



# Static Line

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE 3RD BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION



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# PANTHER LEADERS PASS THE TORCH



**ABOVE:** Capt. Sean J. Calleja assumes command of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division while serving in support of Combined Joint Task Force – Operation Inherent Resolve at Besmaya, Iraq, Aug. 16, 2015.

**LEFT:** Lt. Col. Albert Paquin, deputy commander of 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division passes the guidon for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 82nd Brigade Support Battalion to Capt. Scott D. Beerens, incoming HHC commander, during a change of command ceremony at Fort Bragg, N.C., Aug. 28, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Anthony Hewitt/Released)

## Honoring 11 years of service



Lt. Col. Albert Paquin and Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Williams, rear detachment command team of 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division present a Superior Civilian Service Award to Charlene McIntosh for 11 years of dedicated service to Paratroopers and their Family members. McIntosh served as the brigade's Family Readiness Program Coordinator. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Mary S. Katzenberger/Released)



# COMBINED JOINT TASK FORCE - OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE



*Paratroopers assigned to 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division exchange patches with members of the Spanish Parachute Brigade while serving in support of Combined Joint Task Force – Operation Inherent Resolve at Besmaya, Iraq, Aug. 25, 2015.*



*Then & Now*

## World War II veteran visits 3rd BCT



Lt. Col. Albert Paquin, deputy commander of 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division gives a coin to 97-year-old World War II veteran Rodney Kramer at Fort Bragg, N.C., Aug. 4, 2015. Kramer visited the post for the first time in 70 years after serving as an artilleryman in the 456th Battalion, which was attached to the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment. Kramer parachuted and rode a glider into multiple theaters of combat during the war. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Mary S. Katzenberger/Released)



Paratroopers assigned to 2nd Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division conduct movement rehearsals during a Global Response Force training exercise at Fort Bragg, N.C., Aug. 20, 2015. Paratroopers assigned to 82nd Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, serving as the Outload Support Battalion for the GRF, facilitated the rehearsals. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Anthony Hewitt/Released)

# 3rd BCT Paratroopers ensure Global Response Force always ready to go

BY SGT. ANTHONY HEWITT  
3RD BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM PUBLIC AFFAIRS

When Paratroopers assigned to 2nd Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team conducted a Global Response Force training exercise Aug. 20 at Fort Bragg, Paratroopers assigned to the 82nd Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team—the 82nd Airborne Division’s Outload Support Battalion—were ready to facilitate and support the exercise.

The 82nd Abn. Div. is capable of deploying a brigade-sized force anywhere in the world—a GRF—within 96 hours. Each unit assigned to the GRF mission is supported by an OSB, a unit tasked with making that rapid deployment possible.

Team Move, the current OSB, is a section made of up more than 90 Paratroopers who train constantly to ensure they can provide rapid support to Paratroopers; whether it’s providing transportation of troops or equipment, or distributing supplies, Capt. Meghan Ramos, commander of Alpha Company, 82nd BSB and officer in charge of Team Move, said her Paratroopers are always ready.

“We’re always rehearsing [and] finding ways to make

sure we are the most prepared for what’s coming up,” she said.

The commander said the OSB provides bus transportation, loads and transports shipping containers, and issues parachutes, ammunition, medical supplies and Nuclear, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High-Yield Explosive protective equipment.

During the GRF training exercise Paratroopers assigned to 2nd Bn., 325th Abn. Inf. Regt. acted in accordance with their rehearsals of rapid deployment. Once their gear was consolidated Team Move went to work.

“We always have our gear and bags packed [and] ready to go,” said Spc. Ernesto Ramirez, a Paratrooper assigned to Charlie Company, 2nd Bn., 325th Abn. Inf. Regt. “It takes just an hour to have our duffel bags palletized and ready to ship.”

Ramos said her team is on a two-hour recall just like everyone on GRF is, and that as soon as she receives the call her team is drawing equipment, loading up and moving to their duty locations.

No matter how impossible or hard the mission may seem from higher, Ramos said her Paratroopers will always find a way to get it done.

# 69th Annual 82nd Airborne Division Association Convention



Paratroopers assigned across 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division joined veterans of the All American Division during the 69th Annual 82nd Airborne Division Association Convention in Orlando, Fla., Aug. 12-15, 2015. The convention honored veterans who have made the ultimate sacrifice and celebrated the prestigious lineage of the 82nd Abn. Div.





Spouses of Paratroopers assigned to 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division talk with one another at a restaurant outside of Fort Bragg, N.C., Aug. 6, 2015, during a Waiting on Warriors event. The event, hosted by Capt. Lukasz J. Willenberg, the battalion chaplain, addressed concerns and questions spouses had about reintegrating with their Paratroopers when they redeploy later this year. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Mary S. Katzenberger/Released)

# Event prepares spouses for reintegration

BY STAFF SGT. MARY S. KATZENBERGER  
3RD BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Reintegrating from a deployment can be a challenging time for Paratroopers and their Families. In an effort to better prepare Families for an upcoming redeployment, Capt. Lukasz J. Willenberg, chaplain for 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division hosted a Waiting on Warriors event for spouses at a restaurant in Fayetteville, N.C., Aug. 7.

The informal event, attended by more than 20 Paratroopers' spouses, provided a forum for socializing, sharing best practices and discussing concerns about the reintegration process.

Willenberg said he and fellow leaders of the battalion hosted the event because they want to create the best possible reintegration program for Families.

"We're focused on the welfare of our Soldiers, and a key component of that is the health of the Family unit," said Capt. Jon D. Degreeff, rear detachment commander of 2nd Bn., 505th PIR. "Specifically when Soldiers come back

they observe that the family dynamic is a little different—you know both people have grown separately for nine months—so that reunification is a point where we need to [provided guidance] and give suggestion."

After completing an icebreaker exercise and dining, Willenberg facilitated discussions on the spouses' expectations about redeployment, their strategies for relinquishing some of the control of managing their households and raising their children, the positive aspects of redeployment and what they think their spouses are most looking forward to when they come home to greet their Families.

"It's a big transition period in life when your husband has to go away for a long period of time and when they have to return," said Julie White, spouse of Lt. Col. J.C. White, battalion commander of 2nd Bn., 505th PIR.

"We've all fallen into roles with our families and with our own personal situations.

"Today is an opportunity to dispel some worries and fears and say 'everything's going to be okay,' and to find out if there's anything [the spouses] are specifically concerned about that we can address from a [family readiness group] standpoint."



Paratroopers assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division participate in a physical training competition at Fort Bragg, N.C., Aug. 7, 2015. In teams the Paratroopers ran, carried full water jugs, simulated a casualty evacuation, scaled a wall and completed pull-ups. (U.S. Army photos by Staff Sgt. Mary S. Katzenberger)



# Competition fosters unit cohesion



# Hobby bolsters Paratrooper's infantryman skills



**“On the marksmanship side of the house, everything I do—from dry fire practice, reloads [and] running and reloading with my rifle, pistol and shotgun, to putting myself under stress—transfers over to being an infantryman.”**

**--Spc. Zachary P. Stafford**

**M**any Paratroopers pursue hobbies that enrich their life when they're off duty. For some, it may be as simple as dropping a fishing line in the water and waiting for a bite; for others, it may be working with wood or spending quality family time at home.

In Spc. Zachary P. Stafford's case, a hobby he has pursued since he was five or six years old not only enriches his life, it sustains and bolsters the skills he's required to perform in the Army.

Stafford, an airborne infantryman assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division is a competitive marksman.

The native of Fort Worth, Texas participates in matches monthly throughout the southeastern region of the country. Most recently, he beat out more than 50 competitors in a match in Bunnlevel, North Carolina which required him to engage threat targets using correct tactics, techniques and procedures using

three types of weapons—a rifle, pistol and shotgun.

The Paratrooper hit targets in a shoot house, was tested on his ability to fire accurately from behind various types of cover as well as to shoot while on the move, and had to flawlessly execute the critical skills a shooter must master in order to take home the win.

Stafford said he utilizes the same skills during competitions that he calls on when training in his profession. The fundamentals that set the stage for winning matches—steady position, aiming, breath control and trigger squeeze—are the same fundamentals utilized at a military range or in combat.

“On the marksmanship side of the house, everything I do—from dry fire practice, reloads [and] running and reloading with my rifle, pistol and shotgun, to putting myself under stress—transfers over to being an infantryman,” the Paratrooper said.

“I have no one shooting at me [during competitions], but still, being able to [fire] without thinking is what I need to be able to do.”

As is the case for many seasoned gunslingers, Stafford's love of sending lead down range began when he was a young boy.

The Paratrooper said his father and grandfather first taught him how to safely handle and fire a .22-caliber rifle on some land in the middle of nowhere in Texas. His father later gave him the rifle, and that used his budding marksmanship skills to protect himself and the horses under his care while working on the family ranch.

Stafford said his passion for firearms transitioned into a hobby during high school, where he began to compete competitively. Later, while attending college and serving in the Texas National Guard he continued participating in—and winning—matches.

Two years after he enlisted for active duty service in 2010, Stafford had to apply his marksmanship skills during a real-world mission; the Paratrooper deployed to Afghanistan with Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd BCT, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

During the tour he used his marksmanship skills to not only protect his teammates, but the Special Forces Soldiers his unit augmented.

Between his personal and professional marksmanship training, Stafford said he felt his five-man team was ready for combat.

“We were very prepared, I had no doubt about anything with the guys that I was with,” the Paratrooper said.

His confidence in his team's ability came from Stafford taking a personal interest in ensuring each member of his team was well-trained. The Paratrooper said he was regularly called upon to pass his skills on to firers who were having difficulty mastering the trade. He has carried the same desire to train fellow Paratroopers with him into his current unit.

“Spc. Stafford's shooting ability means that he is exceptionally well-suited to engaging the enemy and assisting his teammates in doing the same,” said Sgt. Peter Korch, Stafford's team leader of nine months.

“He works very hard at whatever he puts his mind to. “Just to give you an example in a military-related context, we were out on a [qualification] range the other day so he showed up, grabbed [someone else's] rifle and shot 39 out of 40 without zeroing [the weapon] or warming up,” Korch continued. “That man knows how to shoot.”

**Story & Photo by  
Staff Sgt. Mary S. Katzenberger**

Paratroopers assigned to 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division throw live grenades at a range on Fort Bragg, N.C., Aug. 10, 2015. (U.S. Army photos by Staff Sgt. Mary S. Katzenberger/Released)



# Calendar of Events

## SEPTEMBER

**3**  
**PAYDAY ACTIVITIES**

**4-7**  
**LABOR DAY HOLIDAY**

## OCTOBER

**2**  
**PAYDAY ACTIVITIES**

**9-12**  
**COLUMBUS DAY**

## NOVEMBER

**6**  
**PAYDAY ACTIVITIES**

**11**  
**VETERAN'S DAY**

**13-15**  
**CORPS TRAINING HOLIDAY**

**26-29**  
**THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**



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**Parting Shots**

# **3RD BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION “H-MINUS!”**



**Brigade Commander  
Col. Curtis Buzzard**

**Deputy Commander  
Lt. Col. Albert Paquin**

**Command Sergeant Major  
Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Gustafson**

**Public Affairs NCOIC  
Staff Sgt. Mary Katzenberger**

**Public Affairs NCO  
Sgt. Anthony Hewitt**

**Broadcast NCO  
Sgt. David Blocker**