

2nd Brigade Combat
Team Forward
Camp Buehring, Kuwait



Striker Torch

Combat Life Saver

SPECIAL EDITION 09JUL06

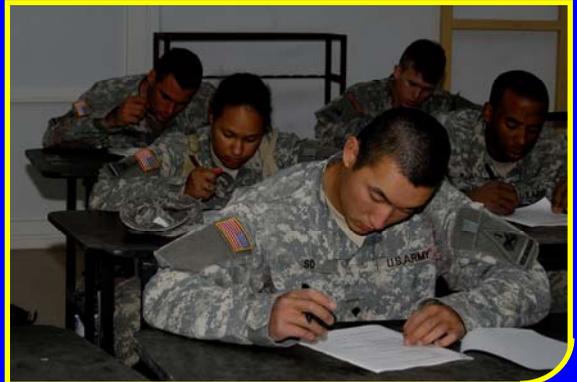
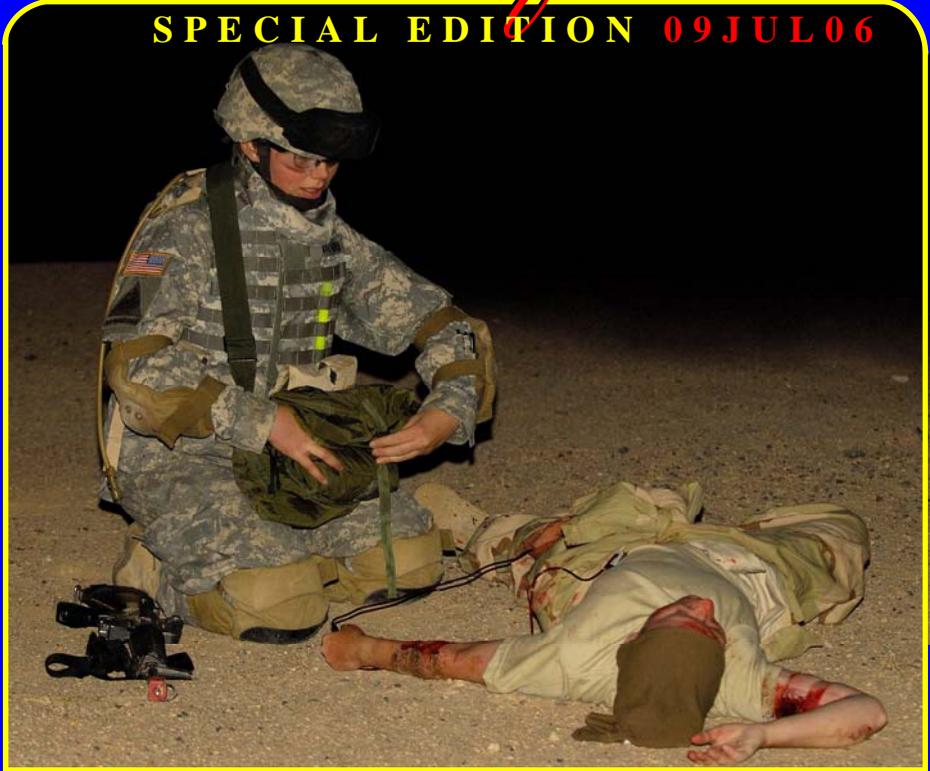
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Quote of the Week
“Lead me, follow me, or get out of my way.”
 - George Patton

Front Page

Top: Pvt. Carina Crawford from Company B, 47th Forward Support Battalion prepares to administer her CLS skills to mock casualty, Pfc. Sandra Pockwinse of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 47th Forward Support Battalion at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, on 22 June, 2006.

Bottom Left: Spc. Tomecia Bradley of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 47th Forward Support Battalion, determines why a “casualty” has stopped breathing during a Combat Life Saver competition held recently at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, on 22 June, 2006.

Bottom Right: Participants in the Combat Life Saver competition held by the 47th Forward Support Battalion at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, on 22 June, 2006, take the final written test at the end of a long night of graded practical examinations.

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Left: Spc. Byungmin So of Company C, 47th Forward Support Battalion moves simulated casualty Pfc. Sandra Pockwinse of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 47th FSB to safety prior to treating her for bleeding at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, on 22 June, 2006.

Top Right: Spc. Byungmin So of Company C, 47th Forward Support Battalion treats simulated casualty Pfc. Sandra Pockwinse of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 47th FSB during a Combat Life Saver competition at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, on 22 June, 2006.

Bottom Right: Spc. Deadra Brandt of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 47th Forward Support Battalion, performs first-responder treatment on a casualty with a chest wound during the Combat Life Saver competition held at Camp Buehring, Kuwait on 22 June, 2006.

All Photos by Spc. Joshua Ramey



Top Left: An M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank from Company C, 1st Battalion, 35th Armored Regiment, Task Force Conqueror participates in a daytime platoon live fire exercise just outside of Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Photo by 1st Lt. Dustin Gray

Bottom Left: Spc. Danniell McNeely and Pfc. Dustin Stanley, both from Battery C, 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment, practice scanning for IEDs at the Route Recon and Clearing training area outside of Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Photo by Capt. Charles Dayton

Top Right: Spc. Robert Moret of Battery C, 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment clears his .50 caliber machine gun during convoy live fire training outside of Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Photo by 2nd Lt. Jeffery Roberts

Bottom Right: 47th Forward Support Battalion gets ready to rollout to conduct Convoy Live Fire Training outside Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Photo by Capt. Martin Reidy



First Responders Put to the Test

Story and Photos by Spc. Joshua Ramey

The 47th Forward Support Battalion, "Modern Pioneers," took the U.S. Army's Combat Life Saver (CLS) course to the next level on 22 June, 2006, during a competition at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, designed to show participants of exactly what they're made.

"We've spent a lot of time on CLS first-responder training since December [2005], and this event allows our Soldiers to look at themselves and see how the training has worked for them. This is a good opportunity to enhance their skills within a stressed environment," said Lt. Col. Jeanne Hooper, 47th FSB's Battalion Commander.

The winner of the competition was awarded the Army Achievement Medal, as well as other untold perks of being the best Combat Life Saver in the Battalion. He or she would, however, first have to demonstrate proficiency in all CLS classroom-taught tasks on a simulated battlefield. Pfc. George Cloud, a Bradley Fighting Vehicle Electronic Sighting Mechanic of Company B, 47th FSB, joined the competition as one of the five best CLS qualified students in his company. "If anyone gets

injured out there, they have to be able to rely on someone. I want to be able to take care of my buddies, and I look forward to the experience of training in a tactical environment," he said while inspecting his gear for a four-mile foot march.

The 47th FSB simulated combat situations, with each competitor completing nine difficult tasks. The tasks were: complete a four mile foot march in full combat gear to the training site; control bleeding while moving a casualty with multiple wounds to safety; move a gunshot casualty to safety while providing medical attention to the respiratory system; properly call for an emergency helicopter evacuation and load casualties into the helicopter; setup a helicopter landing zone; successfully start an intravenous fluid line; prioritize casualties and load them into a field ambulance; assemble a casualty collection point; and finally take a written test of high value immediately after the rigorous tasks were completed.



Spc. Deadra Brandt of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 47th Forward Support Battalion, performs first-responder treatment on a casualty with a notional chest wound during the Combat Life Saver competition held at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, on 22 June, 2006.

the best I can to make it as realistic as possible with yelling, screaming, and demonstrating I'm in a lot of pain."

The twelve-hour event was conducted throughout the night and exposed Soldiers to more than just practical execution of classroom knowledge; it simulated the stress and sleep deprivation often associated with combat. The 47th FSB is no stranger to competitions aimed at teaching valuable instruction and rewarding those who demonstrate superior mental and physical abilities. "We have at least one major competition every quarter. We've done a forklift rodeo, a maintenance rodeo, this CLS competition, and next will be a truck rodeo. These competitions challenge our Soldiers, and give them a chance to show off their skills," said Lt. Col. Hooper.



Spc. William Blackburn of Company C, 47th Forward Support administers intravenous fluids to Spc. Crystal Gobel of Headquarters and Headquarters Company while Spc. Jeremiah Bruni, a medic from Co. C grades and ensures safety during a Combat Life Saver competition conducted at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, on 22 June, 2006.

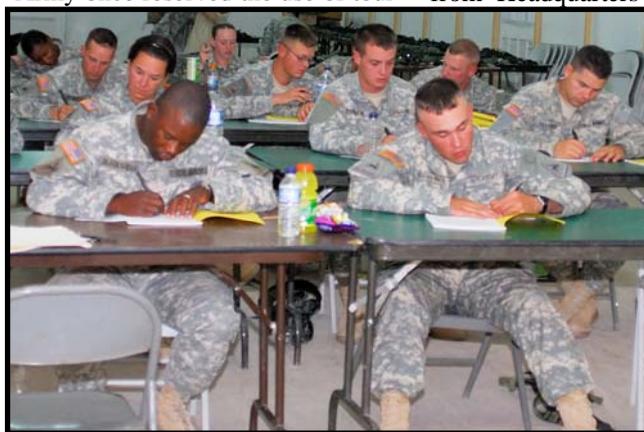
Pfc. Sandra Pockwinse of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 47th FSB was one of the role-playing casualties that assisted in the competition. "In my lane, I was hit by an IED, and thrown from the vehicle with two bleeding extremities. I'm going to do

CLS Course Prepares Battlefield First Responders

Story and Photos by Spc. Joshua Ramey

47th Forward Support Battalion continues to train its personnel on new combat medical technologies and the proper use of the Improved First-Aid Kit (IFAK), a new edition to every Soldier's standard equipment. Sgt. Jeremy Johnson of Company C, 47th FSB supervised the Combat Life Saver (CLS) program and said, "This is a completely updated CLS class. We're trying to get as many people as possible in the Battalion qualified, so we are as prepared as we can be to go up north." The priority emphasized on this course demonstrates the Army's adaptation to battlefield conditions, and how Soldiers are better qualified to save lives under the most stressful conditions.

The CLS curriculum has been updated within the last year, and emphasizes the latest techniques to keep Soldiers alive until they can reach more specialized medical units. For instance, the Army once reserved the use of tourniquets for dire situations, but that is no longer the case. "A person can wear a tourniquet for six hours, without any risk of losing the limb," said Sgt. William Taylor, the company medic for Headquarters Company, 2nd BCT. The current training calls for tourniquets in cases of severe bleeding almost immediately after the initial wound. "When someone has been shot in an extremity, you immediately apply a tourniquet, and remove them from the battlefield," said Spc. Angela Cruz, a logistician from Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 47th FSB, when remarking on the differences she noticed in this course she received during the 2003 deployment to Iraq.



Soldiers participating in the 47th Forward Support Battalion's CLS class take the written test before moving into the practical exercise of administering an intravenous line at Camp Buehring, Kuwait.

When someone has been shot in an extremity, you immediately apply a tourniquet, and remove them from the battlefield," said Spc. Angela Cruz, a logistician from Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 47th FSB, when remarking on the differences she noticed in this course she received during the 2003 deployment to Iraq.

The updated CLS course also emphasized the importance of starting Intravenous Fluid (IV) lines to a casualty as a duty of the first responder. These lines greatly assist the medical personnel receiving the patient at a hospital, saving critical time and helping to stabilize the victim. Each CLS course required the students to successfully start an IV line on their peers. Sgt. Nicole Williams of Company C, 47th FSB was a medic assisting with the IV portion of the class, ensuring students were properly performing the exercise. She said, "Students usually come in not knowing much, and they leave knowing how to use the IFAK, which saves lives on the battlefield."



Sgt. Matthew Hollingsworth administers an intravenous line into Sgt. Sarah Gardner, both of Company B, 47th Forward Support Battalion, while Sgt. Jeremy Johnson of Co. C supervises the final test of Combat Life Saver certification at Camp Buehring, Kuwait.

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CLS Competition Closes With Awards Ceremony

Story and Photos by Sgt. Raul Montano

For twelve demanding hours, fifteen Modern Pioneers of the 47th Forward Support Battalion competed against each other in a Combat Life Saver competition to be recognized as the best Combat Life Saver in the Battalion. In addition to the individual recognition, one company of the 47th FSB was acknowledged as having the best CLS team.

Following a four mile road march, the Combat Life Savers were evaluated on seven events which tested them both physically and mentally. Only after completing these events, and eleven hours later did the Combat Life Savers finish the competition by taking a one hundred question exam.

After a day's rest, the cadre, evaluators, competitors, and the rest of the Modern Pioneers gathered together in a ceremony to recognize the achievements of the Combat Life Savers and all those who made the training possible.

To distinguish the best Combat Life Saver, the Army Achievement Medal was awarded to Spc. Theron Telford of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment. "It's my first AAM, so it feels pretty good," he said, "I knew I did well, but I was shocked and surprised to learn that I had won."

Pfc. George Cloud of Company B was not far behind in the competition. With 174 points, he tied with Spc. Theron Telford. Being two minutes behind in the road march, however, he earned 2nd place with a Certificate of Achievement from the Command Team of 47th FSB. "Since we tied, it must have been a pretty good competition." A Certificate of Achievement was also awarded to Spc. Ashly Hernandez of Company B for earning 3rd place.

With two of the top three competitors from Company B earning the 2nd and 3rd place, it seemed to be no coincidence that Company B's CLS team was named the best CLS team. For their accomplishments, Spc. Ashly Hernandez, Spc. Moses Ward, Pfc. George Cloud, Pfc. Tyler Teague, and Pvt. Edgar Topete, were each awarded a Certificate of Achievement.

Win or lose, every Soldier who competed in the CLS competition learned valuable lessons that will be taken with them well after the CLS competition ended. "It's good training and familiarization," said Spc. Moses Ward, "It's the closest to actual combat without being in combat."

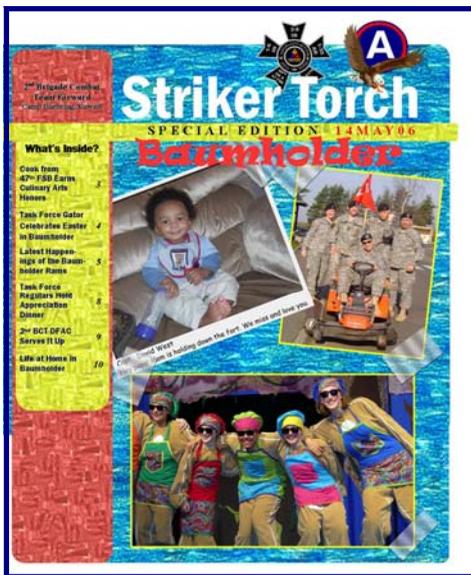


Lt. Col. Jeanne Hooper (center), Commander of the 47th FSB and 1st Lt. Brandon McCarter (right) of Company C, congratulate Spc. Theron Telford (left) of Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment for his accomplishments during the 47th Forward Support Battalion's Combat Life Saver Awards Ceremony at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, on 23 June, 2006.



Lt. Col. Jeanne Hooper, 1st Lt. Brandon McCarter, and Command Sgt. Maj. Lester Stephens, congratulate Company B's Combat Life Saver team during the CLS Awards Ceremony at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, on 23 June, 2006.

HELP WANTED!



The Striker Torch Team is planning a Special Edition for Families during the month of August and we are asking for photo submissions from the families.

If you are interested, please send photos and photo information to the contact information located on the back page no later than the 31st of July, 2006.

CENTRAL ISSUE FACILITY (CIF) OPERATING HOURS CAMP BUEHRING

MONDAY	0600-1700
TUESDAY	0600-1700
WEDNESDAY	0600-1700
THURSDAY	0600-1445
FRIDAY	0600-1645
SATURDAY	0600-1700
SUNDAY	CLOSED
*LUNCH	1200-1300

****NOTE: THE CAMP BUEHRING CIF WILL OPERATE AS A DIRECT EXCHANGE (DX) FACILITY. NO INITIAL ISSUES WILL BE DONE UNLESS THEY ARE THE RESULT OF STATEMENT OF CHARGES OR AN IOPL. IN ORDER TO EXCHANGE ANY EQUIPMENT, SOLDIERS MUST PROVIDE A SIGNED MEMORANDUM FROM THEIR UNIT COMMANDER.**

Upcoming MWR Events

Sunday, 9 July 2006

1200: Grappling Tournament @ Oasis
 1300: Texas Hold Em Tournament @ Oasis
 1700: 3 on 3 Basket Ball Tournament @ Basket Ball Courts

Wednesday, 12 July 2006

1830: 10k Fun Run @ Green Beans
 1930: NBA Live Tournament @ Palms

Thursday, 13 July 2006

1930: 8 Ball Tournament @ Rec. Center

Friday, 14 July 2006

2000: Karaoke @ MWR Stage

Saturday, 15 July 2006

1700: Dead Lift Competition @ Gym
 1700: Volleyball Tournament @ Volleyball Courts
 1700: 3 on 3 Blacktop Basketball Tournament @ Basketball Courts

Sunday, 16 July 2006

1300: Teamed Halo Tournament @ Palms
 1600: Teamed Foosball Tournament @ Rec. Center
 1700: Volleyball Tournament @ Volleyball Courts
 1700: 3 on 3 Blacktop Basketball Tournament @ Basketball Courts

Are Your Computers & Flash Drives Marked?

-Did you know that a laptop containing names, Social Security numbers, and dates of birth for over 26.5 million veterans was stolen from the home of a VA (Veterans Affairs) employee. This theft is the biggest single data theft in history.

-Army Regulation 25-2 paragraph 4-11d, states that storage of portable information systems or personal electronic devices (PEDs) that contain classified information in personal residences is prohibited.

-Army Regulation 25-2 paragraph 4-11a states that all removable media that process and store classified information must be secured in an area or a container approved for safeguarding classified information



What Do YOU Think?

“What Is The Most Difficult Part Of CLS Training?”

Questions and Photos By Sgt. Raul Montano and Spc. Joshua Ramey



PVT Carina Crawford
 C, 47th FSB

STX lanes, because of all the energy used to accomplish the mission.



SPC David Digiandomenico
 HHB, 4-27 FA

Starting IVs – it’s 10% technique and 90% confidence.



SPC Marcus Bowers
 B, 501st MI

I think retrieving the casualties was the hardest part, because of the difficult terrain.



PFC George Cloud
 B, 47th FSB

IV intervention, because it is the most detailed process.



SPC Amber Hettich
 HHC, 40th EN

Watching other people getting stuck with needles.

Next Week: “What Would You Do To Improve Morale At Camp Buehring?”



STRIKER TORCH NEWS TEAM

2nd BCT Commander
Col. Robert E. Scurlock Jr.

2nd BCT Command Sergeant Major
Command Sgt. Maj. Jose A. Santos

2nd BCT Public Affairs Officer
Maj. Frederick K. Bower

Striker Torch Editor in Chief
Capt. Thomas A. Hasara

Striker Torch Editors
Sgt. 1st Class David R. Dockett
Sgt. 1st Class (P) Armaruel T. Peralta
Sgt. 1st Class Liviu A. Ivan
Sgt. Ben T. Siep

Striker Torch Design Coordinator
Spc. Jeremy E. Neece

Striker Torch Staff Writers
Sgt. Raul L. Montano
Spc. Joshua P. Ramey

CONTACT US!

HQ, 2BCT, 1AD
ATTN: PAO

Camp Buehring
APO, AE 09330

Call Us @ DSN 318-828-2018

tom.hasara@us.army.mil
david.r.dockett@us.army.mil

This Edition can also be found online at
<http://www.1ad.army.mil/2BCTNewsletters.htm>

**We are looking for any type of submissions to include:
letters, articles, comic strips or artwork, and photographs.**

If you would like a copy of this issue please contact your Battalion UPAR

1-6 IN: Capt. Herbert Flather

2-6 IN: Capt. Gabriel Martinez

1-35 AR: 1st Lt. Dustin Gray

40th EN: Capt. Matthew Holbrook

47th FSB: Capt. Maurice Miles

4-27 FA: Maj. Frederick Bower

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