



Snakebite

The Official Newsletter of the 116th Brigade Combat Team

116th BCT celebrates over 650 reenlistments at special ceremony

by Capt. Monte Hibbert, 116 BCT Public Affairs Officer

FOB WARRIOR, Iraq –

The 116th Brigade Combat Team held a special ceremony September 14 at Forward Operating Base Warrior to celebrate achieving over 650 in-theater reenlistments while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III.

Since arriving in theater in December 2004, 116th Brigade Combat Team soldiers have reenlisted in record numbers, beating previous in-theater reenlistment records by a large margin. The unit has achieved 654 combat-zone reenlist-



A formation of approximately 200 reenlistees represent the 116th Brigade Combat Team's 654 combat zone reenlistments at a special ceremony September 14 at Forward Operating Base Warrior to celebrate the unit's milestone achievement. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jack White, 116th BCT Public Affairs)

ments as of September 11, 2005.

"On April 14, we had 237 Soldiers who had re-upped

since we had arrived to theater in December 2004," said Sgt. 1st Class Jim Blake, the non-commissioned officer in charge of retention for the brigade. "We decided to more than double that by the 14th of September and established 'The Record 500' goal, or simply, 'R5.' All concerned picked up on the challenge

Commander's Corner

by Brigadier General Alan Gayhart, Commander

Fellow Warriors, We are rapidly approaching one of the most dangerous times of our entire deployment. Although the threat from the enemy may increase in the next few months, our biggest

and not maintaining the standard. We may be veterans and believe we have endured it all.



BG Gayhart

However, one careless act can result in disaster. Negligent discharges, vehicle accidents and overall carelessness

threat is much closer to each of us. Complacency kills! Statistics prove that more Soldiers are injured at the end of their deployment, rather than at the start. This is due to Soldiers and leaders becoming complacent

can result in you or a fellow Soldier becoming a casualty. We should all work together to ensure that this does not happen, especially when we are so close to

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CSM Briefing

by 116 BCT Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Leroy Lewis

Well we're counting down, and looking forward to getting out of this country. In my last article I copied some information about Lee Marvin, and Mister



CSM Lewis

Rogers, that I put in my article. Seems some of the information is bogus. Break the chain.org stop misinformation says most of the information is not true. Mr. Rogers was never in the

military according to them. Lee Marvin got wounded at Saipan, two months prior to Iwo Jima. He received the Purple Heart, not the Navy Cross. The information

the Johnny Carson show put out seems to be in conflict with the truth. Captain Kangaroo was in the marines but never served with Lee

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Brig. Gen. Alan Gayhart, 116th BCT commander, administers a ceremonial oath to Sgt. Casey Seckel, the Task Force 1-148 Field Artillery soldier identified as the brigade's 500th reenlistment, on September 14 at FOB Warrior, Iraq, as part of the unit's celebration of over 650 combat zone reenlistments. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jack White, 116th BCT Public Affairs)

and by the 11th of August we were at 511."

Blake said reaching the goal was inspired by another

National Guard unit that attained a record-breaking

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Snakebite

Snakebites is a product of the 116th Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs Office. It is the official command information publication of the 116th BCT. This publication's intent is to provide timely and relevant information to the soldiers, families and employers of the 116th BCT.



Snakebites Staff

Capt. Monte Hibbert
Public Affairs Officer

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Public Affairs NCO



Submission Policy

The *Snakebites* staff welcomes submissions from its readers. If you have an article and/or photo that you feel would be appropriate for this publication please e-mail it to jack.white4@us.army.mil and monte.hibbert @us.army.mil or drop it by the PAO office at Bldg. 370, FOB Warrior.

Media Interview Tips

- Always tell the truth.
- Assume that everything you say will be used and attributed to you. Avoid "Off the record" conversations with reporters. If you don't want to see it in print or on television, don't say it.
- Stay in your lane; talk only about things for which you are responsible.
- Do not speculate.
- It's ok to say: "I don't know."
- Refer specific recruiting questions to your recruiter.
- If you can't answer a reporter's question, explain why. For example, if the incident is under investigation, just let the reporter know.
- Always remain calm and professional.
- Practice what you want to say in front of a mirror or a friend to become more comfortable.
- Be yourself. You have a great story to tell and your community wants to hear it!
- Discuss what you know, provided OPSEC is not violated.

*****ATTENTION MEDIA OUTLETS*****

The 116th BCT has no release authority for information about casualties or deaths. This falls to our higher headquarters. Please don't query us directly for this information. Thank you.

BSU Broncos suffer tough loss to UGA Bulldogs

by Staff Sgt. Jack White,
116 BCT PAO NCO

The #18-ranked Boise State Bronco's bid to go undefeated this season, came to a screeching halt September 3, as the #13-ranked SEC's Georgia Bulldogs took advantage of a very un-Bronco like performance, winning by a score of 48-13.

Junior quarterback Jared Zabransky struggled from the beginning, never seeming to get in rhythm, then later appearing to be unable to focus on snaps. Zabransky was intercepted four times in the first half and fumbled twice, once on a gang tackle and again on a snap from center. After six turnovers and a solid drive by Georgia in the second quarter, BSU found itself down only 24 points at halftime, but still scoreless.

Late in the third quarter, Zabranski was taken to the locker room to rehydrate and for evaluation by the team's physicians. He had taken two or three hard shots early in the game, but it is unknown what caused his inability to execute the plays as normal.

At the 7:11 mark of

the third quarter, freshman quarterback Brad Tharp was able to guide the Broncos to the Georgia three. The three-yard touchdown by running back Lee Marks, ended the shut-out. Later in the fourth quarter, Tharp again maneuvered BSU to the 2 yard-line, where running back Antoine Carter took it in for the score. However, a bad snap from center caused them to flub the extra-point attempt.

Nothing can be taken from the Bulldogs, who played a superbly Georgia-like game. However, the absence of leadership from BSU's Q.B. obviously took its toll, as people began making all manner of simple mistakes, like lining up wrong, jumping the snap-count, failing to finish pass patterns, and defensively, failing to stay with their number one receiver, who personally scored 5 of Georgia's touchdowns on receptions deep in the backfield. Pass coverage was lacking, though the ESPN announcers were amazed that with so many turnovers, the BSU defense had allowed only 17 turnover points.



Two bright spots for the Broncos though, were appearances by freshmen players Robinson and Peretta, as well as solid play by Corey Hall on defense.

Although this was a disappointing loss, Bronco fans remember that just a few years ago, BSU started its season with back-to-back losses to South Carolina and Washington State, then went on a 35-2 game winning streak. Perhaps this is an eye-opener for the Broncos. Time will tell, as BSU next meets Oregon State at their house, then faces Bowling Green in two weeks, at Bronco Stadium.

Scoring by Quarter;

1st Quarter-UGA-14,
BSU-0;

2nd Quarter-UGA-24,
BSU-0;

3rd Quarter-UGA-38,
BSU-7;

4th Quarter-UGA-48,
BSU-13.

The Editorial Staff of the *Snakebites* wishes to thank the commanders, Soldiers, Family Readiness Group Administrators and everyone who submitted articles and photographs to the publication during our time in Iraq.

With the final printing of the *Snakebites* until the unit arrives home after demobilization, we will still need those submissions in order to keep our readership informed of what the Brigade is doing and where we are going, online.

We encourage anyone with a good photo or article to submit these to either Capt. Hibbert or Staff Sgt. White, at the following E-a-d-d-r-e-s-s-e-s ; monte.hibbert@us.army.mil, or jack.white4@us.army.mil.

Snake River Chapel Schedule

Sunday

0900 - Catholic Mass
1100 - General Protestant Worship Service
1400 - Catholic Mass
1530 - LDS

Monday

1830 - LDS Family Home Eve. CP18, Pod 15
1900 - Praise Band Rehearsal

Tuesday

1930 - Men's Fellowship

Wednesday

1900 - Bible Study

Thursday

1930 - Bible Study

Friday

1200 - Muslim Prayer Service @ Base Mosque

Saturday

1930 - Gospel Service

Freedom (Air Force) Chapel Schedule

Sunday

0630 - Protestant Morning Prayer
0800 - Gospel Service
0900- Latter-Day Saints @ the LRC
1000 - Contemporary Protestant Worship Svc.
1130 - Catholic Mass
1900 - Traditional Protestant Worship Service
2000- Latter-Day Saints @ the LRC

Monday

1900 - Ladies Fellowship
1945 - Godly Fathers/Husbands Bible Study (Chapel Admin. Office)
Monday-Thursday
1130 - Catholic Mass

Tuesday

1900 - Weekly Catholic Meditation @ the LRC
1930 - Protestant Band Practice

Wednesday

1900 - Bible Study
2130 - Praise & Worship Rehearsal

Thursday

1930 - Protestant Band Practice

Friday

1900 - Gospel Service

Saturday

1900 - Catholic Mass
2030 - Lutheran Service
2115 - Rosary & Mass (DFAC)

Atheism

by Chaplain (Lt.Col.) John Worster, 116th BCT Chaplain

I sort of wonder how anyone who is paying half attention to life could be an Atheist. People, routinely looking around the disaster that presently is Iraq, conclude that there is no God. I've not yet met a person bright enough, despite life's trials, to explain away all that is good this side of heaven. It seems to me that what people call Atheism is actually Cynicism masquerading as Atheism. Everywhere one looks there are the footprints of divinity. I imagine then that there are probably only people of faith in the world, and Cynics.

Early on in our time in Iraq I rode with the great warriors of the 1-148 FA to Sulaymaniah, in the mountains of Iraqi Kurdistan. Part of the mission was to deliver candy and toys sent by Idahoans to a small village. As it was January, the day was cool. The previous night's snow was melting, turning the village's alleys to mud. There was the typical free-for-all as the toys were given out, and one little girl was being left out – she just stood aside by herself, unable to throw enough punches to get at the toys. She, like all little kids, was adorable – with short, silky, wheat-colored hair that hung down straight. Like all Kurds, she was colorfully dressed: In her case she had a fluffy, cherry-red turtleneck sweater on. It was so big for her that her little chin seemed to float on the collar. Happily for her, one of the 1-148 FA soldiers ran up to her and gave her a stuffed animal, and her face just lit up.

Another young man stood by himself, and as I walked up to him I saw that he was retarded. He dully stared at the melee going on, standing in brown shoes in the brown mud, the backs of those shoes broken down

by his heels that he couldn't get into them – I suppose because his feet had grown too large. It appeared that he was wearing all that he owned. His head hung down, and drool flowed out of his mouth and onto his shirt. I stood at his side and said "hello." No response. In my pocket I had a black, wool watchcap. I reached over, lifted the young man's hand up, and put the watch cap into it. Then there was a connection. To my surprise, his face was brightened by a smile. Leaping



Chaplain Worster

about, he held his prize high up in the air, and started running toward the village and the crowds of adults. He just kept on going past them, rounded the corner, and passed out of my sight – certainly forever.

These sorts of interactions are going on every day here – and comprise the vast majority of contacts we have with Iraqis. Sometimes it all comes together, and some little American girl actually receives a picture of an Iraqi child wearing the coat she sent over here. Sadly, Americans would never know this from the reporting of CNN and the other networks.

The vast majority of our soldiers believe in God. Their actions are informed and guided by his presence. And until that day when the world, including Iraq, is fully redeemed, they see the presence of suffering as part of God's mysterious plan. For the cynics, particularly the media, one wonders why they are not stopped in their tracks by the beauty of human beings. I wonder why they seem unable to report the good news that however faint, every human unmistakably bears the spark of divinity.

Don't Forget!

Important Dates to Remember:

10 October - Columbus Day

31 October - Halloween

November 8 - Election Day

November 11 - Veterans Day

November 24 - Thanksgiving Day

You don't want to forget your loved one's anniversaries or birthdays!

Start planning now!

Question of the Week

What is the coolest thing you've seen in Iraq ?



*Spc. Brad Nirschel
HHC, 116 BCT*

“Irbil. It’s a beautiful place, rich in culture. It’s a really awesome place.”



*Sgt. Tony Rice
HHC, 116 BCT*

“The restoration and rebuilding of the hotels in Kirkuk and Sulaymaniyah. They’re beautiful!”



*Spc. Gary Wilson
HHC, 116 Engineer Bn.*

“The effect we are having on this country. It’s great to see the people welcoming us.”



*Staff Sgt. John Crawford
HHC, TF 1-163 Infantry*

“The smiling faces of the kids.”



*Sgt. Ron Cartwright
HHC, TF 1-163 Infantry*

“Good quality ice cream bars on FOB McHenry in September for the first time!”

CSM Briefing...

Continued from page 1

Marvin. They were soldiers and defended our country just like you. Who knows what is really true, Break the chain.org, or the extract from the Johnny Carson show. You know what, it really doesn't matter, Marvin and Keeshan are still my heroes. Just like you all out there in the Brigade are all my heroes. I do have some military history I would like to share with you that I got from one of my friends in an e-mail. Now this should be true, but who knows. This is about TAPS and how it came about.

We in the United States

have all heard the haunting song, "Taps". It's the song that gives us that lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes. Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of a narrow strip of land.

During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his

stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment. When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead.

The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army. The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his


superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted.

The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician.

The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted. The haunting

melody we now know as "Taps" ... used at military funerals was born. The words are : Day is done. Gone the sun.

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STAY ALIVE

Stop and Think!

IEDs are deadly killers.

Conduct 5 and 25 meter checks around your position.

0001 IEDs IRL

Single, unmarried parents with legal custody eligible for FSA

by Staff Sgt. Jack White,
116 BCT PAO NCO

Single soldiers who also have legal custody of children may be entitled to receive monthly Family Separation Allowance (FSA), if they meet the criteria.

The Family Separation Al-

lowance is for single or unmarried parents who would normally have a child or children living with them. The entitlement amounts to \$250 per month, for those eligible. If the Soldier is not married but has been awarded joint physical and legal custody of a child or

children who would live with you except for this deployment, you will be considered as a Soldier With Dependents for FSA-II entitlement.

If this applies to you, take a copy of your divorce or child custody decree, a copy of your mobilization orders, DA Form

5069 (Authorization to Start, Stop or Change Basic Allowance for Quarters), and a DD Form 1561 (Statement to Substantiate Payment of FSA) to Finance and request FSA.

For now, the decree must state that you have "legal" custody. If the word "legal"

does not appear, your request will not be approved.

Efforts are underway to expand the application of the Department of Defense Financial Regulation to cases where the word "legal" does not appear. Soldiers will be notified if this effort is successful.

Consider all the risks, tactical and accidental

by Maj. "Safety Bill" Miller,
116 BCT Safety Officer

We hear a lot about risk management in the army and sometimes it gets a bad wrap. I

believe we often are doing better than we think. The Combat Readiness Center has coined a term—composite risk. This means we consider all

risks. The term is new but the idea is old. The idea is that commanders must consider all risks. These risks include tactical and accidental risks as

well as risks to civilians and risk to the environment. I ask, how much more composite can we get? Let's take a closer look.

FM 100-14 tells us, "Tactical risk is risk concerned with hazards that exist because of the presence of either the enemy or an adversary. It applies to all levels of war and across the spectrum of operations." I know we are all doing our best to "Be Safe and Make it Home." When I think of tactical safety I think of crews discussing how to stay alive. I think of company commanders and first sergeants setting tough standards and enforcing them. I also think about S2 and S3 personnel around a map board war gaming the most likely and most dangerous courses of action. This is the type of safety that warriors do best. Now contrast this with accident risk.

Again, according to FM 100-14, "Accident risk includes all operational risk considerations other than tactical risk. It includes risks to the friendly force. It also includes risks posed to civilians by an operation, as well as an operations impact on the environment. It can include activities associated with hazards concerning friendly personnel, civilians, equipment readiness, and environmental conditions." Violating the law-of land warfare or deliberately disobeying local, state, national, or host nation laws in the name of risk management is not acceptable.



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Reintegration Briefing for Idaho, Oregon Guard families

by Jeannette Mayer

Good Morning Families;

We want to Thank you families for your time and patience on waiting to hear when this Reintegration Briefing will be held.

The final date and time has been set for October 2, 2005 8:00am - 3:30pm at Four Rivers Cultural Center.

We have several topics that will be covered (Vet Centers, VA Benefits - all their branches, Tricare benefits after soldiers return, ESGR, Department of Commerce and Labor (Employment Offices and Possible Demobilization Phases) along with several outside resources that have volunteered to come and present their information to assist us in creating the "New Normal."

We will also ask the Idaho National Guard and several Idaho Services represented, alongside of Oregon, to join together in this briefing due to a mix of Idaho and Oregon residents in our unit and in our surrounding

communities.

This meeting will be open to ALL family members of deployed soldiers regardless if their soldier is an Oregon or Idaho guards person. The Idaho National Guard has opened their doors to Oregon Guard families, we are in turn opening our doors to those Idaho families that live in this area.

Please fill out this form and return as soon as possible, so we can get a good head count for how much food for lunch will be needed and have the correct amount of child care providers.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel to contact any one of the people listed on the registration form.

For online support, contact; Jeannette Mayer 2 0 8 . 4 1 2 . 8 5 7 1 <ads@newplymouthnews.com>; Jennifer Kotz 541.963.6143 <kotz.clan@verizon.net>; Bethany Erntson 5 4 1 . 8 8 1 . 0 2 9 0 <tnb@fmmc.com>

Twin Falls County Fair treats military families like VIPs

by Sonya Nowland, Twin Falls Family Assistance Center

HHC, TF 2-116th Armor families were treated as VIP guests August 31, at the Twin Falls County Fair. During the month of July, the Family Assistance Center at the Twin Falls Armory was contacted by members of the Fair board and offered our military families 220 free concert tickets in reserved seating, to see John Michael Montgomery at this year's fair. The Family Assistance

Coordinator was ecstatic to receive such an offer for our military families. During the concert John Michael Montgomery extended his sincere appreciation and gratitude to them and to their soldiers. He also thanked them for their continual sacrifice and contributions in the assurance and protection of the freedoms we enjoy everyday. The ability to extend such an offer to our military families was made possible by the following community businesses: The Twin Falls County Fair Board, Middlekauff Ford Autom-

Re-Integration/ Demobilization Briefing
October 2, 2005 8:00am – 3:30pm
Four Rivers Cultural Center
Lunch and Child Care Provided

Name _____ Unit: _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: Home: _____ Work: _____

Yes, I will be attending _____

If more than one adult from your family is attending fill out a separate form f adult.

Childcare will be provided at no charge to you, by a Childcare facility. You v reimbursed for making your own childcare arrangements.

Will you need Childcare (circle one) YES NO If so, for how many chil _____?

Children Names & Ages _____

I acknowledge that by signing this registration form, I am committing to atter above-mentioned briefing. I understand that the government may be making obligations based on this application to cover cost for food, meeting spaces a I also understand that 24-hour notification is required to cancel.

Print Name: _____ Signature Date: _____

Please RSVP Immediately!

Mail to: _____ or Call: _____ or
Family Readiness Group Jeannette Mayer 208.412.8571

tive Group, KMVT, and KAT Kountry.

September 2, 2005 was designated Military Appreciation Day at the Twin Falls County Fair. Families were given free admission into the fair with the showing of their ID cards. Operation Military Kids/4H thought it would be a great addition to Military Appreciation Day by making our military kids VIPs for the day. Operation Military Kids in direct partnership with the 4H Program of the Magic Valley Area treated

our kids to ALL DAY RIDE PASSES and \$20.00 in FREE FOOD at the 4H Food Booth. The kids were very excited about being able to ride everything as many times as they wanted. It was awesome to see such excitement and the smiles on their faces as they got off of their favorite rides only to decide to do it again and again.

Some of the kids that have a love for animals were also able to enjoy the pleasure of the petting zoo. The petting zoo provided kids of

all ages the experience of feeding animals both large and small as well as being informational in knowing which ones would eat just about anything if given the opportunity to. The kids' day at the fair was definitely something that the military kids really enjoyed. Experiences such as these gave all of the families a break and the opportunity to really enjoy some good quality family time.

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Hispanics in the U.S. military

by Staff Sgt. Joseph Herbst,
217th Finance Detachment

Ever since President Truman signed into law the executive order requiring the integration of America's Armed Forces, Hispanic soldiers have played a vital and important role in the US Military. Signed on July 26, 1948, the order declared the "equality of treatment and opportunity" to all service members, regardless of race, color, religion or national origin. As we observe National Hispanic Heritage Month (Sep 15– Oct 15), it is only fitting that we remember the contribution to the US Military by America's Hispanic population—a contribution of both honor and sacrifice.

The Hispanic influence and heritage in the United States can be traced clear back to the Spanish Conquistadores, whose intrepid exploration of the Southern and Southwestern parts of the United States established permanent settlements long before the English attempts at Jamestown and Plymouth. After the French, who had established communities from

Canada to Louisiana, were defeated by the British in the French and Indian War, they gave their Louisiana Territory to the Spanish rather than their hated English enemy.

With Spain now in possession of New Orleans, St. Louis, and all the land in between, Spanish colonists slowly populated the area. They held this land for nearly 50 years until the Napoleonic Wars finally cost them their Louisiana Territory, which the US purchased from France in 1803. Spain still held the land south and west of the "Louisiana Purchase", until Mexico's successful revolt from Spain and all that land, which is now the Southwestern United States, became part of Mexico. However, the successful Texas revolt of 1836 and the Mexican War of 1848 slowly dissolved this Mexican empire.

Since 1848, when all of the territory became part of the United States, Hispanics living in these areas have given their lives for causes in which they believed, from the Civil War,

through the present conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Hispanic Americans have fought valiantly in every war in US history. The Medal of Honor is the highest US military distinction, awarded since the Civil War for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty." Forty-one men of Hispanic origin have earned it, including 21 who made the ultimate sacrifice, and whose citations proudly end: "He gallantly gave his life for his country."

The Hispanic Medal of Honor Recipients Memorial, Los Angeles, Cal.

Latinos are the largest single ethnic group, in proportion to the number who served, to earn this prestigious award.

Speaking to a full-capacity audience on September 18th, 2002, during the Army's annual Hispanic Heritage celebration, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller, Michael Montelongo said, "It's

opportunity that has brought us here today and what will take us where we need to be tomorrow."

"Education when coupled with opportunity is certainly the key to success," he continued. "The military is a great place to seek, find and achieve that success. Many Hispanic Americans have been drawn to the military for that very reason." Hispanic Americans have contributed

gallantly to the success of a wonderful nation. Their service reflects a genuine commitment to the principles of freedom and democracy from the American Revolution to the most recent conflicts in which we are engaged today.

During the next few weeks, let's remember to take a moment to thank our Latino brothers and sisters in arms for their service to a grateful nation.



The Hispanic Medal of Honor Recipients Memorial, Los Angeles, CA

451st CA visits kids on first day of school

by Staff Sgt. Jack White, 116
BCT Public Affairs NCO

Soldiers of the 116th Brigade Combat Team recently delivered school supplies to a Kirkuk Primary School on September 11, 2005.

It was the first day of school for Kirkuk's school-aged children, as members of B Co., 451st Civil Affairs Team A 41, began visiting schools all across the city.. The Soldiers of B Co. were busy assessing each school's needs and identifying ways to support the school administrators as they began a new school year.

One method of helping

these administrators was through the delivery of donated school supplies for the students.

The children and administrators warmly greeted the coalition forces, as school supplies donated from private individuals in America, were given to the Nawroz Primary School Principal, Mr. Fasal Amin. These packets contain crayons, pencils, pencil sharpeners, kid's scissors, writing pads and construction paper, everything a child needs to do their lessons.

Teacher's packets were also distributed for the instructor's use.

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VFW Post offers free membership for one year

Capitol City VFW Post 63, in Boise, would like to invite members of the 116th BCT to join the Veterans of Foreign Wars for one year at no cost. The post members have recently set aside funds to pay your first year's membership.

As yesterday's defenders of freedom we want to welcome you into our ranks to become part of our elite group. Our common bond is the battlefield; your courage and sacrifice have made a difference in preserving and defending world

peace. Why Join? We are "the veterans' advocate" and have helped make today's veterans' benefits a reality. Your support helps us continue that path.

Membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars entitles you to a free \$1,000/\$1,500 personal accident protection policy; personal assistance securing government benefits and entitlements for veterans; discounts on car rentals and hotel stays; and substantial insurance discounts. In

addition, you also receive a free subscription to VFW Magazine and enable you to join the Pentagon Federal Credit union.

Become part of the VFW family today so you can make a difference in your community tomorrow. To join Post 63 for one year at no cost contact:

Rich Cesler, at ceslerr@veterans.idaho.gov (208-344-4796), or

Deke Johnson at idahovfw@vfwonline.net (208-342-2438).

116 BCT Commander conducts special reenlistment

by Staff Sgt. Jack White, 116 BCT Public Affairs NCO

FOB WARRIOR, Iraq - A special reenlistment was conducted by the Commander of the 116th Brigade Combat Team (BCT) on August 30, here at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Warrior.

Brig. Gen. Alan Gayhart, Commander of the 116th BCT, personally reenlisted Sgt. Benjamin F. Madsen, a mechanic for Headquarters Company (HHC), Task Force 2-116 Armor, the unit's 124th reenlistment in theater. General Gayhart's opening remarks focused on the importance of the 116th BCT's presence in Kirkuk and the surrounding cities, mentioning the difference

650 Reenlistments...

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number of combat reenlistments earlier this year.

"Part of our motivation along the way was the 256th BCT from Louisiana," said Blake. "On the 20th of July this Guard brigade made the Stars and Stripes with what was at the time a new theater record of 400 Soldiers extending. We knew we could beat this and we have!"

The ceremonial re-swearing in was held in front of the 116th BCT headquarters at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Warrior, Iraq. One soldier was designated to represent all of the soldiers and the oath was administered by Brig. Gen. Alan Gayhart, 116th BCT commander, in front of a large formation of reenlistees.



Brig. Gen. Alan Gayhart, 116th BCT commander, and Sgt. Casey Seckel, the TF 1-148 FA Soldier identified as the brigade's 500th reenlistment, cut the cake September 14 at FOB Warrior, Iraq, as part of the unit's celebration of over 650 combat zone reenlistments. Sgt. Ryan Kohlbecker (left), a 116th BCT non-commissioned personnel officer, waits to serve eager soldiers. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jack White, 116th BCT Public Affairs)



Sgt. Benjamin Madsen (right) is sworn in by Brig. Gen. Alan Gayhart in a special ceremony conducted at TF 2-116's maintenance bay, August 30, 2005. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jack White, 116 BCT PAO NCO)

traditional guardsmen have made in the lives of the Iraqi people. Gayhart swore in Sgt. Madsen for an additional six years extension with the Idaho Army National Guard. Madsen had requested that he be sworn in at his

place of work, the maintenance bay at HHC, TF 2-116. TF 2-116 Armor currently leads the 116th BCT in re-enlistments, with a total of 124 not including several more which are pending. Nearly 20% of the battalion has committed to

extend their enlistments (IDARNG's per battalion goal is 10% annually). Additionally, over \$1.5 million has been committed to these soldiers by contract, divided into the qualifying areas of Bonuses, Montgomery GI Bill, and Student Loan Repayment.

Afterwards, Sgt. First Class James Blake, the 116th BCT's Retention non-Commissioned Officer, was recognized with a framed Certificate for these achievements by the General, on behalf of TF 2-116 Armor, in appreciation of his efforts in helping the battalion exceed its retention goals.

Three Soldiers of HHC, TF 2-116 Armor were presented Commander's coins. The recipients were, Sgt. Phillip Berringer, Sgt. Dave Craig and Cpl. Justin Crawford, of HHC, 2-116.

Four TF 2-116 Armor Soldiers were awarded the Army Commendation Medal by Lt. Col. Michael J. Woods, Commander of TF 2-116 Armor. Spc. Don Drury, Spc. William Ruska, Sgt. James Perez and Capt. Robert Holley, for performance excellence during OIF III.

One Soldier, Sgt. Michael Short, was promoted by Capt. John Colton, HHC, TF 2-116 Armor commander, to the rank of Staff Sgt.

CSM Briefing....

Continued from page 4

From the lakes. From the hills.
From the sky. All is well
Safely rest. God is nigh.

Fading light. Dims the sight.
And a star. Gems the sky.
Gleaming bright. From afar.
Drawing nigh. Falls the night

Thanks and praise. For our days.
Neath the sun. Neath the stars.
Neath the sky. As we go.
This we know. God is nigh.

I too have felt the chills while listening to "Taps", but I have never seen all the words to the song until now. I didn't even know there was more than one verse. I also never knew the story behind the song and I didn't know if you had either so I thought I'd pass it along. I now have an even deeper respect for the song than I did before. Remember Those Lost and Harmed While Serving Their Country.



A formation of approximately 200 reenlistees represent the 116th BCT's 654 combat zone reenlistments at a special ceremony September 14 at FOB Warrior. The ceremonial event was to celebrate the unit's milestone achievement. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jack White, 116th BCT Public Affairs)

"I am proud to stand with each of you—American patriots who know that the protection of democracy requires personal commitment and sacrifice," said Gayhart during his remarks following the swearing-in event. "Your continued service brings great credit upon you, but most importantly honors those who made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom."

Besides the honored reenlistees and Brig. Gen.

Gayhart, distinguished guests at the event also included 42nd Infantry Division Commander Maj. Gen. Joseph Taluto, 42nd ID Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Fearnside, 116th BCT Command Sgt. Maj. Leroy Lewis and 116th BCT task force commanders and command sergeants major.

After the ceremony, attendees enjoyed a cake and ice cream social at the installation swimming pool.

116th Engineer Battalion

Military families VIPs... Continued from page 6



Family members of Idaho National Guardsmen were treated to a free concert by John Michael Montgomery, courtesy of the Twin Falls County Fair board and local businesses, Aug. 31 and Sept. 2, 2005.



The SeaRay ride at the Twin Falls County Fair was a big attraction for kids of all ages, young and old alike.



View of the Ferris Wheel at the Twin Falls County Fair, where military families were treated as VIPs, Aug. 31 and Sept. 2, 2005.



The 4H Petting Zoo at the Twin Falls County Fair was another big attraction for military kids, Aug. 31 and Sept. 2, 2005..



The Sea Ray may have left some riders a little seasick, but they obviously had a good time on the ride, coming back for more.

Homecoming advice from the 116 BCT Commander, Brig. Gen. Gayhart

ForYou- 1. Plan on spending some time with the entire family, but be flexible if teens have other plans.

2. Show interest and pride in how your family members have grown in your absence.

3. Expect it will take a little time to become reacquainted with your spouse. Be sure to tell him/her just how much you care. Make an effort to do little romantic things.

4. Resist the temptation to criticize. Your spouse has been doing his or her best

to run the household. Give your spouse credit for his or her efforts even if his or her way of doing things is different from yours.

5. Take time to understand how your family may have changed. Go easy on child discipline- get to know what new rules your spouse may have set.

6. Don't be surprised if some family members are a bit resentful of your deployment. Others often think of the deployment as fun and exciting.

7. Infants and small children may be shy or fearful at first. Be patient; give them time to become acquainted.

8. Resist the temptation to go on a spending spree to celebrate your return.

9. Most importantly, make time to talk with your loved ones. They need individual time and attention. Remember, focus on the positives and avoid criticism.

For Your Spouse- 1. Do something special to welcome your spouse home-

help the children make a welcome banner, make your spouse's favorite dessert, etc., but be understanding and flexible if your spouse is too tired to notice.

2. Give your spouse time to adjust to being home. Don't tightly schedule activities for him/her. Don't expect him/her to take on old chores right away.

3. Plan on some family togetherness time. Time together helps your spouse to be back into the rhythm of family life.

4. Be patient and tolerant with your spouse. Your spouse may have some initial discomfort adjusting, but this doesn't mean he/she is unhappy.

5. Don't spend money you don't have on celebrating your spouse's return.

6. Don't be surprised if your spouse is a little hurt by how well you ran the household and managed the children without them. Let him/her know that your

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145th Support Battalion

Preparation

by Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Whittier, 145th SPT Bn.

It may seem we have been deployed for years, and lives back in the states are just a vague memory. We have given much of ourselves to the cause of freedom, and have given up much back at home. As soldiers, our commitment to our duty brought us to a foreign land far from families, jobs, and comfort. We spent months at Fort Bliss preparing for this time we have spent in Iraq, hoping to be at a state of readiness which would allow our soldiers a means to survive. The unknown which we faced at the time, brought on a height of awareness, and kept us in the cautious mode to learn from real world

experiences. With the short time left, we must continue to be cautious and safe. Everyday must be met with the realization that less days does not mean it is any safer, nor any less dangerous. We need to have the attitude that we will do what it takes to get back home safe, and restart the lives we left behind so long ago.

As back at our home stations, and while at Fort Bliss, we must prepare for our departure as a necessary event which will lead us home. Some of the requirements to prepare are the re-integration briefings the Chaplains will give to all



CSM Whittier

soldiers prior to leaving this country. Many soldiers have changed somewhat due to the environment we have been placed, and many family members back home have changed as well. How we accept these changes will chart the course we will follow for years to come. We have seen the ugliness of life here, with poverty, war,

cultural differences, and the strains of military life. Our families back home cope with loneliness, insecurity, adapting to heading a household, and not depending on a spouse or partner. Many relationships have suffered due to this deployment, and we must prepare to renew or restart families and careers. Why we may not notice the changes, the importance of what is to come will reveal to others the small changes in personality. The Chaplains have programs which will help prepare us for re-integration, as well as the Army, and State of Idaho. All these organizations

are aware of the importance of preparing the soldier for civilian life, plus the family members back home are attending briefs on the same nature. The Army is dedicated to the soldier whether we see it that way or not. Make sure every soldier attends the briefs prior to re-deployment, At Fort Lewis we will see more opportunities for help and assistance, and again back at our home states. Preparing for this reunion is no different than packing bags and Conex's, nor flying back to the states. It is a step that must be taken to help the few that need it. Prepare yourselves to succeed.

Soldiers and Airmen compete in first 'Strong Warrior' Event

by Sgt. Jeffery W. Lucas II, 145th SB Unit Historian

Soldiers and airmen from FOB Warrior in Kirkuk, Iraq recently competed in a competition of strength and endurance. The First Strong Warrior Competition took place at the Warrior Gym. Twenty-four soldiers and airmen competed in six exhausting individual and team events.

The competition consisted of events with such names as the Iraq Carry and Farmer's Carry to more conventional HMMWV Pull, Hammer Throw, verhead Press and Tire Flip. The teams improvised on the use of equipment, using a HMMWV instead of a

truck for the vehicle pull, a HMMWV spring instead of a hammer and a 110-pound map of Iraq.

Team "The Big Show", consisted of members of TF 3-116 Armor and the 145th Support Battalion, who started strong, taking the first event, the HMMWV pull, by pulling the Army work vehicle 75 feet in 13.43 seconds. The second event, the Tire Flip, required that the iron men competitors flip a Light Mechanized Tactical Vehicle tire end over end for a distance of 50 feet, challengers had to flip the tire from the starting line to the finish line as fast as possible.

Staff Sgt. William

Tompkins of Bravo Co. tied for second place in the Farmer's Carry, an event for which participants had to carry two iron rims weighing approximately 95 pounds each for a one minute. Staff Sgt. Tompkins carried the two rims for a distance of 400 ft.

The Hammer Throw was next, a feat which requires both strength and precision. A HMMWV spring is thrown backward over the heads of the competitors. Getting the distance necessary to win the event required the strong men to release the spring just at the precise moment in order to maximize distance and minimize height.

The Iraq Carry was a uniquely "Iraq" event with contestants carrying a unique steel weight the shape of a map of Iraq. Soldiers and airmen had to carry the 110 pound map of Iraq as far as they could in a set time.

The over head press

was just that, a competition to see how much weight the contenders could lift over their heads. Spc. Jeffrey Staley from Bravo Company 145th Support Battalion placed fourth in the event with a 225 pound lift, with a weight

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Soldiers of Team "The Big Show" participate in the HMMWV Humvee Pull event at FOB Warrior, during the 'Strong Warrior' competition. (Photo submitted by 145th Support Bn.)

145th Support Battalion

145th Support Bn. NCO of the Month September, 2005

The 145th Support Battalion is pleased to announce its choice for NCO of the Month for September 2005.

Sgt. Perry Goodman of A Company, 145th Support Battalion was selected by a board consisting of the battalion staff and soldiers of the 145th Spt. Bn. Sergeant

Goodman is currently assigned to the Transportation Platoon of A Company, and beside hauling cargo and supervising vehicles, he operates the RTCH and performs the duties of the Unit Movement Officer/



Staff Sgt. Michael Grannen, the 145th NCO of the Month for July, 2005.

Coordinator. He remains positive at all times, and willing to train soldiers on a moment's notice. Sgt. Goodman has been in the service 12 years, and completed such schools as Mountain Warfare, JROTC Jungle Warfare and

Survival, Mountain Warfare and Survival, and Combat Leader Course. From an 11B he trained into an 88M position with the company starting in Payette, and now is assigned to Nampa. This is his second trip to Iraq, and continues to do an outstanding job. Sgt. Goodman is married to his wife

Melody and has two daughters; Brandy and Rebecca, and a son, Ty.

Other candidates for the NCO of the month include Sgt. T Lucas of HHC; Sgt. Klinge of B Co. and Sgt. Schoenhut of C Company, 145 Support Battalion.

145th Support Bn. Soldier of the Month August, 2005

The 145th Support Battalion is pleased to announce its choice for Soldier of the Month for August 2005. Spc. Amber Peterson of A Company 145th Support Battalion was selected by a board consisting of the battalion staff and NCO's the 145th Spt Bn. Spc. Peterson joined the Idaho Army National Guard in March of 2002 as a 71L drilling with Det. 4 in

Rigby, Idaho. Once deployed to Fort Bliss, she was moved to the Petroleum Platoon as a fueler, then to the Class IX Section. While at Fort Polk, SPC Peterson was selected



Spc. Amber Peterson, the 145th Support Bn. Soldier of the Month for August, 2005.

to meet with the CofS of the Army, Gen Schoonmaker for her dedication and drive.

Once in Iraq, the company was tasked with additional requirements

which required her to work in the newly formed Central Issue Facility, DRMO and Class IV Yard for the Brigade, with her main focus in the Class IV yard where she manages all operations. In addition to her job, she is cross trained on the RTCH as a primary operator, moving CONEX containers all over the FOB. She performs duties as a gunner on missions, plays on the company softball team, writes the company newsletter the Alfa Bites, runs in all 5 and 10K races on post, on the MWR Committee, all while completing corre-

1st Day of school...

Continued from page 7

Over the past several months, strong relationships have been formed between Kirkuk public schools and the soldiers of the CA Team. The 451st Civil Affairs team will continue to serve as a bridge between the people of the United States and the school officials here in Kirkuk, helping to deliver "good will" to those that need it most, the children.

Commander's ...

Continued from page 1

completing our mission here in Iraq. Never let your guard down. Treat each day like it is the first day in country. Be aware of your surroundings. Continue to look out for each other, and let's keep our vow to one another and our families to come home safe. "Warriors First"



We invite our readers to submit articles, photos, letters, and comments for publication.

E-mail your submissions to:

monte.hibbert@us.army.mil

or

jack.white4@us.army.mil



Sgt. Michael Short of HHC, TF 2-116 Armor, was promoted to Staff Sgt. by HHC Commander, Capt. John Colton. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jack White, 116 BCT PAO NCO)

spondence courses. In her spare time SPC Peterson reads, watches movies, writes letters, visits friends, and makes the best of the situation.

Specialist Peterson resides in Pocatello, Idaho with her family, and plans

on attending school on her return

Other candidates for the Soldier of the month include Spc. Williams of HHC, 145th SB, Spc. Hardesty of C Co., 145th SB, and Spc. Foster of B Co., 145th SB.

TF 2-116th Armor

HQ, TF 2-116 and 116 BCT Soldiers earn CSM Coins

Two headquarters Soldiers, one from TF 2-116 Armor the other from the 116th

BCT, were presented with a CSM coin by TF 2-116 AR Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Henry Chin, September 4. Spc. Terus Dahlquist and Spc. Paul

Vawter received coins of excellence for their continued efforts in support of Operation Iraq Freedom III. Both Dahlquist and Vawter drive for the TF-2-116 Battalion Commander and Battalion S3 respectively. After reaching their daily destinations or their objectives during combat operations, they quickly transition to Personal Security Detachment (PSD) duty to guard the Six and the Three as they move about through the city.



CSM Chin, SPC Dahlquist, SPC Vawter recently, for their continued excellence throughout OIF III.

Watkins Reenlistment and promotion



Staff Sgt. Watkins of TF 2-116 Armor's MiTT, being promoted to Sgt. 1st Class. (Photos by TF 2-116 Armor)



Sgt. 1st Class Watkins takes the oath of reenlistment at the 4th IA Bn. Headquarters, August 3.

Two Soldiers of TF 2-116 Armor were promoted recently in a special ceremony conducted on August 3, at the Iraqi Army's 2nd Battalion Headquarters, as one of them also reenlisted.

Staff Sgt. Watkins of TF 2-116 Armor's MiTT, recited the oath of enlistment upon reenlisting for six years, and at the same special ceremony, was promoted to the rank of Sgt. First Class.

This event was a terrific morale booster for the MiTT team as well as the I.A. Bn. staff and soldiers, in attendance to witness the ceremonies.

This demonstrated the respect the U.S. Army has for these special occasions by recognizing sol-

TF 2-116 Armor's MiTT conducts knock and greet

The TF 2-116 Armor's MiTT team conducted Operation Black Arrow on August 21, a Knock and Greet in the Domies neighborhood of Kirkuk, Iraq, in coordination with the Iraqi Army. This operation consisted of two platoons from the 2nd and 4th I.A. Companies,

2nd I.A. Bn. 4th Co. was in charge of the outer cordon and 2nd Company along with Engineers, conducted sector searches. The Knock and Greet was a huge success, with numerous illegal arms and munitions being confiscated.



Iraqi Army Soldiers conducted sector searches during the knock and search August 21, 2005.

Ridgley Promotion



2nd Lt. Ridgley of TF 2-116 Armor's MiTT Team was promoted to 1st Lt. in a special ceremony held before the Staff and Soldiers of the 4th Iraqi Army Bn.

diers in public.

2nd Lt. Ridgley of TF 2-116 Armor's MiTT, was also promoted to the rank of 1st Lt. in a special ceremony held on 21 AUG 05, at the 2nd Iraqi Army Battalion Headquarters.

The Soldiers and Staff of TF 2-116 would like to congratulate both of these fine Soldiers on their much deserved promotions and their commitment to the Battalion.

TF 2-116 Armor

Physical Fitness

by *Command Sgt. Maj. Henry Chin*

Rattlers, you're providing the Iraqi people the opportunity to sow the seeds of freedom and the environment to let those seeds take root. You are making history. Yet, you are surrounded with hazards, threats and dangers too numerous to count.

Thanks for the great job you are doing and the endurance you show to the end. The work you have been conducting has exceeded the Army's standards and expectations and I could not be more proud of you, the Soldiers of 2nd Battalion. Thanks again... Remember we have a few more weeks to go and keep in mind the major role we have here in Kirkuk. Don't let up now,



Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Chin

stay focused and fit.

Your level of physical fitness has a direct impact on combat readiness. The many battles in which American troops have fought draw attention to the important role physical fitness plays on the battlefield. Inquiries on the effect of regular participation in a sound physical fitness program and maintenance of a healthy weight concludes that such programs enhance a person's quality of life, im-

prove productivity and bring about positive physical and mental changes. Not only are physical fit soldiers important to the Army, they are also more likely to have enjoyable, productive lives. Fitness includes not only the old Army view of "PT" which was primarily calisthenics, but also maintaining the body at a healthy weight through exercise and diet, maintaining flexibility of the joints, and many other aspects of "health".

Keep in mind that you are a member of the "Rattlers" protecting the coalition's northern flank and making history...for your nation, for your teammates, and most importantly for yourselves. I want you all to do things right, each day that we have here.

SINEMORA

2-116 MiTT conducts Base defense NCODP Class

Sgt. 1st Class Bucher of TF 2-116 Armor's MiTT Team, gave an NCO Development Program class to the Cmd. Sgt. Maj. and the NCOs of the 2nd Iraqi Army Battalion, on August 21. The class given, was about Bn. headquarters base defense. Among the topics discussed were the guard roster, guard rotation, Quick Response Force (QRF), the duties of the Sergeant of the Guard and the duties of the Duty Sergeant. The class was very informative, and the NCOs were very willing to learn.

The QRF is to go to where, when and if it is

needed in the city. Sgt. 1st Class Bucher stressed the need to make sure they have a medic with them for this type of mission. The discussion about the Base QRF centered on

their role should the base be attacked, and included a suggestion that the I.A. QRF teams should conduct some type of training during the course of each day to be better prepared.



TF 2-116 MiTT instructors gave a Base defense course to the NCOs and Cmd. Sgt. Maj. of the 2nd Iraqi Army Bn., on August 21, 2005. (Photo courtesy of TF 2-116 Armor)

TF 2-116 Armor 2-man relay team takes second in 20k race



Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Chin and 1Lt. Conway stand proud but exhausted, after again getting 2nd place in the 20k relay with only 2 out of 4 personnel on the team.

Three Teams competed in the 20K relay race sponsored by the Air Force here at FOB Warrior, August 27. The Air Force, 116th BDE HQ and the TF 2-116 Armor 2-man team participated in the competition. The morning of the race it was a cool 79 degrees, bright and sunny. The 5km racecourse was laid out from the DFAC, past the Skeleton Hangar to the turn around point past the Cement Factory, then back to the starting line. The plan was that each runner would run his leg and then the next runner would take over. This run felt like a long distance for our team, since we had only two runners (1Lt. Conway and Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Chin), but TF 2-116 finished in second place and were passed only by the

harrriers of the 116th Bde. team. Cpt. Packwood and Cpt. Pratt of the 116th BDE ran the 5k in under 20 minutes each. the 2-116 team used Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Chin's strategy of alternating the 5k runs between himself and 1Lt. Conway thereby getting a break in between legs. This worked as TF 2-116 beat the Air Force Team.

We encourage everyone who likes to run, to participate. The starting line is located in the vicinity of the 4-way intersection near the white tent, northeast of the Dining Facility. Check your local gym calendar for dates and times. The next race will start at 7:00 am, though registration starts at 6:45 for the event. All running events are free.

Commander's Advice...

Continued from page 9

preference is to share responsibilities with them.

7. Don't neglect the children's need for attention as you are becoming reacquainted with your spouse.

8. Stay involved in your own activities and in interests, but be flexible about making time for your spouse.

9. Don't be surprised if children test the limits of the family rules. Consistent enforcement of family rules and evenhanded discipline are key.

TF 2-116 Armor

B Co., TF2-116 Armor attends Highway Patrol project Grand Opening

Soldiers of B Co., TF2-116 Armor, were present to celebrate a construction and renovation project which was completed at the Iraqi Highway Patrol station,



MAJ Bassil and Nail Majid Sidiq, a contractor, cut a ribbon signifying the grand opening of a project which will allow the Highway Patrol members to work more efficiently.

September 14. The project, totaling over \$78,000, gives the station a high power antenna that reaches 30 km outside of Kirkuk, a paved parking area, renovated roofs and latrines, a new generator with a shelter and a room for the maintenance officer to work and store parts.

The contractor, Nail Majid Sideq and Highway Patrol Chief, Maj. Basil, cut a ribbon to commemorate the event. Basil says that this project will allow the patrolmen to better accomplish their task of keeping the highways in and around Kirkuk as safe as possible.

A Co., TF2-116 and Domies Police discover AIF cache

A Co., TF2-116 Armor was conducting a joint mounted patrol with the Domies Police in the Al Amin neighborhood of Kirkuk on September 2, when they received a tip that unidentified cars had been seen coming and going from an unfinished house, which resulted in the finding of a significant cache of AIF munitions.

They searched throughout the house but found only dirt floors. The patrol then de-

cid to use a mine detector to sweep the floors. They subsequently discovered 7 boxes of 7.62mm ammunition, totaling about 7,000 rounds, one spool of detonation cord, one Rocket-Propelled Grenade launcher, 13 blasting caps, and one 57mm Air Defense Artillery round. The Kirkuk citizen informants wished to remain anonymous but gave the name of the owner, an Arab who hasn't been seen

around the house for a long time, as well as another individual seen frequenting the premises. The Domies Police are going to track down these two individuals and question them about what was found there. They also continued to search the house the following morning during daylight.



Ammunition, Det Cord, blasting caps, and a 57 mm ADA round, discovered by TF 2-116 Armor and the Domies Police.

TF 2-116 and Iraqi Army capture IED cell leader

by Staff Sgt. Jack White,
116 BCT PAO NCO

FOB WARRIOR, Iraq –

In a daring raid, Iraqi Security Forces in conjunction with 116th BCT Soldiers, captured a suspected IED cell leader Sept. 4.

Iraqi police officers closed in and captured the suspected cell leader at his home in Kirkuk, at about 1 a.m., as Soldiers

TF 2-116 Armor Sergeant Major visits IA TOC

TF 2-116 Armor's Serageant major, Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Henry Chin, recently paid a visit to the Tactical Operations Center of the Iraqi Army's (IA) 4th Bn.

Capt. Zohar Aldeen, 2nd Co., 4th I.A. Bn. Battle Captain, described the latest products in the Battalion's TOC, such as the new convoy tracker, which monitors the date, time, ETR and location of convoys. Capt. Zohar pointed out the new Troop Leading Procedures and Operation Order format

slides placed in a prominent area of the TOC to facilitate staff proficiency in the decision making process.

They have specific and general maps of Kirkuk and the area of responsibility, including improved battle tracking products. 4th Bn. has implemented greater involvement of NCO and enlisted members in TOC operations, which proved valuable in their second straight win during Brigade Command Post Exercises.



Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Henry Chin (Left), got the guided tour of the 4th IA Bn. Headquarters from Capt. Zohar Aldeen.

of TF 2-116th Armor provided a quick response force in support of the operation. At the site, Iraqi forces secured one weapon with a magazine, AIF propaganda, extremist religious propoganda, and translated instructions for utilizing GPS software.

The alleged insurgent is considered responsible for recent

rocket attacks which have been aimed at the Iraqi Army training facility at K-1 airfield in Kirkuk, as well as numerous other attacks in the region. Authorities also believe the detainee is responsible for recent IED attacks against Iraqi police, Iraqi Army and Coalition forces. The suspect is being held in the custody of the Kirkuk Police.

TF 1-163 Infantry

TF 1-163 treats over 100 patients at MAV to Husseinia

by Capt. Monte Hibbert, 116
BCT Public Affairs Officer

FOB WARRIOR, Iraq – Leaders from the 116th Brigade Combat Team's Task Force 1-163 Infantry met with several prominent Sheiks August 4 to express condolences at the death of a friend and discuss current issues.

TF 1-163 Infantry Commander Lt. Col. John Walsh was the head coalition leader at the meeting with Sheiks Anwar, Lewis and Hatham. Rashad Police Chief Capt. Ahmed, as well as Capt. Todd Benson and Sgt. Clinton Maples of TF 1-163 Infantry, who also participated. These leaders

all live or work in the western portion of Kirkuk Province.

"We went to meet with Sheik Anwar to give our condolences about the loss of Sheik Mijebel," said Capt. Benson of the visit. "They were appreciative of us coming there to talk with them."

The participants also discussed current issues including elections, security and projects in the area.

"We discussed a variety of issues, but the hot topic was the upcoming elections," said Benson. "Sheik Anwar feels that Arabs should have equal representation in the government. We told him that their chance is now with these upcoming elections."



A Task Force 1-163 Infantry soldier holds a fist full of gummy worms while Iraqi children try to grab them during a medical assistance visit to the village of Husseinia, Iraq, August 1. (Photo submitted by Task Force 1-163 Infantry)

The group talked briefly about security in the area, all agreeing that the problem would take time and teamwork to solve.

"Sheik Anwar also asked about projects in the area and Lt. Col. Walsh told him that we are looking at doing some big water projects that will affect a lot

of people," reported Benson. "He said that it is important to do these projects, but more important to turn the people's attitudes to being pro-coalition and to build good relationships with the people."

Benson said that overall the attitude of the meeting was positive.



A 116th Brigade Combat Team medic from Task Force 1-163 Infantry, tries to coax an Iraqi child during a medical assistance visit to the village of Husseinia, Iraq, August 1. (Photo submitted by Task Force 1-163 Infantry)

TF 1-163 Infantry medics care for children injured by blast

by Capt. Monte Hibbert, 116
BCT Public Affairs Officer

FOB WARRIOR, Iraq – Several TF 1-163 Infantry soldiers provided medical assistance to a family when terrorists launched a rocket that detonated in Kirkuk Province, July 17.

Shrapnel from a 107mm rocket hit two small children when it exploded over their house. Since citizens within the rural town have only limited medical care, medical personnel soldiers from Task Force 1-163rd Infantry provided medical care to the family. "I am happy to be able to serve the Iraqi People," said Spc. David



An innocent bystander, a toddler, was injured by a terrorist attack in the Kirkuk Province July 17, holds a stuffed toy as medics from Task Force 1-163 Infantry tend to her foot.

Kite, a medic from TF 1-163 IN, Headquarters Company. "I wish we didn't have

innocent bystanders in the War to treat, especially children."

The medics from TF 1-163 IN tended to the injured children by comforting them as the soldiers dressed and sutured the wounds that the children received from the attack.

"The terrorists that commit these atrocities on

innocent Iraqi children could learn a lesson from them," said Brig. Gen. Alan Gayhart, 116th BCT Commander.

"The children already understand and embrace freedom, terrorists care only about inflicting pain and suffering."



A young boy that was injured by a terrorist attack in Kirkuk Province July 17, smiles as medics from TF1-163 Infantry tends to his injured foot.

TF 1-163 Infantry

TF 1-163 Infantry visits Haminariya to provide medical assistance

by Capt. Monte Hibbert, 116 BCT Public Affairs Officer

FOB WARRIOR, Iraq—Residents of Haminariya, Iraq, had the opportunity to see

coalition doctors and receive treatment and medication August 25 during a coalition-sponsored medical assistance visit (MAV) to the area.

Doctors and medics from the 116th Brigade Combat Team's Task Force 1-163 Infantry examined and treated about 140 residents, including many children, during the four-hour visit.

"Approximately 140 people were seen by coalition forces doctors, 40 females and 100 males," said 1st Lt. Eric Rosenbaum, a physician assistant with TF 1-163 Infantry. "The village had no major problems, but the villagers did have congestion and upper respiratory problems."



A Task Force 1-163 Infantry pharmacist distributes medication to a family from Haminariya, Iraq, during a medical assistance visit August 25. (Photo submitted by Task Force 1-163 Infantry)

TF 1-163 Infantry issued by their medical professionals pharmacist. treated most of these illnesses with prescriptions to decongestants and standard antibiotics

issued by their pharmacist. "The people received the assistance well and the MAV took about four hours from start to finish," said Rosenbaum.



Villagers from Haminariya, Iraq, play with a new soccer ball while waiting to be seen during a medical assistance visit to their village August 25. The ball was given to them by Task Force 1-163 Infantry soldiers. (Photo submitted by Task Force 1-163 Infantry)

TF 1-163 Infantry inspects radio station as completion nears

by Capt. Monte Hibbert, 116 BCT Public Affairs Officer

FOB WARRIOR, Iraq—A radio station project in Multaka, Iraq, is providing construction jobs for local workers and will be a

means of regional public communication for the future according to 116th Brigade Combat Team soldiers who visited the construction site August 20.

Soldiers of the 116th BCT's Task Force 1-163 Infantry visited the site to check progress on the project intended to

bring broadcast communication to the largely Sunni Arab population in western Kirkuk Province.

"The Multaka Radio Station is close to being finished, and should be finished sometime in September," said 1st Lt. Chris Robinette, a special operations officer with the 116th BCT. "This will be well in advance of the elections and allow the Arabs to talk and educate the Sunni Population on current topics that are happening with in the community."

According to Robinette, the station will also allow farmers in the area to talk about current agricultural issues and bring answers to questions troubling many of the local Arabs.



Iraqi workers guide a coalition soldier on a tour of a new radio station construction site in Multaka, Iraq, August 20. The station will provide a news means of communication to the local Sunni Arab population. (Photo submitted by Task Force 1-163 Infantry)



A new radio station construction site in Multaka, Iraq, is providing employment for local construction workers. This photo was taken August 20 during a coalition tour of the facility. (Photo submitted by Task Force 1-163 Infantry)

Consider the risks... Ignoring regulatory restrictions and applicable standards cannot become acceptable with the use of risk management. We cannot bypass standards required by law, such as fire protection codes and transport and disposal of hazardous material and waste. This is where risk management gets tough. Risk management helps meet the regulatory

requirements by providing a method to assess the hazards mentioned above and then we can list the hazards in order of highest to lowest risk. This allows the commander to use limited resources to address the

most dangerous accident risks first. And there we have it. Composite risk is about managing both tactical risk as well as accidental risk. Because managing tactical risk is what soldiering is all about, we tend

to do better with it. Accidental risk is tougher to get our arms around due to its regulatory nature and the limited resources available. Until next time remember **YOU HAVE A FRIEND IN SAFETY!!**

TF 1-148 Field Artillery

TF 1-148 Field Artillery holds first combat dining-in at FOB Warrior, Iraq

by Capt. Monte Hibbert, 116 BCT Public Affairs Officer

FOB WARRIOR, Iraq - The 116th Brigade Combat Team's Task Force 1-148 Field Artillery conducted its first ever combat dining-in event September 2 at Forward Operating Base Warrior to honor both soldiers and traditions.

The event upheld a long-standing field artillery tradition and recognized 25 TF 1-148 FA Soldiers who received Order of Saint Barbara Awards. Lt. Col. John Worster, 116th BCT chaplain and formerly TF 1-148 FA chaplain for almost fifteen years was the keynote speaker for the dining-in.

Worster talked about what this deployment means to him, citing various examples throughout his lifetime during the United States' various eras of warfare. He said he has enjoyed the blanket of freedom and protection offered by the sacrifices of America's soldiers, and now the time has come for him to "take his turn" in combat to protect his nation. The time-honored field artillery tradition of "The Grog" was observed, as were the various toasts by members of the mess. Several unit soldiers were nominated to partake of the Grog, to include TF 1-148 FA Command Sgt.

Maj. William Green, TF 1-148 FA Howitzer Battery 1st Sgt. Michael Merlette, 116th BCT Fire Support Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) Sgt. 1st Class Steve Hafner, and Staff Sgt. Ted Hansen, a TF 1-148 FA headquarters battery NCO.

During the event, attendees enjoyed a presentation by members of TF 1-148 FA's Raider Combat Logistical Patrol Team who compiled hundreds of pictures and videos into a movie that played on a large projection screen. Distinguished guests in attendance included 116th BCT Commander Brig. Gen. Alan Gayhart, 116th BCT Command Sgt. Maj. Leroy



The 42nd Division Artillery Commander Col. Eugene Dever (far left, partially covered) and Task Force 1-148 Field Artillery Commander Lt. Col. Russell Johnson (left) present Order of Saint Barbara Awards to TF 1-148 Field Artillery soldiers during the unit's first-ever combat dining-in event September 2 at the Forward Operating Base Warrior dining facility. (Photo by Spc. Benjamin Brubaker, TF 1-148 Field Artillery)

Lewis, 116th BCT Deputy Commander Col. Guy Thomas, 42nd Division

Artillery Commander Col. Continued on page 18

TF 1-148 MiTT prepares Iraqi Army to take lead in Kirkuk

by Capt. Monte Hibbert, 116 BCT Public Affairs Officer

FOB WARRIOR, Iraq - Soldier's from the 116th Brigade Combat Team are taking an active role in preparing the Iraqi Army for their ever increasing role in providing security in Iraq.

Several days a week a special training team from the 116th Brigade Combat Team's Task Force 1-148 Field Artillery travels to the headquarters of the Iraqi Army's 2nd Brigade, 4th Division, near Kirkuk to train the units staff sections and soldiers.

"The whole Army's main effort is training the Iraqi Army," said 1st Lt. James Lovejoy, TF 1-148 Military Training Team (MiTT) officer in charge. "I schedule the training for both the 2nd and 3rd Iraqi Army brigades."

Lovejoy said the Iraqi Army training includes basic training, military specialty training, leadership training and staff training for both enlisted soldiers and officers.

"I have personally sent over 1,000 soldiers to training from just 2nd Brigade alone," Lovejoy said.

While the training process has had to overcome challenges such as language and cultural barriers, Lovejoy said the Iraqi Army has reached several impressive milestones.

"We had our first brigade-level command post exercise in June and are preparing for our next one," said Lovejoy. "It was outstanding. It exceeded our expectations. With minimal coalition force assistance they can take the fight to the enemy."

While the MiTT's primary mission focuses on training

Iraqi Army soldiers in their military jobs, the regular close interaction has led to the development of friendships and an exchange of culture between the soldiers of the two Armies.

One project that demonstrates the friendship and caring that the MiTT team has developed for the Iraqi Army soldiers and their families is Operation Provide School Supplies. Lovejoy explained that they have been working to provide each child of the Iraqi Army soldiers with a packet of school supplies donated by American donors.

"By taking care of their families we show them that we really care," Lovejoy said. "The company I work for has sent several large boxes of school supplies at their own

expense to distribute to the kids." Lovejoy works for the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) in his home state of Idaho.

Cultural exchange is common among the Iraqi and coalition soldiers. According to Lovejoy the more the soldiers get to know one

another the more understanding prevails.

"We are adapting and understanding their culture," he said. "It seems like every time we come out here they have something special for us to help us understand their culture. I've learned a lot of Arabic."



1st Lt. James Lovejoy (left), a Task Force 1-148 Field Artillery military training team officer, discusses a problem through a local interpreter with 2nd Iraqi Army Brigade, 4th Iraqi Army Division, operations officers at the K-1 Iraqi Army facility near Kirkuk July 27. Spc. Demet Jackson (center), a TF 1-148 intelligence soldier

Fox Battery, 188th Air Defense Artillery

F Battery, 188th ADA Soldier receives Purple Heart

by Capt. Monte Hibbert, 116
BCT Public Affairs Officer

FOB WARRIOR, Iraq- Spc. Timothy Banks, an F ("Fox") Battery, 188th Air Defense Artillery Soldier, was

awarded the Purple Heart by 116th Brigade Combat Team Commander Brig. Gen. Alan Gayhart September 16 at Forward Operating Base Warrior, Iraq. Banks

received the award for wounds received when an improvised explosive device (IED) detonated on his patrol en route to FOB Warrior earlier this summer.

The Purple Heart is awarded to soldiers wounded or killed by enemy fire.

"Spc. Banks was the gunner on the vehicle when the IED exploded, sending shrapnel into the air," said Sgt. 1st Class George Overby, Fox Battery operations sergeant. "He still has the piece of shrapnel that wounded him."

The award was presented in front of a Fox Battery

formation. Brig. Gen. Gayhart said that he appreciates Banks' sacrifice, along with the sacrifices of each soldier. He also used the

opportunity to remind the soldiers to maintain their focus on safe operations as the unit prepares to redeploy in upcoming months.



Iraqi Security Forces and TF 2-116 Armor go door to door to promote community awareness of AIF activity and to report AIF



Iraqi Security Forces and TF 2-116 Armor go door to door to promote community awareness of AIF activity and to report AIF

Dining in...

Continued from page 17

Eugene Dever, 42nd Division Artillery Command Sgt. Maj. Dennis Flynn, TF 1-148 FA Commander Lt. Col. Russell Johnson, TF 1-148 FA Command Sgt. Maj. William Green, 145th Support Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Terry Harrell, 145th SB Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Whittier, U.S. Air Force 506th Air Expeditionary Group

Commander Col. Scott Mason, 506th AEG Command Chief Master Sgt. C.L. Glick, Iraqi Army 2nd Brigade, 4th Division Command Maj. Gen. Anwar Hamed Amin, and Cecom Representative Wil Finley.

"The dining-in was a huge success, bringing together all of the soldiers of the 1-148 FA to a little well-deserved merriment after the challenges of this deployment so far," said Spc. Adam Fink, a TF 1-148 FA soldier who attended the event.

Strong Warrior...

Continued from page 10

score calculation of 130.7. Scoring in the competition was based on a calculation of weight of the contestants versus the weight they were able to press.

"This is one of the best events we have ever had," said Brian Lopez, Morale, Welfare,

and Recreation Coordinator for KBR. "Five or six soldiers said that this is the best time they had since being in Iraq," Lopez added.

Congratulations to the Soldiers of Bravo Company of the 145th Support Battalion and all the other soldiers and airmen who competed and put an all out effort into the events.

TECHNICIAN VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

IDAHO NATIONAL GUARD
Human Resource Office (HRO)
4794 Farman St., Bldg 442
Boise, Idaho 83705-8112
<http://inghro.state.id.us/>

*** KEY STAFF APPOINTMENT ***

POSITION TITLE: Protocol Officer, GS-0301-11
ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: 05-093-KS
OPENING DATE: 14 September 2005
CLOSING DATE: 28 September 2005
SALARY: GS-11: \$45,239 to \$58,811
DUTY LOCATION: Boise, ID (JFHQ-ID)
AREA OF CONSIDERATION: Current Full Time Federal Technicians assigned to the Idaho National Guard
TYPE OF APPOINTMENT: Excepted: Officer, Warrant Officer, Enlisted
COMPATIBLE MILITARY FIELD: AFSC/MOS - Any

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The primary reason for this position is to perform a variety of Protocol duties and related tasks for the Joint Headquarters Staff of the Idaho National Guard.

A complete description of duties and responsibilities can be found in Position Description # 16922WID (see attached).

THIS IS A KEY STAFF APPOINTMENT. Interested personnel must send an email to susan.colson@idbois.ang.af.mil to be added to the list. Please contact SMSgt Colson at 422-4228 OR E-mail susan.colson@idbois.ang.af.mil with questions.

SUSAN R. COLSON, SMSgt, IDANG
Human Resources Specialist (Staffing)

HHC, 116 Brigade Combat Team

In Memoriam Sgt. Travis Neil

A Soldier of HHC, 116 BCT was lost on September 9, 2005 in Tooele County, Utah.

Sgt. Travis Randall Neil, age 29 of Pleasant Grove Utah, formerly of Lehi, died in a shooting-related accident while home on R&R leave from Iraq. He was born August 6, 1976 in American Fork, Utah, the son of Dennis K. and Layna Despain Neil.

Sgt. Neil's courage, loyalty, dedication to duty, self-sacrifice, integrity, dependability,

efficiency as well as his warm personality will be missed by his fellow HHC Soldiers.

He married Ms. Christina Lynn Beck, September 26, 2004 in Reno, Nevada. Sgt. Neil worked full time for the Utah Army National Guard.

He had formerly been in the U.S. Marine Corps and had been deployed to Iraq in



Sgt. Travis Neil

support of the 116th Brigade Combat Team.

He loved football, baseball (especially the Chicago Cubs), sports, hunting, fishing, camping and all outdoor activities.

He is survived by his wife Christina, of Pleasant Grove; father, Dennis Neil of American Fork; mother, Layna Neil, of Lehi; grand-

Marlene Kent, Colorado; brother, Skyler Neil, Lehi; sisters, Vicki Neil and Latisha Neil Griffes, both of American Fork, Denna Neil Williams, Highland, Nicole and Valentine, both of Colorado; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services were held September 15, 2005 at 11:00 a.m. in the Lehi Bull River Ward chapel at 2700 N. 700 W., Lehi.

Interment was in the Utah Veterans Memorial Park Cemetery, Camp Williams, Utah with full military honors.

116th BCT Soldier learns culture and gains appreciation from Iraqi TV studio visits

by Capt. Monte Hibbert, 116 BCT Public Affairs Officer

FOB WARRIOR, Iraq— A sergeant with the 116th Brigade Combat Team stationed in Iraq says visits to a local TV station have opened his eyes to Iraqi hospitality, language and culture, and given him a new appreciation for his own life back home.

Staff Sgt. Scott Johnson, who serves as a soldier attached to the 116th BCT's Team Information Operations, has an additional duty of augmenting the security team that goes to assess regular TV programs at the Iraqi Media Network (IMN) studios in Kirkuk.

"We go out in a convoy and the Colonel meets with the managers

of the show and I provide security," said Johnson.

Johnson says he is quite impressed with the hospitality provided by the staff at the station. When the coalition team arrives two staff members, Saddam and Ognon, promptly make Chai tea for them and run errands if needed.

"Having Chai is a custom that is part of the social interaction that I have begun to enjoy," said Johnson. "I have learned some Arabic and some Kurdish in the process. The people I see every trip have become very friendly and happy to see me."

From the security to the little kids outside the building everyone seems glad to see the soldiers, Johnson said.

"I have shared toys with the kids and candy with the security guards," he said. "The Iraqis know I am a smoker and always offer me cigarettes and have even bought me cookies from the break room at the station."

On one mission, the coalition team had the opportunity to interact with a group of school children that were

visiting the station as part of a summer program.

"Seeing the children's faces light up when I brought them toys was a very rewarding experience," Johnson said. "I gave out candy and toys and they were very polite and thankful."

Another day the Iraqi staff gave out awards to those who had

supported the station and its growth.

"While I was there, a small boy who was playing outside wanted me to take his picture— so I did and also gave him some Lifesavers Candy," said Johnson.

Johnson said the child was overcome with joy and motioned for him to bend down to give him a hug and a kiss on the cheek.

"I did not understand what he was saying to me, all I could understand with the Arabic I know was a blessing, 'May god (Allah) go with you.' I must have made his day," said Johnson. "It really made me miss my own children. I hope that child will grow up and remember the



Staff Sgt. Scott Johnson, a 116th Brigade Combat Team information operations sergeant, passes out toys to Iraqi school children during a recent visit to the Iraqi Media Network television studios in Kirkuk. (Photo submitted by 116th BCT Informa-

Continued on page 20

Yellow Ribbon Campaign of Idaho

The **Yellow Ribbon Campaign of Idaho** wishes to recognize and honor each combat troop from the State of Idaho that is serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. It will do so by making an individual **Yellow Ribbon** for each one. Each **Yellow Ribbon** will be 2 1/4 inches wide and about 5 to 6 feet long. On it will be the: **DAY of DEPARTURE** of leaving the United States, the Soldier's **RANK, NAME, UNIT** and **COUNTRY** serving in. To get a **Yellow Ribbon**, they have to know the individual is in Iraq or Afghanistan.

___ Check here if you do not want the **Yellow Ribbon** to be publicly displayed.

___ Check here if you do not want the Rank, Name and Overseas Mailing address, to be publicly displayed.

What is needed for the **Yellow Ribbon** to be complete is:

1. Rank ___
2. Name ___
3. Unit ___
4. Mailing address (i.e. APO or FPO) ___
5. Day of Departure ___
6. Two Stateside Sponsors
 1. Name ___
Address ___
Phone & email ___
 2. Name ___
Address ___
Phone & email ___

The reason why the names of the two stateside sponsors are required is multitaeked.

1. To verify the individual is actually gone overseas and the information for the ribbon is correct.
2. To update us on any change in status, such as relocation to a different unit or change in rank, etc.
3. To tell us when the member is coming home, so we can have a proper **Homecoming** for him/her.

All stateside sponsor personal information is kept strictly confidential and not let out to anyone. Help us to help them.

Forward this to the **Yellow Ribbon Coordinator**: John Rogers at:
(208)-232-4843

email demo06@xrv.net
or by mail

Yellow Ribbon Campaign of Idaho
8222 W. Buckskin
Pocatello, ID 83201

VIETNAM VETERAN

YELLOW RIBBON SIGN-UP SHEET

Now you can get what you should have gotten over thirty years ago!

The **Yellow Ribbon Campaign of Idaho** wishes to recognize and honor each Vietnam Veteran, from the State of Idaho. It will do so by making an individual **Yellow Ribbon** for each one. Each **Yellow Ribbon** will be 2 1/4 inches wide and about 5 to 6 feet long. On it will be the: **RANK, NAME**, acknowledging a **PURPLE HEART** if they got one, their **RADIO CALL SIGN, UNIT** and **LISTING THE YEARS** served in Vietnam. To get a **Yellow Ribbon**, we have to know they were over there.

Accompanying the **Yellow Ribbon** will be an **HONORING VIETNAM VETERANS** car magnet. There will be a \$10.00 charge for this ribbon and magnet. All the proceeds go to **Yellow Ribbon Campaign of Idaho**, a **non-profit organization** endorsed by veteran service organizations throughout the state. Its goal is to recognize and assist our troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. In order to gain funds for mailing of **Care Packages**, the **Yellow Ribbon Campaign of Idaho** is asking for donations so we can do something for them that wasn't done for us. All that money is put in a separate bank account. That is to be used to accomplish our goal and send **Care Packages** overseas.

What is needed for the **VIETNAM VETERAN Yellow Ribbon** to be complete is:

1. Rank ___
2. Name ___
3. Did you get a Purple Heart? yes _____ no _____
4. Radio Call Sign ___
5.
 - a. Unit ___
 - b. Dates with that Unit ___
6.
 - a. Unit ___
 - b. Dates with that Unit ___
7.
 - a. Unit ___
 - b. Dates with that Unit ___
8. List the Years in 'Nam ___
9. Contact Information
 - a. Veteran's Name ___
Address ___
Phone ___
email ___
 - b. Survivor's Name ___
Address ___
Phone ___
email ___

Forward this to the **Yellow Ribbon Coordinator**: John Rogers at:

(208)-232-4843
email demo06@xrv.net
or by mail

Yellow Ribbon Campaign of Idaho
8222 W. Buckskin
Pocatello, ID 83201

TV Studio visits...

Continued from page 19

kindness that this soldier showed him and he will teach

his kids that the U.S. was here to help make things better."

Besides their consistent smiles and

hospitality, Johnson has found that Iraqis are eager to share their native tongue with the soldiers.

"I have been getting lessons in Arabic from Saddam the tea maker as well as from our interpreters," he said. "Saddam speaks broken English and I speak broken Arabic but we seem to get the point across."

Johnson said Saddam and Ognon always want to talk about their families and the differences in life styles.

"Sometimes it is hard for us to explain things and I have to go get one of the interpreters to explain for me as my

vocabulary in Arabic is so limited," Johnson said.

Johnson sees signs of improvement in Kirkuk on the routes the team takes back and forth to the TV shows during the week.

"People have gotten a trash service started and they are cleaning up the city. I also see that things are being rebuilt and improved," he said. "It is nice to see that we are doing some good here."

Johnson does point out, however, that his experience makes him appreciate the way of life he enjoys in the U.S.

"We don't have to worry about IEDs being emplaced at night. We

have freedom to go from place to place without the worry of security," he explained. "We have had the right to vote for many years. We do not have the ethnic tensions which seem to cause constant issues here in Iraq."

Johnson says the hardest thing for him to deal with while being deployed is separation from family and friends back home.

"I truly appreciate the support we have gotten from the folks back home. My friends and family have been very supportive," he said. "They are the ones who make this job worthwhile and why I am proud to serve."



This small boy was overjoyed when Staff Sgt. Scott Johnson, a 116th Brigade Combat Team information operations sergeant, recently took his photograph and gave him some Life-savers candy during a visit to the Iraqi Media Network television studios in Kirkuk. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Scott Johnson, 116th BCT Information Operations)

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 Movie Premier All day Blackjack 2000 Ping-Pong 2030	2 KBR Oldies Night 2000	3 COMMANDERS CUP EVENTS Karaoke 2200
4 Movie Premier All day COMMANDERS CUP EVENTS	5 COMMANDERS CUP EVENTS Dominos 2000 NASCAR 2015	6 Texas Hold'em 2000 9-Ball 2015	7 Darts 1900 Spades 2015	8 Movie Premier All day Blackjack 2000 Ping-Pong 2030	9 Rock/ Alternative Night 2000	10 Progressive Bingo 2000 Karaoke 2130
11 Movie Premier All day Football 1900 Texas Hold'em 2030 NASCAR 2030	12 Dominos 2000 Madden 2015	13 Texas Hold'em 2000 8-Ball 2015	14 Dart 1900 Spades 2015	15 Movie Premier All Day Casino Night 2000	16 Bazaar 1300-2100	17 Bazaar 0900-1700 Progressive Bingo 2000 Karaoke 2130
18 Movie Premier All day Football 1900 Jousting 2030 Madden 2030	19 Dominos 2000 NASCAR 2015	20 Texas Hold'em 2000 9-Ball 2015	21 Dart 1900 Spades 2015	22 Movie Premier All day Blackjack 2000 Ping-Pong 2030	23 Hip Hop Night 2000	24 Progressive Bingo 2000 Karaoke 2130
25 Movie Premier All day Football 1900 Texas Hold'em 2030 NASCAR 2030	26 Dominos 2000 Madden 2015	27 Texas Hold'em 2000 6-Ball 2015	28 Darts 1900 Spades 2015	29 Movie Premier All day Blackjack 2000 Ping-Pong 2030	30 80's Night 2000	



Events are subject to change without notice



Clamtina Schedule September 2005

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For details