

Spring 2012



Expeditionary

Ammunition Retrograde

**4.7 million net explosive
weights of ammunitions**

237th Army Birthday Ball

Area Resupply

**19th ESC Soldiers
sharpen skills**

Champion Hero

Receives Soldiers Medal

**Cadets
visit the
DMZ**

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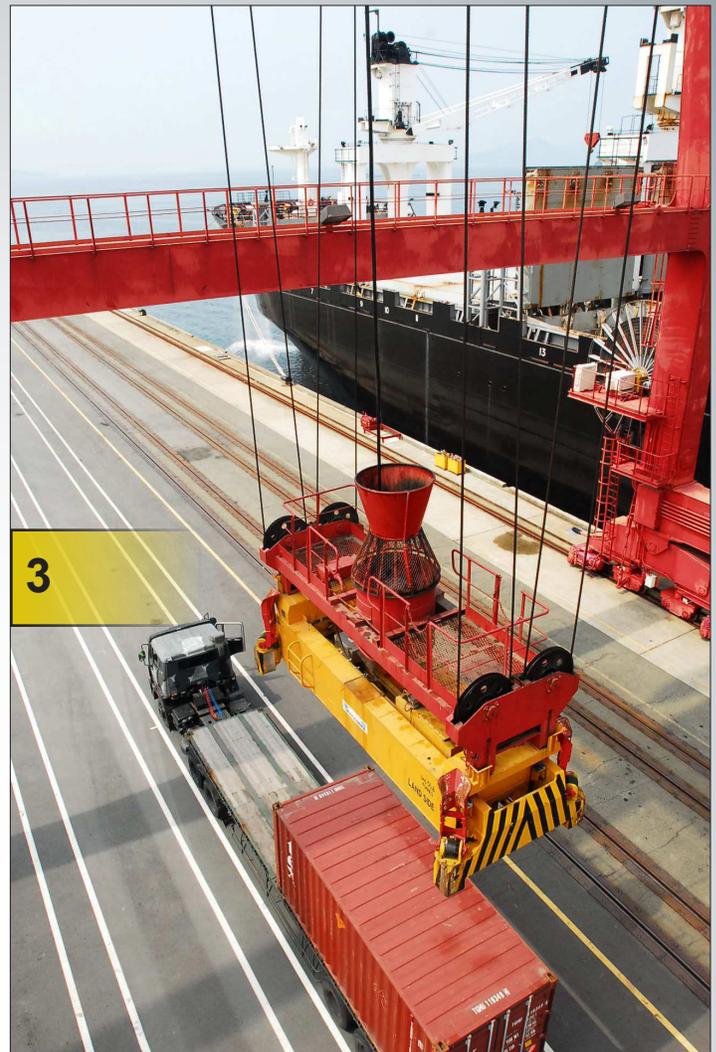
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The Expeditionary

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Brig. Gen. Paul C. Hurley, 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command commanding general, along with distinguished guests including key leaders pay a silent tribute during the 62nd Memorial Ceremony of Korean War at the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Busan June 25.



Command Sgt. Maj. Shin Young-jin, 5th Logistics Support Command; Command Sgt. Maj. Robert F. Austin, 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command; Command Sgt. Maj. Min Jae-ki, Area IV ROK Army Support Group.

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US-ROK Army Conducts Joint Ammunition Retrograde Operation at Jinhae



Story & photos by,
Kim Sung-eun

DAEGU, South Korea - Subordinate units of the 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command and the 837th Transportation Battalion in tandem with the Republic of Korea Army Port Operation Group is conducting the uploading of 1,252 twenty-foot equivalent unit containers holding pre-positioned war reserve assets at the Jinhae ROK Ammunition Pier, May 29 to June 8.

“This is a really important mission,” Johnson said.

These retrograde ammunitions of War Reserve Stocks for Allies—Korea are being uploaded onto the Military Vessel Black Eagle, which will take them back to the United States.

The vessel operation marks the third phase of the four phases of the drill, following the planning (Apr. 2 to May 7) and staging-receiving (May 7 to May 25) stages.

“We are loading 20 feet containers of ammunitions that have been in Korea and are outdated,” said Mr. David Johnson, Surface Deployment and Distribution Command 837th Transportation Battalion, transportation operation chief.

Retrograding outdated ammunitions is monetarily advantageous for the U.S. military.

“This is a very important mission. The Congress mandates us to carry out these missions twice a year and it saves thousands of dollars,” Johnson said. “It takes outdated ammunitions out of Korea back to the U.S. where they can be refurbished and recycled for usage in other efforts.”

“It is a real strength for the allies and the alliance,” Johnson said.

The ROK and U.S. Army have a mutually constitutive role to play in the ammunition retrograde operation.

“The ROK does a lot of manpower and labor and



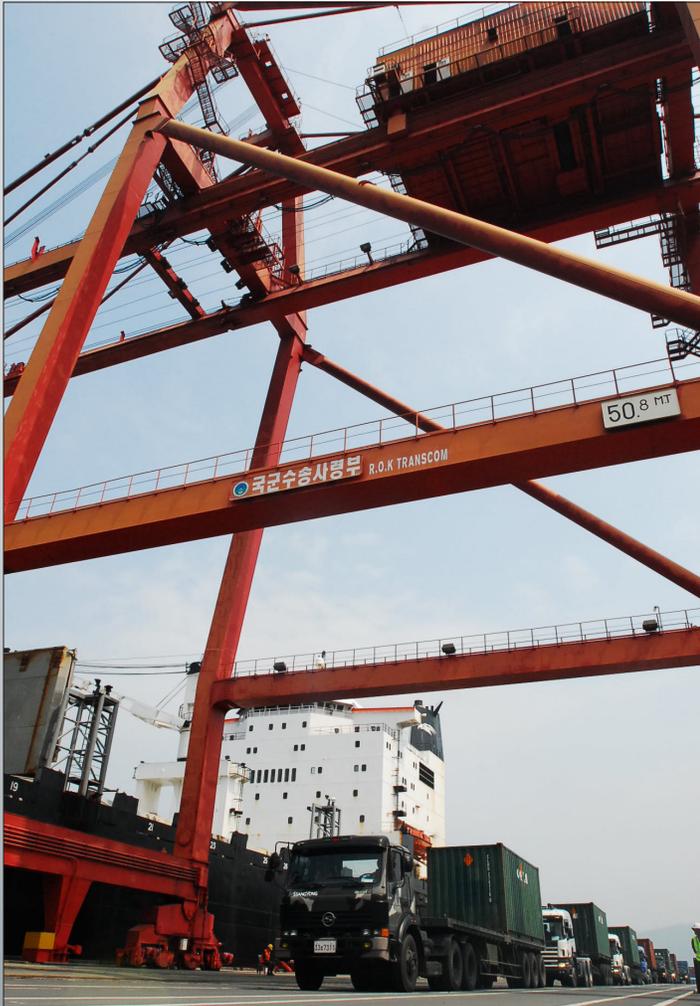
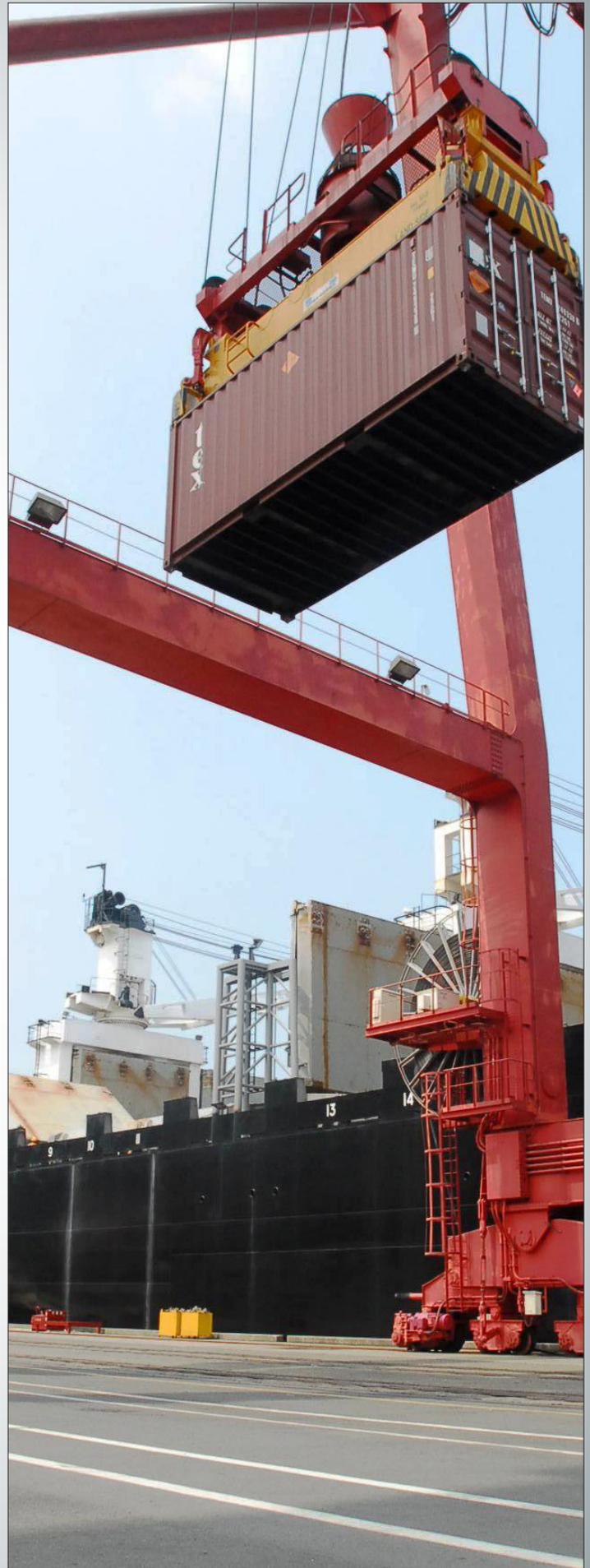
we oversee the procedures,” said Maj. Benjamin J. Steichen, 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command Support Operations, ammunition branch chief. “The U.S. and ROK army work together to ensure that we are both in sync with what we are doing.”

These joint operations are held twice a year annually to strengthen U.S.-ROK alliance both symbolically and strategically.

“The port operation lets our American soldiers, Non-Commissioned Officers, officers, and deck civilians work hand-in-hand right here on the ROK port,” said Johnson. “It gives us hands on training, planning, and coordination as a far as for the contingencies if need be. It is a real strength for the allies and the alliance.”

The retrograde operation of WRSA-K marks one of the largest movements of ammunitions in the world.

“We are loading about 4.7 million net explosive weights of ammunitions,” said Johnson. “It is the largest movement of ammunitions outside of Afghanistan.”



Area IV's 237th Army Birthday Ball





"Heroes Among Us"



The Banzon citizenship: mission complete

Story by,
Pfc. Kim Sung-eun

CAMP HENRY, South Korea - It has been 29 years since Lt. Col. Roy D. Banzon, a former Philippines citizen, took his oath to become a U.S. citizen.

April 6, 2012, almost three decades later, a Banzon recited the oath, but this time it was his son, Romar Manlangit Banzon.

Romar Banzon, 17, adopted from the Philippines in August 2006, recited the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance and the Oath of Citizenship at the U.S. Embassy in Seoul.

Becoming a U.S. citizen opened many possibilities for the Banzon family.

"Being a U.S. citizen provides me with better opportunities like going to college in the United States," Romar Banzon said.

"As for my family, it allows me to travel with them especially when they go back to the U.S."

The values and virtues of being an American citizen were

the key motivating factors for the Banzon parents to have their son obtain his U.S. citizenship.

"I want him to experience the liberties and rights we have as American citizens. I feel happy and proud," said Marlyn Banzon, Romar's mother.

Roy Banzon looks at the day his son received his U.S. citizenship as a way to be an international symbol of what it means to be an American.

"That day, I realized how important it was to remind all those who are American citizens that our freedoms and liberties should not be taken for granted, that there are a multitude of people in the world who hunger for the liberties and freedoms we have today," Roy Banzon said, 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, deputy G3.

The Banzon parents chose to have their son obtain his U.S. citizenship while stationed in South Korea because of the expedited process overseas.

"My wife's citizenship was processed in the U.S. and it took close to seven years due to the large quantity of applicants in the states," Roy Banzon said. "The process only took us two years for my son since one of the criteria was to have our adopted son with us physically for two years before he could become an American citizen."

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 amended Section 322 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, to allow certain eligible children of service members to become naturalized U.S. citizens without having to travel to the United States.

"I highly recommend you visit Army Community Service, U.S. Embassy and the U.S. Immigration website for more information," Marlyn Banzon said. "In all, I truly recommend processing citizenship paperwork overseas."

The end of the long process to have the last member of the Banzon family to become united as U.S. citizens ended with the process completing for one and coming full circle for another.

"The most enjoyable part of the process was when I was appointed to lead the other candidates for citizenship reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and receiving the U.S. Naturalization Certificate with my dad," Romar Banzon said.



194th CSSB goes to Dagmar



DAGMAR NORTH, South Korea - Recently 260 Soldiers from the 194th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion deployed to Dagmar North Training Area to conduct a Battalion Field Training Exercise.

A multitude of ranges were set in place for the Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 46th Transportation, 348th Quartermaster and the 520th Maintenance Companies. The ranges varied from weapons ranges, night driving, Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear to Improvised Explosive Devices training.

A night driver's training lane was set up for two nights to get newer Soldiers from the Battalion an opportunity to drive tactical vehicles using night vision devices or NVDs.

PFC Allante Morgan, HHC S6

section said he felt more confident driving using NVDs.

"Although the lane was not too difficult, driving in blackout conditions while raining is tough for anyone," said Morgan. "Driving using NVDs is an essential skill that drivers as well as vehicle commanders need to develop to tactically maneuver through the battlefield."

Morgan stated that inclement weather during the nighttime hours was another factor used to better their skills.

"This forced us to rely on their NVDs and guidance from the vehicle commander," said Morgan. The Soldiers also got to conduct weapons training at the M203 grenade launcher and the M249 squad automatic weapons ranges.

Capt. Allen Luna, Headquarters and Headquarters Company

Commander, said that the M203 range was very popular with the Soldiers.

"Due to the plentiful amount of ammunition, those who were not assigned the weapon had the opportunity to fire the grenade launcher," said Luna. "I shot expert and was surprised I didn't miss one target."

Luna said the only thing that could have been better was if they had HE (high explosive) rounds."

The Companies finished up their training with an IED (improvised explosive device) defeat training class and lane. The Soldiers were given classroom instruction on the different types of IEDs, how they are made, what they look like, enemy TTPs (training, tactics, procedures), and other helpful facts that may save Soldier's lives. During the lane portion of instruction, Soldiers broke up into two groups where they learned how to properly conduct 5/25 drills and how to spot different types of IEDs.

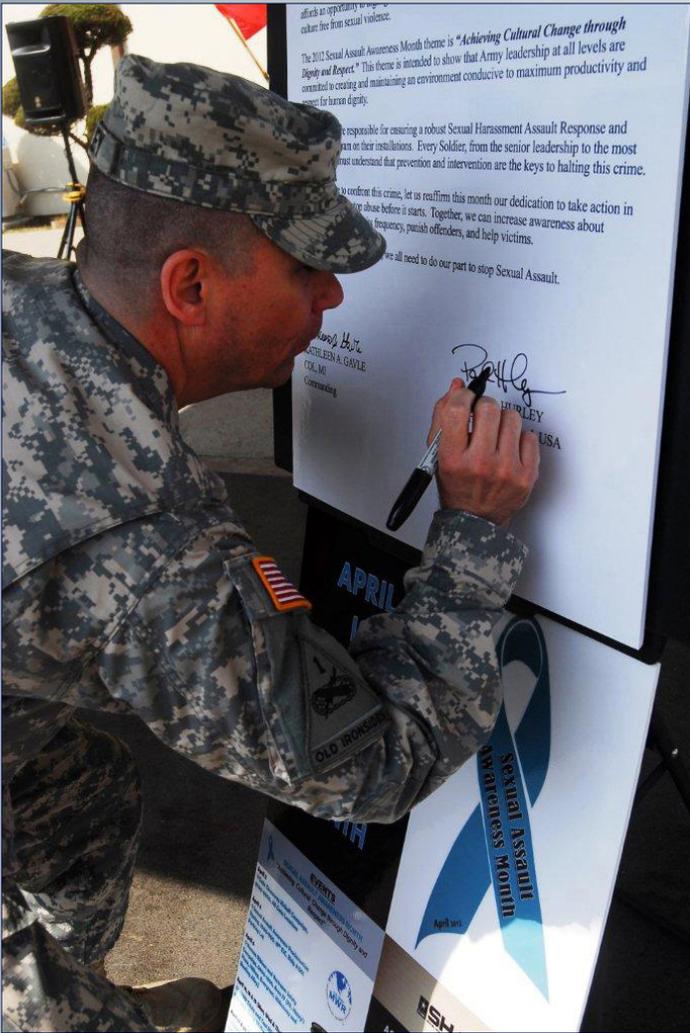
The FTX finished up with defense exercises and TOC battle drills conducted by the staff. For nearly four hours OPFOR probed and attacked each company area, forcing units to properly defend their AO. This event focused on proper reporting procedures, defensive battle positions, direct fire coordination, and casualty evacuation drills.

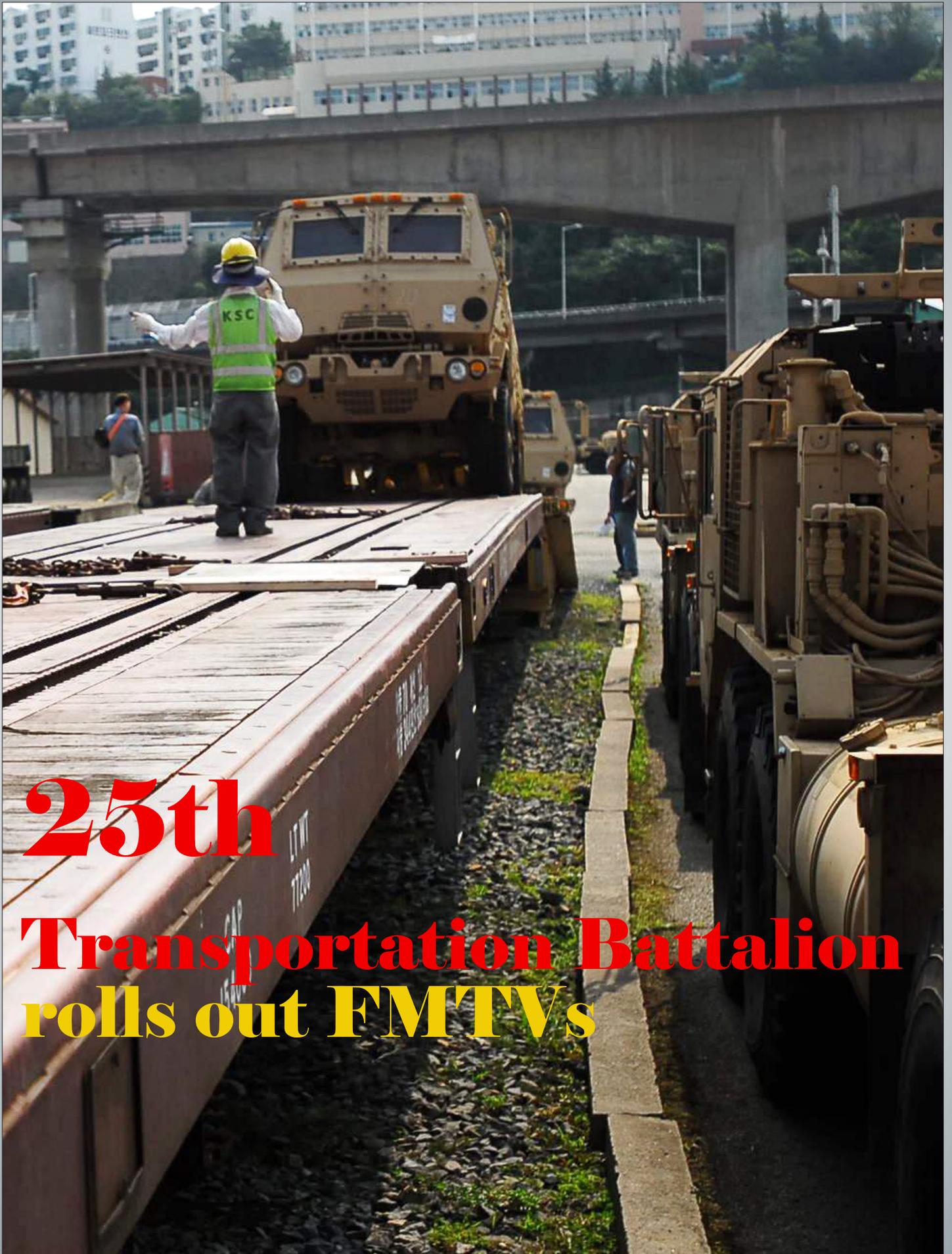
The FTX is part of accumulation of exercises to ensure the battalion is ready for exercise evaluations that will take place later this year.



Around Team 19







25th

**Transportation Battalion
rolls out FMFVs**





Story & photos by,
Pfc. Kim Sung-eun

Busan, South Korea - Soldiers from the 25th Transportation Battalion, 517th Movement Control Team conducted upload training during a railhead mission at the Busan Storage Center June 22-26.

A total of 54 Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles were transported to Camp Casey in Area I.

Participants learned to securely strap down an FMTV onto a railhead in order to protect transported equipment from damage.

"It is very important to make sure that the equipment is strapped down properly. This way you won't have to worry about deficiencies on the equipment once it reaches its destination," said Pvt. Hunter Devonta, 517th MCT movement specialist.

Safety was emphasized

throughout the training and mission.

"It's all about safety. We make sure that vehicles don't fall off the train, nothing flies off and that it doesn't injure anybody or cause any damage to the vehicle along the way," said 1st Lt. Wilmarie G. Herrera, 517th MCT mobility officer.

517th MCT worked in coordina-

tion with 403rd Army Field Support Brigade to push vehicles to their final destination.

"Today our goal is to ensure the designated vehicles with the correct serial numbers are delivered on-date," said Yi Hak-tae, 403rd AFSB Acquisition Logistics and Technology supply technician.





West Point cadets pay visit to DMZ: 25th Trans introduces the front line

Story & photos by,
Sgt. 1st Class Bryant Maude

CAMP HENRY, South Korea - A group of West Point cadets and their sponsors from the 501st Sustainment Brigade, 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command trekked north to the Demilitarized Zone as part of their Cadet Troop Leader Training June 16.

The outing was organized by Capt. Rich Rogers, who is assigned as the unit's S-3 training manager to open the cadets' eyes to the reality of the Korean peninsula.

"The goal is to ensure that each cadet understands the armistice and how the Republic of Korea operates under these conditions," Rogers said. "When you see the Republic of Korea soldiers staring down the North Korean soldiers 24 hours a day, you get a little insight as to what the

ROK goes through each and every day."

The tour originated at Camp Carroll and stopped to pick up passengers at Camp Humphreys and Yongsan before arriving at Camp Bonneville.

The group was met by Pvt. Mathew Van Schmidt, United Nations Command Security Battalion Joint Security Area military police, who acted as tour guide.

After a short briefing and outline of the base rules of conduct, the group loaded up in a bus and made the short trip to the DMZ's most popular attraction – "Conference Row."

"The goal is to ensure that each cadet understands the armistice," Rogers said.

"Everybody wants to come up here and see the





“What struck me most about the DMZ is how tense it is at Conference Row. With all the limitations they have in place the whole time you’re there, it creates a greater reality of just how tense the relationship is between North and South Korea,” said Patrick Doumont, a West Point cadet from Winchester, Va.

“You have the soldiers on one side staring down the soldiers on the other side,” Shevitz said.

The cadets also had an opportunity to pose with ROK soldiers, visit an observation tower, view the Bridge of No Return and walk through Tunnel #3, a tunnel dug out by North Koreans.

“It’s very humbling,” Shevitz said.

“This trip to the DMZ is one of the big takeaways of my time here in Korea,” Doumont said. “It highlights...how good leaders will need to be in the future to handle situations like this.”

Soldiers who would like to participate in a DMZ tour can contact their local USO for details.

North Koreans,” Van Schmidt said. “The site that people see the most is Conference Row, because whenever it’s advertised they always have the three blue buildings in the front with all the North Korean Guards standing out front. It’s something new and exciting to them.”

“The thing that impressed me the most, was the area we were at had just a line across the ground creating the border between South and North Korea,” said Jacob Ray Taylor Shevitz, a West Point cadet from Franklin, Pa. “You have the Soldiers on one side starring down the soldiers on the other side, and you can see in their posture how intense everything is between them.”

In the Armistice Agreement of July 27, 1953, the DMZ was created as each side agreed to move their troops back 2,000 meters from the front line, creating a buffer zone. It is on this line where the famous blue conference buildings stand and act as meeting points for delegates of the North and South Korean governments.



501st loads up to 2nd CAB



Story & photo by,
Sgt. Bryan Willis

WAEGWAN, South Korea - The 501st Sustainment Brigade conducted static load and aerial resupply training with 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade at Camp Carroll May 1.

“What we did today is called static load training, which enables the 501st to effectively resupply units in the field using Chinook, CH47 helicopters,” said Sgt. 1st Class Lee Gore, 501st SBDE Support Operations Mobility non-commissioned officer in charge.

“These missions are going to happen a couple times a week,” Gore said.

This day’s operation was to deliver truck parts and equipment to Area I and to return retrograde

items to the Theatre Distribution Center at Camp Carroll.

The 501st and 2nd CAB have been training together over the past month to be ready for this training event.

“Initially we came down here to show the 501st how to build the pallets and how to use heavy equipment to load the pallets onto the CH47,” said Capt. Andrew Reake, 2nd CAB pilot.

South Korea’s mountainous terrain provides the U.S. and ROK forces a unique challenge in getting equipment to soldiers.

“These missions are going to happen a couple of times a week now that we are up and running, and we will get better with practice,” said Gore.

Although the armistice was signed in 1953, North and South Korea technically remains at war.

“We have to be ready to supply units in the field in case U.S. forces have to deter hostile aggressors in South Korea,” Reake said.



19th ESC members strike to the top: SPO females bring honors back from US

Story & photo by,
Pfc. Kim Sung-eun

DAEGU, South Korea - Maj. Kimberley Nelson and Sgt. 1st Class Waykisha A. Minott from the 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command received a total of three medals in the 2012 Armed Forces Bowling Championships held at the Skylark Bowling Center at Lackland Air Force Base, Tx. May 13-19.

Minott placed third in the mixed doubles match, and both Minott and Nelson placed third for the overall Women's match.

"I use bowling as a unit morale event because it's fun," Shevitz said.

During the trials held May 8-13 at AFB, Lackland Tx., Minott, Support Operations platoon sergeant, and Nelson, Support Operations supply branch chief, placed third and fourth with average scores of 160.54 and 130.13 respectively.

Bowling has been a hobby for Nelson throughout her life.

"In high school, my best friend and I would go bowling all the time. Now I bowl during lunch time, Fridays and Saturdays when I can," Nelson said.

Minott started bowling with her family and carried her hobby on throughout her service.

"My mom started me bowling, and every Saturday morning until the age of 17 I bowled in a youth



bowling league," Minott said. "In Korea, I bowl on average once or twice a week."

Nelson has used bowling as a unifying medium to bring Soldiers together.

"I used bowling as a unit morale event because it is a fun and physical activity that everyone can enjoy," Nelson said.

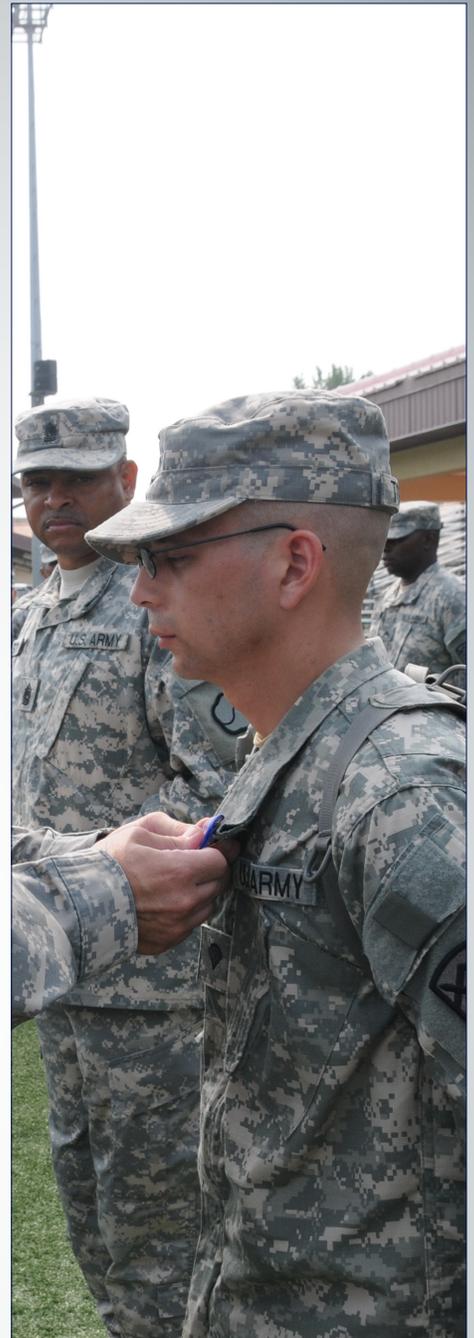
Even though Minott and Nelson placed high at the Armed Forces Bowling Championship, they plan to continue improving their game.

"I want to be more consistent with picking up spares, increase my average and learn more about the things I don't know about bowling," Minott said.



19th ESC hosts "Spiritual Fitness Day"





CHAMPION HERO: 501st Soldier receives Soldier's Medal

Story & photo by,
Sgt. Danielle Ferrer

Daegu, South Korea - Brig. Gen. Paul C. Hurley, 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Commander, presented Spc. Jerry L. Torres, 501st Sustainment Brigade, with the Soldier's Medal June 21 at Kelly Field on Camp Walker.

Torres was awarded the Soldier's Medal for risking his life to save two civilians from a burning building he was passing during his off time.

The medal presentation happened at the end of 501st's "Champion Week" preceding 501st's change of command practice.

Senior leaders from 19th ESC and Soldiers from 501st's various units in attendance.

