



Ft. Riley, Kansas

FIRST SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE

Volume 1, Issue 4

'Steeped in Tradition, Embracing Change, supporting Army modularity'

Dear 1st Sustainment Brigade Team,

Welcome to the fourth edition of the 1st Sustainment Brigade Newsletter. For awhile it looked like spring was just around the corner, now we have snow again. Take heart, before we know it, we'll be complaining about the heat. With the ceremony we had February 15, we now have a new name but the mission remains the same – to deploy later this summer in support of the fight against global terrorism. The team here is growing almost daily, with new Soldiers, NCO's and officers and if you're new – we welcome you and trust this becomes one of your best assignments. We are thrilled to have the Special Troop Battalion stand up, as of 15 February, under the able command of LTC Robert Brem, just arrived from Korea. Welcome Robert and Family! We are training at a brisk pace for our upcoming deployment. The training calendar is packed and I'm afraid it will get busier before it lets up. As we know the way we train will determine the performance we give in Iraq, so thanks for buckling down and giving it your very best.

I'd like to say that during this rush of training, we will retain our focus on caring for our Soldiers and their Families. Before the summer arrives, we will build in times of block leave and encourage as much as possible for family time. Spring Break for area schools is coming up, March 19-23, and I want Soldiers with Families to plan their leave time around school breaks as much as possible. We will put out more specific dates on block leave as soon as we know our departure date. The chaplain is planning some single, family and couples retreats at a nice camp in the area, Rock Springs. I encourage you to take advantage of those and spend some quality time with your Families before we deploy.

Another emphasis I would like to make is safety. The roads are still slippery at times, Kansas winds get off the chart and you still can't predict how other people are driving. Keep a constant eye on safety. We have been blessed with a low rate of accidents and incidents and I want to keep it that way. There are a lot of quality people in our unit and let's keep working together. In that way, we will accomplish the mission, take care of ourselves and our Families and live to a ripe old age.

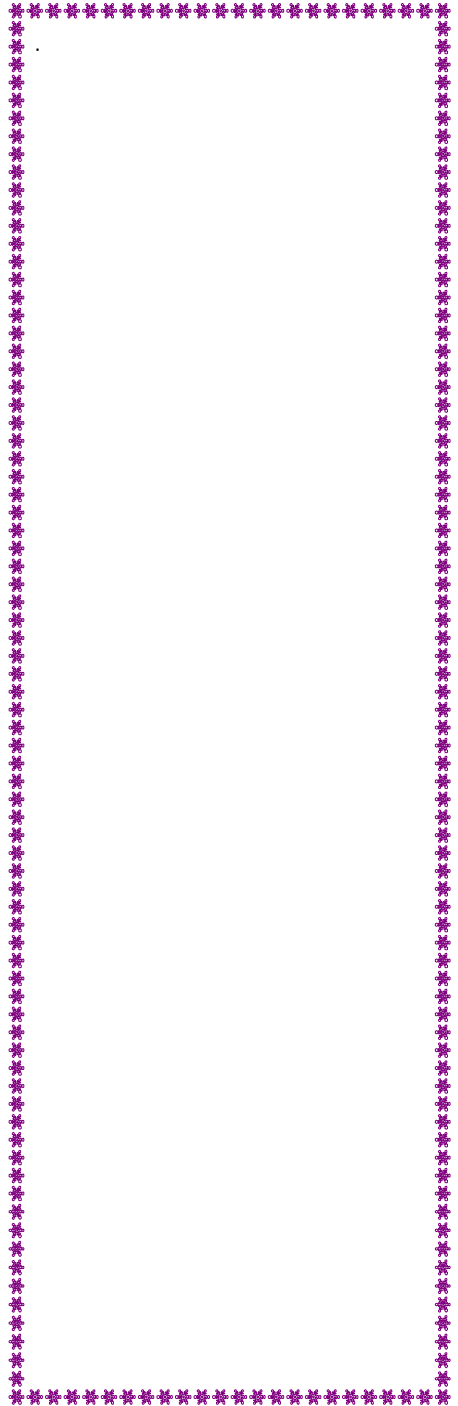
All that said, it is a pleasure to be your commander. As dates become available to us regarding deployment and block leave, we will let you know. We are building a quality team here at the 1st Sustainment Brigade and I thank you for being an integral part of it.

Duty First!

COL Kevin G. O'Connell

Durable 6

CSM Corner





Hello again. Now that the new year is well underway we would like to first take the time to acknowledge all the new Soldiers that have arrived to our unit over the past few weeks. SPC H. is joining us from the Florida National Guard. SGT N., SFC R., and SPC W. are all additions to our Headquarters Platoon. And lastly, SPC R. is joining us from the 82nd Airborne and now in our Range Extension Platoon. We are welcome to have everyone aboard and looking forward to working together.

We would also like to bring attention to the recent or coming birthdays in the company. SGT P. just recently celebrated his on the 20th of February, while SGT O'G. and SSG C. both have birthdays in the near future; the 28th of February and 10th of March respectively. Remember to wish them a happy birthday as they become one year wiser. Stay young at heart!

Hopefully, this winter's snowy cold weather didn't prevent anyone from enjoying the four-day training holiday and Valentines Day. Be sure to enjoy the warmer weather as soon as it comes, especially with Spring Break rapidly approaching (18th-24th).

This month we farewell SGT M. He has worked tirelessly for us in the orderly room helping plan and track our training and personnel. We are certain his work will continue to be appreciated over at his new job with Military Intelligence.

In the next few months we will be preparing for and conducting more training. I want to emphasize the importance of safety in all that we do, on and off duty. Take safety to heart and do the small things to actually look out for you and your battle buddies. The recent weather reminds us that winter is far from over and we need to continue taking the necessary precautions.

SIG DET, thanks for all you hard work and be safe.

CPT N.

Chaplains Corner

We have some great opportunities coming up in March-May for singles, families and couples. On March 9-10,2007 I will lead a Strong Bonds Pick a Partner Training, at the Rock Springs 4-H Camp, Junction City, KS. Rock Springs Camp is about 15 miles from Fort Riley. The weekend retreat features training in Pick a Partner mate selection with a workbook, free time, four great meals at the camp chow hall and one overnight. Starts Friday, 1000 through Saturday after lunch. There is no cost for the single. Transportation to get there is on you.

HHC 1st Sustainment Brigade



Greetings! For my first newsletter, as the new HHC 1st Sustainment Brigade Company Commander, I want to thank my husband, former Company Commander, CPT W. and 1SG S. which have been a great command team as evidenced by the high caliber of the Soldiers; esprit de corps and standards of excellence the unit maintains. I have had the pleasure of working with many of you in Germany; this unit has a great reputation for its atmosphere of unity and as an army family. We will continue taking care of Soldiers and their Families; training hard; developing teams and preparing for deployment. I look forward to meeting and working with you.

The month of January flew by quickly. We were busy with fielding and training on new systems while simultaneously conducting equipment inventories that took “only” thirty days thanks to the hard work and exceptional equipment accountability of our Supply Section and Soldiers. The HHC 1st Sustainment Brigade is not only diverse in the large amount and number of its personnel but also in its equipment! Thanks to all that made the experience as efficient and painless as possible.

It has been and will continue to be very busy; but everyone must take time out especially during Spring Break to rejuvenate. With all of the different tasks and missions being conducting we must slow down and think about safety. Please mind the speed limits on and off post; wear your seat belts and take care of your health. The weather has been unpredictable and roads sometimes hazardous so please do a “risk assessment” before traveling and give yourself enough time to get wherever it is you are going.

We have already achieved what seems to be a year’s worth of accomplishments and experienced a tremendous amount of change with the Company Change of Command on 9 February, the activation of the Special Troops Battalion (STB) commanded by our new Battalion Commander, LTC Brem and the transition of the Division Support Command (DISCOM) into the Sustainment Brigade on 15 February. This has been a historical month for us; we no longer wear a 1st Infantry Division patch on our left shoulder; we have a new Company guidon and there are new Soldiers and Families entering the unit. Please continue to be positive, flexible and adaptable to change. We will do our best to keep you informed, which brings up another point. The next Family Readiness meeting is 9 March, we encourage everyone to attend in order to receive important information; prepare for deployment and take an active part in building our team. I appreciate your continued support and look forward to seeing you soon.

Hi Families! Another month has gone by, and like most of you, I'm ready for some warm weather, being from the Caribbean, this cold is just killing me!!! Enough of me, let's see what I got for you. For those with children at a High School level, check this out, this might be what you were wishing for. The Military Officer Association of America will award 25 \$1,000 scholarships for the 2007-2008 school year. Applicants must be dependent children of an active duty or National Guard member, officer or enlisted, of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, U.S. Public Health Service or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Applicants must be planning to attend an accredited college or university as a fulltime student in the fall of 2007. Applications can be filled out online at www.moaa.org; the deadline for applications is noon EST March 1. The Sgt. Audie Murphy Club would like to notify local seniors and recent graduates of a \$1000 scholarship that SAMC will be awarding. Eligible personnel should see their local high school guidance counselor for a copy of the application packet. Applicants must be a dependent of a retired or active duty enlisted service member stationed at Fort Riley and be a high school senior, graduate, or GED holder with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Packets must be received by the SAMC through the guidance counselors no later than March 31.

The Exceptional Family Member Program will be hosting Ages & Stages Assessments for vision and hearing. The next scheduled assessment will be from 2 to 5:30 p.m. Feb. 28. The assessments are open to all military Families who have children ages birth to kindergarten, they will be conducted at the Soldier and Family Support Center, Building 7264, for more information or to RSVP call 239-9435.

For those History Lovers you are invited to attend Fort Riley's Historical and Archaeological Society docent training at 10:30 a.m. March 3 at the Cavalry Museum. Lunch will be provided to all participants. For reservations and more information, call 784-4880. Let's party, party, party, the Enlisted Spouses' Club will host its first-ever Ugly Dress Ball at 6:30, March 2 at the Ogden Community Center. Prices are \$3 for ESC members and \$5 for Office and Civilian Spouses' Club members. RSVP by Feb. 27 at 717-2753.

The FRG is here for you, if any questions, concerns or comments send an email. We'll be holding a meeting next month which will be announced later on. I hope this information benefits you and your Family take care, stay safe, 'til next month.

Special Troop Battalion

The Army is changing and moving quickly towards a modular force that can defend the United States any place in the world. As a result of this transformation, the DISCOM was reorganized on 15 February 2007 to the 1st Sustainment Brigade and assuming the role of providing human resource, personnel, finance, and signal support is the Special Troops Battalion (STB). The STB activated on 15 February 2007 with a mission to support the 1st Sustainment Brigade on orders any where in the world. A little about me, I was born in Maryland and I've been married for 15 years with one daughter. I'm passionate when it comes to the Army and taking care of Soldiers. As the commander, my focus will be to build a strong and cohesive unit to include family members. This cohesive bond will be essential in preparing the unit for deployment and maintaining operations while deployed. I'm a strong advocate of the FRG and believe that it is a key component for ensuring mission success. I'm proud to have been selected to serve as commander in this unit full of outstanding Soldiers and look forward to continued success in all endeavors. "Sustain to Victory" "Steadfast and Strong"

Soldiers and Families of the 1st Sustainment Brigade,

The S3 shop is still going non-stop as we complete all the training and other work required to get us ready to deploy. March will be a busy time for as was last month. Most will be taking a much needed break during our block leave period. However, we still have to keep the section going during this time so some of our folks have chosen to take their leave at different times. We will ensure everyone gets their block leave. The following are some dates and events that will affect your Soldiers during the month of March

Multiple New Equipment Training (NET) events are scheduled throughout the month and include SINCGARS (radio), JNN (Joint Network Node or Satellite Communications Package), and Blue Force Tracker (BFT) to name a few. All these training events will ensure that your Soldiers are trained on the latest equipment available to ensure that they can effectively communicate and safely operate while deployed.

Additionally training events include:

○ Combat Lifesaver (CLS), Convoy Livefire Training, land navigation, and Warrior Skills Training (WST) for 24th Trans Co and 2-2 HET Platoon.

Warrior tasks, weapons ranges (50 Cal and M249 SAW), and Light Medium Tactical Vehicle (LMTV) training for both HHC 1st Sustainment Brigade and the 1st SIG Co

Fort Riley has also identified March 16-19 as a long weekend.

Upcoming dates of interest include:

- 19-23 March is Spring Break

DISCOM becomes the 1st Sustainment Brigade, 15 February 2007



If you have any questions please feel free to contact me anytime at 785-317-7302.

CPT W.

Knight 6

“On Blast”:

Congratulations to the following Soldiers who were promoted: SFC P.; SSG M.; SSG W.; SGT T.; PFC R.

Congratulations to SPC E. who recently reinlisted.

Five Soldiers appeared before the promotion board and were successfully recommended: SPC(P) Z.; SPC(P) B.; SPC(P) F.; SPC(P) D.; SGT(P) B.

We would also like to extend our congratulations to SFC R. and her newest member (baby boy 7lbs 13oz) of the HHC 1SB family.

Welcome to our new Soldiers and families who arrived after 4 Jan: LTC B.; CPT S.; CPT B.; CPT H.; CPT C.; WO1 H.; WO1 R.; SFC T.; SSG B.; SSG N.; SSG L.; SGT B.; SGT D.; SGT S.; SGT H.; SGT A.; SGT M.; SGT B.; SPC O.; SPC E.; PVT A.

Upcoming Events:

- 2 Mar Civilian Clothes Day FRG Fundraiser
- 5 Mar FRG Training 1800-2000 Soldier and Family Readiness Center
- 9 Mar HHC 1st Sustainment Brigade FRG Meeting, 1800 hrs, Soldier and Family Support Center Building 7264, Normandy Dr.
- 16-19 Mar Training Holiday
- 17-15 Mar Spring Break

1SG S.

Knight 7

FIRED UP!



PFC H., a cook with the HHC 1SB, is busy making breakfast for Soldiers.

24 Trans / 2-2 HET News



Soldiers and Families of the 24th Transportation Company and the 2-2 HET looked on as six of their fellow Soldiers received promotions.



Newly promoted SSG S. of the 2-2 Het is congratulated by his entire Family.



"All in the family" CSM C., CW4 C. and newest Sergeant in the 2-2 HET C. pose for a photo at the recent promotion ceremony held at the 24th Trans Motor Pool.



A proud SSG J. at the promotion ceremony.



2-2 HET Soldiers look on.