Firefighters swing into action

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The Signal

Friday, January 16, 2004 | Published for the Department of Defense and the Fort Gordon community | Vol. 24, No. 2

News UPDATE

IG visit

The MEDCOM Inspector General Team will be here from 3-4:30 p.m. **Wednesday** at Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Room 12B36.

The team will accept IG complaints and requests for assistance from Soldiers, Department of Army civilians, family members and retirees.

Black history month

The African-American Black History Month command program is 1:30 p.m. **Feb. 10** in Alexander Hall.

This year's program features a choreopoem, *For Colored Girls who have Considered Suicide when the Rainbow is Enuf*, performed by Davidson Fine Arts Drama Department. *(The program has mature content and recommended only for individuals in high school and above.)*

For information, call Sgt. 1st Class Garcia Patterson at 791-2014.

Information briefing

The next Community Information Briefing is 11:30 a.m. **Wednesday** in the North Ballroom of the Gordon Club.

All commanders, command sergeants major, first sergeants and directors are encouraged to attend. For information, call 791-3639.

CPAC training

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center is hosting an Employee and Labor Relations Seminar for supervisors of Department of Army civilian personnel **Tuesday** to **Thursday**.

Training is held at the Courtyard from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. each day. Contact Carla Baucom at 791-3956 to sign up. Registration required, classes filled on a first-come basis.

Building dedication

There is a dedication ceremony for the new communications center on Kilbourne Avenue from 1:30-2 p.m. **Friday**.

The building will be dedicated to Lt. Col. Reuben Abramowitz, a career Signal officer who participated in both the Mexican Punitive Expedition and the American Expeditionary Forces of World War I. For information, call 791-3752.

SmartStart for Vets

A SmartStart representative will be at the Army Career and Alumni Program Center at 11:15 a.m. **Wednesday**.

SmartStart For New Vets provides eligible servicemembers, and their spouses, with entry-level job opportunities at top corporations. For information, call the ACAP Center at 791-7333.

202nd Soldiers return to desert

Spc. Leslie Pearson
513th Military Intelligence Brigade

The 202nd Military Intelligence Battalion formally announced their upcoming year-long deployment to southwest Asia in a Casing of the Colors ceremony Dec. 18.

As the Soldiers in the battalion, family members and friends all watched silently, a case was slid over the battalion's battle streamer, symbolizing the entire battalion will soon be heading full force to Baghdad.

Although many details of the unit's activities cannot be disclosed for operational and security reasons, their involvement in the Army's continued efforts in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom is crucial. Their mission includes conducting counterintelligence, interrogation, document exploitation and human intelligence analysis in support of the land force commander.

According to Maj. John Deck, former 202nd MI Bn., executive officer who served with the battalion during the last deployment, the Soldiers are deploying again this soon because it's part of a rotational requirement and there aren't many units to rotate in support of operations in Iraq.

"The model that FORSCOM is using is a tactical exploitation battalion, a type of military intelligence battalion, usually at the core level. There are only two of those in the active Army, 18th Core and 5th Core. The 3rd Core and the 1st Core are in the Reserves, one of them being the 221st, which is already mobilized. So there aren't that many people to rotate out, especially with U.S. involvement still going on in Afghanistan and Iraq as well," said Deck.

Historically, the units comprising the 202nd, which was activated Oct. 2, 1982, at Fort Monmouth, N.J., have a long, distinguished history of service to the nation including participation in the Pacific Theater of World War II, the Korean Conflict, Vietnam, Operations Desert Shield/Storm, Restore Hope, Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

The 202nd MI Bn., a subordinate unit to the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, whose area of responsibility is southwest Asia, deploys troops for intelligence operations and training throughout the region. The brigade maintains a permanent presence in the AOR with Field Office Southwest Asia, the counter intelligence resident office, and are always engaged in providing timely, quality interrogation and counterintelligence support, he said.

During Operation Enduring Freedom, the battalion did not deploy as a single unit, rather small pieces from just about every company in the unit was deployed from November 2001 to August 2003. Three months later, the entire battalion loaded-up for the eight-month deployment in support of Operation Iraq Freedom.

Photo by Andrew Tucker/Augusta Chronicle

Command Sgt. Maj. Carlos Lewis, 202nd Military Intelligence Battalion, cases the 202nd MI Bn. colors in a predeployment ceremony Dec. 18 outside Alexander Hall. The Soldiers left Jan. 7 for a year-long deployment to Iraq.

"The battalion did well in its mission in Afghanistan and Iraq," said Deck. "Having the Soldiers leave at the beginning of the new year will allow them to spend this Thanksgiving and Christmas with their families, something they haven't been able to do for the last two years due to deployments."

For Spc. Stephanie Maas, a counterintelligence agent with the 202nd MI Bn., deployments are commonplace since joining the unit September 2001. She returned to Fort Gordon June 2003 following an eight month deployment to Iraq.

"I am nervous but ready to be back over in Iraq," Maas said. "Because of my job I have come to expect being out of the country the majority of a year. I feel like I have been at Fort Gordon too long between deployments, this is the longest amount of time I have spent at home."

During her most recent mission in Iraq, her group moved around every four days, which allowed her to see a lot of the country. This deployment will not provide her the same opportunities or dangers.

"During this deployment I will be providing support to the HHC 202nd MI Battalion in a different aspect–as a Trojan Lite System Operator–and because of this I will be staying in one place, so it should be safer deployment for me," she said.

Photo by Pvt. Armando Monroig

Off to a good start

Brig. Gen. Jan Hicks, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commander, jokingly adjusts Bill Browning's tie, Sunday at the general's New Year's reception at the Gordon Club. More than 850 people attended the four-hour long reception.

Soldiers, officers can now view records online

Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – Soldiers can now review their personnel information on the Web in a one-page Enlisted Records Brief.

Official photographs were added last month to the online Officer Records Briefs, which first became available on the Web in June. The ERBs went online in December.

MyERB and MyORB are now both on the U.S. Army Human Resources Command homepage at **https://www.hrc.army.mil.** Just click on the "Active" link at bottom right. Then the MyORB and MyERB links can be found in the left column.

The Web-based solution enables active-duty Soldiers to prepare for promotions by reviewing their records summary using the Internet, HRC officials said. Army Reserve Soldiers and officers can review some of their personnel information at the My2Xcitizen portal. Both the HRC and Reserve portals require Army Knowledge Online accounts and passwords.

See Records. page 7A

On the brink

Endangered animals in our backyard and the fight to save them

(This is part one of a three-part series focusing on endangered animals in Georgia, and more specifically, on Fort Gordon, and measures to protect them. Part one examines what an endangered animal is and what animals are endangered in Georgia.)

Sgt. Ryan Matson
Staff writer

Here today, gone tomorrow.

That could be the case for hundreds of species of animals across the United States, some of which once roamed the land in abundant numbers.

In Georgia alone, there are 81 endangered or threatened animals according to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources website. At least four species are known to exist on Fort Gordon, with several other species facing possible endangered or threatened status in the near future.

Fort Gordon Environmental and Natural Resources Management Office biologists Steve Camp and Ken Boyd and other wildlife experts recently explained the problem of endangered species in Georgia and on post and what is being done to ensure they can continue to live as they have for centuries.

As Boyd and Camp explained, there are various classifications for animals which may be at risk as far as sustaining their population. At the very top of the list are *endangered* species. An endangered species, Boyd explained, is one at risk of becoming extinct.

"A lot of people are totally unaware that there are animals that have gone extinct in our lifetime," Boyd said. "Some as recently as in the last 10 years, have totally disappeared from the face of the earth - gone."

While endangered animals and plants are the most critical group, right below it are species classified as *threatened*. These species are likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future throughout all or parts of its range.

See Endangered, page 3A

File photo

Fort Gordon wildlife biologists band juvenile red-cockaded woodpeckers to track the birds and identify their history. The bird is an endangered species in Georgia.

NCO gains more than stats

Pvt. Armando Monroig
Signal staff

Achieving goals and teamwork are integral parts of being in the Army. But keeping a good team together requires work.

This is where Soldiers like Sgt. 1st Class Scott Wolkow, a career counselor for Eisenhower Army Medical Center, come in. It is his job to help keep the team of 2,900 Soldiers together.

Lt. Col. John Giddens, EAMC troop commander, summed up in one word what Wolkow has done for the retention program at EAMC, "Phenomenal."

Wolkow has done his part, as a key player on the retention team at the Southeast Region Medical Command. And he has done so in every unit he has worked in.

"We (SERMC) were the only ones in Medical Command to not only make mission, but exceed mission in every category for the last fiscal year," said Wolkow.

The region consists of Forts Gordon, Benning, Campbell, Jackson, Stewart, Rucker and Red Stone Arsenal.

Wolkow said the Department of the Army dictates mission and what the goals are for the year. He added the mission includes retaining initial termers, mid-termers, careerist and Reservists, while focusing on end strength.

Part of his accomplishments included making every one of his retention goals for fiscal year 2003. He exceeded them by re-enlisting more Soldiers than any other unit in SERMC.

"Sgt. Wolkow has the energy and the drive that has made this program a success," said Giddens. "He takes the holistic approach to re-enlistment."

Wolkow has already met his 2004 special fiscal year mission in the first quarter alone and EAMC was the only unit in SERMC to exceed mission in every category for the first quarter.

He added EAMC had the highest retention statistics over the last three fiscal years.

The number one ingredient for accomplishing this goal, said Wolkow, is command involvement.

"Without command involvement I can't do my job," he said.

He said it starts at the very top of the chain of command and goes to the very bottom.

"When you are talking about command climate you are talking about the whole thing," he said.

Wolkow explained this includes taking care of Soldiers like guiding them on how to get promoted.

"Retention is not something that is done solely when a Soldier comes into his re-enlistment window," he said. "Retention is done from day one when that Soldier enters the unit."

He said it is not just about reaching percentages and numbers.

"Yeah, we have numbers, but it is something we don't worry about," said Wolkow. "We worry about taking care of Soldiers because that's the bottom lime."

Wolkow added, "If you take care of the Soldiers, your mission is going to take care of itself."

That is where command involvement and climate comes in, said Wolkow.

"Talking to Soldiers, letting them know what is out there, giving them the tools to make the correct decisions for them and their families," said Wolkow. "That's what it is all about."

He added it is a family decision, not just the Soldier's decision, on whether or not to continue to serve in the Army.

"Staying in the Army is based on the family's needs, wants, and desires," said Wolkow. "You can't steer away from that. That Soldier's main focus is his family."

Photo by Jennifer Chipman

Sgt. 1st Class Scott Wolkow, a career counselor and retention NCO for Eisenhower Army Medical Center, met, and exceeded, his retention goals for 2003.

Wolkow has been a career counselor for eight-and-a-half years in different locations such as FORSCOM units and Kosovo, and has never missed mission. But he wasn't always a career counselor.

The 18-year Army veteran spent 10 years in the infantry as an 11C, mortar man.

He got involved in career counseling when he was working as an armorer at HHC 1/68 Armor, 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, at Fort Carson, Colo.

His commander at the time appointed him as the re-enlistment NCO for his company due to his communication skills with the other Soldiers.

From there his battalion commander appointed him battalion re-enlistment NCO due to his accomplishments with the company.

He took the battalion from having the lowest retention rate to the highest in two quarters.

Following that, Wolkow was given three battalions that couldn't meet their numbers. He turned around their retention programs and they accomplished mission from that point on.

He said many people think he reaches his retention goals easily because he works at EAMC but it is quite the contrary.

"It is harder here because these Soldiers are more marketable," Wolkow said of the MOSs in MEDCOM.

He said 90 percent of the MOSs are highly marketable jobs that could potentially earn a Soldier $50,000-$60,000 a year in the civilian workforce.

With his track record, Wolkow has proven he can achieve his mission goals no matter where he works or the MOS of the Soldier he works with.

He said his secret formula involves a few key factors: The Army's goal to attain end strength and balance out the MOSs, the unit's goal to have enough people to do their jobs and the Soldier's goal of meeting his or her needs, wants and desires.

"If you can wrap all of those together, then you're doing your job," he said.

Photo by Sgt. Ryan Matson

Bravo blood

Capt. Margarita Dunlap *(left)* and Drill Sgt. Confucius Hernton, Company B, 369th Signal Battalion, show off the Kendrick Memorial Blood Donor Trophy in front of some of the Soldiers who won it. Bravo Company tallied 64 registrations and 48 donations in December to take the honors.

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Endangered

From page 1A

"The next category is *rare*," Boyd explained. "A rare species is one that may not be endangered or threatened, but which should be protected because of its scarcity."

Then there are *candidate, species of concern* and *tracked* species. "That means experts are looking at these species to possibly add them to a list as threatened or endangered," Boyd said.

Unusual is another state category, Boyd said. This is a plant or animal species which has unique features. On Fort Gordon, the pink ladyslipper plant falls into that category. In this instance, it is unusual for the plant or animal to be there, Boyd said.

Boyd described how state wildlife professionals determine species populations and what category a species falls in.

"There are people that work for state natural resource agencies who survey for, manage and monitor these species. They maintain databases and monitor the status of these species. They gather this information by doing inventory, status reviews or fieldwork and looking at populations and seeing how well they're doing and what kind of condition they're in."

"They do it all by conducting surveys throughout the state," Camp added. "They go to the areas where they know that a plant's (or animal's) habitat exists and they survey the area for it, and if they don't find it, they of course become concerned.

"Or if they found it this year and not next year, that's when they start developing the listings and trends," he said."

Where things become complicated, Boyd explained, is when these classifications are placed on both a federal and state scale. For example, it is possible for an animal which is classified as threatened in the state of Georgia to actually be federally endangered across part of its range. This would mean that there is a large enough population of that species concentrated in the state of Georgia to qualify that animal as being threatened, or in danger of becoming endangered, while in part of the United States, the population is small enough to say it is in danger of becoming extinct, or endangered.

"An example of that would be the gopher tortoise," Boyd explained. "The gopher tortoise exists in the Southeastern United States from South Carolina to Louisiana and Texas, and it is federally listed as endangered from Alabama west, and listed in Georgia and South Carolina as threatened. It's what they call a regional listing, since it's only listed as endangered in a portion of its range.

"Most of the time the animals that are listed federally are listed throughout their range and they cross state boundaries," Boyd said.

Boyd added that while all these categories have been devised by biologists and wildlife experts to more thoroughly describe the status of a species, only three are federal categories.

"There are actually three federal categories - endangered, threatened, and species of concern or candidate."

When you add up all of these categories - endangered, threatened, rare, candidate, tracked, unusual and species of concern - 32 species of plants and animals on Fort Gordon are listed in one of these groups.

The following animals are classified as either endangered or threatened in Georgia:

Birds - ivory billed woodpecker, piping plover, Kirtland's warbler, peregrine falcon, bald eagle, wood stork, red-cockaded woodpecker, gull-billed tern, Bachman's warbler

Mammals - Northern Right whale, Florida panther, Eastern cougar, humpback whale, gray bat, Indiana bat, round-tailed muskrat, West Indian manatee

Amphibians - Georgia blind salamander, flatwood salamander

Reptiles - American alligator, loggerhead sea turtle, green sea turtle, bog turtle, leatherback sea turtle, Eastern indigo snake, hawksbill sea turtle, gopher tortoise, Kemp's Ridley sea turtle, alligator snapping turtle

File photo

The bald eagle is among the many species of birds, mammals, plants and amphibians that are either threatened or endangered in Georgia.

Invertebrates - Upland combshell, Southern acornshell, Atlantic pigtoe mussel, fine-lined pocketbook, shiny-rayed pocketbook, Alabama moccasinshell, Southern clubshell, Southern pigtoe, ovate clubshell, triangular kidneyshell, Fat threeridge, purple bankclimber, Southern combshell, orange-nacrie mucket, Coosa moccasinshell, gulf moccasinshell, Ochlocknee moccasinshell, oval pigtoe

Fish - shortnose sturgeon, blue shiner, bluestripe shiner, Altamaha shiner, blotched chub, holiday darter, greenfin darter, lipstick darter, Cherokee darter, coldwater darter, Etowah darter, trispot darter, wounded darter, stippled studfish, Northern studfish, flame chub, pretty shiner, robust redhorse, popeye shiner, highscale shiner, silver shiner, mountain madtom, frecklebelly madtom, freckled madtom, amber darter, tangerine darter, goldline darter, Conasauga logperch, freckled darter, river darter, olive darter, snail darter, fatlips minnow, stargazing minnow. *(List compiled from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.)*

When you add up all of these categories - endangered, threatened, rare, candidate, tracked, unusual and species of concern - 32 species of plants and animals on Fort Gordon are listed in one of these groups.

Of these animals, on a more local level, the bald eagle (E) state (T) federal; wood stork (E) state (E) federal; red-cockaded woodpecker (E) state (E) federal; and gopher tortoise (T) state (E) federal, are endangered and threatened species found on Fort Gordon. *(*T = Threatened, E = Endangered.)* Boyd said other animals, such as the American alligator and Florida panther may have roamed Fort Gordon within the last 50 years, but it would be extremely unlikely to find one here now.

There are also four endangered plant species on Fort Gordon: rosemary (T); Indian-olive (T); sweet pitcherplant (E); and Pickering's morning-glory (T).

Next week, *The Signal* examines how animals become endangered or threatened.

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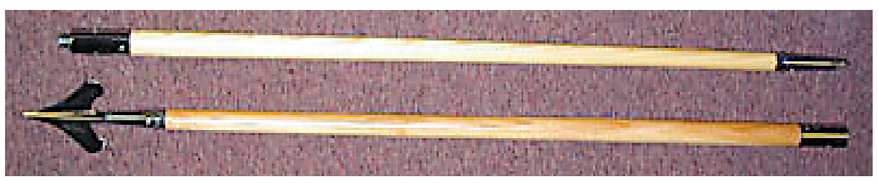

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Firefighters "challenged" to represent post

Pvt. Armando Monroig
Signal staff

Members of the Fort Gordon Fire Department participated in the Scott International Firefighters Combat Challenge National Championships in Ottawa, Canada, Nov. 4-7.

The best firefighting teams in the world competed in the event including teams from Canada, California, Virginia and Texas.

Matt Williams, fire operations A shift assistant chief and a member of the Fort Gordon Firefighter Combat Challenge team, said Air Force teams have participated in the Combat Challenge for more than nine years with the support of base commanders, wing commanders and fire chiefs. Today the Air Force has some of the best teams in the competition.

"With this type of support, the Army teams could not only compete along with the Air Force but also eventually surpass them," added Williams.

The goal of the Combat Challenge is to promote training, firefighter fitness and demonstrate the arduous rigors of the firefighter's profession, said Williams.

The event was televised to more than 30 million people, and has competitions at 25 locations in the United States, Canada and Europe throughout the year.

The teams competed in individual, relay and team events.

A total of 12 Department of Defense teams participated including eight Air Force teams, one Department of Defense Fire Academy consolidated team, and three Army teams (Fort Gordon, Fort Meade and Fort Bliss).

On Nov. 7 the Fort Gordon firefighters relay team qualified for the Streamlight Challenge, a team relay event, with the 30th best time.

The two other Army teams in the competition, Fort Bliss and Fort Meade, placed 34th and 37th respectively, said Williams.

The Fort Gordon Fire Department team looks forward to participating in next year's events, he said.

"It's the Super Bowl of combat challenges," said Marcus Peterson, a firefighter for three years at Fort Gordon fire station Number One and one of the events competitors.

Peterson said the individual events were particularly challenging. He described what some of these events entailed.

"You had to climb about five or six flights of stairs," said Peterson. "You take a 45-pound hose up."

After that, Peterson said they had to run back down the stairs and hit a Kaiser Sled with a sledgehammer, run through cones, drag a charged hose 75 feet and then hit a target with a stream of water from the hose.

"Then you pick up a 175-pound dummy," he said, "and drag it 100 feet."

Peterson said the contestants wore full gear, consisting of pants, jacket, helmet, air mask and bottle, boots and gloves, while participating in the events.

"It weighs a lot," said Peterson. "You can barely breathe when you get done."

He said a lot of training went into preparing for the event.

"Working out, a lot of cardiovascular training and weight lifting" he said. "We set our own course up in the parking lot, practicing until night time."

Peterson said they tried to create the same scenarios they would encounter in the competition so they could prepare.

Peterson said having the department involved in the competition is good publicity for their fire station and Fort Gordon as well.

"It shows that the fire department is putting forth the effort to bring a good name to Fort Gordon," said Peterson. "People think we wash the fire truck and sit around and wait for a call," when in fact firefighters must stay in excellent fitness, not for the competition, but to do their job, he said.

Doron Kleppen, a firefighter from fire station Number Two, participated in the competition as well.

"I learned that it isn't easy," said Kleppen.

Kleppen said he learned what his deficiencies are and what he needs to work on.

"Most of all, we learned team work," he said.

Aside from learning from this experience, he said the public got to see a glimpse of what they are made of.

"For the longest time people never had the true essence of what firefighters do," he said. "It gives people an opportunity to actually see that the fire service is a lot tougher than a lot of people think it is."

Plans are underway for the Fort Gordon team to participate in next year's event as well.

"For our first year we did really well," said Peterson. "Look out for us next year. We'll be better."

Courtesy photo
Fort Gordon firefighter Marcus Peterson competes in the Kaiser Sled event. Contestants must move a 165-pound weight backward five feet by striking it with a nine-pound hammer.

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Viewpoint

Information, Opinions, and Commentary

Honoring service

Time *bestows Person of the Year honor to troops again after 50 years*

Don Dees
Information strategies chief

Time magazine gave our nation's service members a special gift this holiday season. The editors of *Time* named the American Soldier as Person of the Year for 2003.

In naming our troops to the honor, *Time* meant it in the broadest terms possible. They included not only the fine Soldiers of the Army, but also Sailors, Marines, and Airmen and women.

As an Army reservist and a veteran, I was moved by *Time*'s tribute, based largely on what our forces have done in Iraq this year. In the article announcing the choice, *Time* writer Nancy Gibbs writes of our men and women in uniform, "They are the bright, sharp instrument of a blunt policy, and success or failure in a war unlike any in history ultimately rests with them."

Regardless of anyone's particular opinion on operations in Iraq, our forces there are trained, ready and willing to do their nation's bidding. In 1950, *Time* paid a similar tribute to those who defend America.

Back then it wasn't Person of the Year. It was Man of the Year, and *Time* named the American Fighting Man for the honor.

Things were different then. Fighting in Korea had begun in June of that year and by the end of July there were approximately 47,000 U.S. troops in Korea. The military was still struggling to comply with President Harry S. Truman's Executive Order 9981 to end segregation in the armed forces. There were few women in uniform, and we were years away from an all-volunteer force.

Today, we are engaged in a global fight. The War on Terrorism is not restricted to a single peninsula. It is not even restricted to a continent or a hemisphere. It is a full-time, round-the-world struggle against those who would do us harm.

When *Time* first honored our troops, women made up a small part of the military. A 2000 survey showed only about seven percent of Korean War veterans were women. Today, women make up 15 percent of the Army. Among them is Spc. Maria C. Flores-Sanz, a 1st Armored Division Soldier serving in Iraq. On July 3, Flores-Sanz was in a three-vehicle convoy attacked by a rocket-propelled grenade and a remote-detonated improvised explosive device. Flores-Sanz drove the passengers in her vehicle to safety, and later returned to the scene of the attack to evacuate other injured Soldiers.

Our military is now as diverse as our population. Opportunities for achievement and advancement exist for all who strive for them.

What hasn't changed is that American Soldiers serve on behalf of the millions of men and women who live in this country that they will never meet. They are still the proud example of all that is great about our nation.

In 1950, *Time* characterized the American Fighting Man as individualistic and dependent upon teamwork. Today, our Army of One embodies that description. Our sister-services display similar traits.

Today, there is no draft. Each American Soldier voluntarily takes the oath of enlistment. Each swears to protect this nation from all enemies, foreign and domestic. Each makes a personal commitment to freedom.

For the commitments and sacrifices made by the American Soldier, it is fitting that *Time* pay this honor and make us all reflect on what the American Soldier gives for all of us.

SecDef congratulates servicemembers

American Forces Press Service

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate each man and woman in America's Armed Forces for the honor of being named this year's "Person of the Year" by *Time* magazine. It is an honor you have earned not only this day, or this year, but throughout your volunteer service.

Ever since the Minutemen first mustered to America's defense in the early days of our nation, America's fighting forces have stood ready, at a moment's notice, to defend the lives and liberties of our citizens whenever and however they were threatened.

Through two world wars, and dozens of smaller conflicts, the American soldier has never foundered and has carried the light of liberty to millions who suffered under countless tyrants and dictators.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld

During the long, cold struggle against communism, U.S. forces, with our stalwart allies, were the watchmen who stood sentry on the frontiers of freedom – until freedom prevailed, and communism collapsed under the weight of its tyranny.

With this new century have come new battles in a new kind of war – the global war against terrorism. And again, America's fighting forces are at the front – taking the war to the terrorists and bringing freedom to millions who, for decades, had lived in fear.

What remarkable feats you have accomplished since this war began: two nations liberated from brutality and oppression; 50 million people freed to live out their futures without fear; many senior al Qaeda operatives captured or killed; and terrorist cells discovered and dismantled.

Last holiday season, the Iraqi people suffered under the boot of a brutal dictator who murdered innocent citizens. Today, thanks to you, that same dictator – found cowering in a hole of his own making – now awaits justice for his heinous crimes. Each of you helped make that possible. And in so doing, you have made every American proud of who you are and what you do for all of us every day.

Time magazine called you the "face of America, its might and good will,"– and that you are. You are also the face of America's determination to stop the new tyranny of terrorism. And that you will do, because in addition to all that is new – new threats and challenges, a new mission, a new way of fighting, new technologies, and a new kind of war – you bring to the fight the oldest of virtues: honor, integrity, courage, dignity, and discipline.

September 11th, 2001, ushered in a new era, but the world still looks to America for leadership and strength.

See ***Thanks,*** *page 6*

Courtesy photo

Protestors had fire hoses turned on them during Birmingham's 1963 protests.

Recall King legacy

Sgt. 1st Class Marty Smith
513th Military Intelligence Brigade

In April 1963, Martin Luther King sat in a jail cell in Birmingham, Ala., and composed a "letter" that became one of the seminal events in American civil rights history. In honor of Martin Luther King Day, I would like to elaborate on its content and why it is seen as such a significant document.

First, a little background history. Martin Luther King came to Birmingham as the president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, whose headquarters was in Atlanta. King had come to organize protests such as sit-ins at lunch counters and marches to protest the city's policy of segregation.

Some city merchants, for instance, still had signs in their windows refusing to service "coloreds." A previous negotiated promise to have the signs removed was ultimately ignored. The city's Commissioner of Public Safety, Eugene "Bull" Connor, would come to epitomize police brutality to many. Under his leadership, police used dogs to attack and maul peaceful protestors. High-pressure fire hoses that could take the bark off of trees were turned on them.

King found himself in jail, arrested for "parading without a permit." While he was in jail, he received numerous letters, some from the white clergy calling his activities, among other things, "unwise and untimely." King was very disappointed by the lack of support from the white church leaders; he composed this letter to all of them.

King detailed why he felt his cause was just and deserved their support. He told them he was in Birmingham because: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Incoming letters he received deplored his breaking of local laws; something they could not support. Yet King was saddened that they didn't "express a similar concern for the conditions that brought about the demonstrations."

Many previous attempts to deal with the city administration failed; this nonviolent campaign was the result of the frustration of seeing no permanent changes. To the charge that his campaign was ill timed, his response was that "he had yet to engage in a direct-action campaign that was well timed." He went on further to remind his critics that "... it is a historical fact that privileged groups seldom give up their privileges voluntarily" and that "groups tend to be more immoral than individuals."

Yes, he was breaking laws, but he differentiated between "just" and "unjust" laws. "Any law that uplifts human personality is just. Any law that degrades personality is unjust." His bottom line: Individuals have the moral duty to disobey unjust laws. King also criticized so-called white liberals who believed his cause was just, but that he stirred things up unnecessarily; that he was trying to move too fast.

"Who paternalistically believes he can set the timetable for another man's freedom?" King asked rhetorically. World-wide outrage eventually forced his release from jail. King would go on to be arrested many more times for similar non-violent events. However, this letter written while he was incarcerated in Birmingham is seen by many to be his most eloquent written testimonial on why he believed in the justness of his cause.

I had the opportunity to visit Birmingham a few years ago when I attended an Equal Opportunity Conference. The city park where protesters were beaten and fire-hosed now has statues depicting some of these events. A civil rights museum is across the street at one corner. The Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, where four young Black girls would be killed by a Ku Klux Klan bomb, also is nearby. This Jan. 19, let us take time to remember this event in our history and to remember the man whose legacy will forever remain synonymous with civil rights: Dr. Martin Luther King.

(Smith is the EO advisor for the 513th MI Brigade.)

The Signal

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Editorial Office: Fort Gordon Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 29801 Room 209, 520 Chamberlain Ave., Fort Gordon, Ga. 30905-5735
Civilian Printer: Citizen Newspapers
Publisher: Roy F. Chalker Jr.
General Manager: Bonnie K. Taylor
Sales Representative: Faye Watkins and Deborah Kitchens

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Distribution on post is free, and circulation is 18,500 per week.

Conference kicks off lifelong learning

Pvt. Armando Monroig
Signal staff

Fort Gordon hosted a two-day lifelong learning conference Dec. 16 and 17 at Nelson Hall, for Training and Doctrine Command representatives.

The conference explained lifelong learning centers to 32 senior representatives from TRADOC and TRADOC schools.

The attendees toured the Fort Gordon facility and a resident schoolhouse where they observed students using tools from the learning center as well as the use of simulations. The participants received briefings from Dr. Robert Helms, from the Research Triangle Institute in Raleigh-Durham, N.C., and a key author of the Fort Gordon master plan; Col. Bill Wilson, director of training for the U.S. Army Signal School; and Maj. James Pennington, chief of the Fort Gordon Lifelong Learning Center.

One of the conference's main goals was letting installations know the lifelong learning plan will be tailored for them and their needs, according to Pennington.

"The conference was the first step," said Pennington. "We showed them how to build the master plan.

"It's not a cookie-cutter approach," said Pennington. "We want to tailor the solution to how the installation is structured."

"We set up some times with them so we could come visit them and meet their commandants and to work with the issues of building a master plan," said Pennington.

Pennington said Fort Gordon is leading the way when it comes to lifelong learning.

"We are the model, the prototype," he said.

The idea of lifelong learning originated in late 2000, according to Barbara Walton, chief of the University of Information Technology Division, Directorate of Training. In 2001, a study was conducted to get an overview of how training was done at the Signal Center. By July 2001 the master plan for lifelong learning was put on paper.

TRADOC designated the Signal Center as the executive agent to develop a plan for establishing lifelong learning centers for each TRADOC proponent. The Signal Center also serves on a TRADOC-sponsored team assisting schools in developing lifelong learning plans to execute school training strategies. The center is also establishing standardized Lifelong learning Centers (hardware, software, personnel) across TRADOC for delivery of training and education to active and reserve component Soldiers and Department of the Army civilians.

Lifelong learning is divided into four parts: Assignment Oriented Training, Lifelong Learning Center, Virtual Campuses and Simulations, explained Pennington.

"The lifelong learning center is the hub of the operations," he said.

"That's the seed that makes the lifelong learning tree grow," said Walton. "It's the central nervous system for lifelong learning."

The Fort Gordon center has a digital library, 24/7 helpdesk and a student management database. This is where all the content, simulations, computer systems, databases are to manage a Soldier's training record, said Pennington.

Web-based portals like Army Knowledge On-line, to access news, forum, messages, chat-rooms and download training information are different avenues Soldiers can use to become lifelong learners.

"Under this premise a Soldier coming in the Army can get training on just what they need for their first unit of assignment," said Pennington. A Soldier can get up-to-date training after his or her first duty station with the use of the Lifelong learning Center and UIT.

With this type of teaching, called assignment oriented training, training is focused to the individual Soldier who learns only what is needed for his first duty station, and then as the soldier progresses throughout his military career he learns more by using the lifelong learning centers, according to Walton.

She said this is especially helpful for Soldiers studying MOSs with lengthy instruction – some courses are almost 50 weeks long.

Walton said lifelong learning is picking the right types of training and designing them using the latest technology in order to get that training to the Soldier whenever they need it and wherever they are.

Walton emphasized that lifelong learning does not replace traditional teaching but enhances it.

"It's a mixture of the traditional way of teaching, where the teacher stands up in front of the class and new ways of teaching where you get on the Internet and take an e-learning class," she said. "It is then delivered at the right time and the right place.

"That's what lifelong learning is all about," said Walton. "How do we keep up?"

Walton said lifelong learning is the solution and it is going to take a team effort to make lifelong learning centers work. She also said Soldiers need to take the initiative and use the tools these centers provide.

"The schoolhouse has to change the way they are doing business rather than trying to train on the actual pieces of equipment that may be out of date and very expensive," she said.

With simulations as a tool, students can train without actually having the equipment, saving the schoolhouse money, she said.

"For example – the astronauts. When they learn how to fly the shuttle, they don't practice flying in the actual shuttle." Walton said. "They practice on a simulator.

"We have young people in the Army now who have grown up using the technologies that support lifelong learning and simulations – video games," she explained. "That's all it is. It's the same idea."

Walton said lifelong learning will help set higher standards for everyone: the Soldier, the leader who guides that Soldier, the unit and the schoolhouse.

"The time is right, it's cost effective, we have the right audience," said Walton. "It's the right thing to do for these Soldiers and leaders that we have in our Army today."

"If we don't meet that challenge, we're going to get further and further behind," she said. "We cannot keep doing business the same old way."

"The goal is to make every Soldier a lifelong learner," said Pennington, "and getting training at the teachable moment."

Walton said the Fort Gordon Lifelong learning team will follow up with visits to the schools in January and February.

They will visit 14 schools throughout the United States discussing lifelong learning, said Walton.

Photo by Pvt. Armando Monroig

Maj. James Pennington, chief of the Fort Gordon Lifelong Learning Center, was one of the presenters at the lifelong learning conference here Dec. 16-17.

Thanks

From page 5

As our commander in chief, President Bush, said when this war began, "If America wavers, the world will lose heart. If America leads, the world will show courage."

I know that America will not waver. I know this because you represent America's heart and America's courage. You stand, as you have always done, on the front line between freedom and fear. And you are doing a magnificent job. The American people are properly proud of you.

There will likely come a day when terrorists can little threaten the world; when nations no longer harbor or support them, because the price for doing so has become too high; when terrorism as a method of waging war or oppressing a people has been as thoroughly discredited as we have seen slavery and piracy discredited. And while we are not there yet, and we may never be there completely and finally, we are making giant steps forward – thanks to your determination and your courage.

Each of you has paid a personal price. Some of your comrades have made the ultimate sacrifice. For all you are and for all you do, you have the thanks of a nation, which is proud of your service and grateful for your sacrifice.

To all of you stationed far from home and loved ones, know that our hearts and prayers are with each of you and with your families, who also sacrifice.

Congratulations on the well-deserved honor of being named Person of the Year! You deserve it. May God bless you and keep you safe, and God bless America.

Donald H. Rumsfeld

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Signal Soldiers move from mountaintop

Spc. Joshua Hutcheson
American Forces Press Service

MOSUL, Iraq – On a remote mountaintop in northern Iraq, Soldiers are getting ready to leave their outpost and join fellow Soldiers here, and they're doing it the way Soldiers in the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) have been doing it for years: by air.

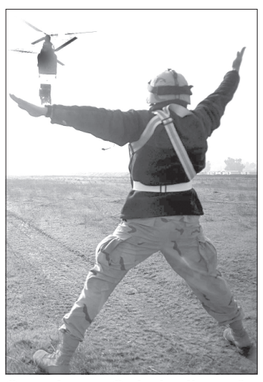
Soldiers from the division's 501st Signal Battalion set up a retransmission site eight months ago on a mountain close to Highway 1 to boost communications between convoys and units' headquarters, said Sgt. Lyle Follmer, radio team chief.

The Soldiers had to find the area with the best reception, and that area ended up being on a mountain that's almost inaccessible by driven vehicles, said Capt. Brian North, commander of the battalion's B Company.

Many convoys were coming under attack in ambushes and by improvised explosive devices. By setting up the site as an FM radio relay to extend the division's communications abilities, the Soldiers were able to keep vital lines of communication open between Soldiers on the road and reinforcements at bases, thereby saving lives.

Photos by Spc. Joshua Hutcheson

Soldiers from the 501st Signal Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), prepare to hook a humvee to a CH-47 Chinook helicopter. The 501st slingloaded equipment from a remote outpost on top of an Iraqi mountain in preparation for redeployment.



Spc. Jason Cubelo, line-of-sight operator team chief, Bravo Company, 501st Signal Battalion, signals for incoming CH-47 Chinooks to move right as they approach.

"The attacks continued, but the deaths ceased," Follmer said. "Not another Soldier has died since we've been out here."

After eight months of living on a barren, rocky mountain, the Soldiers' mission ended. But leaving wasn't as easy as loading up the back of a humvee and driving away.

That's where two CH-47 Chinook helicopters came in. In three trips, using hooks attached to the helicopters' underbellies, the Chinooks were able to carry four humvees – two with remote access units attached to them – a generator, and fuel and water containers. Smaller items, such as a refrigerator, large-screen TV, air conditioning unit and boxes of field rations were loaded inside.

"(The Chinooks carried) everything the Soldiers required to live up here for seven or eight months," North said.

A team of eight Soldiers from the 501st arrived at the site the night before. They worked together to prepare and rig the loads for transportation. They had to place nets underneath all the heavy equipment and vehicles and make sure the ropes that would allow the loads to be carried by the helicopters – called "sling legs" – would be able to support the weight of the loads.

"It wasn't a hard job, because I had plenty of time and squared-away people to help," said Staff Sgt. David Burnam, extension section sergeant.

Soldiers hooked up the equipment using rings connected to the sling legs. The helicopters slowly lowered to within a few feet of the ground, allowing the Soldiers to make the attachment as quickly as they could.

Once they arrived at the Mosul airfield, Soldiers, called line-of-sight operators, used hand signals to guide the pilots in to release the loads and land.

"I pretty much ground-guide them in, just like you would a humvee," said Spc. Jason Cubero, line of sight operator team chief.

Once all the Soldiers and equipment landed at the airfield, the operation was complete.

"This is one of those great things we get to do in an air assault division," North said. "There's (noncommissioned officers) taking charge, and Soldiers doing their jobs."

The Soldiers said that while they are satisfied with the job they've done in Iraq, they're ready to return to their friends and family.

"The mission's over, and we're getting ready to redeploy," Follmer said. "I've got loved ones to be with again."

(Hutcheson is assigned to 101st Airborne Division public affairs.)

Records

From page 1A

"We believe that Soldiers' access to their personnel information is the best it's ever been with the ERB going online," said Col. Reuben Jones, Enlisted Records and Evaluation Center commander.

"If Soldiers need to make changes they should still contact their S-1," Jones said. "Once changes are made in eMILPO, Soldiers should see corrections to their ERB within 24 to 48 hours."

The ERB virtually replaces two forms – the old ERB and the four-page DA form 2-1 for enlisted personnel, officials said. They added that the new ERB is available on the EREC webpage.

Similar to the ORB, the ERB contains personnel information used to manage professional development, assignments, and promotions such as assignment history, civilian and military education, awards and decorations, special skills, and individual qualifications. Both documents are updated from the data stored in eMILPO.

The ERB virtually replaces two forms – the old ERB and the four-page DA form 2-1 – for enlisted personnel.

Currently, only the ORB includes a photo. The ERB will incorporate enlisted photographs from the DA Photo Management Information System in a couple of months, officials said.

The ORB site has had about 25,000 "hits" since Dec. 18 when the photos were added.

"It is important that everyone ensures … personnel information is accurate and updated," said Brig. Gen. Rhett Hernandez, director of Officer Personnel, HRC. "MyORB with the photo is another step toward that end state."

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ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
3232 Washington Road
Augusta, Ga.
706-860-0439
Pastor Jonathan Edwards
email: ADVLUCH@AOL.com
Sunday Worship 0830 & 1100 hrs.
With Holy Communion
Sunday School 0945 hrs.
Nursery Provided
Visitors Welcome

ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHRUCH
The Church of the Warm Heart
3185 Wheeler Road, Augusta
706-733-4416
www.aldersgateum.com
Sunday activities
8:30, 9:30, 11 a.m. Worship
9:45, 11 a.m. Sunday School
For All Ages
Nursery Provided
Bible study, children's and
youth activities throughout the week.
For more information,
contact the church office

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH
2860 Wells Drive
P.O. Box 6749, Augusta,
Five Minutes From Gate 5
Call 798-6015 for Directions
Pastor - Rev. Michael E. Freed
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. -
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Nursery Provided, Visitors Welcome
Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Bible Study

ATONEMENT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2616 Tobacco Road -
Hephzibah
706-796-3545
The Rev. Kurt D. Miller, Vicar
2 Miles from Gate 5
Sunday-Holy Eucharist
10:00 a.m.
Children's Sunday School-
during worship service
Wednesday
Holy Eucharist 7:00 p.m.
Bible Study - 7:45 p.m.

BURNS MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2372 Lumpkin Road • 798-1454
William B. Burch, Pastor
8:30 a.m. Weekly Communion
9 a.m. Contemporary Service
Sunday School • 9:45 a.m.
Worship • 11:00 a.m. & 6:15 p.m.
Nursery Provided
Visitors Welcome

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
3650 Old Petersburg Road
Augusta, Ga. 30907
706-855-0801
Services on Sunday
Bible Study for all ages 9 a.m.
Worship 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.
First 3 Sunday nights each
month "Christ Kids" 6 p.m.
Wed. Classes & Service 7 p.m.
Ladies Bible Class
On Thursday 10 a.m.

CHRIST CHURCH OF GROVETOWN
109 East Robinson Ave.
Grovetown, GA 30813
706-860-4003
Elder Jim & Connie Nicholson
Senior Pastors
"Building People of Purpose,
Power, Praise, Prayer &
Excellence"
A church that loves people
without condition and
judgement. Simply because
they exist, a part from their
performance loving you just
the way you are.
Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:30 a.m.
Children Church - Are available
Evening Worship
4th Sunday - 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Institute
7:30 p.m.
Men in Ministry
3rd Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.
Women in Ministry
4th Tuesday - 7:30 p.m.
Youth/Teen Ministry
1st Thursday - 7:00 p.m.
Single Ministry
4th Friday - 7:30 p.m.
Marriage Enhancement Ministry
3rd Sunday - 5:00 p.m.
Prayer: Tuesday & Thursday
Noon- 1:00 p.m.
Transportation Available

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
4232 Evans to Locks Road
Evans, Ga. 30809
(706) 863-7189
Worshipping Sundays at
8:00, 9:15 (contemporary)
10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:15
Worship, Study, Choir,
Prayer Ministry,
Youth Program, Nursery

CLIFFWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2525 Lumpkin Rd. Augusta, Ga
706-798-2691
Charles M. Rector, Pastor
(Chaplain, US Army Retired)
Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.
Nursery provided
for all services
Youth Ministries
Sunday 4:00 p.m.

CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH
1285 Winter Road In
Northern Burke County
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening - 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night &
Master Club - 7 p.m.
(For Ages K4-6th Grade)
Nursery is available at all services
Fore more information
call Mike Andrews, 554-2626

BIBLE CHURCH OF AUGUSTA
1005 Druid Park Ave.
Located Between Walton Way &
Wrightsboro Rd.
In The Heart of Augusta
Regular Services:
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Worship Services 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:00 p.m.
Youth & Children Mts.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting &
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
Pastor: Rev. Michael Joslin

EVANS CHURCH OF CHRIST
515 Gibbs Road
Evans, GA
(Across from the Fire Station)
706-855-1249
www.evansgachurchofchrist.org
Preacher - Arthur Pigman
Sunday Bible Study 9 AM
Morning Worship 10 AM
Evening Worship 6 PM
Wednesday Bible Study 7:15 PM

FAITH CHRISTIAN CHURCH
1215 New Savannah Road
Augusta, GA 30901
706-722-8665
Pastor Curtis A. Merriweather
A Word of Faith Family Church
Rhema Bible Training
Center Graduate
Sunday Morning Worship Service
10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study
7:00 p.m.
WBPI TV-49 CABLE 12
Monday - 11:00 p.m.

FAITH OUTREACH CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER, INC.
2664 Willis Foreman Rd.
Hephzibah, Ga. 30815
792-9972/9254/9036
FAX: 706-792-9881
Web Page: www.foclc.org
E-mail: foclc@aol.com
Richard B. Peoples, Sr.
Senior Pastor
Sunday Services 10:30 a.m
Sunday School/School of Life
9:00 a.m.
1st Saturday - Men's Outreach
9:00 a.m.
Rotating Fridays - Adult Single's
Outreach 7:00 p.m.
3rd Friday - Senior Adult
Fellowship (55-over) 7:00 p.m.
2nd Saturday
Women's Outreach 9:00 a.m.
3rd Saturday & 3rd Sunday
Minister's Entry Level Program
10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Advanced School of Ministry
10 a.m. & 6 p.m.
4th Wednesday
Married Couples Bible Study
7:00 p.m.
Every Wednesday
Corporate Prayer - 6:00 p.m.
Noon Day Bible Study
11:30 a.m.
Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.
Every Saturday
Corporate Prayer - 8:00 a.m.
Children's Church (Ages 3-12)
Blood Pressure Screenings
Every 1st Sunday
Blood Sugar Screenings
Every 2nd Sunday
Transportation is Available
School of ministry is open to
non-member ministers with a
letter from your pastor

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
1611 Fenwick Street
706-738-5532
www.augustafirst.org
Dr. John F. Moore, Pastor
Baxter Stanley, Assoc. Pastor
SUNDAY
8 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. First Service
9:00 - 9:30 a.m. Fellowship
9:30-10:15 a.m. - Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
2:00 p.m. Korean Full Gospel Tabernacle
6:00 pm. Evening Worship
TUESDAY
10:00 a.m. Women's Ministries
WEDNESDAY
6:30 p.m. Bible Study, Royal Rangers
Missonettes, Youth, Choir
FRIDAY
12:00 p.m. Prayer, Healing,
Deliverance Service
SATURDAY
9:00 p.m. Joy Fellowship
(Women's - 2nd Saturday)

FIRST EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH
2040 Ebenezer Drive
Hephzibah, GA. 30815
(706) 592-9207
Rev. Moses D. Anderson, Pastor
Sunday Services
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Mid-Week
Service 11:00 a.m.
Outreach Ministry
Prison Ministry
"A Bible Based Church
Led By The Holy Spirit"

LIVE THEATRICAL PRODUCTION BETWEEN HEAVEN & HELL
Sunday 6:00 p.m.
Call For Reservations

GREATER APOSTOLIC HOLY TEMPLE CHURCH
3443 Morgan Road
Hephzibah, GA
706-793-8448
Pastor: Elder Booker T. Hayes, Jr.
Monday-Friday
5:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
(Daycare Hours)
Sunday Christian Education - 10 a.m
Sunday Morning Worship - 11:15 a.m.
Wednesday: Prayer & Bible Study 7 p.m.
Friday: Evangelistic Night 7:30 p.m.
Van Transportation is Available

HARLEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
"Jesus Christ: Come and See ...
Go and Tell!"
115 East Milledgeville Road
Harlem, GA 30814
(½ block west of the light in downtown Harlem)
Call 706-556-6885 for information
9 a.m. Informal, contemporary style worship
10 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
11 a.m. Warm and inviting worship
4 p.m. Children's activities
4 p.m. Middle School activities
5 p.m. Senior high activities
6 p.m. Camp meeting "style" worship
Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
Mid-week program for children,
ages 3 through 5th grade
harlemumcpastor@msn.com

HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH
"Second Home Of Morehouse College"
930 Hopkins Street
Augusta, Ga. 30901
724-8028
Military Oriented
Reverend Dr. Woodrow Miller, Jr. Pastor
United States Army Retired
Deacon Tyron McCoy, Chairman
Deacon's Board
United States Army Retired
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship Services
11:30 a.m.
Bible Study & Prayer Services
7:00 p.m.
A "Bible Based, Christ Centered,
Holy Spirited Led" Church

HILLCREST BAPTIST CHURCH
3045 Deans Bdg. Road,
Augusta, Ga. 30906
706-793-3104
Sunday
Bible Study 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Bandstand 6:00 p.m.
(Activities for all ages)
Evening Worship Service 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Fellowship
Family Supper 5:30 p.m.
Children's Activities
6:15 - 7:30 p.m.
Adult & Youth Activities
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir - 7:30 p.m.

IGLESIA DE DIOS FLEMING MINISTERIO HISPANO
"Cambiando Vidas con el Evangelio de Jesucristo"
Servicio de Adoracion
Domingos - 2:00 p.m.
Estudio Biblico para Todos
Miercoles - 7:00 p.m.
Noche de Cine o
Servicio Evangelistico
Viernes - 7:30 p.m.
3358 Peach Orchard Road
Augusta
Telefonos (706) 560-6457
798-1413
Todos Bienvenidos!
Directores: Hector y Cathy Caceres
Dios es Nuestro Amparo y Fortaleza!

IGLESIA "PALABRA Y "UNCIÓN"
"UNA IGLESIA Diferente Para
Un Mundo Diferente"
Pastores - Joel y Wanda Peña
Reuniones y Servicios:
Martes: Oración (7:30-8:30 p.m.)
Jueves: Celebratión (7:30-8:45 p.m.)
Domingo: Enseñanza (10:30-11:20 a.m.)
Celebratión (11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.)
"Ven y Restaura TU Vida"
926 Atomic Road (Hwy. 125)
North Augusta, SC 29841
Tel: (706) 951-3053 ó (803)8271652

JENKINS MEMORIAL C.M.E. CHURCH
"A Relevant Christian Voice"
4218 Windsor Spring Road
790-1040
½ Mile From Tobacco Road
Close to Gate 5
Rev. Timothy Green Jr., Pastor
Sunday Worship 8 & 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Wednesday Worship
12:15 p.m.
Bible Study 7:30 p.m.
Ministries for All Ages
LIVING FAITH CHURCH
"A Church That Walks By Faith,
Not by Sight"
Pastor's Charles H. & Terry Stotler
SERVICE SCHEDULE
Sunday Morning Corporate Prayer
10:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
"Youth & Children's Ministry meet
during morning service
Nursery care is provided during
scheduled services
Sunday Evening
Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Worship
Service 7:00 p.m.
Come and fellowship with us
3969 Mike Padgett Hwy.
P.O. Box 6207
Augusta, GA 30916-6207
706-790-1517
web:www.livingfaithchurch-augusta.com

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION (ELCA)
825 Greene Street, Downtown
Pastor-David B. Hunter, Sr.
"A Growing Church For
A Growing People"
Worship Services,
8:30 & 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Church School
9:30 a.m.
Nursery Open 8:30-Noon
Call 724-8792 For Directions

MARVIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
4400 Wheeler Rd.,
Martinez, Ga.
(Just 5 Minutes outside
Gate 1 on Dyess Pkwy.)
D. Alan Smith, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45-Morning
Worship 8:45 & 11:00
Children's Church
11 a.m. Service Only
Nursery Provided For
All Services
Sunday Evening Contemporary
Worship Service 6:15 p.m.
Wed.-Fellowship Supper 5:45 p.m.
Bible Studies 6:30 p.m.
More Info. 706-863-0510
www.gbgm-umc.org/marvin

MASON CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
1132½ Roselle Street, Augusta, Ga.
30901
706-774-0030
Elder Daniel F. Gant, Pastor
Res. 706-651-8596
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday Bible Band/Y.P.W.W. 6 p.m.
Thursday Pastoral Teaching
7:00 p.m.
Saturday Prayer 11:00 a.m.

NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER
"Find New Life In Christ"
706-738-2526
2805 Wylds Rd. • Augusta
(Behind Augusta Mall)
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Sunday a.m. Pickup 9:15
Sunday Church 10-11:30
Sunday Evening Service 6:30
Wednesday Service 7-8:30
Sunday AM Pick up at 9:45
Bldg. 29606 Shoe Repair/
Shoe Shine Shop next to
student PX on Barnes Ave.

OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Missouri Synod)
Boy Scout & Aumond Roads
733-6076
Services 8:15 & 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Nursery Opens at 8:00 a.m.
We Welcome You To Come &
Worship With Us

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
709 West Milledgeville Rd.
Harlem, GA
556-1010
Sunday School 10 A.M.
Sunday Worship 11 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship 6:30 PM
Presbyterian Church in America
Pastor: Dr. Gordon Crompton
www.providencecolumbiacounty.org

RESTORATION CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Dr. Michael & Bernita Mitchell
Senior Pastors
"A People of Destiny"
A Family Church-Devoted to
Restoring Lives
through the Word of God
*Women's Fellowship
*Singles Ministry
*Men's Fellowship
*Seniors Ministry
*School of Ministry
*Teens, Youth, & Children's
Ministries

SUNDAY WORHSIP SERVICES
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday "Hour of Prayer"
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

DAILY TV BROADCAST
Comcast Cable Ch. 21
WBEK UPN 16, Charter Cable Ch. 9
Mon.-Fri. 11:30 a.m.

WEEKLY TV BROADCAST
WBPI TV-49, CABLE Channel 12
Sunday - 11:00 p.m.
Comcast Cable Channel 66
Sunday 8:00 a.m.
COMCAST CABLE Channel 4
Friday 8:00 p.m.
Saturday 7:00 p.m.
Join us at our New Family Life & Worship Center
2404 Tobacco Rd., Augusta
706-796-1400
rmicf.org

RHEMA HOUSE OF PRAYER, INC.
Willis O. Lewis, Pastor
"Speaking Life into the Lives of Men"
1824(A-2) Wylds Road
Augusta, GA 30909
(Behind Augusta Mall in the "CEDAR by the Mall" plaza)
(Covenant of Christian House Of Prayer, Killeen, TX)
(706) 736-7467
FAX: (706) 736-4351
Church e-mail: rhop7@bellsouth.net
A Church With A Vision
School of Ministry (1st Sat.)
Men Fellowship (2nd Sat.)
Women Fellowship (3rd Sat)
Singles Ministry (4th Sat.)
Teens Ministry
Youth & Children Ministries

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:15 a.m.

WEDNESDAY
"Learning to live"
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY
Choir Rehearsal
Children Dance Practice

SATURDAY
Prayer 8:30 a.m.
Soul Winning 1:00 p.m.

SOUL'S HARBOR APOSTOLIC WORSHIP CENTER, UPC
Meets at
Willis Forman Elementary
2413 Willis Foreman Road
Hephzibah, GA 30815
Bible Study: 7:00 p.m. Thursdays
Sunday School/Worship
10:00 a.m. Sundays
Contact: Pastor Minor
706-737-5963
738-3138
www.Souls-Harbor.com

SHEKINAH TABERNACLE, INC.
Non-denominational Service
4977 Windsor Spring Rd.
Hephzibah/Carroll Rec-Center
Sunday School 9:30-10:30
Regular Service - 10:30
Bible Study - Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Pastor Pamela M. Gardner
592-5941

ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2321 Lumpkin Road, Augusta, GA
706-798-1482
(Open at all times to all people)
Services: Sundays
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
with Bible Study

ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)
3551 Wheeler Road
East of Bobby Jones Expwy.
Augusta, Ga. 30909
706-736-4575
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening - 7:00 p.m.
Nursery Provided

STRAIT GATE APOSTOLIC CHURCH
3201 Richmond Hill Rd.,
Augusta
"The Church Where the Spirit of
Christ Makes You a Member"
Call 796-7794 or 796-7004
for information,
transportation or directions
Bishop Charles Herrington,
Pastor
Sunday Services
10:45 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday Bible Study 7:30 p.m.
Thursday Prayer & Evangelistic
Service 7:30 p.m.
We Cordially Welcome You

THE CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
"Disciples of Christ"
220 Crawford Avenue,
Augusta, Ga. 30904
706-736-8476
Coffee, Donuts, Fellowship 9:30
Sunday School (With Nursery) 9:45
Morning Worship (With Nursery) 11:00
Youth Choir Starts at 5:00
Snack Supper at 5:30
Bible Adventure and CYF at 6:00
Evening Worship 6:00

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (Episcopal)
2230 Walton Way
738-3386
www.goodshepherd-augusta.net
"Making Disciples
Growing the Kingdom"
Sunday Holy Eucharist
8:00 a.m. & 9:00* a.m.
11:15* a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Church School at 10:15*
*Nursery Provided

THE HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
"A Beacon For Christ"
2165 Kings Way
Augusta, GA 30904
706-736-8446
Pastor - Dr. Michael L. Ruffin
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship Services
11:00 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Be our guest for wednesday
night dinner
(with reservations) at 5:30
Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Activities for all ages
Senior Activities
Nursery provided for all services

TRANSFORMATION COMMUNITY CHURCH
A United Methodist
Congregation
"Changing the Community
One Life at at Time"
Rev. Jeffery O'Neal, Pastor
Worship Service is currently
held at Jamestown
Elementary School
3637 Heirs Blvd.
Hephzibah, GA 30815
10:30 a.m.
website:
http://www.feelthechange.org

VINEYARD COMMUNITY CHURCH
www.vccaugusta.org
4274 Frontage Road at I-2
(about 3 miles from Ft. Gord
Real people experiencing th
power and mercy of God.
Sundays at 10 a.m. and 5 p.
Home groups throughout th
week. Check out our
website for info, maps and
current events

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURC
261 Flowing Wells Road
Martinez • 706-868-5982
e-mail:
wbaptist@mindspring.com
www.areachurches.com
Sunday Services:
8:45 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.
Sunday School
for all ages 10 a.m.
Teen & Ladies Bible Study
10 a.m.
Wednesday:
AWANA/Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.
Saturday: Visitation 10:30 a.m.

WILDWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
2627-Tobacco Rd. • 793-14
1 Mile Outside Gate 5 on Tobacco F
This is a Christ-centered
Church
Abounding In Love
A Country Church In Town
Child Care All Services
Sunday Worship
at 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
& Child Church
Wed. 7:00 p.m. Bible Study
Great Youth Program For All Ages
Thursday 7:00 p.m.
Alcoholics Victorious
Christ Centered

WINDSOR SPRING BAPTIST CHURCH
TOBACCO & WINDSOR SPRING
ROADS
AUGUSTA, GEORGIA
A Diverse Band of of Believe
Experiencing God in South Augusta
You are invited to worship w
us Sundays, 11:00 A.M.
For More Information Call 790-535
www.windsorspring.org

Paid Advertisement
Rates: $4/Week
10 Lines or Less
$1/Line Over 10 Lines
Minimum 13 Weeks,
Payable in Advance
724-2122
Ask For Jill or Susie

Troops are reminded to redirect mail

Staff Sgt. Nate Orme
Army News Service

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait – The 3rd Personnel Command in Kuwait is urging Soldiers preparing to deploy or return in the next few weeks to redirect their mail for a smooth, timely transition.

The 3rd PERSCOM manages postal operations in the Central Command theater. It has issued mail guidance procedures to be followed by Soldiers, mail clerks and commanders to ensure that mail is properly channeled.

"It is only common sense to notify families, friends and correspondents prior to your redeployment to cease sending mail to you," said Lt. Col. Robert Howard, 3rd PERSCOM's postal operations director.

"The military mail system will be taxed heavily during this redeployment period. On an average, each Soldier redeploying will be mailing out two to three personal packages home," he said. "The reduction in redirected mail will only benefit the overall military mail system."

Howard also said that the same standards apply to deploying Soldiers entering the Operation Iraqi Freedom theater.

Rotating Soldiers need to complete and return two change of address cards (DA Form 3955), which are supplied by unit mail clerks or their S1 shop. One card stays with or goes to the servicing mail clerk, and one goes to the servicing Army Post Office or APO.

Redeploying Soldiers should also notify all correspondents – family, friends, financial institutions, periodical mailers etc. – to stop sending mail into theater at least 15 days – preferably 30 days – before their projected move date, officials said. They explained that the "move date" is when units move from their established base camp to their redeployment site. Soldiers will not be able to receive mail at the redeployment sites, officials said, but added that postal services will be available there to send mail.

Unit commanders should inform rear or home-station mailrooms to stop forwarding mail to the theater APO for redeploying Soldiers and instead hold mail until the Soldiers arrive home. Unit mail clerks in theater should provide the supporting theater APO with the unit's forwarding home address. If mail clerks receive mail for Soldiers already redeployed, they will then forward it to the address on the Soldier's change of address card.

Mail will be forwarded for 60 days by either the APO or a forward mail clerk. Ideally, that would be 30 days before a Soldier's redeployment date and 30 days after, officials said. After 60 days, mail is either returned to sender or disposed of in accordance with the DoD Postal Manual.

If mailing items from theater before redeploying, mark parcels/letters "MPS" for free delivery of non-valuable items, officials said. They reminded troops that there is no reimbursement for lost or damaged items marked "MPS." For items of value, they recommended that troops insure the package or use registered mail.

As always, Soldiers need to follow restricted mail guidelines when mailing items, officials said. Items such as expended/unexpended explosives, certain war souvenirs, ammunition are "non-mailable," officials stressed. Mailing military equipment such as rucksacks and duffel bags are also prohibited.

The maximum size and weight for mailing is 70 pounds and 138 inches combined length and girth. When mailing to an APO address, do not include the country name, such as Germany or Italy, officials stressed.

For questions on mail policy contact any of the following:

- Your unit mail clerk
- Your servicing APO
- The 3rd PERSCOM, Postal Operations Directorate, DSN: 318-825-1208.

(Orme serves with the 3rd Personnel Command's Public Affairs Office.)

Courtesy photo

A soldier at the Camp Arifjan, Kuwait APO, run by 3rd Personnel Command down-trace units, helps a customer with a package.

Where do we go from here

Chaplain (Capt.) Michael Zell
551st Signal Battalion

Now that the holidays are over, many of us walk around dazed and confused. The countless hours of shopping, preparation, travel and anticipation are over.

The gifts have been wrapped, opened and in some cases returned to the store (I won't tell). We have seen family and friends, traveled thousands of miles and crammed in as much activity as "time off" can handle. Many of us have returned from leave or exodus exhausted, and ask ourselves the question, "Where do we go from here?"

We have spent so much time looking forward to the holidays that we often feel lost and unsettled afterwards.

Fortunately, we are not alone. As we pick up where we left off and continue on in our daily routine we can look to the scriptures for examples of individuals who have met with tremendous trial, success, anxiety or achievement, all of whom found answers in the word of God.

Consider the scripture in Luke 19:10. "For the son of man came to seek and to save what was lost." Now I don't know about you, but when I read this scripture it tells me that God is actively looking for me. When I feel lost He comes searching. When I feel dazed and confused He is seeking. When I am wondering who I am and where I am going, He is calling out in the dark. Not only is He searching for us, God's desire is to save us. He wants to save us from who we have been and the things we have done, from the confusion and disappointments of life and from the questions of purpose and meaning to bring us into a life of purpose, direction and peace that can only be found in Him.

Instead of getting lost in your work or settling back into the routine haze of the day to day, seek out a relationship with the Lord. Take just a few minutes of quiet reflection and truly listen. Quiet your heart and the chaos of life and strain to hear if He is calling for you. When you hear His voice, offer up a prayer, or recall the words offered by the writer in Psalm 25:4 & 5, "Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior, and my hope is in you all day long."

Where do we go for here? Follow the voice and direction of the Lord and we will find out together.

Soldiers help establish phone system in Iraq

Pfc. Joshua Hutcheson
Army News Service

AL SULAIMANYA, Iraq – Members of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) participated in a two-day conference in the Kurdish region of Northern Iraq to set up a telephone network centered on the city of Mosul.

The birth of a communications network would connect more people in Iraq. Prior to the war, about 3 percent of the houses in Iraq had telephones; current levels are at about 8 percent, said Master Sgt. James Price, division radio noncommissioned officer in charge, 101st Airborne Division.

Without a proper network many people couldn't call those outside of their villages.

"If you think of a hotel where you can call everybody within the hotel, but nobody else outside the hotel, it'd be similar to that," Price said. "That's why we're working on this infrastructure, connecting all the switches together."

The phone companies in Iraq are government-owned and operated. Prices are low but it often takes a while for things to be repaired.

"It's almost as if it's a not-for-profit organization. It normally costs $150 for a line, and it costs less than a dinar a minute to talk, so you're looking at 750 minutes to equal one dollar of revenue," Price said.

To establish a communication infrastructure, members of telephone companies in Mosul, Erbil, Dohuk, Al-Sulaimanya, Kirkuk, and employees of the Coalition Provisional Authority met along with people from the Iraqi Ministry of Communication and the 101st Abn. Div. to figure out the best way to set the network up.

"The conference was a who's-who of the phone company in Northern Iraq," Price said.

To begin the process the committee decided to first start off with a microwave line-of-site system between all the major and minor switches in Northern Iraq. They mapped out the best configuration that would allow maximum communication between the major city switches of Mosul, Erbil, and Dohuk and link many of the smaller towns and villages in between.

Creating the network will require towns to build or repair communications towers, and purchase power generators. The representatives from the cities will have to supply a list of what equipment they need and the money amounts to officials from the 101st Abn. Div.

"Once everybody gives us their requirements, we put that into a project request, send it to CPA, and they will assist with financing," Price said.

The microwave network will cost between $4.5 and $5 million to build. Funding will come from the $87 billion approved by Congress to use in the reconstruction of the country, and other countries, Price said.

"In a year, we will have made a lot of progress, it's going to be pretty exciting watching the country grow," Price said.

After the microwave system is in place, the next step the committee will take, is to install a fiber-optic cable connection. That connection will be slower and harder to put in place, Price said.

The role of the 101st Abn. Div. in this on-going operation is to provide technical support, act as a liaison between the Iraqis and representatives from CPA, and supply transportation when necessary. Soldiers from the division communications section will also provide any help in repairing equipment or communications machinery.

Plans are in place to smooth the transition of this project into the hands of the next group of soldiers who will take over operations in Northern Iraq once the 101st Abn. Div. leaves.

The meeting, which was held in December, was the second of what's scheduled to be a monthly event for the infrastructure committee.

(Hutcheson is a journalist with the 101st Airborne Division.)

Chapel Call

Collective Protestant Services
Sunday
9:00 a.m. • Liturgical Service, Bicentennial Chapel
9:00 a.m. • Gen "x" Soldiers Service, Friendship Chapel
10 a.m. • Eisenhower Army Medical Center Chapel
11 a.m. • Gospel Service at Signal Theatre
11 a.m. • Bicentennial Chapel
11 a.m. • Friendship Chapel
Catholic Services
11:45 a.m. Monday thru Friday, Eisenhower Army Med Ctr. Chapel
12:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday, Good Shepherd Chapel
3:30 p.m. Saturday, Confessions, Good Shepherd Chapel
5 p.m. Saturday, Vigil Mass, Good Shepherd Chapel
Sunday Masses
8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., Good Shepherd Chapel
11:45 a.m. Eisenhower Army Medical Center Chapel
Jewish Activities
Holy Day Services, Announced
Jewish Activities Center, Bldg. 38804
Daily and Sabbath service available off-post for Jewish personnel
For information call 791-3959
Islamic Services
Jumah Prayer Service on Fridays Oct-Apr at 1245-1:30, and Apr-Oct from 1:30-2:30.
These are held in Bldg. 38804, Academic Drive.
For more information, call CPO (Ret.) Marshall Abuwi 772-4303
Denominational Services
LDS Service - Sunday 2 p.m., Barnes Avenue Chapel
Samoan Service, Sunday 1 p.m., Bicentennial Chapel, Bldg. 28414
Religious Education
Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School, Religious Education Center
Sunday, 11:00 a.m., Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) Classes, Religious Education Center (Sept. thru May).
Other Programs/Services
Episcopalian Soldier Representative is Kurt Miller at 791-0213
LDS representative is Sergeant 1st Class (retired) Scott Robison, 533-0376. Apostolic Pentecostal's representatives are Chaplain Brewster, 791-4683, or Chaplain Snyder, 791-2539
Bible Studies
OCF Bible Study - Monday 6:30 a.m., Officer Christian Fellowship Bible Study, Friendship Chapel, 791-2056. Friday evening OCF POC is Col. Hook, 863-8231, or Capt. Craft, 364-5144.
Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Protestant Women of the Chapel, Bldg. 28414 Bicentennial Chapel
Wednesday, 11:30 a.m., Devotional Luncheon, Bicentennial Chapel, Bldg. 28414
Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. , Protestant Women of the Chapel, Bldg. 28414
Wednesday 11:45 a.m. EAMC Bible Study, DDEAMC Din. Fac. Conf. Rm., 3rd floor
Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Bldg. 39713, Faith Community Bible Study
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Friendship Chapel Bible Study
Thursday, 11:30 a.m. 63rd & 67th SIG BN Bible Study, Contact Chaplain
Chapel Directory
Bicentennial Chapel, 791-3959
Good Shepherd Chapel (Catholic), 791-2945
Faith Community Chapel Activities 791-4703 (during duty hours)
Barnes Avenue Friendship Chapel, 791-2056
EisenhowerArmy Medical Center Chapel, 787-6667
Religious Education
Protestant/Catholic Program, Mr. Randall Dillard 791-4703

For additional information, call 791-4683 the Installation Chaplain's Office, Building 29601

2004 Ranger Hall of Fame Selection Board

Special to the Signal

Headquarters U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command is assisting retired Maj. Gen. Kenneth Leuer, President of the Ranger Hall of Fame Executive Board, in soliciting for deserving candidates for induction into the 2004 Ranger Hall of Fame.

The Ranger Hall of Fame recognizes deserving former Rangers who have made valuable contributions to the nation. Each Major Army Command is allowed to submit a maximum of three nominations. Any nominations that are Medal of Honor awardees do not count against the maximum number of nominations.

Eligibility criteria are:

- At the time of nomination, the nominee must be deceased or separated/retired from active military service for at least three years.
- Must have served in a Ranger unit in combat or be a successful graduate of the U.S. Army Ranger School.
- The distinction of membership in the RHOF may by conferred on individuals in the private sector who do not meet the normal eligibility criteria.

Each MACOM may nominate one honorary candidate for selection to the Ranger Hall of Fame. A nomination for honorary membership will not count against the MACOM's three nominations as stated in the paragraph 1. Honorary induction is in recognition of extraordinary contributions to Ranger units, the Ranger Memorial Foundation or the Ranger community in general.

- A Ranger unit is defined as those units recognized in Ranger lineage or history.
- Achievement or service may be measured in terms of a Ranger who leaves the Armed Forces and serves the nation from a position in local, state or national government, or displays the outstanding character and leadership in the private or business sector.

Nominees wishing to be considered for induction into the 2004 Ranger Hall of Fame must mail the following information to Retirement Services, ATTN: ATZH-HRA-PP (Lechnir), BLDG 33720, Room 237, 307 Chamberlain Road, Fort Gordon, Ga., 30909-5730, by Jan. 30, for forwarding to TRADOC:

a. A Ranger career summary

b. A biography, limited to two pages, describing the candidate's civilian background, service with the U.S. Armed Forces, and achievements.

c. Complete mailing address and phone number of nominee or closest relative, as applicable.

d. One 8"X 10" glossy photograph suitable for permanent display.

The Ranger Hall of Fame Executive Board will notify all inductees, associations and each MACOM by phone and mail by April 16.

The Commander, Ranger Training Brigade at Fort Benning, Ga., will tentatively host the RHOF Induction Ceremony July 13.

For information, call Richard Lechnir at 791-2654.

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For more information, call SPC Williams at 787-1279 or SGT Fajardo at 787-2689.

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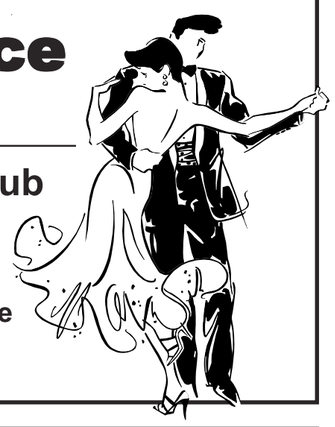
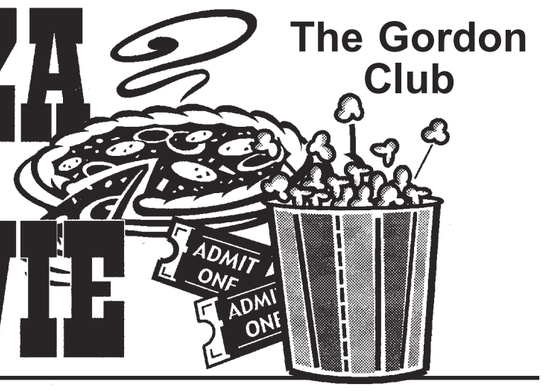


February 7, The Gordon Club
Cocktails, 6-7 p.m.
Dinner, 7-8:30 p.m.

Tickets are $20 per person and are available at The Gordon Club.
For more information, call 791-6780.

PIZZA AND A MOVIE

The Gordon Club



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January 27

$3 Pizza Buffet from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
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Movie begins at 5:30 p.m. Come early, limited seating.
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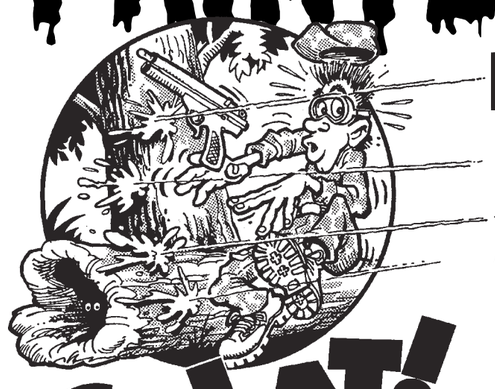

NEW BLACK HAWK DOWN SCENARIO!

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New location behind The Courtyard Recreation & Dining Center.
Call for current operating hours and prices... 294-7475.

Community Events

Quarterly awards

The installation's quarterly awards ceremony, for first quarter fiscal year 2003, is at 8:30 a.m. **Jan. 29** in Conrad Hall.

The ceremony will honor the following individuals: Servicemembers of the Quarter Spc. Nathaniel Pahl (A Co., Eisenhower Army Medical Center) and Spc. Mark Patton (A Co., 201st MI Bn.); NCO of the Quarter: Staff Sgt. Ebony Cousins (Headquarters & A Co., 447th Signal Bn.); Instructor of the Quarter: Sgt. 1st Class Darrin Norris (Regimental Noncommissioned Officer Academy); Civilian of the Quarter: Eva Klapper (department of nursing); Volunteer of the Month (October 2003): William Oliver (Faith Gospel Congregation); Volunteer of the Month (November 2003): retired Sgt. Maj. Richard Downs (retiree council); and Volunteer of the Month (December 2003): Beck Wright (Faith Gospel Congregation). Quarterly retention awards will also be presented.

Everyone is encouraged to attend and congratulate these deserving individuals. For information, call 791-1871.

Sweetheart ball

The Fort Gordon Sergeants Major Association is holding a Sweetheart Ball at 6:30 p.m. **Feb. 14** at the Gordon Club.

Tickets are $25 for E-7 and above and civilians, $20 for E-6 and below, which includes dinner; dress is semi-formal.

Tickets must be purchased by **Feb. 6** from unit or directorate command sergeants major, or call Command Sgt. Maj. Bobbie Ramtahal at 791-4140 for information.

Mardi Gras trip

The Junior Sailor Association (Navy) is hosting a trip to Mardi Gras **Feb. 20-22**. The fee is $250, which includes roundtrip transportation by chartered bus and a two night stay at a local Marriott hotel. A $150 nonrefundable deposit is due **today**. For information contact Petty Officer Rambo at 854-1482.

Black History Month luncheon

Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers is holding a Black History Month luncheon from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. **Feb. 4** at the Gordon Club.

The theme is *A Deeper Shade of History: Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Brown v/s Board of Education Topeka verdict*. The guest speaker is Dr. Ralph Watkins, Augusta State University professor of sociology.

For information call Sgt. Latanga Clinton at 791-6415 or Ayanna Wiggins at 791-7862.

Harlem Ambassadors

BOSS presents the Harlem Ambassadors *Around the World Tour* at 7 p.m. **Jan. 27** in Gym 3. The Ambassadors will face off against the BOSS All-Star team.

Tickets cost $5 in advance, $7 at the door for adults; $3 in advance and $5 at the door for students ages 5-18; children four and younger are free.

For information call Sgt. Latanga Clinton at 791-6415 or Ayanna Wiggins at 791-7862.

Super Bowl parties

The Gordon Club and the Courtyard host Super Bowl parties **Feb. 1**; the doors open at 4 p.m., the game starts at 6 p.m.

Cover charge is $8 in advance, $10 at the door, which includes food and door prizes, including a $200 video system awarded at halftime.

For information, call 791-6780 or 791-6000.

Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers is having a Super Bowl party at BOSS Headquarters. Cost is $2. For information, call 791-6415.

Retention team visit

The Department of the Army Mobile Retention Training Team from Fort Jackson, S.C., will conduct retention training for company and battalion level retention noncommissioned officers **Feb. 9-12**.

The training is 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily at the Gordon Club. Attendance is mandatory for all company and battalion reenlistment noncommissioned officers. For information, contact respective brigade, battalion, or group career counselors. The post retention office is available for units that do not have access to a career counselor at 791-7387.

Troops to Teachers program briefing

There will be a Troops to Teachers briefing **Thursday**. Troops to Teachers is a cooperative program that provides referral and placement assistance to separating and separated Soldiers seeking a career as a public school teacher. Eligible Soldiers may receive federal funding up to $5,000 toward teacher certification, or a one time cash bonus of up to $10,000 to teach in one of Georgia's high needs schools.

For information, call 791-7333 or 791-7356.

SmartStart for Vets

A SmartStart representative will be at the Army Career and Alumni Program Center at 11:15 a.m. **Wednesday**.

SmartStart For New Vets provides eligible servicemembers, and their spouses, with entry-level job opportunities at top corporations.

For information, call the ACAP Center at 791-7333 or go to **www.smartstartvets.org**.

Grants available

The Fort Gordon Officers' Wives' Club invites non-profit organizations to apply for a grant from its Welfare and Services Account. Applications must be received by **Feb. 17**. To request an application, contact Jean DeLucio, OWC Welfare & Services, P. O. Box 7289, Fort Gordon, Ga., 30905, or call 792-9795.

MLK day hours

The Post Exchange is open 10 a.m.-7 p.m. **Monday** for the Martin Luther King Day holiday. Other hours include: Gate 1 shoppette open 8 a.m.-9 p.m.; PXtra open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Class Six closed.

Book signing

The Augusta Museum of History is holding a book signing for *Georgia: A State History*, written by award-winning author Buddy Sullivan, at 7 p.m. **Thursday**.

The museum is located at 560 Reynolds St. Call 722-8454 for information.

OWC scholarships

The Officers' Wives' Club awards three scholarships; for merit, continuing education and the Marni Glista scholarship.

The merit scholarship is available to graduating high school seniors; the continuing education scholarship is available to spouses of active duty, retired and deceased military personnel, and the Marni Glista scholarship is available to active duty, E-5 and below, assigned to a military intelligence battalion. All applicants must hold a valid military identification card.

Applications for the merit scholarship are available at high school counselors; all applications are also available at the Education Center, Army Community Services, Community Life and the Thrift Shop.

Application deadline is **March 1**. For information, call 738-1196.

White House recruiters

The White House Communication Agency Recruitment Team holds briefings at 8 a.m. **Jan. 26-30** in Alexander Hall, to nominate qualified Soldiers possessing primary Military Occupation Skills used to support the President, the White House staff and U.S. Secret Service.

For information call Mary Recchia at 791-7649 or Richard Madden at 791-4449.

ACS programs

Army Community Services offers the following programs:

New military spouse support group to meet new people, learn about the Army, and find ways to cope with being a new military spouse. Guest speaker is Jim Zills from Augusta Tech. Refreshments will be served. Group meets from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. **Wednesday** in Darling Hall, Room 229A. For information, call 791-3579.

The Exceptional Family Member Program *Parent Information Exchange* meets from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Thursday** in Darling Hall, Room 229A. The topic is Health Care/Tricare for Military Families. For information or to register call 791-3579.

Parenting classes

Army Community Service offers parenting classes in Darling Hall, Room 229A.

Homecoming: Making the Transition, includes discussions about family relations and relationships with children. The class is 10 a.m.-noon **today**.

Appropriate Discipline for Toddlers is 10 a.m.-noon **Friday**.

Call 791-3579 to register.

Advocate training

Volunteers are needed to advocate for victims of domestic violence.

Interested candidates must complete an introductory training, including the dynamics and history of domestic violence, crisis intervention, safety planning and victim advocacy.

The training is offered from 9 a.m.-noon **Jan. 29**, in Darling Hall, Room 229A.

Advanced registration is required by calling 791-3579.

New military spouse support group

Army Community Service offers a support group for spouses new to the military.

The group next meets 11 a.m-1 p.m. **Wednesday** in Darling Hall Room 229A.

Guest speaker is Jim Zills from Augusta Tech. Refreshments will be served.

For information call 791-3579/7557.

European nations panel

There is a panel titled *France and Germany: Our Friends or Enemies?* at 7:30 p.m. **Tuesday**.

The panel is meant as a look at relations between the United States and its traditional allies, France and Germany.

Panelists include Paul Harris, Augusta State University, Noel Makidi, Paine College (former diplomat representing the Congo), Charles Pierre, Butler High School, Mike Ryan, Augusta Chronicle, Hubert van Tuyll, ASU, and Gloria Williams-Way, Paine College.

The panel convenes in Haygood-Holsey Hall, room 220, at 1235 15th St. The meeting is free and open to the public.

At the Movies

The Signal Theater is open Thursday-Sunday. Shows begin at 6:30 p.m. The late show on Saturday begins at 9:30 p.m.

Children 12 and over and all adults are $3. Children 6-11 are $1.50. Children under 5 are free.

For movie listings and times, call 791-3982.

Jan. 16-22
Today - Honey (PG-13)
Saturday - The Haunted Mansion (PG)
Late show - Honey (PG-13)
Sunday - The Haunted Mansion (PG)
Thursday-Love Don't Cost A Thing (PG-13)

Note: Attendance at Fort Gordon's movie theater is strictly limited to authorized Post Exchange patrons.

Fort Gordon REPORT

COMING UP

The newest edition of the *Fort Gordon Report* premieres Monday and includes the following story:

- **Fort Gordon year in review**

The *Fort Gordon Report* and *Army Newswatch* alternate weeks on Charter Cable Channel 13 on: Mondays and Thursdays at 7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Fridays at 7 a.m., 12 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., Wednesdays at 6:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays at 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The next edition of *Army Newswatch* premieres Jan. 26.

Catch the newest *Fort Gordon Report* on Comcast Cable Channel 66 on: Mondays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays at 9:00 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:30 a.m.

The *Fort Gordon Report* is the Signal Center's official television news program and is produced on post by the Fort Gordon Public Affairs Office and the Training Support Center.

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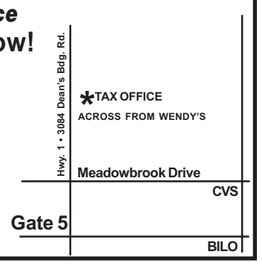

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Sports & Leisure

Sports UPDATE

Super Bowl parties

The Gordon Club and the Courtyard host Super Bowl parties **Feb. 1;** the doors open at 4 p.m., the game starts at 6 p.m.

Cover charge is $8 in advance, $10 at the door, which includes food and door prizes, including a $200 video system awarded at halftime.

For information, call 791-6780 or 791-6000.

Dinner theatre

The play "Noises Off", a British "farce about a farce," is the next performance at the Fort Gordon Dinner Theatre **Feb. 13, 14, 20, 21, 26, 27** and **28**.

Dinner will be at 7 p.m., with the show following at 8. Tickets for the show are $32 for civilians, $30 for seniors ages 65 and above, retirees, Department of the Army civilians, active duty E-8 and above, $20 for active duty E-7 and below, and $15 for the show only.

For information, call 793-8552.

Big buck contest

The Big Buck contest on post is open to all Fort Gordon Hunting License holders ages 10 and older.

The contest runs through **January**, with prizes for the first, second and third place winners in four divisions.

The cost of entering is $20 for the general public and $10 for members of the Fort Gordon Sportsman's Club.

For more information, call 791-3317, or go to **www.fortgordon.com/fgsc.htm**.

Ladies golf schedule

The Ladies Golf Club tees off every Thursday at 9:30 a.m. at Gordon Lakes Golf Course.

For more information, call Pauline Blandeburgo at 863-4737.

Horseback riding

Open riding is available 9 a.m.-3:45 p.m. **Saturdays** and **Sundays** on a first come, first served basis at the Hilltop Riding Stables. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday open riding is available from 1 - 3:45 p.m. with reservation. Miniature ponies, beginners, intermediate and advanced horses are available.

Call 791-4864 for reservations.

Karaoke

Every **Thursday** is karaoke night at the Courtyard Recreation and Dining Center.

Karaoke is featured from 6 to 10 p.m. Prizes are awarded for best male solo, best female solo, worst solo, best duo or group, worst duo or group and best look-a-like.

The event is open to the public. For information, call 791-6000.

Unit basketball round-up

Al Robinson
Sports Coordinator

As the Fort Gordon Unit Level Basketball season entered the New Year, teams were dropped from the league due to forfeiting two games.

Those teams are Company C, 551st Signal Battalion (Blue Division) and Company D, 369th Signal Battalion (Morning Division). Three teams from the Green Division and one team from the Red Division were removed due to deployments.

Last week's "Game of the Week" was played Jan. 8 between Company B, 297th Military Intelligence Battalion and Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 93rd Signal Brigade.

Bravo Company controlled the jump ball and hit the first two points of the game. With 10 minutes, 52 seconds remaining in the first half, the score was Company B, 297th Military Intelligence Battalion, 14, HHC, 93rd Signal Brigade, 10.

After a timeout Derryck Jeffrey of Bravo Company hit a 15-foot jump shot to extend their lead 16-10. With 7 minutes before the break, Bravo led 18-14. Bravo came out and abandoned their slow-style offense and went with an up-tempo offense. They unleashed a full court pressure defense and at the break led 33-18.

The second half started with a technical foul on Angle Paras of HHC for dunking during warm-ups. Bravo Company kept the pressure on and took the game, 73-33. Jeffrey and Brian Burns of Bravo led all scorers with 20 points each. Teammate, player/coach Simeon Boddie finished with 16 points. Ray Jones scored 12 points for HHC, 93rd Signal Brigade.

Other games played last week are:

Green Division (Gym 3)

HHC, 206th Military Intelligence Battalion 54, 252nd Signal Company, 56th Signal Battalion 52

518th Signal Company 60, Company B, Eisenhower Army Medical Center 35

Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Academy 53, 252nd Signal Company, 56th Signal Battalion 46

Company B, 297th Military Intelligence Battalion 73, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 93rd Signal Brigade 33

Red Division (Gym 3)

U.S.Army Garrison 61, Company A, 551st Signal Battalion 54

249th General Hospital 50, Company A, 447th Signal Battalion 40

Naval Security Group Activity 54, Company A, 73rd Ordnance Battalion 32

Women Division (Gym 4)

Company C, 369th Signal Battalion 2, Company B, 551st Signal Battalion 0

Gordon Regional Security Operation Center (Multi-Service) 24, Company A, 442nd Signal Battalion 16

EAMC 28, ANCOA 26

Company B, 297th Military Intelligence Battalion 2, Company E, 369th Signal Battalion 0

Company A, 442nd Signal Battalion 35, Company 3, 369th Signal Battalion 6

Company B, 297th Military Intelligence Battalion 18, GRSOC 17

GRSOC 58, Company E, 369th Signal Battalion 6

ANCOA 46, Company C, 369th Signal Battalion 30

Company B, 297th Military Intelligence Battalion 2, Company B, 551st Signal Battalion 0

Morning Division (Gym 5)

Company B, 551st Signal Battalion 2, Company D, 369th Signal Battalion 0

Company C, 369th Signal Battalion 2, Company C, 73rd Ordnance Battalion 0

Company B, 447th Signal Battalion 2, Company C, 447th Signal Battalion 0

Blue Division (Gym 5)

Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course 2, Company C, 447th Signal Battalion 0

Company C, 73rd Ordnance Battalion 0, Company C, 551st Signal Battalion 0.

Company D, 551st Signal Battalion 61, Company B, 447th Signal Battalion 34

Company D, 447th Signal Battalion 55, Company B, 551st Signal Battalion 46

Unit Basketball Standings

Standings As of Jan. 13

Team	Won	Lost
Blue Division		
B-73	7	0
C-447	7	2
D-551	7	2
BNCOC	6	2
B-447	5	4
E-369	4	4
D-447	4	5
B-551	3	6
C-442	2	5
C-551	5	14
C-73	2	8
Green Division		
518	11	0
B-297	11	1
HHC-206	10	1
ANCOA	9	1
252	8	3
B-EAMC	7	5
311S	6	5
HHC-93	6	6
Morning Division		
C-73	7	1
B-551	6	2
C-369	6	2
B-447	5	3
D-447	4	3
E-369	3	4
C-447	3	5
D-369	0	14
Red Division		
HHC-201	10	1
A-442	9	2
NSGA	8	4
USAG	7	4
249	5	5
A-551	5	5
A-369	4	6
A-447	4	6
338TRS	3	7
A-73	1	10
Women's Division		
EAMC	12	0
A-442	10	2
GRSOC	10	2
B-297	11	3
ANCOA	9	4
C-369	9	4
E-369	6	7
B-551	5	8
E-447	5	13
73	1	17
D-551	0	18

UPCOMING EVENTS:

The sports office would like to confirm that the following tournaments are still scheduled to be held in the future: the Unit-Level Basketball Tournament,Unit-level Outdoor Soccer, Battalion Basketball, Greybeard Basketball, Three on Three Basketball Tournament, and Unit Level Volleyball.

For more information about Fort Gordon Sports Programs contact Al Robinson at 791-1142 or e m a i l : robinsoa@gordon.army.mil

Commander's Cup

Staff Sgt. Andre Butler
116th Military Intelligence Group

Soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines of the Fort Gordon Regional Security Operations Center recently took part in competing for the GRSOC Commander's Cup Trophy.

An annual event, this competition is hosted to build camaraderie and esprit de corps among the specific services that work in the GRSOC's joint-like environment, said Col. Robert Carr, the Fort Gordon GRSOC and 116th Military Intelligence Group commander. This is the fourth year the competition has been held.

"Here at the GRSOC, we promote unity throughout our workforce," said Carr. "This type of competition is just one of many events that brings us together as a multi-service unit to compete in while laying the foundation for what I consider a true team-building concept," he added.

Warfighters of the GRSOC participated in six weeks of competitions ranging from ultimate frisbee to volleyball – each week bringing a new sporting event to compete in. These single elimination athletic events were held at various locations throughout the Fort Gordon community, with a track and field meet finally yielding the results of this year's winner of the competition.

"For each event, the services participating received points based on the outcome of the sport which they were competing in," said Sgt. 1st Class Jorge Santana, the commander's cup coordinator.

"The point scale for the competitions ranged from five to one with the winners receiving the most," he said.

Each team tallied their numbers weekly as they went on in search of becoming this year's overall winner of the trophy.

"This year's competition was awesome," said Carr. "The athleticism and energy displayed by the teams was definitely something to be admired."

"From the start of the first week until it was all over, I never saw any players give up on making something big happen during the games. This not only shows the heart of the competitor you have on your team, but it also gives you some insight on the type of warfighter you have in your organization," he said.

Although these are sporting events, the concept of making yourself better as an individual while perfecting the skills needed to build a better team within your organization is still a major part of military doctrine.

"I think athletics, athletic achievements and athletic accomplishments are engrained in the military ethos," Carr said.

"A competition, such as this one, allows service members the opportunity to work together, as a team, toward one common goal – and ultimately that's winning. All while pushing yourself and having fun as well."

And for this year's competition, that was the Group commander's overall goal.

"The intent of this year's event was to give a workforce who works very hard seven days a week, 24 hours a day, providing intelligence support to our warfighters on the front lines, the opportunity to go out and have fun while competing in friendly athletic competitions."

In the end the reward for this was the GRSOC's commander's cup.

After six weeks of competing, and after all of the hard work and commitment that was displayed by the many competitors throughout the services, there could still only be one winner.

"This year we were happy to award the GRSOC commander's cup trophy to the Army team," Carr said.

This team consisted of Soldiers from the 206th Military Intelligence Battalion, a subordinate unit to the 116th MI Group. The Army team has also been the recipient of the trophy for the past three years.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Andre Butler

The Marines and the Army compete for first place during the ulitimate frisbee competition.

1st Sgt. Concordio Borja dives for the frisbee during the ultimate frisbee competition.

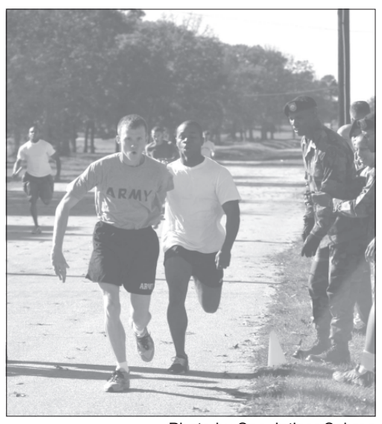
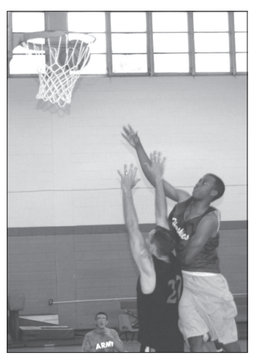


Photo by Spc. Intisar Sabree

Spc. Justin Martin (*left),* Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 206th Military Intelligence Battalion, and Sgt. Edmund Goldsberry, Company A, 206th Military Intelligence Battalion, exchange the baton during a track and field relay.

Servicemembers from the Navy and Air Force compete for second place during the basketball competition.



The Air Force and Army compete during the volleyball competition. The Army came out on top, and the Air Force finished third.

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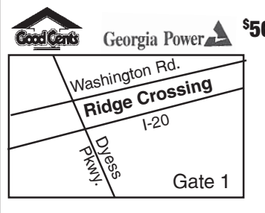

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Minor
5. Ancient Celtic tribe
10. Aba ____ do, says Fred Flintstone
14. WordPerfect's home
15. An assembly of witches
16. Oh, God!
17. Animals hunted for food or sport
18. Fencing swords
19. Waxed finish
20. Norma Jean Mortenson
23. Young women's association
24. Fit tightly
25. Doves
29. Assess by examining
32. Macaw genus
33. Serving an esthetic rather than a useful purpose
36. Leader of sorts, abbr.
37. A European river
38. A coral reef off the southern coast of Florida
39. Causes loss of bodily sensations
44. Acts as military assistant
45. Tom __, character
46. In a way, moved effortlessly
47. Hostelry
48. 1955 film starring 20 across
55. Invited
56. S. American monkey genus
57. Foray
59. Skating figure
60. A way to destroy
61. King of Huns (Scandinavian)
62. Chickens
63. Patron saint of France
64. Give birth

CLUES DOWN

1. Sink in
2. Ancient country in SW Asia
3. Contains altar and seats for the clergy and choir
4. Turns up
5. An island in the north Atlantic
6. Strive to equal or match
7. No variation
8. Margosa tree, tropical asia
9. __ __ ___ as. Words to begin a statement
10. Decode
11. Type of charge or premium
12. Make public
13. Type of drink
21. Equal, prefix
22. A dialect of Hottentot
25. Old man
26. Metal shackles
27. A cap or a membrane fitting like a helmet
28. Passover feast and ceremony
29. Audible
30. Authorized, sanctioned by, or in accordance with law
31. Hedge
34. Portable bed
35. In a way, looked
40. Pivots
41. English river
42. With dye
43. Trails
44. Type of receptacle
48. Former East German state
49. Any place of bliss or delight
50. Yesteryear
51. British School
52. German car
53. Delicacy (archaic)
54. Fissures
55. Humbug
58. Commotion

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Spectrum

Demolition men

Photos and story by
Pvt. Armando Monroig

Graphic by Sgt. Ryan Matson

Blowing things up and playing with bulldozers, in essence a giant Tonka toy, may be a dream come true for some children.

For engineering Soldiers, it's part of their daily job.

To maintain proficiency with their skill, Soldiers from C Co., 391st Engineer Battalion out of Spartanburg, S.C., an Army reserve unit, performed demolition exercises as part of their monthly training at the artillery impact area here Saturday and Sunday.

They practiced various strategic and practical exercises involving destroying structures and obstacles.

Sgt. Christopher Hermans, a combat engineer with the 391st, explained their training.

"We set up camp, tents, obstacles and our ASP (ammunitions supply point)," said Hermans. Then the group conducted explosives training, including using the bangalore torpedo.

Sgt. Matthew Noone, who completed the Sapper Leader Course that trains select combat engineer leaders in combat engineer and infantry battle drills, taught the Soldiers how to put together a field-expedient bangalore.

"It's two pickets smashed together with C-4 in the center of it," said Hermans. "We put that into a track and blew it to kingdom come."

Training also included practicing posting security, giving cover, and placing charges in a war-like environment.

Basically, the Soldiers ran a battle drill, said Noone.

He explained they engaged obstacles by placing explosives, then cleared the area. After making sure everyone was clear of the blast zone, Range Control detonated the explosives.

Two platoons took part in the exercises. Three exercises were practiced with each platoon performing each task once.

The tasks included breaching rows of concertina wire and a minefield.

Hermans said the unit usually trains here this time every year.

He added the 391st was sent to Iraq last year from March until August in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and this training is essential for their success in such operations.

"It's good training for our troops to keep mobility in operation," said Hermans, "because without mobility, basically your forward push is at a stand-still."

He added this training helps them attack vital areas of the enemy's defenses and keeps them alive.

"Without that you can't get to the key point areas and choke down your enemy's defenses or supplies," said Hermans. "Using these exercises keeps you from being diverted to a kill zone."

And mobility is key in battle, he said.

"We don't want to go where they (the enemy) want us to go," said Hermans. "We want to go where we want. That's when we come in, blow these obstacles out of the way, and go in the directions we want."

Staff Sgt. Benjamin Hunter, also of 391st, explained the purpose of obstacles and the importance of using them in these battle drills.

"The obstacle is something to slow them (the enemy) down or make them go around," said Hunter.

He said Soldiers are strategically positioned so that if the enemy does try to tamper with the obstacle, they will be fired upon.

Staff Sgt. Edward Henderson, also a combat engineer from the 391st, explained in simple terms what their job is.

"We clear mines, put in mines, we put in wire obstacles, we run across wire obstacles – we clear it," said Henderson.

In even simpler terms he said, "We build and destroy. That's our company motto."

Soldiers set up an ammunitions supply point close to camp for easy access.

Members of the 391st board a five-ton truck getting ready to head down range.

Sgt. Matthew Noone *(right)*, and a fellow Soldier from the 391st Engineer Battalion, prepare wiring for explosives they have just placed.

A combat engineer opens up crates of C-4 plastic explosives inside the ammunitions supply point located near camp.

While inside the camp tent, Soldiers run through battle plans before executing the training mission.

Soldiers open up a crate of bangalore explosives before they head out to do a practice run of their battle drills.

Noone demonstrates the correct way to put together a field-expedient bangalore using C-4 plastic explosives.

Moving to a closer position, a Soldiersengages an obstacle during one of the battle drills held.

Col. Leslie Carroll, 415th Chemical Brigade commander (*right)*, of which the 391st belongs to, gives the Soldiers a pep talk during a break in training. The unit was on post conducting demolition training.