

DESERT



BULLS



Soldier Sports

March 7, 2006

NO BULL: Answers to frequently asked questions

By Capt. Mark Lappegaard

1/34 BCT PAO

1. What can I expect as we leave from Camp Shelby? For those that pass the Soldier Readiness Check, they will pack all their gear, clean and clear their buildings, vehicles, and hand receipts, then manifest out. When you manifest, just like you did for Joint Readiness Training Center, be sure you have your ID Card, orders, and dog tags. Ensure you have all your gear, packed and marked per Standard Operating Procedure. You will be weighed with all your stuff. For the plane, we have an average of about 400 pounds per Soldier (to include the Solider, ruck, A bag, body armor, and all the To Accompany Troops boxes). Since the gear is loaded on first, if the plane is over weight, they will hold soldiers back. One unit had 20 soldiers bumped off a plane to make weight. Once you get on the plane, you will eventually land in Kuwait. There may be a refueling stop in Germany or someplace but don't plan on shopping for bier und bratvurst-it'll be schnell (quick). Once you arrive in Kuwait, you'll move into housing and start gathering and fixing all the equipment we've shipped over there. You'll also attend some more training on weapons, Improvised Explosive Devices, convoy operations, and camel spiders. After a few weeks, you'll have completed your training, secured your gear, and been acclimated to the heat, wind and dust (yeah, right). Then you will move north to your Forward Operating Base in Iraq. Upon arrival, you will be greeted by the guy you will be replacing, in most cases. Chances are he or she is still in your future room, driving your future

vehicle and sitting in your future chair. So you'll be a vagabond until he or she leaves. He or she will show you how he did their job, introduce you to who you need to know, and pass on any lessons learned. Be nice and take notes. They also will likely have some comfort gear like TVs and chairs to sell. Write up your list of questions now and ensure you get them answered. In all fairness, he or she will want to help you out but his mind will be on the land of the big Post Exchange (home). Ensure you get your questions answered before you wish him goodbye. Once he leaves, you will be responsible for your mission until your replacement comes 12 months later with a list of questions.

Tips from others:

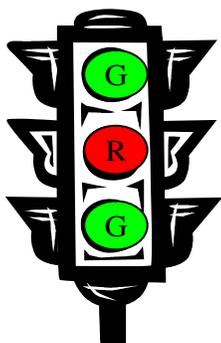
1. You want to clear the SRC and come with us. If you don't, you'll stay here you're fixed and then come over or just wait until the next unit trains up to deploy. Your 12 month count down starts when you get in theater-not here- so you could stay for a long time.
2. You want to pack in plastic or waterproof bags.
3. Keep your carry-on bag light but consider packing a book, water bottle, some snacks, ear plugs, eye shades, and a neck pillow to make your flight better. Don't plan on getting into your ruck or A bag easily as they will be secured in the truck or plane. In case there is a delay, be prepared to live out of your carry on for a day or two. A "night bag" with toothpaste and electric shaver, etc., might make you happy.
4. Stay security minded. We are leaving the relative safety of Camp

Shelby so it is wise to adapt to your new surroundings. Stick with your battle buddy. Secure your gear. Don't wander off. Personnel and equipment accountability- noncommissioned officer business- is the biggest challenge during this move.

5. Have fun and be patient. You know there will be a few delays and periods of frustration until we settle into our FOB. It is easy to get upset and say a harsh word. Instead, grow your patience and lighten the mood with a smile or joke.
6. Don't lose it all now. You've come a long way, completed months of training, medical, logistics, and administrative tasks. If you get hurt on pass and wind up in the medical hold, you'll be leaving your team short and your future uncertain.
7. Think you have some old gear you no longer need? Before you throw it out, think twice. Better to keep it or ship it home than to find out post-mob you owe Uncle Sam some of your mad money.
8. Check please. While ATMs and credit cards are common here, they are not over there. Bring a new checkbook or three. If you don't know how to balance your checkbook- ask your buddy to teach you. Writing bad checks will earn a visit to the company commander's and first sergeant's office.
9. Fit the square peg in the round hole. Realize we have the latest and most gear of any BCT in the Army. The guy you replace probably does not have some of the things you have and will not be able to tell you what to do with it. Likewise, there has been a draw down in forces so this will not be a one for one GI exchange. Finally, different units arrived at different times so there will be a lot of turnover during your tour. Remember point #5 above and chant the new mantra: I am a flexible and adaptive soldier.

If you have any tips, advice, or questions, please forward them to redbullpao@yahoo.com.

BCT Drinking Lamp



Now until 2000 hours 15 March

2001 hours 15 March until departure ceremony

After ceremony until 24 hours prior to unit movement

by SFC Wood

Day in Red Bull history

Tuesday , March 7, 1944

Near the village of **Vulturno, Italy**

After inspection and breakfast the full Company left for the range. *Lt Spurlock* was in charge of the firing. Many of the men did a lot of betting on who would shoot the best. Most of the men fired the Carbine, but some fired the M-1. There is to be a prize for the best. Believe it or not, the kitchen crew walked away with the top honors of the day. *S/Sgt Leet*

was high on the Carbine with a 154 out of a possible 200, at 200 yard range. *T/5 Lester A Lampe* was high on the M-1 with 180 out of 200, while *Pvt Walter J McPherson* won honors with the .03 scoring 183. The target was regulation size at 200 yards.

Tonight the show in "A" area is "Stormy Weather" [Lena Horne, Bill Robinson, Cab Calloway, Fats Waller], very appropriate for the weather we've had in this area so far.



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

On the cover: Spc. Clinton Seaba of the 134th BSB spikes the ball during a volleyball game between the battalion's Company E and Company F Saturday. Soldiers of each of the 1/34 BCT battalions have scheduled fun days like playing volleyball and softball to boost morale and team building. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood, 1/34 BCT PA.

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.



This week's full ride

I will be taking one of the most important photographs of this deployment at 11:30 a.m. on March 14 on the Parade Field. The photograph will be an attempt to recreate the Red Bull animated crest photograph taken at Camp Cody, New Mexico, in 1918. The Soldiers formed the Red Bull crest.

Maj. Michael Lins, the 1/34 Brigade Combat Team engineer, also has been working diligently on the new photo-

8 SECONDS

graph. He has used three different Computer Aided Design programs, created a virtual model and compared it against two test photograph sessions photographed by myself and laid out the design on the parade field twice.

He said the original photograph (see Page 4) was definitely pasted together. "It took them four photos to do it," he said.

Can you guess how many Soldiers are in this original photograph? The answer will be in next week's newsletter.

-- **Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood**

Lessons learned from after action reviews

By **Capt. Mark Lappegaard**
1/34 BCT PAO

1. Still don't eat your vegetables? Then start taking a multivitamin as poor eating habits are easy to fall into in Iraq. Eat healthy to be healthy. – Lesson learned from the 56th Brigade Combat Team that returned from Iraq in December 2005.
2. Cujo lives. One in four dogs have rabies in Iraq. Don't feed or adopt them. Cats neither. "Puppies are cute but the shot series for rabies are not" – lesson learned from 56th BCT.
3. Kuwaiti Krud. "You will get an upper respiratory infection upon arrival in Kuwait that lasts for a couple of days." – lesson learned from 56th BCT. Prepare now by bringing your favorite cold medicine.
4. "There are no days off. There are no eight hour days. Get those expectations out of your head now. They will cause suffering later. Expect to work long and hard the whole deployment. Be grateful for any break that comes your way" - lesson learned from Company A, 194th Armor that returned from Iraq in December 2005.
14. Plan for Murphy. The one comment I heard throughout all the lessons learned from recent returnees is the need for robust Pre Combat Checks/ Pre Combat Inspections. Success is 10 % tactics and 90 % adherence to standards (load plans, uniforms, etc). Watch "Blackhawk Down" for the best example of complacency in PCC/ PCIs. Checking up is not screwing with someone- it could save their lives and you owe it to them. This goes for checking your leader too. We're one team.

Upcoming events

- **2 March until completion:** *Soldier Readiness Check.* The #1 requirement to take pass or leave Camp Shelby.
- **Wednesday:** *Stop mail to Camp Shelby.* You can restart upon arrival at your Forward Operating Base in mid to late April.
- **Friday through Monday:** *Pass #1 for first half of 1/34 BCT.* Must have cleared SRC and not have pending disciplinary actions.
- **14 March:** *Ceremony rehearsal and Red Bull Crest photo at parade field in a.m. Concert in Post Exchange parking lot at 5 p.m.**
- **15 March:** *Steak Picnic at Rapid Fielding Initiative Tent for lunch.**
- **16 March:** *Departure Ceremony at Parade Field at 2 p.m.**
- **17-20 March:** *Pass #2 for last half of BCT.* Must have cleared SRC and not have pending disciplinary actions.
- **TBD:** *Deployment to OIF.* Do NOT mention specific dates, locations, or missions! Tell your family and friends there will be limited contact for four to six weeks!
- * go to www.redbullweb.com then “news”, then “departure ceremony” for more information.

FREE TAX ASSISTANCE

For: Mobilized Soldiers, Mobilized Soldier's Dependents, and DOD Civilian Personnel at Camp Shelby

Call and make an appointment TODAY!

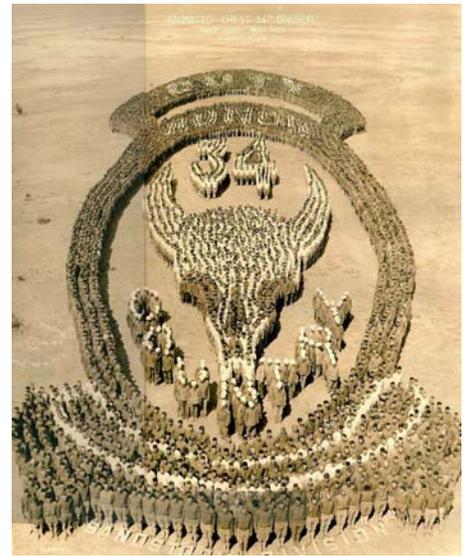
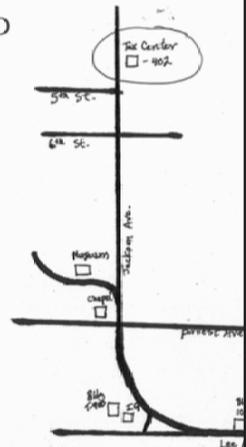


601-558-4025 OR 601-558-4026

BLDG #402

OIC - CPT WILLIAM DREHER

NCOIC - SSG MICHAEL ANDERSON



This is the Animated 34th Infantry Division Crest photographed Aug. 18, 1918 in Camp Cody, New Mexico.

Soldiers reminded to contact Unit Mail Clerk

1/34 Brigade Combat Team Soldiers are reminded to contact their Unit Mail Clerk for their APO and Unit Number. Unit Numbers are assigned through their servicing AP via the Theater Postal Operations Directorate

The last four digits (Zip+4 add-on) of your zip code will consist of your last four digits of your “Unit Number” e.g. Unit 60000 = 0000

Never include a geographical location such as Camp or country name. Never include Soldier's Social Security Number. It is very important that cor-

respondents include a complete return address on all mail.

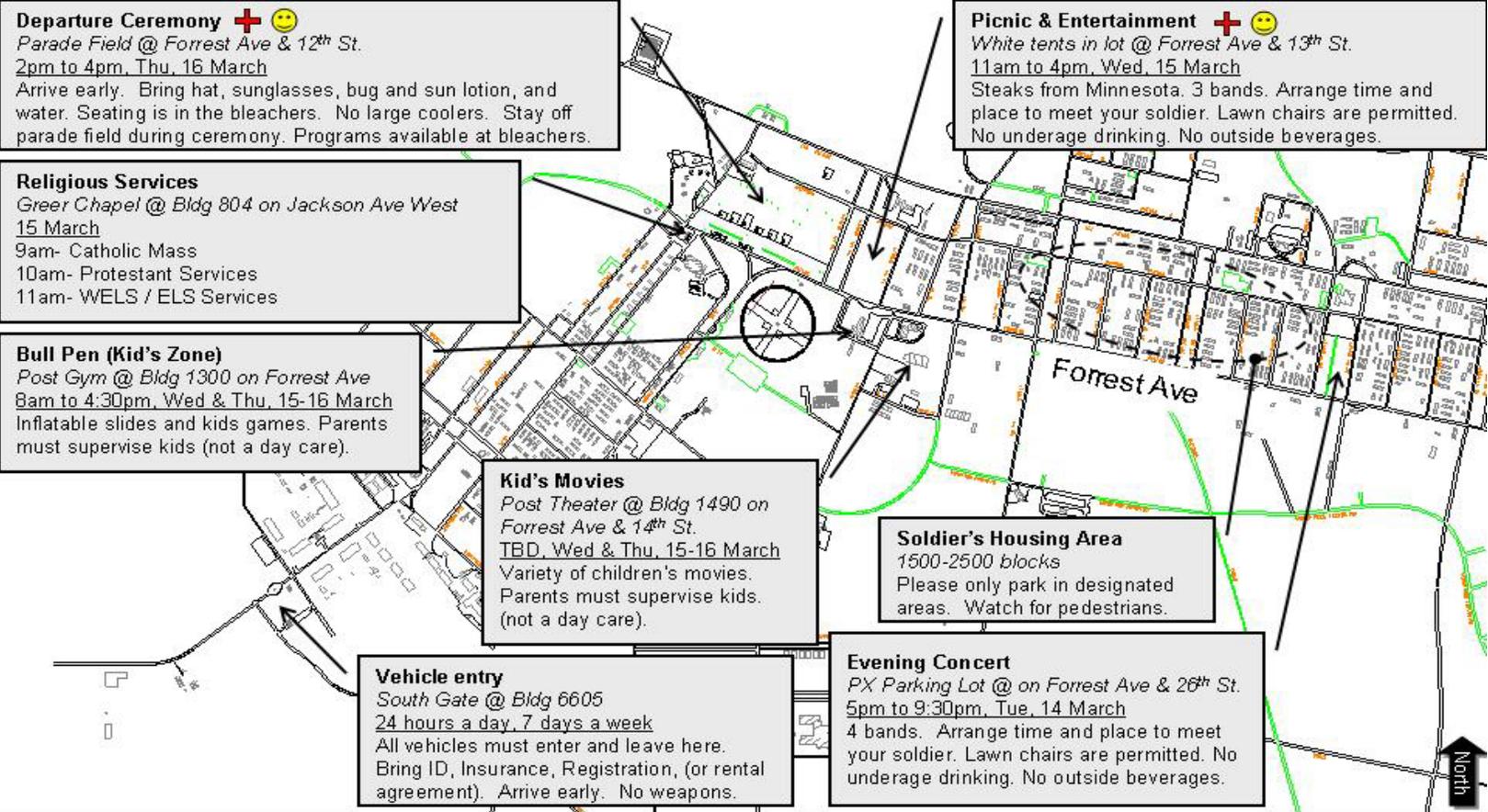
For example:

Rank, last name, first name

Full unit name

Unit # 60000

APO AE 093XX - 0000



1/34 BCT Departure Events Map

- Almost all events are just off Forrest Ave.
- Look for parking and shuttle signs the day of the event.
- Drive defensively. Watch speed in housing areas.
- Please do not throw trash in porta potties.
- Parking will be tight- carpool if possible and arrive early.
- Soldiers: No alcohol 152000MARD6 until after the ceremony. Be sure to hydrate and rest up.

Legend

First Aid



Refreshments

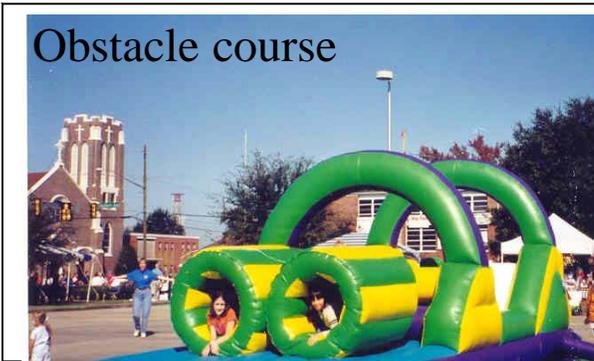
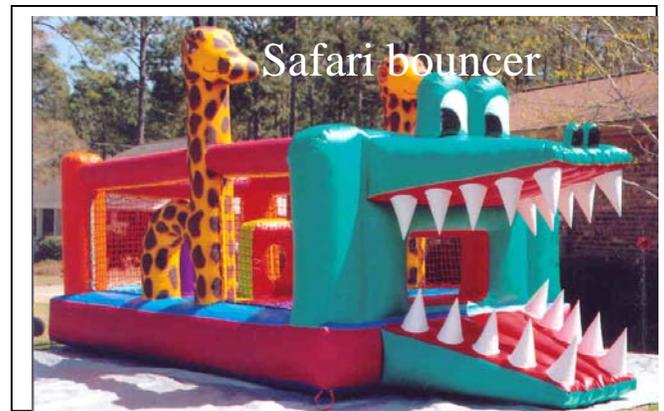
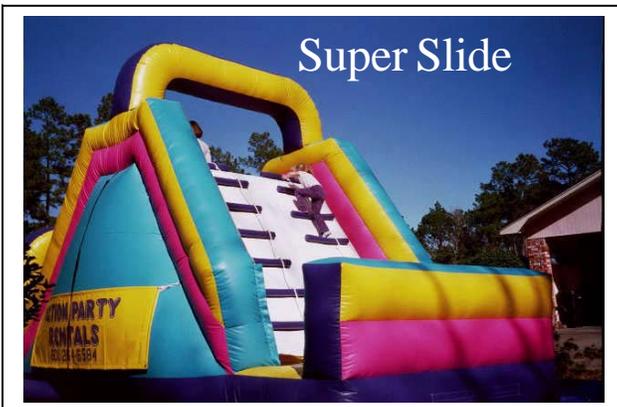


This map also is available on the 1/34 BCT's Web site, www.redbullweb.com. Look in News, Departure ceremony.

Just the facts from Mission Rehearsal Exercise at JRTC

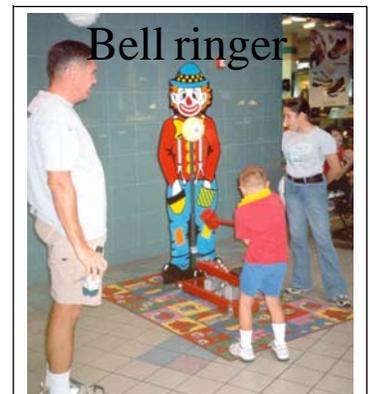
- Spent Over \$800,000 in Supplies. Took six trains to get to Fort Polk. Took four trains to get back to Camp Shelby. The largest train load was 76 rail cars.
- An estimated 68 air evacuations and 80 ground evacuations.
- Nine Catholic masses, 15 collective Christian services, five memorial ceremonies.
- Total UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter hours flown, 279, total AH-64 Apache helicopter hours flown, 206.
- Consumed approximately 52 cans of coffee.
- Received 50 RED CROSS messages.
- Real World Media embeds, 8, press conferences, four, role player media embeds, 10, ZVOT Radio interviews, 17, Real World Distinguished visitors, five, Role Player visits, one.
- 53 detainees processed into Initial Detainee Collection Point, 39 transferred to the Theater Internment Facility, 15 turned away because lack of probable cause.
- Cost of exercise not including salaries in excess of \$1 million a day.

WELCOME TO THE 1/34TH BCT BULL PEN



**PRIZES
SNACKS
POPCORN
BALLOONS**

**8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
15-16 MARCH 2006
BUILDING 1300
(GYM)**



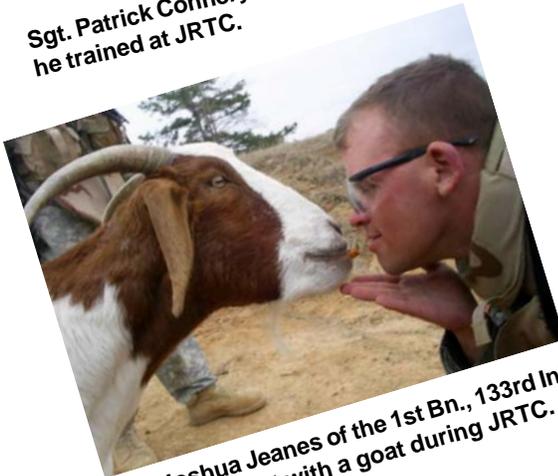
IN OUR SIGHTS



Sgt. Patrick Connery of the 134th BSB smiles as he trained at JRTC.



Mary Kiffmeyer, Secretary of the State for Minnesota, and Lt. Col. Paul Zimmerman, deputy commander for the 1/34 BCT discuss absentee ballots for Soldiers during Kiffmeyer's visit Tuesday to Camp Shelby.



Spc. Joshua Jeanes of the 1st Bn., 133rd Inf., shares a carrot with a goat during JRTC.



Sgt. Jason Leonard (left), Spc. Dan Aschenbrener and Sgt. Louis Karsnia of the 2nd Bn., 136th CAB relax after training on terrain modeling Tuesday.



Several Company E, 134th BSB Soldiers pose with the flag that was raised by five of their fellow Soldiers Saturday at the Swinging Bridge Raceway in Byram, MS.

