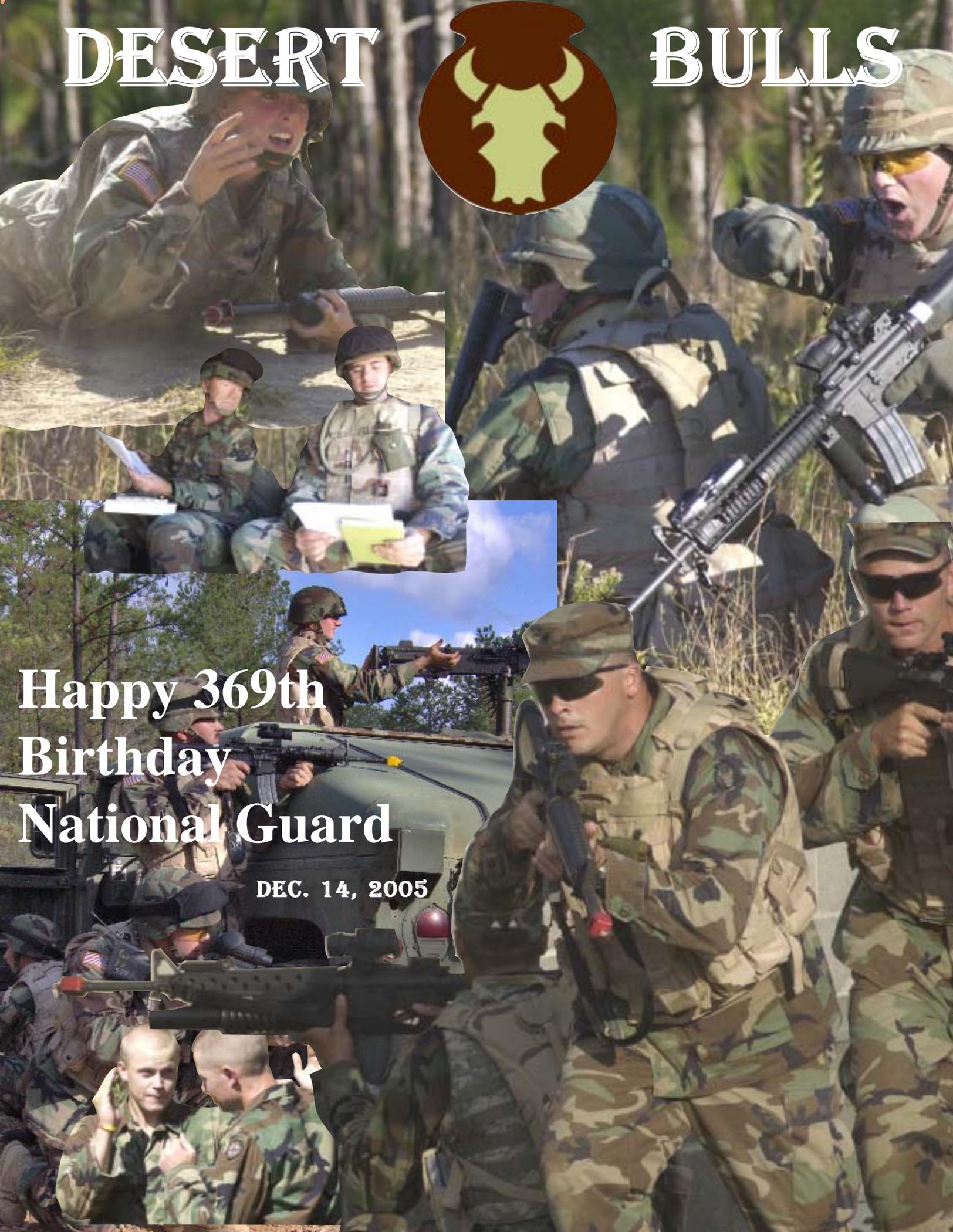


DESERT

BULLS



Happy 369th
Birthday
National Guard

DEC. 14, 2005

Maj. Swanke leads BCT intelligence operations

My name is Maj. Lance Swanke. I am the senior intelligence advisor (S2) to the 1/34 Brigade Combat Team Commander.

My job is to synchronize the BCT intelligence collection, reporting and analysis cycle to ensure the BCT has timely, relevant, accurate and predictive intelligence. In garrison, the S2 section provides oversight on physical security maintains the security access rosters and facilitates the personnel security clearance process.

The section also provides updates weather forecasts as well as digital and paper maps.

During wartime, the S2 section forms the Brigade Intelligence Center to perform intelligence operations. We

plot enemy locations, provide targeting information and work closely with the effects cell in shaping the battlefield.

Daily we prepare and disseminate Intelligence Summaries to help develop a common operating picture of the battlefield.

The organizational structure for the S2 section includes a collection manager, S2 Plans Officer, S2X Humint Officer, S2 Battle Captains and an Order of



Maj. Lance Swanke

Battle Technician.

The section also has intelligence analysts, imagery analysts, signal analysts and humint analysts. We also incorporate the Analysis Control Team from the military intelligence company into the BIC, where they provide the connectivity between the MI collection assets and the BIC.

Personally I am a Financial Consultant with ING and live in Eagan, Minn., with my wife and three boys. I have 17 years of MI experience, Active Army and Guard. I look forward to leading the intelligence operations for the 1/34 BCT during our deployment.

MI – Always Out Front.

Maj. Ostercamp supervises and coordinates BCT's personnel and administration systems

My name is Maj. Jon Ostercamp. I am the Staff Adjutant (S1) for the 1/34 Brigade Combat Team.

As the adjutant, I serve as human resource manager, with the role of supervising and coordinating the unit's personnel and administration systems.

My staff plays a critical part in this process by ensuring all personnel transactions are submitted in a timely manner.

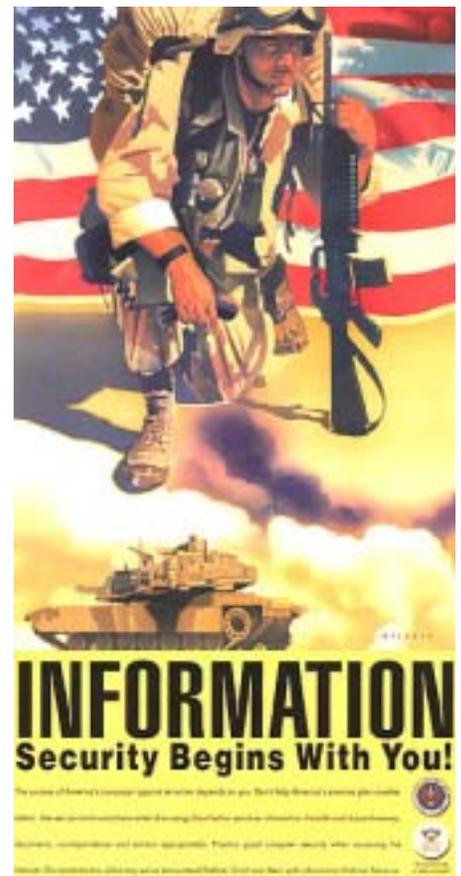
During wartime, the administrative environment is intense and subjected to a high number of repetitive tasks. During this period, the S1 staff is responsible for performing seven major functions, these are replacement operations, strength management, personnel accounting and strength reporting, casualty management, personnel data base management,

personnel information management, and postal operations.

The organizational structure normally includes a personnel officer, personnel sergeant, assistant personnel sergeants, postal clerks, unit support clerks, and personnel administrative specialists. The S1 staff is here to serve the soldiers of 1-34 BCT.



Maj. Jon Ostercamp



Found in the field: Large sum of money in unique carrying case with video game. Please identify amount of money, PSP Game, and carrying case and it will be promptly returned. Please contact Lt. Col. William Lieder @ Brigade Troops Battalion Bldg 2404.

Day in Red Bull history

Wednesday, Dec. 10, 1943

Near the town of Frontolli, Italy

0100 hours. The first of our trucks moved out onto the road, but our convoy moved very slowly as there were so many French vehicles on the road, and every one of the French telling the drivers how to

drive. *Lt Monks* stayed up with the French troops to show them our OPs, etc. We did not reach the assembly area until 0230 hours, near the town on Frontolli. Up to this date we have been in action for 76 days. The men found some kind of a place to sleep for the rest of the night.

Breakfast was served late to let the men catch up on some sleep. We are going on Class "B" rations now. We are to leave this area tonight and go into a rest area by the town of Alife. The rest of the day the men spent cleaning up their equipment and clothing.

DESERT BULLS
DEC. 14, 2005
ISSUE 9



1/34 BCT Commander;
Col. David Elicerio
1/34 BCT CSM:
Command Sgt. Maj.
Doug Julin

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For more information
on the 1/34 BCT
go online to www.redbullweb.com

On the cover: These photographs of Soldiers from each of the 1/34 Brigade Combat Team battalions commemorate the National Guard's 239th Birthday Dec. 13.

The Desert Bulls is an official publication of the 1/34 Brigade Combat Team. It is produced by the 1/34 BCT Public Affairs Office. This Soldier newsletter is in compliance with the provisions of AR 360-1. Any questions, comments, photos, story ideas that you would like to present should be forwarded to the 1/34 BCT Public Affairs Office. E-mail Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood at clinton.wood@us.army.mil.



8 SECONDS

Students write the 'darnest' things

Being the father of a very smart 3-year old daughter, I know that kids can say the "darnest" things. Kids can also write the same things.

Case in point: This message in a Christmas card written and decorated by a student from Battle Creek Middle School, St. Paul, Minn., that we received last week: Dear Soldier: "Thank you very much for fighting in Iraq for people like me. Whoever gets this card you deserve a crown or some sort for being brave. I hope you return to your home were ever it is safely."

This was just one of the hundreds of cards for Minnesota Soldiers. Soldiers from the 1-34 Brigade Troops Battalion received the cards.

Some other examples of the messages included: "Happy Holidays. Thank you for doing your job. We thank you very much for protecting us from harm;"

"Happy Holidays SA Troops Hope you win,!"

Dear Soldier: "Bless you heavenly soul for protecting us. We all thank you for your bravery and courage to serve the United States of America. Stay strong, we believe in you. One day your story will be told."

"Thank you for fighting for freedom. We are all thankful for you giving your life so that we can live without the fear of being attacked. We hope that you would be safe wherever you are. We hope that you have the best holiday you possibly can. And we all wish you could come home soon."

-- Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood



This is one of the hundreds of Christmas cards for Minnesota Soldiers written and decorated by students from Battle Creek Middle School, St. Paul, Minn., that were received last week.



**Command Sgt. Maj.
Doug Julin
1/34 BCT CSM**

Mighty Red Bulls,

In less than a week you will be back home with your loved ones, enjoying a well deserved break from the day to day training we have endured.

We have all worked long hours each day in addition to the great number of continual days without any real substantial time off. These long days have been built upon establishing and building our teams, learning and operating new equipment, learning new skills and techniques, and learning to survive on the battlefield of today in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

You have accomplished a lot in this short period of time and each of you should be proud at what you have accomplished and how far you've come. This is a time for you to relax and enjoy your time away from the stress of training and the long, hard hours of Army lifestyle.

The holidays are a special time for all of us and our families. This one, on the eve of battle, should be even more special. Don't do something you'll regret later that will not only ruin your holiday but the great reputation that you have earned as being a part of the 1/34 Brigade Combat Team "Red Bulls". Keep the holiday time with your loved ones special.

While you are on leave relaxing, please keep a few important things foremost in your mind:

1. You are still on active duty and must present yourself in a professional manner at all times. Stay out of and away from trouble. If trouble starts do not become a part of it. While you are on active duty does not exempt you from the local legal jurisdiction and its legal process. Remember that if you

are restrained from returning to duty at the conclusion of your authorized leave you will be reported as Absent Without Leave status. This status has now created an additional legal issue in the military jurisdiction of Uniform Code of Military Justice.

2. Understand the acronym OPSEC (operation security). You are not authorized to discuss OPSEC issues such as specific dates, locations, numbers of troops or vehicles, and any type of deployment activities that you have been told, seen, or heard that pertain to this deployment. You are able to talk about the training that you have been learning, the new equipment that you are training on and will deploy with, the personal challenges you have overcome, and how the train up you are undergoing is preparing you to succeed and excel as you prepare for this deployment.

3. Most of us have not driven a civilian vehicle in a long period of time. This will be totally different than the Bradley, Humvee, or other military equipment you have been driving. The traffic at home will be more aggressive and abundant. The roads may be icy and in some cases will be icy and snow packed. These conditions add up to our greatest risk: a privately owned vehicle accident. Don't be one of the holiday statistics. If you get hurt, it will ruin yours and your family's holiday to include the loss to your battle buddy if you do not return. We depend upon each other and need each other to succeed with this mission

4. While you are on leave alcohol consumption should be in moderation. Most all of you have not had the opportunity to consume alcohol since you have been in training. Do not fool yourself into thinking that you can do the same level of consumption as that prior to when you left home. If you do drink alcohol, use the buddy system and ensure that you have a designated

driver. We cannot afford to lose you this far into the game.

5. Lastly, continue some sort of physical training program, get some well deserved rest, eat well balanced meals, and be proud of what you have overcome in the past few months.

Again, thanks for your hard work and professionalism. Your families are proud of you and I can assure that Col. David Elicerio, the BCT commander, and I are extremely proud of the hard work and dedication you have shown.

Keep it Safe, Keep it Real, and most of all Keep it Special.

--Happy Holidays from my family to yours, CSM Doug Julin (BCT CSM)

Christmas at camp

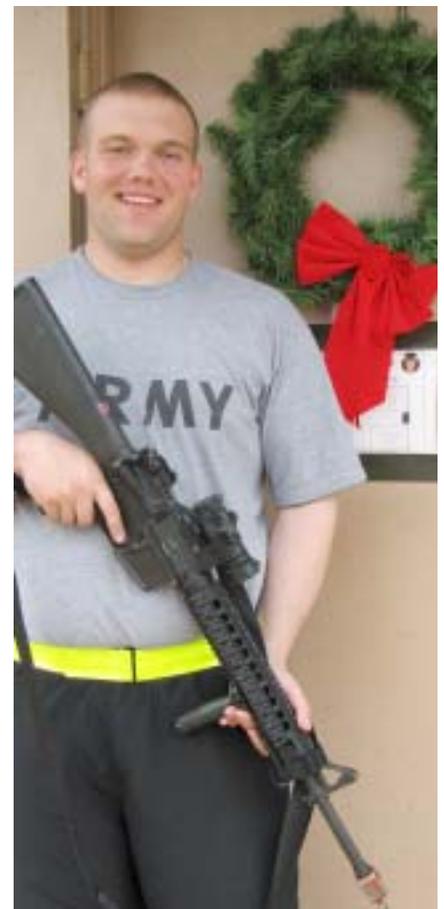


Photo by Pfc. Brian D. Jesness, 1/34 BCT PA

Pfc. Sam Ross, 2nd Battalion, 136th Combined Arms Battalion, poses next to a Christmas wreath near his barracks.

Law team, battalion paralegal specialists provide legal services

Legal services for the 1/34 Brigade Combat Team are provided by the Brigade Operational Law Team and a paralegal specialist in each battalion.

Your 1/34 BCT BOLT consists of:



Maj. Tom Hagen

staff judge advocate; Capt. Josh Larsen, operational law & legal assistance; 1st Lt. Rob Ford, brigade trial counsel; Master Sgt. Linnea Velsvaag, senior paralegal noncommissioned officer; Pfc. Elizabeth Ayotte, paralegal specialist.

This combined team of the BOLT and the battalion paralegals provides operational law advice to the commander and staff.

The team also provides legal services in military justice, administrative and civil law, contracting and fiscal law, claims, and legal assistance. The team is very much like the in-house legal counsel to any large civilian organization with which you might be familiar. Two primary differences are that we also assist the organization's "managers" in the

Tax preparation assistance very limited

It's not too early to begin thinking about how you will get your **2005 tax return** filed. Tax preparation assistance will likely be very limited.

Federal law gives deployed servicemembers a 180 day extension upon return from deployment to file income tax returns. This means that 2006 and 2007 returns will not be due for most members of the 1/34 Brigade Combat Team until late in 2007.

Most Soldiers won't want to wait this long for their tax returns. However, given our many movements between January and arrival in country the BOLT may be able to help with basic questions, but we will not be able to prepare or file tax returns for Soldiers.

Options: 1) Leave a valid IRS Power of Attorney (IRS 2848) with a trusted family member or friend so they can prepare, execute and file your tax return for you. Make sure they have all the paystubs, receipts and other documents necessary to complete the return(s). 2) Bring the necessary documents with you to complete and mail your own return with you when you return from Christmas Exodus.

Finally, inform your last civilian employer ASAP of any change in your address since you mobilized. W-2s sent to an old address are not forwardable.

administration of "employee" discipline (Uniform Code of Military Justice/Army Regulation 27-10) and provide legal assistance to all of our "employees" with their personal legal needs and problems (AR 27-3).

Our status at Camp Shelby adds a few twists. In many cases the camp's SJA Office will supplement our efforts. For instance, some legal assistance matters will require you to see the camp's legal assistance attorneys.

Soldiers with a right to counsel under the UCMJ will always be served by a Trial Defense Service Judge

Advocate. TDS attorneys are always separate from the command. The 1/34 BCT BOLT does not, and cannot, provide criminal defense assistance. Therefore Soldiers needing TDS representation or consultation will see the camp's TDS judge advocate.

We're here to help in any way we can. Soldiers should always work through their chain of command first. Those needing to speak with a judge advocate should contact their battalion paralegal to coordinate an appointment.

Excerpts — 1/34 BCT Military Justice "Court Log"

A Soldier from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry received a Field Grade Article 15 for going Absent Without Leave for one day. Sentence: Restricted to Mobilization Center Shelby 40 days (25 days suspended for six months). Extra duty 30 days, forfeiture of half month of pay, and reduction from sergeant to specialist (suspended for six months).

Three Soldiers from Hq. and Hq. Co., 1st Bn., 133rd Inf., received Company Grade Article 15s for violation of alcohol policies. Sentence: 14 days extra duty, 14 days restriction. Reduction to private first class and forfeiture of seven days pay (suspended for three months).

A Soldier from Hq. and Hq., Co, 1st Bn., 133rd Inf., received a Field Grade Article 15 for violation of alcohol policies, neglect of duties for leaving weapon unsecured, and for being drunk and disorderly in Hattiesburg resulting in his arrest by civilian law enforcement. Sentence: 60 days of restriction (suspended). 30 days extra duty, forfeiture of half of one months pay for two months (suspended). Reduced from specialist to private.

Two Soldiers from Company E, 134th Brigade Support Battalion received Company Grade Article 15s for violation of Company Off Post Travel policy. Sentence: Reduction to the grade of PFC and forfeiture of 7 days pay (suspended for 3 months).

Two Soldiers from Co. E., 134th BSB received Field Grade Article 15s for violation of Off Post Travel policy and alcohol policies. Sentences: Reduction of one rank (suspended for 180 days), Forfeiture of \$312 in pay, extra duty of 14 days and restriction to company area, dining facility, troop medical center, place of duty and worship for 14 days.



Foundations for Faith

The day after Thanksgiving was a superb day for the retailers. Sales were up 4 percent or more in some cases. The

Dow Jones & Co. is approaching the 11,000 mark, the highest it's been since 2001! As an investor—I am very pleased with the manner that the public is supporting my accounts. As a citizen, I am also very pleased with the economy. How many more shopping days are left? But does buying gifts enhance relationships?

These sorts of things are fine, especially for the secular citizens of the nation—buying gifts and spending money is their best answers to relationship enhancement. We live in



**Chaplain (Maj.)
Randy Wendt**

I am a defender of that right, like all Soldiers are. But I am also a promoter of stronger faith—that's my right as well. As chaplains we see the side of society that has taught people that faith is optional. We observe how relationships are on the "rocks." We have "desperate" people come to us

a free country, one in which you can practice purchasing in this season even if you forego faith—the reason for the season.

at their wits end, searching for a shred of hope to restore what has failed and in the final say cannot be purchased. A majority of these people have exercised their right to forego faith.

My ability to help them is limited because they only want me to use about 5 percent of my resources to help them. By not living lives of faith practice, they limit the ability chaplains have to assist them with the best assistance we have to provide. So, if you are experiencing relationship challenges, I would encourage you toward a spiritual foundation as a starting point to enhance your relationship. Come see us, seek out our assistance; but also seek out the assistance of the one who is much greater than we are! Praise God in all you do and you will be blessed in all things.

WANTED!

Your photos and stories from here and home
Email to clinton.wood@us.army.mil by 1200 Sundays

BIG DADDY'S BARBERSHOP



We're right on target!
Cpl. Walton Building 2335 From
1830 to 2100hrs

**Duluth Holiday
Shout Outs!**

Call 218-727-2105, 0600-1900, and tell the announcer that you are a deployed soldier with a holiday greeting for recording.
Rox Stone, Clear Channel Radio

LOOSE LIPS

MIGHT Sink Ships

THE MIGHT & POWER OF THE MIGHTY SHIP
Scorpion

Got an Announcement?

Post here for FREE!
Email 2"x2" JPEG to clinton.wood@us.army.mil by 1200 Sundays.

The ENEMY is listening

He wants to know what you know
KEEP IT TO YOURSELF

Got RISK?

<https://cra.army.mil>

A USASOC Officer fell from a helicopter in flight during a combat mission on 3 November 2005 at 1753 local in Iraq.
COST: 1 Soldier Killed

A 1st Armor Division Soldier was killed while setting-up road hazard triangles behind their disabled M931 vehicle with an M871 trailer when a civilian POV hit the Soldier and the vehicle on 3 November 2005 at 2145 local in the vicinity of Woelfersheim, Germany. The disabled vehicle was off on the shoulder of the autobahn.
COST: 1 Soldier killed, 1 M931 tractor and M871 trailer damaged

A 101st ABN Division Soldier was killed and 6 more Soldiers wounded when two combat units mistakenly engaged each other with friendly fire on 4 November 2005 at 2109 local in Iraq.
COST: 1 Soldier Killed, 6 Soldiers with non-fatal wounds

A Soldier who was on a PCS move to Ft Leonard Wood, MO was involved in a POV accident on 5 November 2005 at 1000 local in Devils Elbow, MO. The Soldier suffered compression back fractures during the accident.
COST: 1 Soldier with severe injuries

A Multi-National Security Transitional Command Officer was killed as a passenger in an M1114 in a convoy of three when an Iraqi vehicle pulled

out and collided with the M1114 on 5 November 2005 at 1400 local in Iraq.
COST: 1 Soldier Killed, 3 USAF Airmen injured, 1 M1114 HMMWV damaged

An 82nd ABN Division Soldier was killed and 2 other Soldiers were injured in a POV accident on 5 November 2005 at 1710 local in Loris, SC. The driver and front passenger were not wearing seatbelts and thrown from the vehicle. The rear passenger was wearing a seatbelt and had only minor injuries.
COST: 1 Soldier Killed, 1 Soldier in Critical Condition, 1 Soldier with minor injuries

A National Guard Soldier was killed when he lost control of his M923 (5 ton) truck on a curve with wet road conditions on 6 November 2005 at 1645 local on Interstate 5 in OR.
COST: 1 Soldier Killed, 1 M923 (5 ton) truck damaged

An OH-58DR was damaged while conducting emergency procedure training on 7 November 2005 at 1415 local at Wheeler Army Airfield, HI. Throttle problems at the termination of an autorotation caused an engine and mast over torque.
COST: 1 OH-58DR Kiowa Warrior with Class B damage (between \$200,000 to \$1 million)

A Rail Head accident damaged 11 M1A2 Abrams tanks, 1 M88, 1 Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Locomotive, and 8 BNSF rail cars on 7 November 2005 between 2200 and 2300 local at Ft Hood, TX. The 8 rail cars loaded with equipment moved rearward during the night (brake presumed bled, released, or to have been improperly set) and collided with the BNSF Locomotive causing the 8 rail cars to derail and overturn the equipment.
COST: 11 M1A2 Abrams tanks damaged, 1 M88 tank retriever damaged, 8 BNSF rail cars damaged, 1 BNSF Locomotive damaged

A TUAV had an engine failure and the chute deployed at 1,000 feet in gusty conditions on 7 November 2005 at 1227 local at Ft Carson, CO. The UAV was dragged approximately 300 meters.
COST: 1 RQ7B Shadow with Class B damage (between \$200,000 to \$1 million)

Six Soldiers were injured when their government 8 passenger van was struck by an oncoming Local National who was traveling at a high rate of speed on 8 November 2005 at 1300 local in Kosovo.
COST: 6 Soldiers ranging from minor to moderate injuries, 1 Government 8 Passenger Van damaged

Six A 4th INF Division Soldier was killed when another Soldier was showing off his newly purchased Bushmaster Mock M-4 rifle and a negligent discharge occurred on 9 November 2005 at 1954 local in Killeen, TX.
COST: 1 Soldier Killed

PRES
Preliminary LOSS REPORTS

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SOLDIERS DIED IN ACCIDENTS

LOSSES



OWN the EDGE

Composite Risk Management

Full-time technicians qualify for bonus

Soldiers who are full-time technicians now qualify for a reenlistment bonus if they have less than 16 years Time In Service and are serving in Iraq.

For more information, call Sgts. 1st Class John McCann, Rodney Kolhei or Joyce Clark at (601) 558-4195 or by their e-mails at john.mccann@mn.ngb.army.mil, rodney.kolhei@us.army.mil and joyce.clark@us.army.mil.

www.redbullweb.com

1/34 BCT Farewell ceremony set for March 16

There will be a farewell ceremony for the 1/34 Brigade Combat Team March 16 at Camp Shelby. Other events are being arranged in conjunction with the ceremony. Details to be announced later.



The following information should not be reported:

- b. Any information that reveals details of future plans, operations, or strikes, including postponed or canceled operations.
- c. Information, photography, and imagery that would reveal the specific location of military forces or show the level of security at military installations or encampments.



IN OUR SIGHTS



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood, 1/34 BCT PA
Lt. Col. William Lieder (left), Capt. Robert Metcalfe, Maj. Luke Charpentier, Capt. Blaine Peterson and Sgt. 1st Class James Bussen stand at attention after the Commander's Run last month.



Photo by 1/167 Cav
Two Soldiers of the 1st Squadron, 167th Cavalry participate in combatives training.

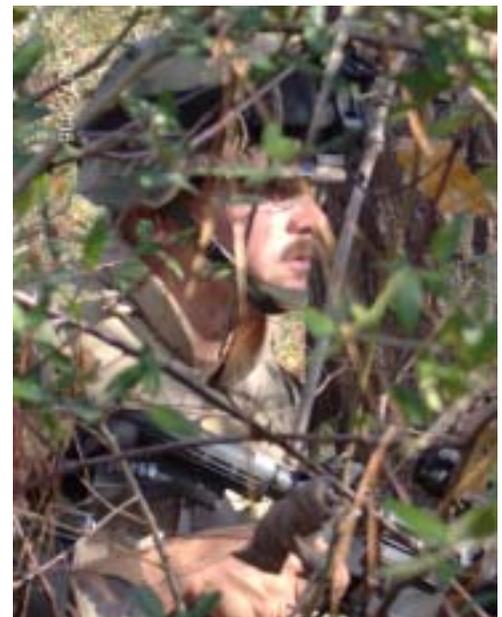


Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Lary Patrick, 1/125 FA PA
Sgt. Darrel Koch, 1st Battalion, 125th Field Artillery, blends in with his surroundings as he waits to identify a sniper.