



GLOBAL MEDIC FORT GORDON 2008

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Maj. Pam Aitchison, 909th Forward Surgical Team, inspects the work done on the patient to make sure everything was done correctly in preparation for evacuation to the 256th Combat Support Hospital during Global Medic 2008, Fort Gordon, Ga.

Surgical team critical to battlefield survival

Story and Photo by
Pfc. Darryl Montgomery
319th MPAD

Acting as the second line of life, the 909th Forward Surgical Team, Fort Sheridan, Ill., saves lives while participating in Global Medic 2008.

When a Soldier goes down on the battlefield, and the combat medic has done all they can, the 909th FTS receives the patient and increases the chances of survival by extending the 'Golden Hour,' said Staff Sgt.

Shaun Penn, 909th FTS.

The FTS bandages and performs initial resuscitation, said Maj. John Provenzano, commander, 909th FTS.

In addition, the FTS does not see medical emergencies, only battlefield wounds.

Once the patient has been stabilized, he added, the patient is then transported to a forward operating base.

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Communication squadron provides life support

Story and Photo by
Pfc. Darryl Montgomery
319th MPAD

The 35th Combat Communication Squadron (CCS) set up Tactical Satellite Support Radios (TSSR).

The TSSR supplies the Global Medic hospital with necessary phone lines and internet required to run a hospital.

The TSSR uses wireless transmission to pass over rigorous terrain, therefore, eliminating

cords and cables on the ground.

"The system receives necessary information from a satellite and transmits it where it needs to go through the different TSSRs receivers located around the training area," said Tech. Sgt. Richard January, 35th CCS.

"The palletized equipment was trucked in from Bush Air Field, Augusta, Ga.," he added.

The 35th CCS began

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Tech. Sgt. Richard January, 35th Combat Communication Squadron, programs the frequency on the Tactical Satellite Support Radio to begin transmission to the Global Medic hospital, Fort Gordon, Ga. The TSSR supplies the 256th Combat Support Hospital with necessary telephone and Internet services to operate 24-hours a day during the 72-hour premier medical exercise. The TSSR uses wireless transmission to pass over rigorous terrain, therefore, eliminating cords and cables on the ground.

Soldiers in the Field

What's the importance of Global Medic?



Pfc. Safira Henkis
1493rd CSC
Fayetteville, N.C.

"Global Medic teaches the many different units how to work together at full speed."



1st Lt. Amber Perkins
256th CSH
London, Ohio

"It helps give us an idea of what is going on in Iraq, and how to deal with it."



Capt. Tammy Jones
APMC
Bridgeport, W.Va.

"It's good training in the Operating Room to help prepare for a combat situation."



Spc. Andrew Hsieh
256th CSH
Miamisburg, Ohio

"Global Medic allows us to see how a field hospital operates and learn new equipment."

Global Medic 2008

319th MPAD

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"Since the patient comes directly from the field, it is our job to do the necessary surgery to increase the Soldier's chance of survival," said Penn.

"We supply urgent surgical care to sustain patients for further evacuation," said Staff Sgt. Daniel Biesiadeck, 909th FTS.

"Our main mission," he added, "is to make sure the Soldiers in our care get home to see their Family."

"I'm proud to be a part of this unit," Penn said, "it's a great team and a great environment to work in."

"We enjoy what we do," said Biesiadeck,

"Everyone enjoys the job they do. Everyone has a Family," he said.

Biesiadeck said that when someone you know goes down in combat, forward surgical teams like the 909th will be there to take care of that Soldier, and get them where they need to go.

"Knowing we are taking care of them so they can get back home is very rewarding."

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initial set-up upon their arrival at Fort Gordon, June 12, said Tech. Sgt. Christopher Franklin, 35th CSS.

"The system is very reliable," January said. "Once it is set up, it is good to go until time to take it down."

"The 256th Combat Support Hospital would not be able to operate without the satellite communication system," Franklin said.

If you are interested in joining the 319th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment contact Maj. Chris Sullivan at:
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Spot Light

The Surgical Unit of the 256th CSH

Soldiers of the 256th Combat Support Hospital are a critical part Global Medic 2008, which is Army Reserve's premier medical training exercise. The exercise replicates all aspects of combat service support on the battlefield and allows units to train as they fight as they work through realistic battle-focused training scenarios.

Right -- Maj. Malene Kay Ingram, a surgeon with the Army Professional Medical Command, pauses for a moment of thought as she works in the 256th Combat Support Hospital operating room during Global Medic at Fort Gordon, Ga.



Below -- Capt. Tammy Jones of Bridgeport, W. Va., a nurse with the Army Professional Medical Command, works with a patient.

