

Wings of Destiny

101st Combat Aviation Brigade, 101st Airborne Division
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On the Cover :

A Chinook carries its payload off to a Forward Operating Base. As the Army's primary heavy lift platform, the CH-47 has been dubbed "The Work Horse" of aviation.

(Photo courtesy of Co. C, 96th ASB)



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Wings of Destiny

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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



Hello to all the Destiny Soldiers and Families,

By the time you read this, the Brigade will have passed the six month point of the deployment, and I want

to thank each and everyone of you for your continued sacrifice and support for your Destiny Soldiers. We are in the middle of the R&R push, and having taken my leave earlier in the month, I can attest to the importance of "recharging one's batteries" and reconnecting with loved ones.

We have been very busy since arriving in theater, and in June the brigade has been just as active. Our operational tempo continues to increase as more elements request aviation support. I suspect that we will continue to

operate at this elevated level throughout the summer. Regardless of the missions or demands, the Soldiers continue to perform in the most professional manner.

On the 14th our Army celebrated its 233rd birthday. From the Revolutionary War to the Global War on Terror, the great men and women of the U.S. Army have stood ready to defend our nation and its allies. I am proud to serve with the Soldiers of this brigade; each of you in some way has had to make sacrifices in order to do this job. It is directly due to the efforts of people like you that our country is, and will remain, free.

Sadly, this month the brigade also mourned the loss of two great aviation Soldiers, CW4 J.C. Carter and SPC Andre McNair. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to both their families. What we do here isn't easy, and everyday presents new and unique

challenges. It now becomes our duty to honor these two great Americans and all others who have given their lives in the name of freedom. By continuing our mission to help bring peace and freedom to the people of Afghanistan, we not only pay tribute to their memory, but to what they stood for.

I would like to close by thanking the families back home for their continued support and dedication to all of us here. We really couldn't be as effective as we are without all your prayers and energy. As another month passes here, and there, know that we are one month closer to being reunited.

**Wings of Destiny,
Air Assault!**

**Col. James Richardson
Destiny 6**

A MESSAGE FROM CSM HERNDON



Hello families of the Wings of Destiny brigade.

We are well on our way to the date we return home to our loved ones. During the last month we have

been busy. I won't say that business is as usual, because that is not a good phrase to use. Nothing out here is normal and we are constantly adapting to the ever changing environment.

We continue to improve our living conditions at all locations. The improvements can be seen and felt by all the Soldiers. The heat of summer does affect the speed at which these improvements are made, but the heat is easier to deal with than the cold. The Soldiers are doing well and continue to perform in the most professional manner.

During the last month we have had some major changes with some at-

tached unit movement. We have a new Military Intelligence Battalion attached to us, as well as a new National Guard CH-47 unit, along with some added Medevac augmentation to our footprint. The brigade has grown in order to adapt to the increasing mission requirements.

This month we continued our day to day missions and are planning for redeployment. That being said, I'm sure that everyone has heard that our deployment timeline has been shortened. I will tell you from my desk, that this is true. What I will also tell you is the dates for redeployment are not locked in stone. I would expect between 12 and 13 months, and some Soldiers may be deployed slightly longer based upon redeployment timeline and mission requirements at the various transportation HUBs. I would like to personally ask all of the spouses, families and supporters of the Wings of Destiny brigade to assist me in keeping all of our Soldiers focused on the mission at hand. We still have a long way to go, regardless of which redeployment date

you use. I would ask that every time you talk to, e-mail or write your Soldier you re-emphasize safety, attention to detail, standards and discipline. We must remain focused in order to continue our success.

I will close with a message of thanks for everything all of you are doing to support us in Afghanistan. Our mission and jobs are daunting and stressful. You all continue to amaze me with your ability to be strong and supportive as we conduct our mission. The separations are tough and challenging, but your support and dedication are what keeps us going. Thank you again for all you do each and every day in support of the Wings of Destiny brigade.

Wings of Destiny, Air Assault !

**CSM Mark F. Herndon
Destiny 7**



In Honor of Our Fallen Comrades



CW4 James Carter
1965-2008



SPC Andre McNair
1988-2008

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan— Soldiers of the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade gathered at the Enduring Faith Chapel to pay their final respects to two of their own on June 9.

The Soldiers of Company B, 96th Aviation Support Battalion held a memorial service to honor the lives and service of Chief Warrant Officer 4 James Carter and Spc. Andre McNair, Jr. The two Soldiers were killed on June 5, when their OH-58 D Kiowa Warrior crashed during a maintenance test flight in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

During the service, both Carter and McNair were remembered for their professionalism, outgoing personalities and love for their families and friends.

"Just knowing the fact that we will never see or hear them again makes me cry," said Pfc. Lakeshia Pegues during the reading of a tribute poem she wrote for her fallen comrades. "One died doing what he loved, the other died doing what he was destined to become. A Soldier's road is never finished until he has walked the streets of Heaven."

Carter, 42, had nearly 25 years of service in the Army. He deferred an assignment to become an instructor pilot at Fort Rucker, Alabama in order to deploy with his fellow Troubleshooters once more, and ensure that all his Soldiers came home safely. McNair, 20, who was awaiting the birth of his first child, had plans to become an AH-64 Apache pilot.

With every seat in the chapel occupied, Soldiers lined the walls and stood in aisles to have a chance to say goodbye to the two Soldiers who were very much loved and respected throughout the battalion.

"Both these men were great Americans and Soldiers," said Maj. Carl Casey, commander of Co. B, 96th ASB. "Even though they were a generation apart, they were very much alike; in their values and ideologies. Both were friendly, hard working, loved their fellow Soldiers and were honorable men. Both were loved by those who had the privilege of knowing them and both touched the lives of those around them." ♦



Culinary Combat

Task Forces Destiny and Lifeliner Compete for Iron Chef Title



BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan - "There is no love truer than the love of food," said playwright George Bernard Shaw. That love of food, both preparing and serving, coupled with a dose of friendly competition led to the first annual Iron Chef competition at Bagram Airfield on May 28.

The competition, held at the Aviation Dining Facility, was based on the wildly popular *'Iron Chef'* television series. It pitted two teams of food service specialists, one representing Task Force Destiny (101st Combat Aviation Brigade) and one representing Task Force Lifeliner (101st Sustainment Brigade), against each other to see which team could woo a panel of judges' senses of sight and taste with their culinary delights.

The showdown started shortly after the afternoon meal was concluded. The two teams were called into the back room of the dining facility, where they faced off as they were given the rules to the competition. Then the moment they anxiously awaited arrived, the unveiling of the "secret ingredient". The cover was lifted to reveal bell peppers, in vivid red, yellow and green.

The two teams then parted to prepare their stations and utensils for the competition; they would have three hours to prepare a main dish and entrees, using the secret ingredient in each. Once the official time keeper gave word to start, the kitchen instantly became busy with motion. The dull thud of beef being pounded and the sharp rapping of knives chopping vegetables collided as they hit the air.

The competition allowed the cooks to use ingredients to make meals that they don't get to prepare regularly.

"We were excited when we found out about the competition," said Sgt. Armando Marshall, of 101st Sustainment Brigade. Marshall, who has won several culinary competitions said that coming up with a strategy was fairly easy.

"We got together and discussed some ideas for what kind of meals we would like to make, he said. "In all, it took about two days for planning what kind of meals we would like to cook."

The team strategy for Task Force Destiny was to take the competition in stride, and not get side tracked by the opponent.





"It was like a normal thing for us," said Spc. William Lucas, who was preparing to grill some sliced vegetables. "We came up with our recipe today. They (Lifeline) brought in some Navy and Air Force guys like that was supposed to scare us. We've got some

experienced cooks on our team, and people always tell us our food is good, so I think we'll win."

As the minutes ticked by the cooks raced back and forth across the stainless steel kitchen floor, preparing the meals they hoped would propel their teams to victory.

"I'm excited about this competition because it gives me a chance to do my job. Right now I'm working in the mailroom," joked Pfc. Christina Howard, of Team Lifeline, as she seasoned sliced yellow peppers. "Believe it or not, peppers were one of the ingredients we planned to use in case it was the secret ingredient, so we planned really well."

Making the event happen fell onto shoulders of 1st Lt. Nathan Schroeder, medical platoon leader and company executive officer of Headquarters Company, 96th Aviation Support Battalion.

"I am a big fan of the show, so I was asked by my commander to plan the whole event and I've run with it every since," Schroeder said. "We are limited by capabilities here, as far the foods we have access to and cooking space so the initial planning was difficult, so I shaped the plan to what we have now. I am quite happy with how everything has turned out."

At 4:30 p.m. each team had finished cooking their meals and began to set up their presentations. There were only thirty minutes left before they would have to serve the judges. As presentation was part of the judging criteria, the teams took great care to ensure that their meals were not only delicious, but visually enthralling.

"This competition was a blast. I'm glad we are doing this because it breaks up the monotony," said Sgt. William Smetak, of Team Destiny as he poured a creamy chocolate mousse onto a plate. "I knew that I would be handling the pastries because that's what I do."

At 4:45 p.m. the teams began to bring their meals into the dining room. Spectators who already seated at tables cheered and took pictures as the chefs carried in trays of food. The judging table served as the unofficial room divider, Soldiers of Task Force Destiny sat on the left of the table, while the Lifeline contingent sat to the right.

Finally, the three special judges arrived and were seated. Responsible for deciding which team would become the Bagram Airfield Iron Chef Champions were; Brig. Gen James McConville, Deputy Commanding General-Staff, 101st Airborne Division, Brig. Gen. James Holmes, Commanding General of the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing and Mr. Robert Maggi, political advisor to Combined



Joint Task Force-101.

At long last it was serving time. At 5:00 p.m. Lt. Col. John Kline, deputy commander of Task Force Destiny flipped a coin to decide who would serve first. Team Lifeline called the toss, they chose heads. It landed on tails, Team Destiny would serve first.

Staff Sgt. Billie Jean Afflick, captain of Team Destiny presented the meal. It was a seasoned grilled turkey and asparagus served with a grilled bell pepper stuffed with sautéed rice. The judges got to work eating the well prepared meal. After receiving several minutes to eat, they used their secret score card to give points to the meal.

Story continued on Pg. 7



Team Lifeliner was named the 2008 Bagram Airfield Iron Chef Champions.

The room exploded in applause and cheers from both sides. While one team won the coveted Iron Chef plaque, both had proven their immeasurable talents. One judge explained that the meals he had eaten during the event were some of the best he had tasted anywhere.

The judging table was cleared and Team Lifeliner presented their meal. Sgt. 1st Class Catherine Heidrich, captain of Team Lifeliner, presented the meal. It was a beef with a rice pate served with a stuffed bell pepper. Once again, the judges got to the task of eating and critiquing the meals. Once they finished, they used their score cards to make their decisions.

Before the winner was decided, the members of each team were presented by the task force commanders with the Army Achievement Medal for their efforts. The moment everyone was waiting for had finally arrived. The ballots were in, Team Destiny was the winner of the presentation category, Team Lifeliner won both the taste and originality categories.



"I have had the opportunity to eat at many special functions and state dinners," said Maggi. "Nothing I've have ever eaten at any of those dinners compared to the meals we were able to eat here tonight."



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SUBJECT: Sgt. Andrea Bills
COMPANY: A Co. 6-101 Avn. Regt.
MOS: 63 J (Quartermaster / Chemical Equipment Repairer)



Possibly more than any other organization, the Army excels at offering Soldiers opportunities to try new and exciting things. One Soldier answered the brigade's call to fill a needed slot, and found a rewarding new job.

Sgt. Andrea Bills, who serves as a door gunner with Company A, 6th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regt. was originally assigned to 96th Aviation Support Battalion as a 63 J (Quartermaster and Chemical equipment repairer).

"I chose to become a repairer because it was something I didn't know anything about," said Bills, a native of Shamokin, Pa. "I had never picked up a tool in my life except for a hammer and screwdriver so I wanted to challenge myself, that's why I chose the job."

As deployment drew nearer, there was a need to qualify more Soldiers for positions as door gunners and crew chiefs. Upon hearing this news, Bills took the chance to accept yet another challenge.

"Every battalion was being asked for volunteers to become door gunners and crew chiefs for the deployment," said Bills. "I heard about it through the grapevine, and I asked if I could go to the classes. Once I made it through the aerial gunnery and all the tables, I was sent to alpha company. I love being a mechanic, but I also love being a door gunner because it is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and something I would never be able to do in the civilian world."

Life as a door gunner has proven to be quite exciting, and very busy. There is a daily mission schedule, as well as unexpected events that she must remain ready for.

"I get to go out on missions pretty much every day. Right now I'm on med chase (medevac escort),

which has a 24 hour on off shift and you're always on call. Normally the schedule differs; they try to give us time off every other day. When a lot of people are on leave you'll pretty much fly every day."

"The most exciting thing I get to do since being here are the deliberate operations," explained Bills. "There was an operation on my day off, and the first sergeant came knocking on my door and told me I had 20 minutes to get ready for the operation. On the mission we dropped off Pathfinders and Afghan soldiers at a site to recover an important piece of Army equipment. We dropped them off and waited for them to finish, once they were done, we came to pick them up. It was a night mission and the first time I got to wear the night vision goggles."

Another unexpected challenge Bills has to face is not being able to be more involved with the upkeep of the aircraft.

"We can't do too much being door gunners, we can't do a lot of the maintenance work, so it's kind of hard watching your buddies work, when all you can do is hand them tools."

Once her time in service has ended, Bills would like to go back to college to study Psychology. She wants to become a therapist and specialize in helping service members. In the meantime, she hopes to continue to have great experience while here in Afghanistan.

"I would like for the sense of camaraderie I have with my new family, the Warlords to grow," she said. "Things are coming together great, we are a good family; I also like to make sure that all my friends from 96th are okay, and that all my Soldiers get home safely."

SUBJECT: Spc. Jose Perdomo

COMPANY: C Co. 1-101 Avn. Regt.

MOS: 15 R (AH-64 Helicopter Repairer)



Any commander hopes to have under their command, Soldiers who are dedicated, hardworking, capable of maintaining a positive attitude under all circumstances and who are positive role models for their peers.

For the Company C Paladins at Kandahar Airfield with Task Force Eagle Assault, Spc. Jose Perdomo is a Soldier with all of the qualities described above.

After serving 2 years in Korea as a crew chief, Perdomo came to the Paladin team in March of 2007, and his dedication to Apache maintenance has made him an "A-Team" maintenance member in the company. He has excelled at all tasks assigned to him and has showed enormous potential. As a result, after only three months on the Paladin team, Perdomo was given the opportunity to be the primary crew chief for aircraft 182.

"Perdomo has shown us time and time again that he possesses the dedication and intelligence to tackle any maintenance task," notes his commander, Capt. Paul Long. "We

are depending on him to keep it up and teach others." Already, aircraft 182 has flown over 400 hours and has had an Operational Readiness rate of 85% since arriving in Afghanistan.

With three years of wearing the uniform, Perdomo says he is a career Soldier.

"I just like doing my job with the Paladins," he said. "I'll be doing this for years to come."

He has his immediate sights set on becoming a non-commissioned officer and attending college. "Perdomo has the makings to be a great NCO in the near future," said Sgt. 1st Class Sterling Hilmo, Perdomo's platoon sergeant.

Without a doubt, Perdomo has excelled as a Soldier and an AH-64D crew chief, and his commitment to his company and aircraft is an example for all Soldiers.



The Unsung Heroes: Avionics Soldiers Provide Mission Essential Support



BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan— When ever someone sees a helicopter in flight, that person should know that it is the direct result of a coordination of efforts and talents of a team; from the pilots who operate aircraft high above Afghanistan's craggy terrain, to the mechanics in the hangar who painstakingly repair and maintain them.

Although the Soldiers of the avionics platoon of Company B, 96th Aviation Support Battalion don't work in an aircraft maintenance bay, the work they do is critical to the operation of the helicopters. Without properly functioning communications and navigation equipment, aircraft would not be mission capable.

"There are 69 people in this platoon, and they are spread out across four bases," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Francisco Albelo, platoon leader and electronic system maintenance technician. "Of those 69, 55 are CMF 94 Soldiers."

Albelo explained that in 1994, the ordinance corps absorbed all the electronic equipment repair Soldiers from both the aviation and signal branches. These Soldiers were rebranched, but continued to perform their prior missions in the Army. "As a squad leader, I supervise and give technical advice to all my technicians in the shop," said Sgt. Nicholas Stephenson, a 94 L, avionics communications equipment repairer. "Being deployed, we've been providing massive support; we get a lot of radios and life support (equipment) we have to repair on this side of the house. As far as the birds, we fix the UHF (164s), the VHF (186s) and the PRC 90s and 112s."

Making sure the radio equipment is working properly is top priority for the Limas of the avionics shop. Job completion times usually depend on what needs to be fixed and the availability of parts.

"An average test of a radio takes an hour," said Stephenson. "If we run into any problems, that's when we have to take the radio apart piece by piece and figure out which part is bad. We might spend two or three days waiting for a part to come in, depending on Army stockage

availability worldwide. For a radio that is good, it will be in and out of here in an hour."

The Soldiers have devised ways of working that help them to get the previous nights work finished if necessary and start working through the day's mission.

"When we first get in here, we see if there was any equipment that the nightshift couldn't finish, and we'll finish that," said Pvt. Jason Maden. "Then we make sure that everything is set up and ready for us to accomplish our tasks for the rest of the day. There are some times when we get pretty big workload, we'll stay and help out the night crew."

While the work flow remains steady, the maintenance Soldiers' productivity and positive attitudes help keep them going.

"I think our Soldiers do an outstanding job," said Sgt. Ann DeLa Cruz, team leader. "We're where the rubber meets the road. Our first sergeant recently told us that maintenance (workers) are the unsung heroes of operations. They (pilots) may fly the aircraft, but we facilitate. We make things happen."

Only a few feet away, across the shop, the 94 Romeos are also busy conducting tests on some sensitive radar equipment.

"Radar section basically deals with the survivability of the aircraft," said Sgt. William Dison, a 94 R, avionic radar repairer. "We work on the equipment that protects helicopters. The ALQ-144 (countermeasure) is what we work on mostly; it deflects heat seeking missiles by putting out heat signals which confuse the missile. We also work on transponders such as the APX 100s and 118s which both send out signals to let other aircraft know if it is friendly. We also do a lot of work on night vision goggles."

Night vision goggles are extremely important to pilots who need them to perform night missions, and are a big part of the





Romeo workload. In fact, 94 Romeos are the only Soldiers in the Army qualified to repair aviation night vision goggles.

“Night vision goggles aren’t due for inspection for six months after they leave the shop,” Dison said. “When they come back in, we re-purge and re-columnate them and make sure the focus is correct. We’re the only ones who are able to fix the goggles and we do them for all the task forces. On average it takes 45 minutes to an hour to inspect them a little longer if some repairs need to be made. Generally the units will get their goggles back the next day.”

The variety of equipment that comes in for repairs helps to keep the job interesting for the Soldiers.

“We work on maybe fifteen different types of equipment, and there are various models for those pieces of equipment,” said Spc. Derek Evans. “Some of us who have been here for a while have become sort of the subject matter experts on different items. For example, I’m well practiced at the 39 which is a radar detector, so I work on them when they come in, but when the M-130 (chaff dispenser) comes in, someone else who is more proficient will work on it.”

“Pretty much one of us will like a specific type of equipment, if it’s something that doesn’t come in that often we get really excited and jump right on it,” stated Pfc. John Muna.

While they may not receive many accolades for their efforts, the Soldiers of the avionics shop know that without them, aviation missions wouldn’t happen.

“A lot of the things we fix are countermeasures. Things that guide the aircraft and protect it,” said Evans. “We help pilots do their jobs to the best of their ability. I don’t think they would be able to fly at all without the equipment we work on; night vision goggles, navigational equipment and the other things are really their (pilots) bread and butter.” ♦



Task Force Wasatch Assumes Responsibility for Military Intelligence Operations

By Capt. Jeffrey Anderson



BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan —The 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion, of the Utah National Guard assumed responsibility for military intelligence operations from the 202nd Military Intelligence Battalion on May 25.

Col. James Richardson, commander of the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade, presided over the Transfer of Authority (TOA) ceremony, where Lt. Col. Derek Tolman took over the responsibilities from Lt. Col. Joseph Roybal. Other dignitaries in attendance included the 101st Deputy Commanding General - Operations, Brig. Gen. Mark Milley, the Deputy Commanding General - Support, Brig. Gen. James McConville, and the Polish Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Greg Buszka.

During the remainder of its deployment the 142nd will be known as Task Force Wasatch. As a linguistics unit, the 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion selected the Ute Indian

word Wasatch, meaning “mountain pass” as the task force name. The mountain passes in the Hindu Kush mountain range is critical to the fight in Afghanistan, and is strikingly similar to those in the Wasatch Mountain Range in Utah, home of the 142nd. The name focuses the unit on its heritage as proud warriors, culturally competent linguists, and tenacious intelligence collectors.

Task Force Wasatch is comprised of approximately 300 Soldiers of the 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion who are assigned to support the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and are conducting a variety of missions, to include; interrogation, human intelligence, voice intercept missions, and intelligence analysis. Task Force Wasatch is also setting up to support humanitarian missions throughout the region. ♦



Your Health +

Preventing and Controlling High Blood Pressure

Preventing and Controlling High Blood Pressure

There are several things that you can do to keep your blood pressure healthy. These actions should become part of your regular lifestyle. You should discuss with your health care provider the best ways for you to address these issues.

Maintain a Healthy Weight

Being overweight or obese can raise your blood pressure, and losing weight can help you lower your blood pressure. Healthy weight status in adults is usually assessed by using weight and height to compute a number called the "body mass index" (BMI). BMI is used because it relates to the amount of body fat for most people. An adult who has a BMI of 30 or higher is considered to be obese. Overweight is a BMI between 25 and 29.9. Normal weight is a BMI of 18 to 24.9. Proper diet and regular physical activity can help to maintain a healthy weight. Other measures of excess body fat may include waist measurements or waist and hip measurements.

Be Active

Being physically inactive is related to high blood pressure, and physical activity can help to lower blood pressure. The Surgeon General recommends that adults should engage in moderate-level physical activities for at least 30 minutes on most days of the week.

Maintain a Healthy Diet

Along with healthy weight and regular physical activity, an overall healthy diet can help to maintain healthy blood pressure levels. This includes eating lots of fresh fruits and vegetables and lowering or cutting out salt or sodium and increasing potassium. High salt and sodium intake and a low potassium intake (due to not eating enough fruits and vegetables) can increase blood pressure. You need to watch the sodium that is already included in processed foods and to avoid adding sodium or salt in cooking or at the table. Low saturated fat and cholesterol are also part of an overall healthy

diet. Recent studies such as the Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH) trial show that blood pressure can be significantly lowered through diet.

Moderate Alcohol Use

Excessive alcohol consumption is related to increased blood pressure. People who drink alcohol should do so in moderation. Based on current dietary guidelines, moderate drinking for women is defined as an average of one drink or less per day. Moderate drinking for men is defined as an average of two drinks or less per day.

Prevent and Control Diabetes

People with diabetes have a higher risk of high blood pressure, but they can also work to reduce their risk. Recent studies suggest that all people can take steps to reduce their risk of diabetes. These include a healthy diet, weight loss and regular physical activity.

No Tobacco

Smoking injures blood vessels and speeds up the process of hardening of the arteries. Further, smoking is a major risk for heart disease and stroke. If you don't smoke, don't start. Quitting smoking lowers one's risk of heart attack and stroke. Your doctor can suggest programs to help you quit smoking.

Medications

If you develop high blood pressure, your doctor may prescribe medications, in addition to lifestyle changes, to help bring it under control. Once your blood pressure is controlled continuing your medication and doctor visits is critical to keep your blood pressure in check. The lifestyle changes noted above are just as important as taking your medicines as prescribed.

Genetic Factors

Genes can play a role in high blood pressure. It is also possible that an increased risk of high blood pressure within a family is due to factors such as a common sedentary lifestyle or poor eating habits. Therefore, lifestyle factors should be considered for preventing and controlling high blood pressure.

Legal Advice: Giving Back



Capt. Matt Landreth, Esq.
Trial Counsel
TF Destiny Legal

In June, Congress voted to approve \$165 billion to fund the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The war funding measure will be twinned with a domestic spending package including a generous expansion of veterans' education benefits. In total, the bill will cost more than \$250 billion over 10 years, including \$51 billion for the veterans' education benefits alone.

Realizing as early as January that the war funding package would burden the already bare coffers of the U.S. Government, some TF Destiny Soldiers decided it was time to give back. While other names have been used to describe these Soldiers – I call them patriots. What other term best describes Soldiers so willing to give their hard earned pay back to Uncle Sam?

To date, 91 Soldiers have provided financial contributions to the Army by means of forfeitures and recoupment. Creative giving within TF Destiny has never been in doubt, with Soldiers involved in activities such as; huffing canned air abusing, Ambien, exploiting Government Purchase Cards, sleeping on the guard tower, refusing to go to work and threatening superiors with everything from knives to lumber. Deciding unilaterally to extend mid-tour leave dates and "enjoying" Salsa Night have also proved to be expeditious means by which to contribute to the war funding measure.

Although 61 Soldiers have been reduced at least one grade, solace can be taken that the money saved by paying these Soldiers at lower grades can now be allocated to fixing the plumbing at Fort Bragg's barracks, subsidizing the \$72,000 in air fresheners purchased by TF Destiny, and paying overtime to the workers still trying to complete the Gate 4 construction on Fort Campbell. These charitable Soldiers alone will contribute approximately \$152,000.00 to Uncle Sam over the course of the deployment.

Instead of providing direct financial support, some Soldiers have been involuntarily providing beautification and force protection services to their respective airfields. 78 philanthropic Soldiers

have graciously spent approximately 4,368 hours filling sandbags, picking up cigarette butts and painting Old Abe everywhere.

42 Soldiers have received commemorative letters from their commanders. Four Soldiers have even been fortunate enough to receive letters from the Commanding General of CJTF-101, who has decided to allow them to maintain the letters in their permanent records.

A few lucky Soldiers have been able to take 30 day vacations to lovely Ali Al Salem, Kuwait as a result of their efforts; reservations for several more Soldiers have already been made.



An offender feels the cold, steely embrace of justice. Don't let this happen to you!

Joining the 88 Soldiers from the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade who were separated in the two months prior to the deployment, TF Destiny has witnessed the departure of 12 Soldiers in the last five months. No longer burdened by providing medical and dental services to these Soldiers and the families, the Department of the Defense can now shift these funds to pay for the medical and dental services for the contractors hired to fill the voids left by the departing Soldiers. Unfortunately, many of these departing Soldiers will be losing the same educational benefits Congress just funded.

Lest you think Soldiers on rear-detachment are not doing their part, E Company has the distinction of having more pending courts-martial than any other brigade in the 101st Airborne Division

(Air Assault) – soon, too, these Soldiers will also be giving back financially to the Army that has provided their livelihood.

So how can you contribute? Relying on the advice of barracks lawyers in an effort to circumvent the TF Destiny Living Quarters, Habitation and Visitation Policy Memorandum and the parallel provisions of the CJTF-101 General Order Number 1 promises to be successful.

With your continued financial support, perhaps TF Destiny can singled-handedly fund the war effort in Iraq and Afghanistan well into the next presidency.



Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain (Maj) Donald Kammer
Task Force Destiny Chaplain

Chaplains United



The United States Army is not the only military force sending chaplains to care for Soldiers at war. This photo shows British, Australian, Dutch and Canadian chaplains. These nations are a few of the many coalition partners who have joined hands with Task Force Destiny to help stabilize Afghanistan and bring peace to a nation and its people. In Kandahar, in particular, these cordial friendships have brought chaplains together in shared worship services.

TF Eagle Assault's Chaplain, Brian Curry, has cultivated collegial relationships with many of these chaplains and Padres, facilitating joint training and mentorship. His dynamic initiatives have enhanced the quality of worship opportunities in Kandahar. Through his leadership an occasional joint worship service occurs. I attended his "Celtic Worship Experience" which he led, along with a British Air Force Chaplain. Several senior British officers attended as well as TF Destiny Soldiers. Many were impressed that an American Army Chaplain knew something about their spiritual traditions.

Chaplain Curry recently coordinated the first coalition prayer breakfast in Kandahar, Afghanistan. This event brought together commanders, their chaplains and other participants from many nations, ethnicities, and denominations.

Every one of the five TF Destiny battalion chaplains are performing fantastic chaplain ministry. Wherever they serve they fulfill the mandate of the Army chaplaincy, Bringing men and women to God and bringing God to men and women. ♦

Gen. Cody Re-Enlists Cavalry Soldiers in Jalalabad



"Lucky Strike" Company Stands Up at Bagram Airfield

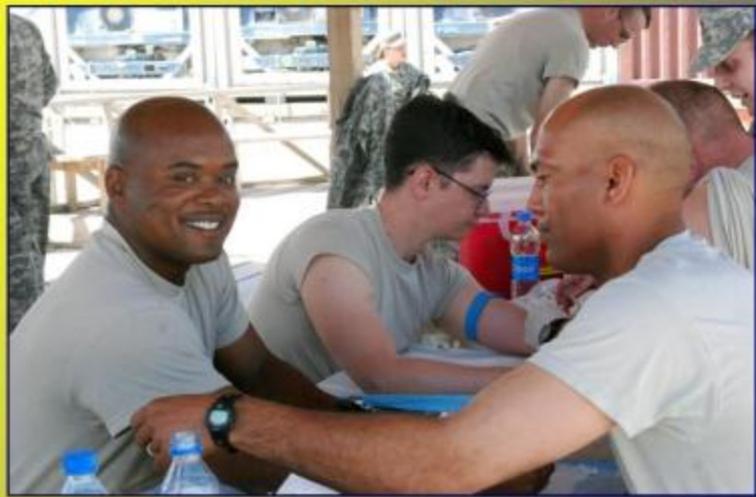


Most units have the benefit of working and training together in garrison to prepare for upcoming deployments. It is rare when a company is formed while forward deployed in a combat environment.

On June 27 at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, that is exactly what happened as the guidon of Company G, 6th Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment raised for the first time. The newly activated "Lucky Strike" company will serve as the Task Force Shadow scout and attack company, comprised of AH-64 Apache and OH-58 Kiowa Warrior aircraft.

Capt. Matthew Wolfe became the first commander of Co. G. No stranger to the Wings of Destiny Brigade, he most recently served in 2nd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment. ♦

Hellcat EFR



Visions of Destiny



Soldiers from the 101st CAB Basketball team (Red Jerseys) participate in a game at the MWR Clamshell



Chaplain Kammer has fun demonstrating the proper use of a fire extinguisher



SGT Glen Wendland (right) holds his certificate after his recent re-enlistment in Jalalabad



SSG Thomas Ayers and WEC Lightweight Champ Uriah Faber pose for a picture at Destiny Wings terminal.