

935th Aviation Support Battalion



Volume I, Issue I

31 July 2012

Battalion Commander
LTC Roger R. Bodenschatz

Battalion Sergeant Major
CSM Javier R. Acosta

Battalion Executive Officer
MAJ Craig C. Schnauffer

HSC Commander
CPT Casey B. Steiner

HSC First Sergeant
ISG Joseph C. Dorsey

Alpha Company Commander
ILT Matthew M. Holmes

Alpha Company First Sergeant
ISG Gregory L. Lowe

Bravo Company Commander
MAJ Keith A. Noppenberger

Bravo Company First Sergeant
ISG Brian L. Boyer

Charlie Company Commander
2LT Edward A. Maidment

Charlie Company First Sergeant
ISG Charles D. Holt

Battalion Chaplain
CPT Clifford T. Brown

S-1
ILT River Tene
SFC Heather S. Olson

S-2
ILT Joseph J. Henry

S-3
ILT Christa J. Nieland
MSG Lawrence R. Welty

S-4
CPT Suzanne P. Rodriguez
SFC Joshua M. Hanks

S-6
CPT John W. Zarbock
SFC Randall L. Fear

CSSAMO
CW3 James H. Hosford
SFC Wayne E. Harrell

SPO
CPT Norma-Gene Cottrell
SGM Robert H. Maze

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2LT Brittany A Adair
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CW3 Daniel W. Leiber
SPC Jesse Merritt

Welcome!

This is the first edition of the 935th Aviation Support Battalion Newsletter and we thank you for taking the time to read about what your Soldiers have been doing for pre-deployment training and taking the chance to get to know your Soldiers leadership. We will be publishing a newsletter each month for the duration of this deployment. If there is certain content that you would like to see, please feel free to email the 935th Unit Public Affairs Representative, 2LT Brittany A Adair at workhorseupar@gmail.com to send in your requests and pictures. All information will be screened by the Battalion and Company Chain of Command, the Battalion Intelligence Officer (1LT Joseph Henry), the Brigade Public Affairs Officer and the Battalion Public Affairs Representative before publication.

We hope Family and Friends back home are enjoying their summer months and looking forward to the approaching school year 2012-2013. Your Soldiers have been working hard in preparation for our deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and we thank you for all of your support.

Your Soldiers were well-trained on individual warrior tasks at Camp Clark, Missouri and swiftly moved into unit training at Fort Hood, Texas, where they have grown to trust and rely on one another as a brother or sister in arms. We will be flying over to Kuwait in the coming days to begin another exciting phase in our journey, a journey that only a few lucky Americans get the chance to experience. The letters and care packages that Soldiers receive are a wonderful reminder of their loved ones that support them from home and await their safe return in 2013.

We thank you once again and hope you enjoy hearing about your Soldiers accomplishments!

Children in the 935th

Each month we would like to congratulate the parents of any newborn children and/or highlight the accomplishments of your children. To submit your child's accomplishments, names of newborn children and pictures, send an email to 2LT Brittany Adair.

The 935th would like to extend its congratulations to the following Soldiers who have welcomed newborn babies since the beginning of our pre-deployment training:

CPT Scott J. Sengenberger
SSG Robert J Kulage
SPC Jubal F Lawrence
PFC Damon N Lappe

SFC Timothy H Gleason
SGT David A. Johnson
SPC Michael D Walker

SFC Joshua R. Gan
SGT Lucas A Siemers
SPC Gavin R. Birbeck

If we did not include you in this month's newsletter, we extend our apologies and will gladly include you in next month's newsletter. Please send your information to 2LT Brittany Adair.

LTC Roger R Bodenschatz

Hello Soldiers, Families and Friends of the 935th Aviation Support Battalion. It is hard to believe we are closing out month number three preparing for this mobilization and boy has it been a doozie. The number of Soldiers I had to leave home only puts more work on those on the roster. I've been in for 25 years and have never had to deal with a situation like this. It was not easy to identify those who stayed on the roster and those I had to send home. A lot of great Soldiers had to stay in MO and I want them to know to continue training hard because you never know when the State or Nation will need your expertise. I wish them all the best.

If you didn't know we bring together three states to comprise the 935th for this deployment. We have over 120 soldiers from the Show Me State (Missouri) from the Springfield, Aurora and Warrensburg areas, over 120 from the Land of Lincoln (Chicago, Illinois) and over 20 from the great state of South Dakota (Rapid City, South Dakota). These great Soldiers have been together since 7 June 2012 and I have nothing but praise for the strong focus and hard work they have all done. Each state is represented well and every citizen from MO, IL and SD should be nothing but proud of how these citizen soldiers have performed.

Before we came together at Fort Hood each unit had to complete many individual tasks at home station, so that we could focus on collective unit training at Fort Hood. The individual training consisted of Weapons Qualification (individual and crew), Combat Life Saver, Land Navigation, Counter Improvised Explosive Devices, Convoy Operations, React to Enemy Fire and many more.

Once the individual training was completed, each unit conducted a deployment ceremony before loading up to make the trip to Fort Hood. I want to take a moment here to thank all the Soldiers, FRG's, family, friends and local establishments that participated in each state deployment ceremony. The outpouring of support for the Soldiers and Families will be a lasting memory for each and every deploying soldier.

Once the units arrived at Fort Hood we began the preparation for going overseas. We were no longer 935th ASB from MO or IL or SD, we are now just the 935th ASB, one unit with one mission to support the 35th Combat Aviation Brigade. **WORKHORSE!** Since our arrival we have received all our shots, updated our paperwork and received more Army clothing and gear. We continued the training by preparing for our Culminating Training Event (CTE). The CTE is a graded event that lets the Army know we are ready to deploy. To get ready for this event each Company completed collective training with ground maintenance, forward arming and refueling points (FARP), aviation maintenance, downed aircraft recovery team (DART), personal security detachments (PSD) and signal operations. With the overwhelming success of the CTE, we proved to everyone that the 935th ASB is ready to deploy. After the CTE we completed a mounted gunnery, aviation computer exercise and counter improvised explosive device training. As you can see we are well trained and ready for departure. We have 40 Soldiers on the ground in country getting things ready for the Units arrival.

The Soldiers got a MUCH DESERVED 4 day pass in July and I hope everyone enjoyed themselves. I know it is hard to keep saying good-bye. A new address for your packages and letters to your Soldier is in this newsletter. Keep those packages coming, they are a big boost to the Soldiers since we are so far from home. Communication is key to making this deployment go smooth for the Soldier, Family and Friends. If you have not heard from your Soldier then you let me know and send me an email to this address, roger.bodenschatz@us.army.mil. I will make sure an email, letter or carrier pigeon gets back to you from your Soldier. Don't forget the FRG at the unit is there for you and the 935th Rear Detachment team is there also.

It is an absolute honor to be the Battalion Commander of the BEST NATIONAL GUARD SOLDIERS in the United States.

WORKHORSE!



CSM Javier R. Acosta

As we train down to the day we leave Ft. Hood, the Soldiers of the 935th ASB are still focused. Regardless of which state they came from they have transitioned into a cohesive and battle ready unit. Make no mistake they are ready. Their time away from Family and home has not been wasted and they will go into the fight prepared with new skills and experiences that will carry them through. The Soldiers are still smiling, their resolve is strong and we couldn't ask for any better out of the men and women that make up our unit.

Although some Soldiers have transitioned back home, their contributions in our success should not go without mention. Unfortunately, the choice was not theirs; you will be missed. I ask those Soldiers to hold the line, remain true and posture the units to stay successful. While we help take the fight forward, we need our brothers and sisters in arms to not forsake us. We look to you to help protect our families, we look to you to maintain the guard. In our last days of preparation we look to our families to help focus our hearts and minds to the task.



Promotions:

1LT Joseph Henry	CW3 Michael Hanson	SFC Terry Billingsley	SFC Andrew Williams
SSG Clint Snider	SSG Mitchel Jensen	SGT Robert Reed	SGT Bianca Allen
SGT Anthony Catencamp	SGT Thomas Forman	SPC Justin Shields	SPC Jacob Mikles
SPC Shawn Sell	SPC Jessica Smith	SPC Jesse Mullen	SPC Nathan Peabody
PFC Randall Barnes	PFC Cory Whiteside	PFC Allen Lamastus	PFC Jesse Miller
PFC Joseph Barnes	PFC Joshua Quandt		

Noteworthy achievements:

SFC Joshua Hanks – presented with the Combat Action Badge
 SPC Jubal Lawrence,– 400 (perfect score) for mounted gunnery night live fire
 SPC Justin Trevizo– 500 (perfect score) for mounted gunnery day live fire

Received Coins from LTC Galbreath of the 166th BDE because of their actions during our Culminating Training Exercise:

1LT Christa Neiland	SGT Kara Charbonneau	SGT Kayla Grimshaw	SGT Arturo Parra
SPC Sarah Miller	SPC Nathan Peabody	SPC Michael Peters	PV2 Brady Cossey

Received Coin of Excellence from CSM Amagliani from the 166th BDE:

SPC Henry Gonzalez, Bravo Company, Chicago, Illinois

Army Physical Fitness Badge– The following Soldiers scored a 270 or above on their Army Physical Fitness Test:

HSC-			
CPT Casey Steiner	CPT Suzanne Rodriguez	2LT Brittany Adair	SGM Robert Maze
SSG Clint Snider	SGT Robert Reed		
Alpha Company-			
2LT Zachary Kral	SSG Connie Bayless	SPC Sarah Miller	PFC Daniel Mundwiller
Bravo Company-			
SGT Brennan Cox	SGT Dion Brown	SPC Sean Diesburg	SPC Alfredo Fuentes
SPC Michal Marzec	SPC Brenda Moreno		
Charlie Company-			
SGT Robert Pollock	SPC Jessica Smith	SPC Nicholas Spence	

Chaplain Clifford Brown

Our moment is just around the corner. A few days from now we will be heading to a new country on a new mission. There are many thoughts that go through our minds in a time of distance and transition. Worry and sadness can overwhelm if we do not approach this deployment with a fresh, positive approach. One thing I talk to many of your Soldiers about is taking this next nine months or so to set goals, prepare themselves for the next stage in life, life after the desert. Many of them want to increase in their faith. Others want to get into better physical shape, increase their health and longevity. Still others are working on increasing their intellect through study and reading. It is challenging to be away from the ones they love but they are taking steps to improve themselves, knowing it will improve their Families and those they love.

I want to encourage you at home to do the same thing. Take this time apart to set goals and accomplish things you have neglected or have always wanted to attempt. This does a few important things. First, it allows you to use this time wisely, moving toward growth and refinement. Secondly, it keeps you in line with your Soldier, developing simultaneously, though worlds apart. Lastly, it helps the time to go faster. The purpose is not to fill every second with just anything, but to fill time with something that matters.

Francis Chan once wrote, "Our greatest fear should not be of failure but of succeeding at things in life that don't matter." Your Soldier is doing things that matter. The freedoms we enjoy in this great country are free because someone was willing to pay the price, don the uniform, and serve. What they do matters. Their success is dependent on your support and love, without which failure is the only option. As they serve, you serve. But use the time apart productively and share with your Soldier your progress. They will be excited and encouraged.

We appreciate and miss you,
Chaplain Brown



CPT Casey B. Steiner

MILITARY AND CIVILIAN EDUCATION: CPT Steiner earned a Bachelors of Science in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration from Western Illinois University in Macomb, IL. He is also a graduate of the Armor Officer Basic Course, Fort Knox KY; Scout Platoon Leaders Course, Fort Knox KY; Military Intelligence Officer Tactician Course, Fort Huachuca AZ; and the Reserve Component Military Intelligence Captains Career Course, Fort Huachuca AZ. CPT Steiner is currently enrolled in the Masters of Business Administration program at Colorado State University.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS: After commissioning in 2002, CPT Steiner's first assignment was Scout Platoon Leader, G Troop, 2nd Squadron, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment (2/2ACR). This also represented his first deployment – Sadr City, Baghdad, Iraq. Upon redeployment to Fort Polk, LA, CPT Steiner was selected to be the Executive Officer of E Troop, 2/2ACR. Next, CPT Steiner served as the first Executive Officer of A Troop, 3/89 Cavalry, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division (4/10 MTN). In 2005, CPT Steiner left Armor (Cavalry!) and began his career as a Military Intelligence (MI) Officer. His first MI assignment was the S2 of 3/89 Cavalry, followed by assistant Brigade S2, 4/10 MTN. In 2007, CPT Steiner joined 1st Theater Sustainment Command (1st TSC) at Fort Bragg, NC. 1st TSC deployed to Camp Arifan, Kuwait where CPT Steiner served as the Deputy G2 for Current Operations providing intelligence support to 1st TSC and ARCENT. In December 2008, CPT Steiner left Active Duty and joined the Missouri Army National Guard, initially assigned as the Electronic Warfare Officer of 35th CAB before being selected for his current position as Commander, Headquarters and Support Company, 935th Aviation Support Battalion. As a civilian, CPT Steiner works at Fort Leonard Wood, MO for Booz Allen Hamilton where he supports the integration and Soldier training of surveillance systems and entry control point equipment for US Army Training and Doctrine Command.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS: Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Army Overseas Ribbon, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge

CPT Steiner currently resides in Mark Twain National Forest (near Fort Leonard Wood, MO) with his wife of 10 years, Brittany Steiner, his son Quinn, and his daughter Sheelin.



1SG Joseph C. Dorsey

MILITARY CIVILIAN EDUCATION: 1SG Dorsey Graduated High School in Cabool, MO. 1983, 40 hrs of College completed to date. Fall of 1983 Entered Military Service Basic Training, Ft Knox KY; Advanced Individual Training for Utility Helicopter Repair, Ft Rucker AL; Primary Leadership and Discipline Course, Camp Ashland NE; Basic Non Commissioned Officers Course, Springfield MO; Advanced Non Commissioned Officers Course, Eastern Army Aviation Training Center Harrisburg PA; First Sergeant Course, Ft Jackson SC; Black Hawk Transition Course, Eastern Army Aviation Training Center Harrisburg PA; Automated Logistics Specialist Course, Ft Harrison, Helena MT;

ASSIGNMENT HIGHLIGHTS: Initial 3 year enlistment in the Army 1SG Dorsey attended Basic Training at Ft Knox, KY. And then went on to Advanced Individual Training at Ft Rucker, AL. for Utility Helicopter repair training. After which was assigned to Cco 227th Aviation Battalion 1st Cavalry Division Ft Hood TX. While assigned as a UH-1H Huey Helicopter Crew Chief he had three deployments to Central America, Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. Two Rotations to National Training Center, Ft Erwin Calif., participated in Border Star 85 Exercise Ft Bliss TX. In the Missouri National Guard 1SG Dorsey has been assigned to Gco Det-1 135th AVN Springfield MO 1986; 1105th AVCRAD Springfield MO 1990; Aco 935th AVN SPT BN Springfield MO 1997; Cco Det-1 935th DIV AVN SPT BN (DSAB) Aurora MO. 2003; Aco 935th AVN SPT BN (ASB) Aurora MO. 2004; FSC 203rd ENGR BN Joplin MO. 2007; Aco Task Force Saber 110th MEB Camp Bondsteel Kosovo 2008; HSC 935th AVN SPT BN Springfield MO. 2009; 311th BSB Lexington MO. 2009; Presently 1SG for HSC 935th ASB Springfield MO. While being a member of the Missouri National Guard 1SG Dorsey has been able to be a part of many operations and activities to include; Competitive marksmanship matches at all levels to include State, Regional, National, All Army, and Commanders Challenges Matches; Security Duty for Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City Utah 2002; State Emergency Duty for tornado relief Pierce City MO. 2003; Deployment to Kosovo in support of KFOR-10 2008; ADOS as Observer Controller / Trainer and NCOIC for the Missouri Training Evaluation Battalion (TEBn) Instructing PreMobilization Training for deploying units in Missouri 2009 to present. Currently deploying to Kuwait as 1SG for the HSC 935th ASB.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS: Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal (4), Army Achievement Medal (6), Good Conduct medal (2), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Service Medal (2), Humanitarian Service Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, NATO Non Article 5 Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Missouri Commendation Medal, Reserve Component Achievement Medal (5), Missouri State Emergency Ribbon, Utah 2002 Olympic Winter Games Service Ribbon, Army Overseas Service Ribbon (4), Army service Ribbon, NCO Professional Development Ribbon (3), Missouri Long Service Ribbon, Governors Twelve Ribbon, Adjutant Generals Twenty Ribbon, Chiefs Fifty Award, Gold Schutzenschnur German Weapons Proficiency Badge, Distinguished Rifleman Badge, Distinguished Postal Shot Badge, Master Aircrew Wings, Joint Meritorious Unit Presidential Citation.

1SG Dorsey currently resides in Republic MO. with his very supportive, FRG active wife of 23 years, Colleen Dorsey, Daughter Tristan, and son Parker.



1LT Matthew M. Holmes

Originally from Huntsburg, a small town in Northeast Ohio, I moved to Missouri in 2004. I attended the College of the Ozarks (C of O), where I started taking the available ROTC classes as electives. Of my many jobs at C of O, I spent four semesters in Landscaping, and three in the Center for Writing and Thinking, the college's writing lab. In October 2005 I enlisted in a 94R (Avionics Systems Repair Technician) slot in the 1107th AVCRAD, Missouri Army National Guard. The following summer I reported to Ft. Knox, Kentucky for BCT.

In August 2006 I contracted as an SMP Cadet into C of O's ROTC program, which was a satellite of MSU's ROTC. In the fall of 2007, I transferred from the AVCRAD to A Co, 935th, under the command of then CPT Craig Schnauer. I graduated in May 2008 with a Bachelor of Arts and commissioned as a Quartermaster Officer, serving as a Platoon Leader in A Co.

In 2009, I attended Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC) phase II (basic infantry leadership skills) at Ft. Benning, GA and phase III at the Quartermaster School for Excellence at Ft Lee, VA. In 2009 I became the Company Executive Officer.

I married my wife, Suzanne Holmes, in October 2010. I am a Detention Facility Officer for Kansas City, Missouri Police Department.



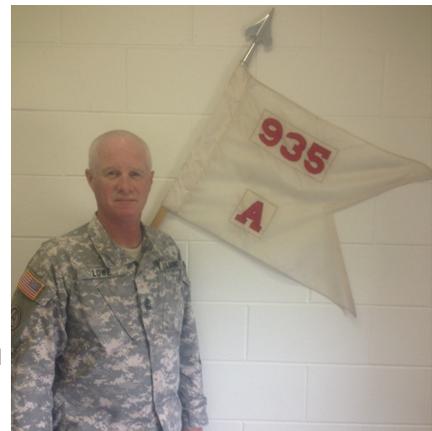
1SG Gregory L. Lowe

Hello Family and Friends of the 935th Aviation Support Battalion. My name is 1SG Gregory L. Lowe. I am the ISG of Company A 935th Aviation Support Battalion. My Home Station is located in Aurora, Missouri where I am the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Company Commander of 118 troops. Company A is the "Heart" of the Supply function of the 35th Combat Aviation Brigade when it comes to (Fueling Aircraft/ Ground Support Equipment, Supplying AMMO, Producing Potable Water, and providing some Transportation assets).

I enlisted in the military at the age of 17 years in 1979. I hold a variety of Military Occupational Skills (MOS) like: Combat Medic, Petroleum NCO, Carpenter, and Logistical NCOIC. I have conducted several State Emergency Duties in Missouri and (2) in Louisiana. I have had (2) State-Side Deployments after 9/11 and this will be my second deployment overseas. This is my 33rd year in the military and I have no plans of retiring anytime soon.

I have been married to the Love of My Life, Yalonda Lowe for 30 years. We have two Sons, Ethan and Lucas. We live in a small town in southwest Missouri called Golden City. We have lived in the same two-story house for 20 years. I have been the Public Works Director for Golden City for 15 years. I love to hunt, fish, and playing ball with my boy's.

I am excited to be able to deploy with a "Well-Trained, Well-Disciplined, and Motivated" Battalion like the 935th ASB. I have no doubt that we'll do great things and come home knowing that we accomplished our missions to the fullest. We could not be able to perform our missions without the support of our "Families and Friends" back home. For this, I Thank You. "HOOHA"!



"A TEAM"

MAJ Keith A. Noppenberger

MAJ Knoppenberger grew up in Camp Hill, PA. He attended Florida Institute of Technology on a ROTC Scholarship and graduated with a BS degree in Ocean Engineering in 1986. From 1986 to 87, he attended Aviation OBC and flight school at Ft Rucker. His first duty assignment was as a scout platoon leader with C Troop 5/17 CAV with the 2nd ID. After Korea, he PCSed to Panama and was assigned as the assistant S-3 with the 1-228th Assault Battalion during Operation Just Cause. He joined the Virginia National Guard in 1991 to 1998.

After 9/11, he joined the Illinois National Guard and transitioned to the UH-60. MAJ Noppenberger deployed as a commander of D Co 1-106th AV to Iraq and deployed to Kosovo for KFOR10 with the 110th MEB. His other assignments include A Co Commander, S-2, and Assistant S3 for 1-106th AV.

He currently works for Pfizer in Chicago area. He has been married to his wife Micha for 20 years and they have 3 children, Angela (17), Christine (15), and Tommy (12).

I hope everybody has used the time during the MOB to get themselves, their Soldiers and Family ready for the next year. For the Soldiers who have deployed, you know that these next few months are a marathon and not a sprint. I don't know about you but I am ready to get this deployment started and do our mission. I have seen the work and dedication of all the Soldiers of the unit and I am confident that we are ready. We have had a great opportunity to come together as a Company and Battalion. Lets continue over the next few months to keep this process going.



1SG Brian L. Boyer

First Sergeant Brian Boyer enlisted in September 1991 into the Wisconsin Army National Guard as a 68J Aircraft Armament/Missile System Repairer in the 1-147th Attack Battalion, Madison, WI. His other duties have included Unit Armorer from 1993-1998; Aircraft Structural Repairer Supervisor from 1998-2006; Component Repair Platoon Sergeant from 2006-2009; First Sergeant B co. 1/106th AVN REG from 2009-2010 and is currently the First Sergeant for B co. 935th ASB.

First Sergeant Boyer's deployments include: Germany-1993 aircraft armament/missile repairer; Iraq-OIF 2007-2008, NCOIC (Forward).

First Sergeant Boyer has attended WLC, BNCOC, ANCOG and First Sergeant Course. His MOS's have included 68J, 15G, 15K and 15Z.

First Sergeant Boyer's awards include: Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal 3rd Award, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Hour Glass Device, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M Device, Non-Commissioned Officers Professional Development Ribbon 3rd Award, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon.

First Sergeant Boyer's civic affiliations include: Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States, National Guard Association of Illinois, Veterans of Foreign War, Army Aviation Association of America, North American Fisherman, National Rifle Association, Cisco IP Telecommunications User Group, McHenry County Farm Bureau. First Sergeant Boyer resides in Crystal Lake, IL.

Greetings everyone –

We have completed everything that is required before heading over and able to start doing what we have trained so hard over the last couple years to be able to do. With the integration of all the new Soldiers to the company, joining up with the 935th Battalion and staying fluid with all the last minute changes during the train-up, I want to thank everyone for all their hard work and dedication to the mission, I know we will have a successful deployment with little issues. Stay positive and continue giving the 110% that you always do and this will be a successful and rewarding deployment for everyone.



2LT Edward A. Maidment

Hello, I'm 2LT Edward A. Maidment and I am the C Company 935th commander. While I was born in Columbia, SC I have lived in Missouri since I was twelve years old. I am the youngest of four children, two older girls and a brother. My father is a college professor and my mother was a nurse for forty years before she retired. We moved to Kansas City in 1993 and I have considered it my home ever since. I have a son who was born during my last deployment and turned four years old right after we arrived at Fort Hood.

After a semester of college in 1999 I enlisted in the US Army to be an MI Tank crewman and I spent three years at Fort Hood and one year in Korea. I left Korea and continued my service in the National Guard, spending four years in Aviation Operations in I-135 Attack at Whiteman AFB. I first mobilized with the 20th CAB for duty in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. I attended Missouri State University where I received my BA in History in December 2007. Just after graduation I deployed to Iraq with C Co I-106th Aviation and spent time in Baghdad and Al Kut. I was promoted to Staff Sergeant while deployed.

After returning from Iraq I returned to school to pursue my graduate degree. I also attended ROTC to obtain my commission. While I have not yet finished my MA, I received my commission in May of 2011 and attended the Signal Basic Officer Leadership Course that summer. Initially, I was assigned as the Battalion Signal Officer for the 3-135th Aviation in Lebanon, MO but I volunteered to deploy with the 935th ASB.

In my civilian life I work at the Ft Leavenworth PX. Some of my hobbies include barbequing, competitive pistol shooting, deer and turkey hunting, home brewing beer, and I have just started to get into amateur radios. I have also been a judge at the Miss North Carolina USA pageant.

I am looking forward to this deployment. C Company is made up of a number of excellent and motivated Soldiers and I feel it is a privilege to be the "Lightning" commander.



1SG Charles D. Holt

MILITARY HISTORY

I began my military career as an Administrative Assistant with the United States Marine Corps in December 1974. From there, I became a member of the 203rd Engineer Battalion from November 1990-March 2000. In March 2000, I became the Platoon Sergeant and Readiness NCO for Det. 1, 203rd Engineer Battalion at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and deployed with HHC, 203rd Engineer Battalion in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom for 18 months. Upon returning from deployment, I became the Platoon Sergeant and Readiness NCO for the 117th Quarry Team at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and in April 2004 I deployed with the 35th ID Engineer Brigade in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. After returning from deployment, I became the Como Chief for HHC, 3/135th TAB for 5 years. Since July 2011, I have had the opportunity to be the First Sergeant for Charlie Company, 935th Aviation Support Battalion



MILITARY SCHOOLS

Unit Movement Officer Course – November 2011, ISG Course – October 2011, OSHA First Line Leaders Course – 2010, AMMO 67 – 2010, DTMS Master Trainer Course -2010, ANCOC Phase 2 -2009, ANCOC Phase 1 -2009, Observer/Controller Course – 2008, 25U MOSQ Phase 2 – 2008, 25U MOSQ Phase 1 – 2008, Unit Readiness NCO - 2008, CLS – 2007, BNCOC Phase 1 – 2000, 62G MOSQ Phase 2 – 1998, PLDC – 1996, 62J MOSQ – 1992, USMC Administrative MOS Training – 1975, USMC Boot Camp - 1974

AWARDS

Army Commendation Medals (2), Army Achievement Medal (4), Army Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (3), National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal (2), Armed Forces Reserve Medal, NCO Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, Meritorious Unit Commendation (2) Awards, Missouri Vietnam Service Ribbon, Missouri Commendation Ribbon

I have been working as a Technician with the Missouri Army National Guard as the Readiness NCO since March 2000. I live in Lebanon, Missouri with my wife Lynne Holt and have four grown daughters, Candy, Mandy, Karissa and Ashton.

SPC Anthony Vigor- July Soldier of the Month

SPC Anthony Vigor, MO National Guardsman, HSC 935th ASB

Vigor's hometown is Republic, Missouri. He first joined the military to honor his grandfather who served in WWII. On September 27, 2006 he enlisted as a 94A, Land Air Combat Missiles Systems Repair. His second MOS is 25U, Commo. Now he is a 25B, Information Systems Specialist. He transferred to the 935th from Delta Company, 634th BSB in Illinois.

On the civilian side, Vigor is a rock mason. He is married to Peggy Vigor and they have four children, Araya, Elijah, Luka and Savannah.

Vigor plans on pursuing a degree in Computer Science when we return from deployment. Vigor is a member of 2nd Platoon, Headquarters and Support Company, 935th Aviation Support Battalion.



SPC Jason Edwards– June Soldier of the Month

SPC Jason Edwards, SD National Guardsman, member Co. B 935th ASB

Edwards' hometown is Rapid City, South Dakota. SPC Edwards has been in and out of the military since 1991 when he enlisted for the first time as a 67T (now known as a 15T, UH-60 helicopter Repairer). He left the service in 1994 for family reasons, but came back again in 2000. He left the military again in 2004, having reached the rank of E-6, Staff Sergeant and was also a technician at the flight facility. This time he left for other employment opportunities. In December of 2011, he enlisted yet again, to acquire a 94R, Avionics, MOS. He returned at the rank of Specialist due to the length of his break in service. Edwards has earned his A & P (Airframe and Powerplant) license, which is issued by the FAA.



His reasons for returning to the military are to earn benefits, extra money, and the opportunity to deploy again. He has deployed one other time before to Bosnia.

Edwards describes himself as, "A busy guy; Quiet, but not too quiet." He believes the deployment is going well so far. He likes that it's going well. He likes how the South Dakota and Illinois Soldiers have fit in with the Missouri Soldiers and hopes that success throughout the deployment.

Edwards has one child. His son's name is Jackson Dean Edwards. In Edwards' spare time, he enjoys dirt car racing. He currently has a dirt modified race car. Instead of putting his name on the car, it simply says, "Jackson's Daddy." He's been around racing all of his life. After the deployment, he hopes to assume ownership of his father's used car dealership.

SPC Edward is a member of 3rd Squad, 2nd Platoon, Company B 935th Aviation Support Battalion.

Family Relationships on Deployment

“Distance between two hearts is not an obstacle, rather a beautiful reminder of just how strong true love can be”
- Author Unknown

Even after saying good-bye to your loved ones and putting miles in between you for a deployment, you know that Family will always be there waiting and supporting. Some Family members in the 935th have the opportunity to deploy together, and even though they are able to see each other almost everyday, many people fail to realize that these family members have to maintain their professionalism, despite their relationship. CSM Javier Acosta and SPC Aiden Acosta are both members of the 935th. At home in Calhoun, Missouri, the father/son duo are able to simply spend time with one another and can often be seen training horses together and going on days-long trail rides. In uniform, however, they are a Command Sergeant Major, the highest enlisted rank you can achieve in the Army, and a Specialist, not ‘Dad’ or ‘Son’. MAJ Craig Schnauffer and SPC Matthew Schnauffer, another father/son team with the 935th, were able to train together for the past 3 months, but due to number cuts, SPC Schnauffer will be heading back to Missouri in a few days while his dad, MAJ Schnauffer, is already in Kuwait awaiting the arrival of the rest of the Battalion. Around other troops, although they are close at heart, they must remain professional and maintain their military bearing.

The same is true for our married dual-military couples on deployment with the 935th, SGT Brandon Charbonneau and SGT Kara Charbonneau, SPC Adam Miller and SPC Sarah Miller. Brandon Charbonneau and Kara Charbonneau, both 92F Fuelers, were married at the Soldiers Memorial in St. Louis on 11 September 2008. They both have a deep sense of duty and honor to the United States Military and have had to chance to deploy to Kosovo together in the past. As a married couple on deployment, they have to constantly remind themselves that they cannot show affection in uniform and out of professional respect for fellow Soldiers, they call each other by their rank and last name when around other Soldiers. Brandon Charbonneau shared that “If you can survive a deployment together [with all the added stress] it hardens your marriage.” They both had to leave their 13 year old son, Charlie, and 3 cats in the care of family back home. Close friends to the Charbonneau’s, Adam Miller and Sarah Miller are on their first deployment together as a married couple. They met back on their deployment to Iraq in 2007. They both realize that they have to ultimately focus on the mission during deployment, but it can be nice to have your spouse there as a ‘sounding board’. Both are full time students at Missouri Southern pursuing their Bachelors degrees and Adam works part time at DTS Custom Homes to provide for their family. They leave their Husky-lab mix, Dori, in the care of close family.

The connection between siblings is much different than that of a married couple and even a father/son. It is rare to have twins in the same unit, and the 935th is blessed to have two sets that are on deployment with us. SPC Andrew Butler and SPC Anthony Butler are with Headquarters and Support Company from Springfield, Missouri while SGT Christopher Johnson and SGT David Johnson are both Soliders in Bravo Company, 935th from Illinois. Somedays, you can’t tell the twins apart from one another, with their determination and dedication to the unit and the mission but once the duty day is over, their different personalities contrast the twins in more ways than one. Men will always be men with their bickering and smart comments to one another, always trying to prove who the stronger, tougher, smarter and more good-looking one is. At the end of the day, though, its nice to know you have a familiar face and someone you can trust whole-heartedly when you are miles away from home.

Whether you are right next to one another, or hundreds of miles apart, Family is always close to you at heart. There are challenges that every couple, sibling, parent, and child has to face with a deployment and knowing that you have support, whether they are a building away or a phone call away, makes the days go by faster and the job easier to handle.

2LT Brittany A Adair

For next months newsletter, we will share more information about the Battalion and Company missions for deployment and we will highlight Army Achievement Medal awardees.

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