

# The WRANGLER

Volume 1 Issue 10

Serving the 4th Sustainment Brigade during Operation Iraqi Freedom 08-10

September 15, 2008

## TRANSFORMED INTO AMERICAN CITIZENS

Article By: 1st Lt. Lindsey Rowland  
and  
Spc. John D. Ortiz



Newly naturalized citizens pose with members of the Kuwait Embassy and Maj. Gen. Charles Anderson, after a ceremony that transformed 14 Wranglers

**CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait** – Fourteen Soldiers from 11 different countries, representing the various units under the Wrangler formation participated in a naturalization ceremony that welcomed them to the country they protect; the United States of America.

Ranging from countries such as American Samoa, Chile, Mexico, and Sweden; the service members raised their right hands and were sworn in with the Oath of Citizenship signifying their transition to citizens of the United States.

“It’s something I’ve been waiting for a long time; it’s exciting,” said Spc. Rickie Vargas, originally from Colombia, and a watercraft

engineer with the 1099th Transportation Detachment.

“I became a resident five years ago after my mother became one,” he said. “I joined the military and during this deployment, I started the process for my citizenship.”

“My family is really proud of me, especially my mother who went through a lot in order for me to achieve this,” he said.

The service members were inspired to become citizens of the country they pledged to protect when they enlisted in the service.

Applicants applying for citizenship of the U.S.

See CEREMONY Page 6





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## The WRANGLER

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**4th Sustainment Brigade Commander**  
Col. Terence Hermans

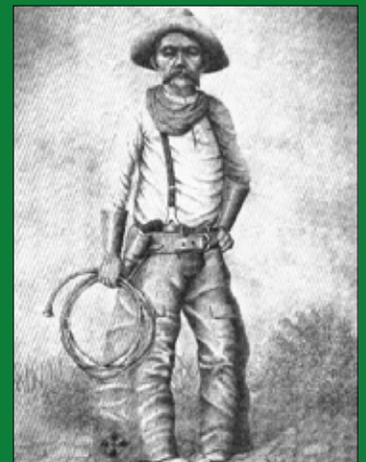
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## 1-148th Commander's Words



As Commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 148<sup>th</sup> Infantry (1-148<sup>th</sup> IN), I would like to take this opportunity to introduce our battalion, the "WARRIOR" battalion, to the rest of the Wrangler Brigade. We are comprised of 5 companies, HHC (headquarters and convoy security company), A CO (convoy security company), C CO (convoy security company), D CO (convoy security company), and E CO (forward support company). Our B CO recently returned from a one year deployment in support of OIF and therefore did not deploy with the

rest of the battalion. The battalion headquarters is located in Walbridge, Ohio, just outside of Toledo. Our companies are spread throughout Northwest Ohio. The battalion is conducting combat security operations in support of OIF for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade. Our Soldier's live by our motto "We'll Do It" exemplifying our "can do" attitude.

Our battalion is currently over half way through its 12 month deployment. So far, the deployment has proved to be a memorable event that we can be proud of.

The resilience and performance of our Soldiers to this point has been second-to-none. The battalion led the way through the rigorous training at Fort Hood, Texas. The battalion was eager to leave FT Hood in order to arrive at CP Arifjan and get to work. We were excited to get on the road and learn the mission from the true experts. We are now hard at working securing the Combat Logistics Patrols, better known as CLP's throughout all of Iraq. We have yet to slow down as we start preparations for the arrival of our

replacements who have began to face the challenges provided by the training team at FT Hood.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Soldiers of LTF 10 and welcome the Soldiers of LTF 6. Our success can be greatly attributed to the leadership, training and mentoring provided by LTF 10, especially the hospitality of LTC Ling and CSM Stabel. They truly are the "Guardians of Victory". We would like to extend the same hospitality to LTF 6 and welcome them to the Wrangler Family.

The 148<sup>th</sup> is proudly writing its latest chapters of its annals. Soldiers of the 148<sup>th</sup> are ready and eager to live the Regiment's motto, "We'll Do It" throughout the theater of Iraq. The Soldiers and Families of the 148<sup>th</sup> continue to make great sacrifices to serve this great nation. We are proud to contribute to the War on Terror once again. We'll Do It!

Lt. Col. Brian Tackett

## Submissions

The Wrangler wants to hear from you

Do you want to highlight someone or something going on in your unit or section? Have a photo that you would like posted? Please send all submissions via email to Sgt. Myers at [angienne.l.myers@kuwait.swa.army.mil](mailto:angienne.l.myers@kuwait.swa.army.mil). In the body of the email, please include the following: Full Name, Rank, Unit and Duty Position. Attach your submission as a Word Document and limit to 300 words. Submissions are subject to editing. For photo submissions, please include a caption describing the photo (Who, What, When, Where and Why).

# 1-148th CSM's Words



It has been a truly rewarding and learning experience for the Soldiers of the Warrior Battalion to have the opportunity to work with our counterparts in LTF 10 and JLTF 28. We wish God's speed to our brothers and sisters in LTF 10, as they conduct their RIP/TOA and depart theater for home.

On 20 September, the 4<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade will begin the Iron Wrangler competition. I strongly encourage every Soldier to

participate. Regardless of our rank, career field, or MOS, one of the most important attribute a Soldier must possess is physical fitness. Just as important or even more so in many regards, is our warrior's competitive spirit and desire to excel and win. Soldiers must have the inner drive mental toughness to push themselves through self imposed barriers to accomplish difficult physical tasks. The ability to do this builds a Soldier's self confidence and his or her inner warrior spirit. I believe to a large extent our Soldiers get that drive from their leaders. Leaders at every level have to demonstrate these traits for our Soldiers to emulate. Achieving the status of Iron Wrangler is an outstanding achievement. Having the discipline and intestinal fortitude to train for and participate with 100% effort is equally impressive to me. In a light Infantryman, the one characteristic I value above all others is mental toughness. The ability to push one's self past one's

perceived physical limits. This trait however is vitally important to all Soldiers, and a trait worthy of great admiration. I see that trait on the faces of the Olympic athletes I see on television. It is the same look I see in our outstanding young men and women serving in this conflict. Only good things come from being physically fit, but the true reward is a formation of confident, disciplined, and mentally tough Soldiers. A unit composed of Soldiers with these traits will fight and win on any battlefield, against any enemy, in any conditions.

In closing I challenge each Soldier in the Wrangler Brigade to compete and more importantly to display your warrior traits on the sports field. See you there!

Command Sgt. Maj. Rodger Jones

## Wrangler Command Team Message



4th Sustainment Brigade  
Commander  
Col. Terence Hermans

More than 4,300 Soldiers and Airmen make up the 'Wrangler formation which is tasked with executing the distribution mission for the Iraqi Theater of Operations. Each one of you is important and each one of you contributes to the overall mission. No matter if you're a private first class ordering unit supplies or the technical sergeant charged with the command and control of a 40+ vehicle convoy formation, every job and every mission is important and critical to the direct outcome of the operation as a whole. We will not fail; there are too many lives and too many people counting on the Wranglers.

'Just Get it Done'



4th Sustainment Brigade  
Command Sergeant Major  
Command Sgt. Major Erik R. R. Frey

*Congradulations to the new Wrangler U.S. Citizens*



Alaia Tuputala



Alvin Anderson



Alain Aquino



Edgar Campos



Jorge Castillo



Luis Espinoza



Luis Guadarrama



Sarahi Labeau



Jose Lopez



Angiene Myers



Shavneel Nand



Juan Ochoa-Del Toro



Adriana Smith



Rickie Vargas



The newly naturalized citizens placed their hand over their heart and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Photo By Spc. John D. Ortiz

#### CEREMONY Continued from Page 1

would have to wait at least five years.

But as a member of a military service serving the United States, they were eligible to apply as soon as their enlistment began.

Spc. Sarahi Labeau, with the 10th Transportation Company, originally from Mexico, came to the United States in 1992 and joined the Army in 2006.

“My whole life, all I have wanted was to [become] an American citizen. When you come to this country that’s all you can hope for,” she said.

During the ceremony, the Wranglers promised to support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies,

foreign and domestic.

As a member of the military; this promise is not far from the oath they took as a recruit when they enlisted in the Armed Services.

“Today you are getting the blue medal award: the American passport. Do you know how many people worldwide would trade places with you?” said guest speaker Mr. Sonny Busa, the Consular Chief of Section at the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait.

Mr. Busa went on to give advice to the new citizens. “When you get back to your communities do something; run for office, coach little league, or volunteer for the Parent/Teacher Association. You have to work at being a citizen, so go back and do this within your communities.”

“It is an honor for me to share this very special day with you. Citizenship is one of the most coveted gifts that the U.S. government can bestow,” said Maj. Gen. Charles Anderson, Deputy Commanding General, United States Army Central.

“I know you are grateful for the opportunities that you have been given, you have earned the privilege of American Citizenship,” he said.

“With every new citizen who is woven in our national tapestry, our diversity is strengthened, securing America’s promise as a nation of immigrants,” he said.

“Today we welcome you as the newest members of the American family,” Anderson concluded.

## Legal Pointers

# PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT INCLUDE NEW MILITARY FAMILY LEAVE PROVISIONS

Article By Sgt. Mary Burch  
Task Force Gateway

Proposed changes to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) give new Family leave entitlements to Family members of military personnel serving in support of contingency operations, according to the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL).

The two new provisions were added to the FMLA by the signing of the National Defense Authorization Act on January 28, 2008.

One provision provides for an entitlement for a Family member to take unpaid leave to care for an injured service member, including someone in the National Guard or the Reserves.

The second provision provides an entitlement for a Family member to take unpaid leave to attend to matters related to a Family member's call to active duty in support of a recognized contingency operation.

The first new military Family leave entitlement gives an eligible employee who is the spouse, son, daughter, parent or next of kin of a covered service member up to 26 weeks of unpaid leave during a 12-month period to care for a Family member who receives a serious injury or becomes ill while on active military duty.

The second entitlement provides that an eligible employee will be entitled to up to 12 weeks of leave per year for an as yet undefined qualifying exigency related to a spouse, son, daughter, parent or next of kin's call to active duty in support of a contingency operation.

Although the Secretary of Labor is in the process of finalizing the rules and several issues remain to be defined, a serious injury is being interpreted to mean "an injury or illness incurred by the military member in the line of duty which may render the member medically unfit to perform the duties of the member's office, grade, rank, or rating," according to an agency that reviews new state and federal laws.

The definition of what would constitute a "qualifying demand" is also not yet clear. The types of demands proposed include arranging for the absence of the service member, including care of children, financial and legal matters, and attending official ceremonies or other programs where the participation of the Family member is requested by the military.

The effective date for the first provision, leave for caring for an injured service member, was Jan. 28, 2008. The

effective date of the second provision, leave for making arrangements for an absent service member, is awaiting the agency's issuance of the final regulations. Although the DOL has not yet issued these regulations, it encourages employers to provide the leave time to their employees voluntarily.

To be eligible for the FMLA and unpaid leave time, according to the DOL, the employee must work under a covered employer, have worked for this employer for 12 months, worked at least 1,250 hours over the 12 months, and work at a location inside the United States or any territory or possession of the United States. The employee must also maintain their health insurance plan during this time.

The FMLA is a federal regulation requiring public agencies and private-sector employers who employ more than 50 employees and engage in commerce to allow eligible employees to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave during any 12-month period for reasons related to significant Family health situations.

These situations include, among others, the birth of a child, the care of an immediate Family member who has a serious health condition, the care of one's own serious health condition and the adoption of a child or foster child.

***THE LEGAL BRIEF is a section containing general legal information on topics which Legal Assistance Attorney's frequently advise on. Information provided is general in nature and does not constitute formal, specific legal advice. Consult an attorney or the Camp Arifjan Legal Office at 430-5258 for specific legal advice for your particular situation.***

# 4th SB Virtual Family Readiness Group

Article Courtesy of 4th Sustainment Brigade  
Rear-Detachment

Ever wonder where to find information about a wide variety of agencies and activities on post at Fort Hood and the latest version of “The Wrangler?” These days, nothing is more than a click away. Why not use those mad information age skills and check out the 4th Sustainment Brigade Virtual Website?

We recently added pictures from the latest Family Readiness Group event to the photo gallery, information on our upcoming Town Hall meeting and other activities to the calendar, and links to many helpful Army and Fort Hood agencies and informational sites to the Links section.

There’s even a dancing baby for those who need a good chuckle! The ‘Army’ level site has links for teens, tweens, parents, Soldiers and spouses as well.

Wrangler and Wolfpack Soldiers and Families can go to [www.armyfrg.org](http://www.armyfrg.org) and click ‘register here’.

Click on Texas and scroll down to Ft Hood. Click 4th Sustainment Brigade, 13th SC(E) and apply.

There’s a link off the brigade home page for those wanting to access 553 CSSB’s site, or click 553rd CSSB, 13th SC(E) under Ft Hood’s units and apply directly.

You will need your Soldier’s last four numbers of their social security number to complete the on-line form. Once our site administrator authorizes your account, you have access to both the Army and Brigade level sites. It’s that easy!

Check it out.... I double blog dare ya! There really is something for everyone. You won’t be disappointed!

If you have any issues registering or accessing the site please contact your FRSA’s...[kristin.neal@conus.army.mil](mailto:kristin.neal@conus.army.mil) for BTB, [debra.fourzan@conus.army.mil](mailto:debra.fourzan@conus.army.mil) for 553, or [karol.pinkerton@conus.army.mil](mailto:karol.pinkerton@conus.army.mil) for the 4th Sustainment Brigade.



# Hurricane Season for Deployed Troops

Article by First Lt. Tim Breitbach  
70th Medium Truck Detachment

We have all gone through the pre-deployment preparations: checklists, bill payments, Family care plans, endless paperwork and the myriad of other things that must be completed before spending an extended period of time away from home.

However, certain events are a little more difficult to prepare for. This is no more evident than now, as hurricane season is once again upon our friends and loved ones back home.

One of our JLTF 28 team members, Master Sgt. Peter Imhof, was stationed at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Miss., when Hurricane Katrina hit in 2004.

Imhof experienced the devastating effects first-hand. He and the rest of the Airmen in his shop were required to ride out the storm on base.

Imhof considers himself lucky that



Just visible over the flood waters of a major hurricane in Mississippi, is a coke machine. Courtesy Photo.

his home sustained only minor damages such as lost shingles, gutters, and damage from flying debris.

We cannot control the natural disasters that may cross our paths, but we can take a few important steps to effectively prepare.

As the leadership at Keesler AFB makes decisions on mandated evacuations, all the Airmen here have been in constant contact with both their shops and their Families.

Potential evacuation routes and

locations need to be pre-planned and emergency contacts established in the event of a disaster.

Prior to departing, Airmen knew this scenario was a possibility and took the necessary steps to ensure cars, homes, and other important documents would be protected.

Family members need to have a disaster kit on hand and providing Red Cross/Emergency contact information, will aid in contacting you overseas.

## Wrangler Armed Forces Voter's Week Breakfast

Armed Forces Voter's Week was Aug. 31st - Sept. 7th. On Sept. 2nd many Wrangler Soldiers participated in the 4th Sustainment Brigade's Voting Assistance Breakfast and completed their absentee ballot.

Many thanks to the 4th Sustainment Brigade Voting Assistance Officers, who have spent countless hours these past few months notifying Soldiers and informing them about the importance of their 'Right To Vote.'

It's still not too late to vote in the upcoming General Election. Now is the time to register and request an absentee ballot for the Nov. 4, 2008 election. You can visit your Voting Assistant Officer or simply log onto [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) and fill out the Federal Post Card Application.



Maj. Edward Hausknecht, Chief of Operations for the Wranglers fills out a roster registration card during the breakfast. Courtesy Photo.

# MEDIEVAL VS. MODERN CENTURIONS' EQUIPMENT

Article and Photo by Capt. James "Chip" King  
Air Force 424th Medium Truck Detachment

Many aspects have evolved in the way Centurions are equipped and conduct war-time operations.

In the Medieval Era, Centurion helmets weighed about five pounds and were adorned with a red plume mounted side-to-side. The elite Roman officers wore them to be easily spotted in battle, and making the wearer appear taller and more intimidating.

The armor worn by Centurions during this time used segmented sections and hinged steel pieces riveted to leather straps. This provided increased maneuverability while still giving the protection of steel plating.

Chain-mail armor was another effective and popular defense for its ability to stop cutting weapons from piercing the skin.

Centurions' weapons of choice were the spiked mace, spiked flails, clubs, crossbows and Excalibur swords. During this period, transportation was limited to horses and chariots.

Through evolution and technology, the U.S. Air Force has learned how to effectively equip a modern day 424 Medium Truck Detachment "Centurion" warrior to be an elite force multiplier.

Today, the modern "Centurion" wears the Advanced Combat Helmet which weighs roughly 3.5 pounds, with no mounted red plume, providing the wearer with a less identifiable shape and lower profile.

Instead of steel plates and chain-



The 424 Medium Truck Detachment logo stands lighted in the night sky in the Centurion area in the JLTf 28 motorpool.

mail, modern day armor is made of synthetic fibers called Kevlar used in the Improved Outer Tactical Vest weighing approximately 30 pounds, about three pounds lighter than previously issued protective vests.

Weapons are much better today because we, use an array, ranging from the M-9 pistol to the M-4 carbine, equipped with a M-68 sight for aiming effectiveness in low-light environments. They are more deadly than clubs and crossbows.

Our "Centurions" also use night vision goggles to enhance their ability to detect objects and the enemy under the

cover of darkness.

Our personnel use the M-915 instead of horses and chariots to traverse combat areas while hauling supplies to sustain the operations within the battle arena. The 424 MTD "Centurions" have the ability to securely communicate and coordinate with others via the Movement Tracking System and Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System as well.

These are just a few of the enhancements making it better to be a "Centurion" in today's combat environment.

**424 Ready for War!**

# R&R, Training and Relaxation

Article and Photos courtesy of  
Alpha Company, 1-148th IN

The spirit of the citizen Soldier manifests itself in broad spectrums. In the National Guard, we can find a master of different trades in a single person, at home and abroad.

Sgt. Nate Metz, is the armorer for Company A, 1st Battalion, 148th Infantry Regiment with the Ohio Army National Guard. From another perspective, his student Nate, is his Sensei.

In 2006, Metz founded the Bujinkan Bushin Dojo, in Hicksville, Ohio, specializing in the Bujinkan martial art.

The Bujinkan, literally meaning "skill with the body," is an organization that trains in ancient Japanese samurai martial arts. It encompasses nine different schools. There is a wide variety of skills to learn to be proficient in this art.

Taijutsu forms the basis for all understanding in the Bujinkan. By developing natural responses with the



Soke Masaaki Hatsumi with Sgt. Nate Metz in the Bujinkan Hombu Dojo.

body during initial training, physical lessons are created and used as models for psychological and tactical instruction in advanced studies.

Taijutsu uses the opponent's aggression and weight against them, with soft movements to compete against strength and speed.

During Metz's R&R leave, he flew to Japan, where he visited the roots of the martial art that he teaches others back home.

Metz has been to Japan before, when he earned his fifth degree black belt.

On leave, he trained, with the top teachers along with the Grandmaster Dr. Masaaki Hatsumi, an average of three times a day. During this period, he earned his eighth degree black belt.

Members of Alpha Company feel lucky to have an excellent armorer. Metz is a Soldier and leader who mentors the unit on perseverance and inspires them.



Sgt. Nate Metz ensures arms and ammunition readiness before mission, the gunner is Spc. Robert L. Oley.

# Griffins Win Arifjan's Summer Slam Softball Tournament

Article By 1st Lt. Lindsey Rowland  
109 Transportation Company

**CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait** – The ‘Griffins’ from the Joint Logistics Task Force 28 won the championship title in the Summer Slam Softball Tournament at Camp Arifjan.

It was an irrefutable day for the ‘Griffins’ as they defeated their fifth consecutive opponent of the tournament with a crushing defeat of 25-5 against the ITT ‘Hitman’ squad.

“Everything came together in the final game, we played our best offensive-defensive game,” said Master Sgt. Johnny Williams, a member of the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, JLTF 28. “We had no errors, just consistent routine plays,” he added.

The ‘Griffins’ moved effortlessly five times through the batting line-up, with Staff Sgt. Jeremy Wilkins from the 109th Transportation Company robbing the ‘Hitman’ of three base hits with amazing catches in the right field, while Spc. Darris Long, with the 846 Transportation Company, made a diving catch at second base that led to a ground out.

“We compiled this team from a lot of different companies within the battalion, the team came together to win. It’s hard to put a team together when you are not used to each other, but we were successful,” said Staff Sgt. Chad Parrish, another member of HHD, JLTF 28, and the ‘Griffin’s’ team captain.

The 9th Finance Team, whom the ‘Griffins’ played in the semi-finals, was arguably the best team and the biggest challenge to the run up to the championship. Yet the finance team blew a four-run lead and fell to the ‘Griffins,’

who made a comeback in the fifth inning, to win with a final score of 17-16.

“We had to make a four-point comeback in the bottom half of the last inning. It was a walk-off win,” said Parish.

The batting line-up that earned the win was: Master Sgt. Johnny Williams, who also hit the only home run of the tournament, Parrish, 1st Sgt. Marvin Brooks, and Sgt. 1st Class Gerald Richardson, with the 846 Transportation Company.

“We made some errors that kept ok 9th Finance in the game. We went down and came back up and eventually pulled it off,” said Williams.

Other strong batters from the team that helped with the win were Capt. Kevin Howell and 1st Sgt. James Harris.

JLTF 28 defeated the likes of 148 Infantry “Hitman,” Air Force “Blue,” 9th Finance, and ultimately ITT “Hitman.”

“We compared the win to the Olympics, it felt really good to win and we were all really happy. Everything came together for the final game,” said Brooks, star pitcher for ‘Griffin’ Team.

“I would have liked to have this team at home for some tournaments,” added Brooks.

He said, the team’s strongest attributes lie in their offensive game.

“The ability to get a base hit was the key to winning; everyone on the team could guarantee a base hit,” said Brooks. “We were also able to field a good defense.”



Staff Sgt. Chad Parrish swings at a pitch during the AJ Summer Slam Softball Tournament. Photo by Spc. Stephen Reyes.

# 'Road Hogs' Fulfill Request for New M915A3 with Pro-Tote Towing Assembly

Article by Sgt. Amy Andrews  
1844th Transportation Company

**CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait** – Leading the way for operational needs, the maintenance section of the 1844th Transportation Company set an unprecedented standard of performance, ability and achievement.

Asked to assemble a M915A3 with a Pro-Tote towing assembly by Joint Logistics Task Force 28 and the 4th Sustainment Brigade, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Russell E. Richard knew his section was up for the challenge.

Having to start from scratch, Richard, the 1844th Trans. Co., maintenance chief, and his team not only sustained the operational maintenance needs for the company supporting the war in Iraq, but also put in extra effort and labor managing the construction of the towing assembly, effectively transforming an Army semi-truck into a recovery vehicle.

“It’s a good feeling of success and accomplishment, due to the hard work and maintenance we put into it knowing that we created a useful product,” said Staff Sgt. John Riley, a maintainer with the company.

Adding the Pro-Tote towing device transformed the M915A3 into an accelerated version of the M915A3 maintenance bob-tail, capable of lifting 20,000 pounds with the ability to tow an additional 40,000 pounds; it’s credentials enable the system to quickly latch on to a disabled vehicle and tow them to a safe recovery area.

“The ability to quickly recover is crucial in the theater of operation our Soldiers are working in, making this new system beneficial to the safety of the

Soldiers and an asset to the company’s mission as a whole,” said Sgt. 1st Class Eric T. Hoehn, the first platoon sergeant.

The M915A3 is complete with standard convoy equipment and has been equipped with the company’s signature lighting system, to include the ability to control the right and left lights on the vehicles as separate entities, allowing Soldiers to turn off the lights on one side or the other as they pass oncoming convoys.

Assembling the deck of the M915A3, the maintenance section made use of their excellent welding skills providing multiple storage boxes for tools, equipment, supplies, and other various gear Soldiers need on a mission.

Also included on the vehicle is the MAX 30, which provides a water supply for extinguishing fires within 100 feet. The fire extinguisher increases the safety of Soldiers by giving a longer stand-off distance compared to standard hand held

fire extinguishers.

The vehicle’s safety enhancements also include a secure drop down rack allowing for a secure placement of spare tires compared to strapping spare tires to the fifth wheel with a tie down ratchet strap.

In addition to safety enhancements, many mechanical advances were made to the new vehicle. Enhancements include the capability to connect the service and emergency air lines to the towed vehicle, making use of the towed vehicle’s breaking system.

Air ratchets and impact wrenches are now available while on a mission, due to the accessibility of an air supply provided directly from the vehicle’s air system.

An unusual yet exceptionally beneficial feature of the maintenance

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**PRO-TOTE** Continued from Page 14

vehicle is the mounted brackets found on the rear of the vehicle used for quick access to the tow bar.

Due to the large number of labor hours required to complete such a task, the ‘Road Hogs’ have provided an example for the structure and welding fabrication shop as a template for future production of the system.

Outstanding performance of the maintenance section caught the attention of the Wrangler Commander, Col. Terence Hermans, who coined four of the hard working maintenance Soldiers to include Riley, Sgt. Kenneth Fox, Spc. Henry Cross and Spc. Brett Hively.

“I am proud of my peers and subordinates who have participated in this project. It is nice to know those in our chain of command appreciate our efforts and the hours we put in to its fabrication and our accomplishment,”



said Riley.

Gaining the interest of the United States Army Europe, 21st Theater Sustainment Command Team from Germany, the maintenance section recently provided a static display of the vehicle with the Pro-Tote towing assembly for Maj. Gen. Yves J. Fontaine and Command Sgt. Maj. David D. Wood last month.

# SUDOKU

The rule are simple. All you have to do is fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the number 1 through 9. **Remember**, each puzzle has only one solution.

**Puzzle: Intermediate  
Solution on Page 17**

		5				9	7	1
9		4						2
		7	6	3	9			
	1		7	9			5	
6	7						9	8
	4			2	8		6	
			1	4	5	8		
8						3		6
4	9	2				7		

# Celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month

In September 1968, Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage Week, which was observed during the week that included Sep. 15 and Sep. 16.

The observance was expanded in 1988 to a month long celebration. America celebrates the culture and traditions of those who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico and the Spanish-speaking nations of Central America, South America and the Caribbean.

Sep. 15 was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on Sept. 16 and Sep. 18, respectively.

The following are a few facts regarding the Hispanic culture in America.

## Population

### 45.5 million

The estimated Hispanic population of the United States as of July 1, 2007, making people of Hispanic origin the nation's largest ethnic or race minority. Hispanics constituted 15 percent of the nation's total population. In addition, there are approximately 3.9 million residents of Puerto Rico.

### 2nd

Ranking of the size of the U.S. Hispanic population worldwide, as of 2007. Only Mexico

(108.7 million) had a larger Hispanic population than did the United States (45.5 million). (Spain had a population of 40.4 million.)

### 64 percent

The percentage of Hispanic-origin people in the United States who are of Mexican background. Another 9 percent are of Puerto Rican background, with 3.4 percent Cuban, 3.1 percent Salvadoran and 2.8 percent Dominican. The remainder are of some other Central American, South American or other Hispanic or Latino origin.

About 50 percent of the nation's Dominicans live in New York City and about half of the nation's Cubans in Miami-Dade County, Fla.

## States and Counties

### 48 percent

The percentage of the Hispanic-origin population that lives in California or Texas. California is home to 13.2 million Hispanics, and Texas is home to 8.6 million.

### 44 percent

The percentage of New Mexico's population that is Hispanic, the highest of any state. Hispanics also make up more than a quarter of the population in California and Texas, at 36 percent each, Arizona (30 percent) and Nevada (25 percent).

### 4.7 million

The Hispanic population of Los Angeles County, Calif., in 2007 — the largest of any county in the nation. Maricopa County, Ariz. (home of Phoenix) had the biggest numerical increase in the Hispanic population (60,700) since July 2006.

## Businesses

### Triple

The rate of growth of Hispanic-owned businesses between 1997 and 2002 (31 percent) compared with the national average (10 percent) for all businesses.

### \$222 billion

Revenue generated by Hispanic-owned businesses in 2002, up 19 percent from 1997.

### 44.6 percent

... of all Hispanic-owned firms were owned by Mexicans, Mexican-Americans and Chicanos.

## Spanish Language

### 34 million

The number of U.S. residents 5 and older who speak Spanish at home. Spanish speakers constitute 12 percent of U.S. residents.

### 29 percent

Percentage of Texas residents 5 and older who speak Spanish at home, which leads all states. This compares with the national average of 12 percent.

### 78 percent

Percentage of Hispanics 5 and older who speak Spanish at home.

## Serving our Country

### 1.1 million

The number of Hispanic veterans of the U.S. armed forces.

*Information Courtesy of U.S. Census Bureau*

## Wrangler Birthday "Shout Outs"

### BTB

SPC Hubel, Donald	16 Sept	SPC Nichols, Megan	22 Sept	SGT Valdez, Tomas	26 Sept
SPC Vuiyanuca, Tevita	16 Sept	SPC Berndt, Ryan	23 Sept	SSG Strommen, Deanna	28 Sept
SPC Ramsey, Gerald	19 Sept	SPC Taylor, Aaron	23 Sept	SPC Maafala, Tinoi	30 Sept
PFC Kamara, Mamoud	20 Sept	SSG Besana, Analyn	23 Sept	CPT Walker, Elizabeth	30 Sept
SSG Martinez, Mirna	20 Sept	PFC Shipley, Sara	24 Sept		
CPT Molinets, Charles	22 Sept	SPC Brown, Henrietta	26 Sept		

### 1-126th CAV

PV2 Butner, Anthony	16 Sept	PVT Maxwell, Cory	21 Sept	PFC Collett, Dakota	26 Sept
SGT Rainwater, John	16 Sept	1SG Lucius, Randall	21 Sept	SPC Bronkema, Ryan	26 Sept
CW4 Neesmith, William	16 Sept	PVT Torres, Miguel	22 Sept	SPC Tipsword, Scott	26 Sept
PVT Burgett, Jeffrey	17 Sept	SGT Krawczyk, Andrew	22 Sept	SGT Garza, Travis	27 Sept
PFC Block, Daniel	17 Sept	SSG Crisenbery, Jason	22 Sept	1SG Harris, Rodney	28 Sept
SSG Beltran, Michael	17 Sept	2LT Everts, Jason	22 Sept	PV2 Shirey, Justin	29 Sept
SSG Warner, Daniel	18 Sept	PFC Brewer, William	23 Sept	SPC Wood, Isaac	30 Sept
SSG Wood, James	18 Sept	PV2 Hylton, Christopher	23 Sept	SGT Diaz, Darren	30 Sept
CPT Elt, Neil	19 Sept	SGT Lovaas, Daniel	24 Sept	SGT Dillion, Wilson	30 Sept
SPC Espinoza, Frank	20 Sept	PV2 Butler, David	25 Sept		
SPC Aber, Anothony	20 Sept	SGT Taylor, Gary	25 Sept		

### 1-148th IN

SPC Slee, Amber	16 Sept	PFC Brock, Nicholas	22 Sept	SGT Cochran, Matthew	26 Sept
SPC Rolinc, Daniel	16 Sept	SPC Field, Jonathon	22 Sept	SPC Schafer, John	27 Sept
SGT Small, Danny	17 Sept	PVT Haer, Brian	23 Sept	SGT Payne, Cletus	27 Sept
SGT Adams, Frederick	17 Sept	SPC Krecskay, Andrew	23 Sept	SGT Capshaw, Peter	29 Sept
SSG Szymanski, Robert	17 Sept	SPC Waldren, Norman	23 Sept	SPC Gallaway, Daniel	29 Sept
SSG McKinley, Brayon	18 Sept	SPC Overholser, Carl	24 Sept	SSG Walden, Kenneth	29 Sept
PFC Clark, Timothy	20 Sept	PVT Schall, Daniel	26 Sept		
PFC Frederick, David	21 Sept	SGT Jeffrey, Jimmy	26 Sept		

### TF Gateway

SPC McRae, Dorothy	17 Sept	SFC Corley, Lekisha	22 Sept	SGT Anderson, Alvin	26 Sept
SPC Copeland, Garrett	18 Sept	SFC Horne, Tameka	22 Sept	SGT Betts, Barry	27 Sept
SSG Camuy, Alex	18 Sept	SPC Elliott, Nathan	23 Sept	SPC Marrero, Jeremy	28 Sept
SSG Nares, Michael	20 Sept	SSG Santini, Angel	25 Sept	SSG Ness, Edward	29 Sept
SPC Bujno, Kristin	21 Sept	PFC Wheeler, Erick	26 Sept		

## 6th Trans

SGT Jones, Roderick	15 Sept	SGT Manuelito, Curtis	25 Sept	SGT Frei, Brian	28 Sept
PFC Naderipour, Payman	16 Sept	SPC Moravek, Brandy	16 Sept	PFC Meyer, Dustin	23 Sept
PFC Phelps, Christopher	18 Sept	PFC Palmer, Terry	22 Sept	SGT Ortiz, Oswaldo	29 Sept
SPC Kreinbring, Thomas	19 Sept	SFC Robinson, Ronnie	23 Sept	PFC Weiss, Keith	21 Sept
SPC Wells, Richard	19 Sept	PFC Scharnhorst, Paul	19 Sept	PFC Cahill, Michael	29 Sept
SGT Albertson, Michael	18 Sept	PV2 Shambaugh, Marion	30 Sept	SGT Crosier, Benjamin	20 Sept
SPC Benitez, Pedro	30 Sept	SPC Wendt, Steven	23 Sept	SSG Dickson, Matthew	18 Sept
SGT Cantrell Vance	15 Sept	SGT Crafter Darius	24 Sept	SSG Hamilton, Clarence	17 Sept
SSG Claus William	24 Sept	SGT Dickey, Clifton	30 Sept	PFC Muhr, Shawn	21 Sept
SPC Femrite, Karsten	28 Sept	SFC Bates, Carmen	21 Sept	SSG PerezCrus, JORge	26 Sept
SGT Hodges, William	18 Sept	SPC Brannon, Christopher	23 Sept	SPC Thomas, Joshua	22 Sept
1LT Johann, Derek	23 Sept	SGT Carrasco, Debra	18 Sept	SSG Hall, Floyd	27 Sept
SFC Johnson, Christopher	27 Sept	SFC Comeau, Corey	26 Sept	SGT Strassler, Eric	21 Sept
SGT JOsey, Stanley	22 Sept	SGT. Delatorre, Arturo	26 Sept	WO1 Willis, Kevin	27 Sept
SGT MedinaPenny, Roselyn	26 Sept	SPC Durkin, Dasandra	25 Sept	PFC Hayes, Matthew	30 Sept

## JLTF 28

SPC Deleon, Roberto	16 Sept	SRA Fuentes, Abisai	21 Sept	TSG Byrd, Brian	26 Sept
SRA O'Mally, Tyler	17 Sept	SSG McDaniel, Christopher	21 Sept	A1C Noles, Jordan	27 Sept
SGT Robinson, Syredia	17 Sept	PV2 Gallaher, April	22 Sept	SGT Adama, Tilton	27 Sept
SSG DeJarnett	17 Sept	SPC Henley, Jon	22 Sept	SGT Baneky, Christopher	27 Sept
PFC Davis, Christopher	18 Sept	SSG Bennett, Kerry	22 Sept	CMS Wedington, David	27 Sept
SGT McQuaig, Michael	18 Sept	SSG Zaragoza, Javier	22 Sept	A1C Drager, Clinton	28 Sept
SSG Stanley, Naeem	18 Sept	PV2 White, David	23 Sept	SGT Fedoriw, Brandon	28 Sept
PFC Lightsey, Marcus	19 Sept	PFC Caraway, Christopher	24 Sept	SPC Cross, Henry	28 Sept
A1C Schmit, William	19 Sept	A1C McKinley, Stephen	24 Sept	SPC Stephens, Joseph	28 Sept
SRA Mulloy, Sean	19 Sept	SPC Bryant, ANothony	24 Sept	PFC King, Joshua	29 Sept
SPC Kerker, Jared	19 Sept	SPC Rosario, Martin	24 Sept		
SFC Thomas, Matthew	19 Sept	SSG Alford, Juan	24 Sept		
TSG Rodriguez, Hugo	19 Sept	SPC Chavez, Rosa	25 Sept		
MSG Miller, Terrence	19 Sept	SPC Baker, Shaina	25 Sept		
PFC Nichols, Stephen	20 Sept	SRA Shiel, Diana	25 Sept		
SPC Kirby, James	20 Sept	A1C Demkowicz, Michael	26 Sept		
SPC Manton, Heath	20 Sept	SPC Anaya, Arturo	26 Sept		
SGT Porter, Rachelle	20 Sept	SPC Gray, John	26 Sept		
SSG Larue, Jeffrey	20 Sept	SPC McPee, Shareese	26 Sept		
SSG Wilson, Steven	20 Sept	SRA Farrell, Benjamin	26 Sept		
SSG Truedale, Patrick	20 Sept	SGT Cunrod, Ray	26 Sept		
SPC Gordan, Kareen	21 Sept	SGT Porter, Shaquel	26 Sept		

Puzzle Solution From Page 15								
3	6	5	2	8	4	9	7	1
9	8	4	5	1	7	6	3	2
1	2	7	6	3	9	5	8	4
2	1	8	7	9	6	4	5	3
6	7	3	4	5	1	2	9	8
5	4	9	3	2	8	1	6	7
7	3	6	1	4	5	8	2	9
8	5	1	9	7	2	3	4	6
4	9	2	8	6	3	7	1	5