



# Diligent Times

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## SUPPORT FIRST!

701st Brigade Support Battalion

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### 'Diligent' Battalion Assists with Controlled Detonation of Unserviceable Ammunition

By U.S. Army Spc. Sean D. Worley  
Alpha Company, Orderly Room Clerk

PAKTIKA PROVINCE, Afghanistan (OCT 2012) – On October 1st Soldiers from 701st Brigade Support Battalion, 'Diligent', supported and assisted the Forward Operating Base (FOB) Sharana Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team (EODT) with the detonation of over 83,000 lbs of expired ammunition. The explosion, which took place at a safe distance from the base and surrounding villages, consisted of, 60mm, 80mm, 105mm, 120mm and 155mm mortar rounds, AT4 rockets, illumination mortar and 2.75in rockets. It made quite a 'boom' that was seen and felt from on FOB Sharana. Witnesses compared the illumination rounds going off to that of a fourth of July celebration.



701st BSB participated in the controlled detonation of 83,000 pounds of unserviceable ammunition on October 1st



Alpha Company and members of the Explosives Ordnance Disposal Team move 83,000 pounds of expired ammunition to the controlled detonation location

The expired ammunition was previously stored at the Task Force 701 Ammunition Transfer and Holding Point (ATHP). After a decade of war there is a lot of "bad" ammunition at storage points around Afghanistan, and the TF 701 ATHP, one of the older collection points, is estimated to house over half of that stock. Chief Warrant Officer Omar Laboy, the Officer-In-Charge of the ATHP, recognized the growing need to dispose of the expired rounds on FOB Sharana and helped coordinate for the disposal. Other Soldiers from Task Force 701 provided a valuable support asset, allowing EODT to easily consolidate, organize and prepare the ammunition for detonation. All four companies in the battalion contributed Soldiers and vehicles to complete the load up and convoy. With 'Diligent' Battalion's help, the EODT was able to perform the detonation in a quick, effective and safe manner.

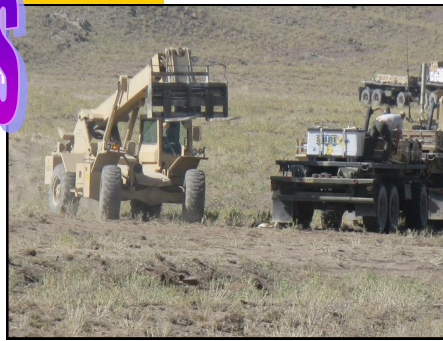
This ammunition demilitarization by controlled detonation was the second of three total detonations that TF 701 will take part in. The combined effort by TF 701 and the EODT will significantly reduce the amount of excess ammunition in Afghanistan allow for a more responsible drawdown of U.S. Armed Forces.

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# This Week in Photos



Private 1st Class Crisler from Charlie Company works on medical notes at the Medical Treatment Facility



Alpha Company assists with the controlled detonation



Spc. Nelson of HHC receives her certificate for reenlistment



Spc. Jenkins, Spc. Henson and Spc. Tompkins of Bravo Company prepare for their promotions to Specialist



701st Soldiers stand in formation for Battalion Awards Ceremony on October 2nd



701st Awardees stand in formation



# Battalion Awards Ceremony

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# HOME OF THE **1** BIG RED ONE

## THE **1**ST INFANTRY DIVISION POST

### 'Dragons' Spend Day with Manhattan Elementary Students

By Sgt. Scott Lamberson  
4th IBCT Public Affairs

As the school year moves forward, Soldiers of the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division recently spent time with their Adopt-a-School partners.

The 701st Brigade Support Battalion and the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment – both with 4th IBCT – visited their respective partner schools' students and faculty Sept. 28.



"It gets the Soldiers of Fort Riley involved in the local community. We show the students that we are here for them as well as our country," said Sgt. Joseph Gallagher, light wheeled mechanic, 701st BSB.

A handful of Soldiers from the 701st BSB visited Amanda Arnold Elementary School, Manhattan. While there, Soldiers were given a tour of the school and had the opportunity to sit in on and participate in several classes and even meet with a group while they ate lunch. The Soldiers broke into smaller groups of two and three. While some went to physical education classes, others attended art and music classes.

When it was time for the students to eat lunch, the Soldiers had the opportunity to meet a special group of students known as the Military Lunch Bunch, a group of students who have parents in the military. The group meets weekly, after the students eat, they engage in special activities and have opportunities to share with one another and talk about their experiences.

"This is collaboration between our two agencies. It's important for the kids to see the Soldiers presence because we are all working together," said Cheri Wickham, social worker, Amanda Arnold Elementary School.

"Just having the Soldiers visible in the school shows patriotism; it also shows the students that there are other people in the community that care about them."

Soldiers of 701st BSB plan on visiting the school's students and faculty every Friday for the remainder of the year.

On the other side of town, Soldiers of the 1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt. were busy setting up an obstacle course for the students of Frank V. Bergman Elementary School. The obstacle course was known as "Bergman Bootcamp."

The course was set up in a large field at the school and had events like a low crawl, chicken walk, spoon egg carry and crab walking backwards. The students also had the opportunity to try on ballistic vests and body armor.

Bergman has a large population of physically and developmentally challenged students, when the school was refurbished several years back, the budget ran short and improvements to the playground were not possible. The idea behind this bootcamp, is to get the able-bodied students involved so they can contribute to this problem and work toward a playground that all students can play on, said Lori Martin, principal.

"I think this is a great idea; I volunteered as soon as I heard about this event. I went to a school that didn't have much, so anything I can do to help the local community I will," said Sgt. Lorez-Torres, infantryman, 1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt. "This is a great event; the kids are having fun while working towards a greater goal."

Both 4th IBCT units plan on spending more time with their adopt a school partners as the school year continues.

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# Diligent Challenge Leader Board

Week 5



## DILIGENT CHALLENGE



Week 5 Leader Board: 29SEP12-05OCT12

 <p><b>Gold (Top Miles)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1: 1LT Buckland (C Co.) – 200.3 mi.</li> <li>2: SPC Garcia (B Co.) – 190.0 mi.</li> <li>3: 1LT Matter (B Co.) – 175.0 mi.</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Silver (Run &amp; Situps/Pushups)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1: SPC Tabb (C Co.) – 97.5 mi, 4690 SU</li> <li>2: MAJ Lamotte (HHC) – 90.9 mi, 1620 PU</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Gold (Top Push-ups)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1: CPL Holliday (C Co.) – 9535 PU</li> <li>2: SSG Jones (HHC) – 7705 PU</li> <li>3: SPC Canterbury (C Co.) – 5410 PU</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Bronze (Pushups)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1: SPC Tarpley (C Co.) – 5058 PU</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Gold (Top Sit-Ups)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1: 1LT Matter (B Co.) – 8398 SU</li> <li>2: SPC Garcia (B Co.) – 7668 SU</li> <li>3: SPC Ericksen (B Co.) – 7657 SU</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Bronze (Situps)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1: PFC Giron (C Co.) – 1600 SU</li> </ul>

This week, only 25% of participants turned in trackers. Get your name on the leader board!!  
Remember to send your Diligent Challenge Trackers to your unit representative every Saturday!

HHC & A/CO POC: 1LT Kathryn Buckland  
B/CO & C/CO POC: SSG Carlos Warfield



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