

WARRIOR WORDS

Newsletter of the Southern Regional Support Command * California State Military Reserve



AT CAMP ROBERTS

All Together Now

Sharing and Teaching Skills With National Guard Troops Bound for Iraq

Riding With Werewolves

CSMR SSG's two years in Iraq



May 2008 Issue Number Three * Published by the SRSC Public Affairs Section

AT THE FRONT



MAJ Fred-Otto Egeler (left), presents an American flag to COL John Wilson for the CSMR. The flag, which has flown over the White House, was a gift to Egeler on his retirement from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. **Photo: SSG John Thompson.**

MAJ Fred Egeler retreats forward to retirement

By 1LT Ron Alexander
Warrior Words

MAJ Fred-Otto Egeler, the Vietnam veteran who served as the friendly CSMR public affairs section leader for the former 40th IDSDB, has retreated forward into retirement.

Egeler's departure brings to a close a service career of 50+ plus years with the military or with military-related agencies.

With his humorous touch and public relations savoir-faire, Egeler was a constant presence for the CSMR around the JFTB, particularly in working with the Cal Guard on various tasks, missions and events.

MAJ James Adair, who is now in charge of the PA section under the newly formed Southern Regional Support Command, said he'll be checking in regularly with Egeler, who will also stay in touch by providing consultation to Group Command.

Egeler had a 23-year active duty career in the Army, including combat in

Vietnam. Among his numerous awards: Bronze Star, Purple Heart and the Army Commendation Medal.

He then served a total of 22 years with the Army Corps of Engineers and the Defense Logistics Agency.

In 2001, Egeler began providing PAO support to the CSMR and the Cal Guard. His praiseworthy accomplishments included producing the *Pass in Review* newsletter, which served as the forerunner to *Warrior Words*.

His key contributions, however, were his continuous efforts to steadily coordinate PAO resources and provide practical assistance to the 40th ID as it evolved through numerous missions, deployments and changes of command. ■



Soldiers honored with decorations and promotions

The following soldiers were honored by the CSMR in recent months.

February 2008

Abbott, Keith 2LT

Mission Qualification Ribbon, Recruiting Achievement Ribbon (2nd), Volunteer Service Ribbon

McCown, Hazel CW2

Meritorious Achievement Medal

McMahon, Sean A. SSG

Enlisted Excellence Ribbon, Recruiting Achievement Ribbon, Meritorious Achievement Medal

Morris, Lloyd E., Jr. CW2

Meritorious Achievement Medal

Mott, Christopher M. SSG

Meritorious Achievement Medal

March 2008

Lacy, Lola to SGT

Brooks, Andrew CPT

State Service Ribbon,

Burton, Charles MSG

Drill Attendance Ribbon, Outstanding Services Ribbon

Cruz, Ivan SSG

Drill Attendance Ribbon, Outstanding Services Ribbon

Hart, David MAJ

Drill Attendance Ribbon

Kreter, James MAJ

Drill Attendance Ribbon

Lakoske, Raymond SFC

Drill Attendance Ribbon, Outstanding Services Ribbon (3rd)

McMahon, Sean A. SSG

Drill Attendance Ribbon, Outstanding Services Ribbon (3rd)

Pahries, Andrew CPT

Drill Attendance Ribbon, Outstanding Services Ribbon

Voelker, Paul A. CPT

Emergency Training Ribbon (2nd)

White, Gary CSM

Drill Attendance Ribbon, Outstanding Services Ribbon

Wilson, Bridget MAJ

Drill Attendance Ribbon, Outstanding Services Ribbon ■

WARRIOR WORDS



Southern Regional Support Command

COL MARC BRESLOW,
COMMANDING

Published bimonthly by the Public Affairs Section of the Southern Regional Support Command, California State Military Reserve Joint Forces Training Base, Los Alamitos.

Public Affairs Officer

MAJ James Adair

Deputy Public Affairs Officer

1LT RON ALEXANDER

EDITOR: SGT Jim Tortolano. STAFF: WO1 Richard DeLaTorre, SSG Richard Bergquist, SSG John Thompson, SPC Darrell Wilson. Please send news items, story suggestions, corrections to warriorwords@mac.com.

ON THE COVER

Cover photo: SPC Michael Maciver of the CSMR demonstrates to National Guardsmen of the 1/185 Combined Arms Battalion how to reassemble a 50-caliber Browning machine gun
Photo by SGT Robert Davison.



MEMBERS of the 1/185 Combat Arms Battalion pose with belted ammunition prior to familiarization firing with the .50-caliber machine gun, M-2 ("Ma Deuce") at the machine gun range at Camp Roberts on Feb. 8.

Photo: CPT Anthony Colannino

Learning, teaching on 'Ma Deuce'

Many Soldiers in the California State Military Reserve have served in the various branches of the armed forces, and bring with them a wealth of knowledge and experience. Among the ways they use that and contribute to the security of California and the United States is by helping to train their counterparts in the California National Guard.

Components of the CSMR, under the command of MAJ Russell Nakaishi, served as instructors and RSO (range safety officers) for the 1/185 Combined Arms Battalion of the Cal Guard during the week of Feb. 7-10 at Camp Roberts.

Camp Roberts is a 43,000-acre base near Paso

Robles on the central coast of California.

The Guardsmen were completing Common Task Training (CTT) in preparation for deployment to Iraq before September. The members of the CSMR were integrated with the Cal Guard for all phases of training.

CTT Training began in December 2007 and will extend through June.

Other training provided by SMR Soldiers included compass and land navigation. ■

- SGT Robert Davison, CSMR

Werewolves, Mummies & The Wild Ride

By **SGT Jim Tortolano**
Warrior Words

In Iraq, the U.S. and allied military forces have two intertwined missions: defeating the insurgency and rebuilding a nation shattered by war and neglect.

SSG Monique L. DeZiaueto, who serves with the CSMR in the Provost Marshals' office for the Southern Regional Support Command, spent nearly two years in Iraq working as a civilian IT Specialist with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

"The Corps of Engineers' job was to build whatever needed to be built -- schools, hospitals, jails, etc. -- to rebuild the infrastructure there," she said. However, much of the actual work was being done by the local nationals in Iraq.

SSG DeZiaueto was stationed in Baghdad from December 2005 to August 2007. During that time she traveled across the countryside on hazardous missions in support of "Operation Iraqi Freedom".

In Iraq she had two principal tasks: providing the Iraqis with computers and other technology to enable them to perform engineering tasks, and a special "life support" program for endangered Iraqi citizens who worked on the Corps' projects.



THE WEREWOLF provided much of the transportation.

SSG Monique DeZiaueto was in Iraq from December 2005 to August 2007 as a civilian employee of the Army Corps of Engineers. Helping to rebuild a war-ravaged country had its scary and awe-inspiring moments.



THE sudden sandstorms in Iraq were like something out of the movie "The Mummy."

Photos courtesy SSG Monique DeZiaueto

There is a 70 percent unemployment rate in Iraq, and locals who work for the United States run the risk of retaliation by insurgents.

"For the locals who worked for the Corps, a few needed their own bodyguards," she said. "Some of them saw their families killed or kidnapped, and if threatened I was assigned to find them a safe haven via the life support program."

Additionally, she had to assure U.S. and allied security forces that the Corps' Iraqi employees were not dangerous insurgents. "All hired locals were thoroughly investigated, she said." There was much paperwork to be done, and there was also the onerous task of notifying the families when there was a death or kidnapping.

Although a civilian employee, SSG DeZiaueto was no rear-echelon paper-pusher. The Corps' missions were so sufficiently dangerous that they had their own security teams, civilian prior-military contractors who took her and her colleagues on their rounds.

The personal security team' (PST) companies hired for their protection were AEGIS and ERINYS, composed mostly of citizens of South Africa, Australia, Great



MONIQUE DeZiaueto with her personal security team. Civilian contractors provided much of the protection.

Britain and other European countries. “These guys were with us constantly,” she said. “They ate, slept and lived with us on the base compound. They escorted us any place we needed to go off of the

“These guys did not drive less than 80 miles an hour until we got where we were going”

base, which was mostly through the ‘Red Zone’ to get to other ‘forward operating bases (FOBS) including the ‘Green Zone,’ which was as dangerous as the Red Zone most times.”

Those journeys could be hair-

raising. A road trip would require a PST of 16, employing a squadron of specialized armored vehicles called “Werewolves.” The convoy would place the civilian vehicles in the middle, with two Werewolves in front, two in the back and a lead and following vehicle.

“We used to have rescue drills in our parking lot to practice how they would move us from one vehicle to another if we came under fire. These guys would literally have to lie on top of us and shoot at the enemy to protect us. Now I know how the movie stars and diplomats feel when they have to travel with their entourage, she said.”

Once underway, the convoys took a no-nonsense approach. “These guys did not drive less than 80 miles an hour until we got to where we were going, even if it meant running over cats, dogs, or people sometimes if they looked like they were going to attack, and they even shot at cars if they got too close,” she said. “Talk about ‘Mr. Toad’s Wild Ride’ at

Disneyland; it has nothing on these guys.”

SSG DeZiaueto is well-suited to her world-wide adventures. She is currently the Deputy Chief of Security for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District. A CSMR soldier since May 2002, she served in the active U.S. Army for three years, the Army Reserves for three, and even spent three in the U.S. Navy Reserves. ■



ARMY Corps of Engineers flag flies during another epic dust storm.

Operating in the city: wise MOUT is useful

By WO1 Rick de la Torre
Warrior Words

What's the right thing a Soldier needs to do when a suspicious car approaches a restricted area?

The answer: rely on awareness, common sense and teamwork gained through training experiences.

Some of those training experiences for Cal Guard Soldiers are courtesy of a successful CSMR program by the Southern Regional Support Command's PMO, which uses proven law enforcement tactics to help Soldiers better respond to suspicious persons and vehicles.

The program, known as Military Operations in Urban Training (MOUT), is designed for a variety of situations applicable in scenarios for civilian unrest, disaster relief and combat conditions. MOUT sessions for the Cal Guard are scheduled for this month.

CSMR Soldiers with extensive experience in law enforcement — as police officers, sheriff's deputies and other types of personnel — serve as instructors for the program that involves classroom work and field demonstrations.

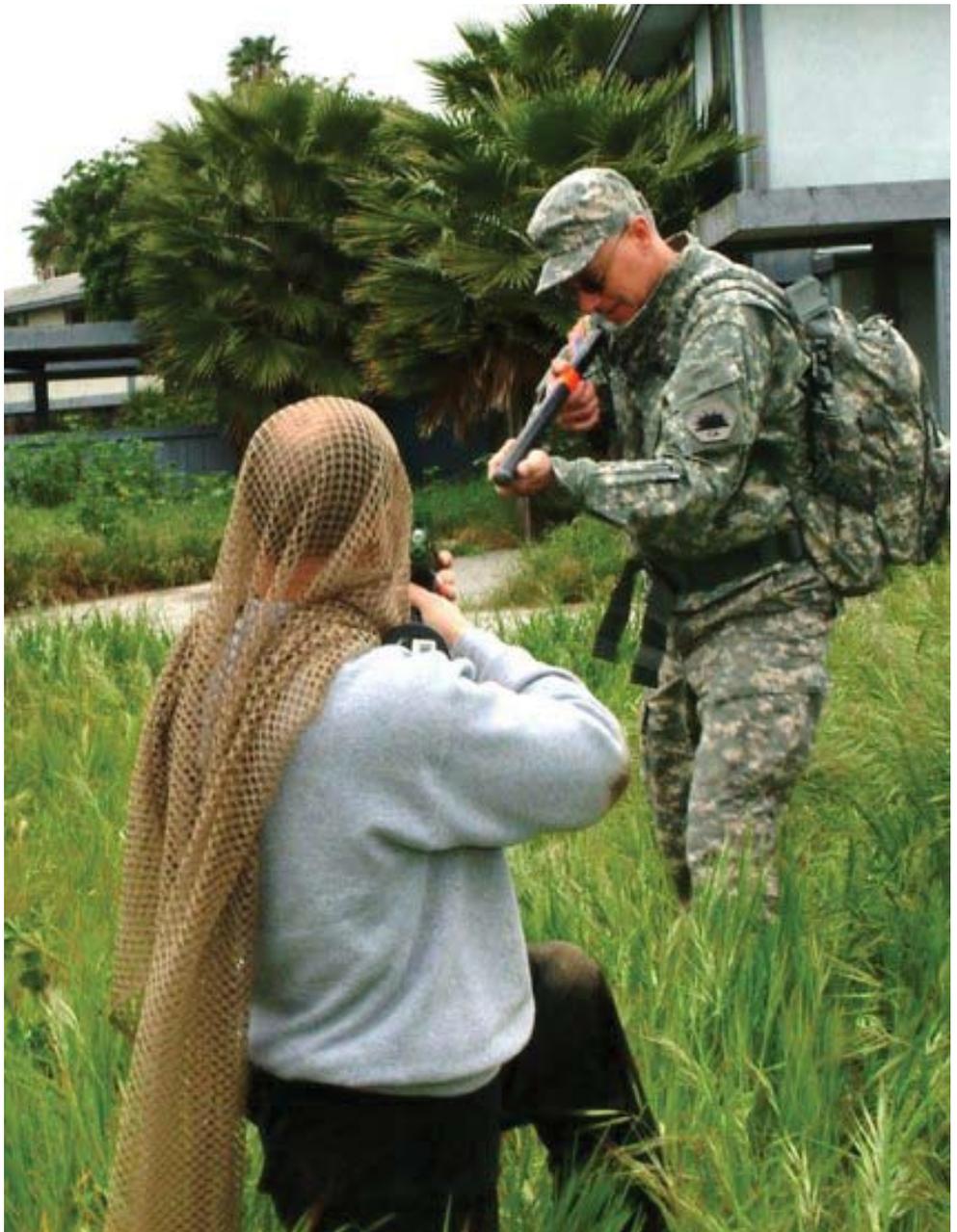
In some cases, the PMO conducts MOUT for its own instructional team and MPs to help them stay fresh, and to other CSMR Soldiers to get them familiar with the training.

The demonstrations, which take place at the JFTB's vacant housing area, rehearse the classic MP functions of roadblocks/checkpoints, the approach-and-search of vehicles, and personnel pat-downs.

CSMR Soldiers role-play as "suspects," carrying various assortments of replica guns, grenades and improvised explosive devices in vehicles.

In addition, there are also practice reviews of fireteam movements and formations around neighborhoods, with CSMR Soldiers playing hidden "snipers."

"We're helping Cal Guard Soldiers



CSMR soldiers learned military operations in urban terrain as well as portrayed insurgents in recent training at the Joint Forces Training Base in Los Alamitos.

Photos by SSG Richard Bergquist



ready themselves as good-to-go when it comes time for deployments with missions that will require skills and smarts

to get the job done and stay alive," said CSMR MAJ Frank Naumann, who spearheads the program. ■

Get in step with MEMS training

Every CSMR Soldier needs to get his basic badge. Here's help in doing that

By **SGT Jim Tortolano**
Warrior Words

The fires that devastated much of Southern California last fall were a tragedy for those affected, but revealed at least one major benefit: the value of the Military Emergency Management System.

1LT Galo Pesantes, who oversees the MEMS program for the California State Military's Southern Regional Support Command, was deployed during Operation Fall Blaze.

"I realized when I worked in the Joint Operations Center in Pasadena as an LNO (liaison officer) just how valuable it is," he said.

By learning the MEMS, CSMR Soldiers have a common vocabulary and system that allows them to work more smoothly with not just the California National Guard, but with all agencies – military or not – that respond to emergencies.

Soldiers new to the CSMR need to know it is required that all Soldiers get the basic MEMS qualification badge. To learn the MEMS system, Soldiers must complete six classes (all of which can be taken online) and complete a practicum, which involves participating in either a practice exercise or an actual emergency deployment.

Membership in the State Guard Association of the United States is also required to receive the MEMS badge, which can be worn on a Soldier's uniform, just as the insignia of airborne and other specialized units.

The courses are given by the Federal Emergency Management Agency,

"MEMS helps you understand how OECs (emergency operations centers) work, how emergency deployments work, and more. It's easy

to understand and plays an important role in helping the National Guard in putting qualified people in critical positions in an emergency situation," said 1LT Pesantes.

All Soldiers in the CSMR must com-



WHEN Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans and the Gulf Coast in 2006, much of the relief work, including debris clearance, was done by military units, including the National Guard. **Photo courtesy U.S. Army**

plete the basic Military Emergency Management Specialist qualification. BG Emory Hagan, commander of the CSMR, has set the example by getting his MEMS badge early, and is pursuing the higher levels of senior and master MEMS.

Currently, 1LT Pesantes is tracking the progress of about 180 soldiers. "I have so far about 35 basic MEMS certificates at completion, and another 55 have completed the coursework but still need to participate in an emergency practice to complete their practicum."

He's hoping that by the end of the year,

50 percent of the Soldiers in the SRSC will have won their basic MEMS badge.

Soldiers will get a chance to get their practicum done with the Golden Guardian exercises, said 1LT Galo, and possibly the more extensive Golden Phoenix. Last year, one Golden Guardian was held in June and another in November; the Golden Phoenix in August.

New Soldiers – or anyone with questions about MEMS – can contact 1LT Galo through e-mail at gpesantes@sbc-global.net or on his cell phone at (213) 999-9064.

"I'm very excited and eager to help anyone," he said. "MEMS is going to be a very important part of the SMR in the years to come." ■



FALL OUT

RAPID FIRE:

■ MG Robert Wade, adjutant general of the California National Guard and commander of the California Military Department, of which the CSMR is a part, was the grand marshal for the Tet holiday parade



held in the Little Saigon area of Westminster in February. Photo at left by SGT Mike Nguyen.

■ Warrior Words now has a place on the World Wide Web. SSG Richard Bergquist of the PAO section of the SRSC, has started "Warrior's Den," a website archiving issues of

Warrior Words and also displaying photos taken by the section's photographers. Go to www.warriorwords.info.

■ Annual training is coming up. It will be held at Camp Parks (near Oakland) July 29-Aug 3. Soldiers should notify their section commanders of their intent to attend. We'll have more on AT in our July issue.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

'Be strong and courageous'

God's Word has a lot to say that is valuable for soldiers! In Joshua 1:1-9, God prepares both Joshua and a new generation of Israelites to enter the Promised Land (Canaan). He prepares them by teaching the importance of courageous and consistent faith.

In this passage (1:1-9), the Lord Himself tells Joshua, the new leader of Israel, no less than three times: "Be strong and courageous!" Almighty God wanted to make sure that Joshua got the message not to be afraid or discouraged. Instead, through faith and trust in God, Joshua was to model strength and courage for his followers.

Like Joshua, we too need faith and trust in God to live our lives as citizen-soldiers. Always remember: "The Lord your God will be with you wherever you go!"



CPT CHRISTOPHER FOWLER

NCO PROFILES

1SG PHILLIP A. ARELANO SGT CHRISTINE A. ARELANO



Ages: 48, 43

Joined the CSMR: March 2005

Prior Service: Phil 23+ years US Army active duty; Christine is non-prior

Now: Phil is a federal firefighter at Naval Base Ventura County/Point Mugu; Christine is a licensed vocational nurse and a medical insurance claims specialist

They Live in: Oxnard

CSMR section: He's at HQ, and she's in the medical section

Civilian hobbies and interests: Motorcycle riding, snow skiing, surfing, hockey, NASCAR

Civilian education: Phil: community college and firefighter schools; Christine: community college and vocational nursing coursework

Why join the CSMR?

Christine: It was my suggestion. I wanted to do something for the war effort and the troops. And so we decided to do it as a couple.

What do you most like about the CSMR:

The camaraderie, dedication and enthusiasm. CSMR Troops working together to support the Cal Guard Soldiers and to support each other.

CSMR honors: Various ribbons

Let's hear from you

Got a story idea, a photo, a suggestion, a comment, a correction or a complaint? Warrior Words is your newsletter for the Soldiers in the CSMR's Southern Regional Support Command. Contact us by e-mail at warrior-words@mac.com. We want to hear from you.

