.

“The Adjutant General Corps’ motto is ‘Defend and Serve,’ and our G1 Soldiers have lived up to the standards established by our great Corp in supporting Soldiers throughout USD-S,” Bonilla said. “I am extremely proud to be a leader in the G1 and serving with these great AG warriors.”

PHOTO BY SGT. JASON KEMP
Capt. Tisha Bridge, 1st Infantry Division physician assistant instructs an Iraqi physician on the proper position of a bag valve mask during emergency neonatal ventilation.



Proper prenatal care on display

By Sgt. Jason Kemp
1st Inf. Div. Public Affairs Office

COB BASRA, Iraq—As U.S. forces shift their focus from operations to advising, in southern Iraq the healthcare sector took center stage recently.

The 1st Infantry Division recently set out to increase the number of skilled Iraqi birth attendants through a two-day course in Basra.

“This training is part of our medical civil military operations. It’s opportunities for us to engage the local communities though a medical perspective to see how we can support them,” said Capt. Tisha Bridge, 1st Inf. Div. physician assistant. “The purpose of the class is to provide neonatal resuscitation training to local Iraqi physicians.”

Approximately one in 10 babies worldwide requires resuscitation when they are born, Bridge said.

“All of the Iraqi physicians that attended are pediatricians; they are already familiar with and practice neonatal resuscitation at their respective medical

facilities,” Bridge said. “We wanted to provide a refresher class to them and introduce them to these specific training models so that they could, in turn, more effectively train their midwives, nurses and other birth attendants.”

The program entails two days of training, lectures and hands-on training that begins with a pre-course assessment.

“Our amazing medical team provided resuscitation training and equipment to Iraqi doctors and some nurses,” said Farida Samano, a bicultural advisor for the 1st Inf. Div. “These newly trained medical personnel, in turn, train other doctors and medical personnel, and as a result, thousands of newborn lives are saved, not to mention how beneficial this training is for the Marshland areas.”

At the end of the course, there is a practical assessment, the “Mega-Code,” which provides a simulated neonatal resuscitation emergency evaluation followed by an end-of-course written exam.

“Using the training equipment that was donated by the Latter Day Saints Charity Organization, we were all able to come together at the Basra airport, learn more about each other’s cultures and medical practices, and provide an improved knowledge base for neonatal resuscitation in Basra hospitals and rural clinics,” Bridge said.

The 20 donated training sets include a model baby and resuscitation equipment.

“We organized this training opportunity with them, and they shipped over all the training materials,” Bridge said.

Bridge said while the Iraqi healthcare providers were the primary benefactors of the training, the U.S. practitioners benefitted as well.

“Every opportunity to teach medicine is also an opportunity for the instructor to learn the material better,” Bridge said. “Consequently, MCMO activities like these are a win-win for everyone involved; U.S. and Iraqi medical providers alike reinforce their medical skills.”

Around the **DIVISION**



84th EOD Names Soldier, NCO of Quarter

Spc. Jeremiah Day and Cpl. Eric Simmons, II, of the 84th Ord. Bn., were awarded as the battalion's Soldier and noncommissioned officer of the 4th Quarter on Aug. 5 at Fort Riley.

Soldiers participating in the Soldier and NCO of the Quarter competition were each challenged and tested in their leadership skills, tactical knowledge, physical and mental fitness by way of hands-on warrior tasks, M4 rifle qualifications, a 9-mile foot march and a board appearance.

Day said each of his fellow Soldiers should carry a lot more pride just to be able to participate in the competition, adding that it not only is a good experience, but each event can compliment other areas of their Army career, such as using the board appearance as a learning situation for promotion boards they have coming up.

Day and Simmons will continue to compete in the unit's brigade-level competition in Fort Carson, Colo.

FORSCOM commander Thurman visits Fort Riley, talks to Soldiers

Gen. James Thurman, commanding general of United States Army Forces Command toured Fort Riley Aug. 10 and 11, where he spoke with post and unit leaders, received updates on Fort Riley's current operations and sat down to dine with Fort Riley Soldiers.

"I don't stay in FORSCOM head-

quarters. I am out somewhere almost every one to two days," Thurman said. "I want to know what's going on out at the installations. I try to make a difference. The way I see it is: you don't work for me. I work for you."

On Aug. 11, Thurman met with the post's senior commanders where he was updated by Brig. Gen. David Petersen, 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley deputy commanding general-rear, and the post's senior leaders. He was updated on the status of the units currently assigned to the "Big Red One" as well as issues faced by the Soldiers on post and in the surrounding communities. Concerns such as the shortage of affordable housing for Soldiers and overcrowded school districts were addressed by Col. Kevin Brown, Fort Riley's garrison commander.

"We can train the hell out of these guys but the bottom line is that we have to make sure they're taken care of," Brown said.



SAMC inducts new members during August ceremony

Sgt. Audie Murphy is the most decorated Soldier in American history. Dr. Mary E. Walker is the only woman to ever receive the Medal of Honor. Their names are synonyms with resilience, bravery and courage and only allow the most dedicated of today's Soldiers and Army Spouses to be attributed to them.

On Aug. 12, seven individuals received that honor. Sgt. 1st Class Tonya Karm, 1st Combined Arms Battalion,

63rd Armor Regiment, joined the ranks of the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, while Liza Balough, Sarah Clauss, Jennifer Cuington, Kara Martinez, Alicia Moore and Starr Mortensen were given the Dr. Mary E. Walker Award.

"I'm very honored and proud to be a part of this association," Karm said, serving her 21st year of Army service. "I'll retire when I stop loving what I do," she smiled, illustrating an excitement for her job and the extra pride gained from the day's induction. "When you're selected by the some of the most incredible senior (noncommissioned officers) to be a part of a club or association with them, it's the biggest thing you can do in the military."


Aside from the honor she received from the recognition, Karm hopes that her own induction into the association will help inspire younger NCOs.

Final transition teams return to Fort Riley, Family and friends

Friends and Family members gathered in Building 88312 on August 9 to welcome home the servicemembers of transition team classes 75, 76 and 77.

More than 50 servicemembers returned to Fort Riley during a 6:30 p.m. redeployment ceremony after being deployed for a year on a military transition team. Beginning in October 2006 the Soldiers of 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division began to train Soldiers who had been assigned to a MiTT. Prior to their deployment, the service members were assigned to Fort Riley for approximately 60 days of training for their transition team assignment before deploying.

"Thanks for your service you did there for a year," said Brig. Gen. David Petersen, 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley's deputy commanding general-rear. "It's a tough mission and you should be proud of yourselves."

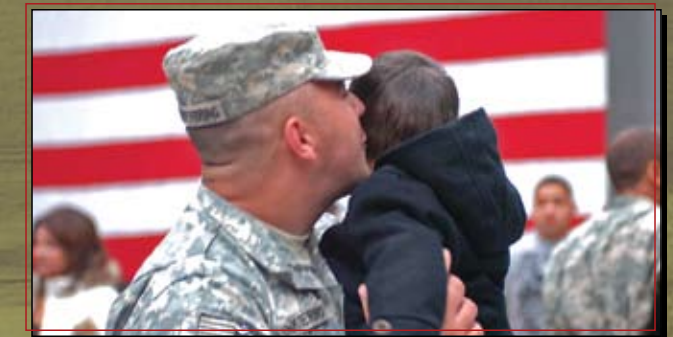
In September 2009, the MTT training mission was transitioned to Fort Polk, La. 



FOR SOLDIERS



FOR FAMILIES



FOR THE FLINT HILLS



FOR THE NATION



LOOKING FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE BIG RED ONE?

■ www.riley.army.mil ■ www.facebook.com/1stInfantryDivision ■ www.facebook.com/FortRiley

■ twitter.com/fightingfirst ■ www.flickr.com/photos/firstinfantrydivision



ANNA NEWMAN, DUTY FIRST! MAGAZINE

Joseph, left, and James Hagin watch for their father, Sgt. 1st Class Randy Hagin, of the 1st Infantry Division Band, during a redeployment ceremony Aug. 13.



ANNA NEWMAN, DUTY FIRST! MAGAZINE

Soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion file into formation during a redeployment ceremony Aug. 13 at Fort Riley.

Soldiers get warm welcome home

Nearly 200 from DHHB back after time in Iraq

By Anna Newman
Duty First! Magazine

THE FIRST SOLDIERS OF DIVISION HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS BATTALION RETURNED TO FORT RILEY EARLY AUG. 13. THE 160 SOLDIERS FROM SIX COMPANIES WERE REUNITED WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOUR MONTHS EARLIER THAN SCHEDULED DUE TO THE RESPONSIBLE DRAWDOWN OF FORCES IN IRAQ.

Army scheduling was far from the minds of Soldiers and Families, however. Samantha Foulkes welcomed home her husband, Pfc. Tyler Foulkes, of DHHB's Security Company. Foulkes made the trip to Fort Riley from Texas, stopping in Oklahoma to pick up her friend, Brittney Huffaker, who was welcoming home her boyfriend, Pfc. Trent Davis, also of DHHB's Security Company. The ladies met because their significant others are close friends and developed a friendship with each other throughout the deployment.

For both Foulkes and Huffaker, this de-


ployment was their first experience. Both said they were nervous about a lot of things early on, because they didn't know what to expect.

"I was especially worried that Tyler wouldn't make it home to be with me for the birth," said Foulkes, who gave birth to Teagan during the deployment. "But he made it back, and I was really glad he was able to be with me for that."

Holding 2-month-old Teagan, Foulkes said she was sure her husband would be most surprised by how much their son had grown.

Huffaker said she and Davis had no big plans following the redeployment besides spending some time together.

"I'm just looking forward to getting all his stuff from here and getting to the car," she said. "It will be nice to just have him back."

Approximately 800 Soldiers with DHHB deployed to southern Iraq from Fort Riley in late 2009 and early 2010. The remaining Soldiers in the unit will begin returning to Fort Riley in December 2010. 



LOOKING FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE BIG **RED** ONE?

- www.riley.army.mil
- www.facebook.com/1stInfantryDivision
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