

**HOT TOPIC: Pass Activities (if you're staying near post)**

Volume 1, Issue 3

**On post:** Paintball, Mini Golf, Canoeing, Fishing 388-3517 / 2619 < ALL #'s 608 area code > 6 SEP 2008**Local area** (offering military discounts): Ho Chung Cinema, Tomah, 374-3820; Rogers Cinema, Sparta, 269-7649;**Golf:** Hiawatha GC, Tomah, 372-5589; Sparta Muni GC, 269-3022; **Racing:** LaCrosseSpeedway.com, 796-9553**Tours:** downacountryroad.com, Cashton, 654-5318; LaCrosse City Brewery, 785-4200**Horseback Riding:** Redrock Trail Rides, Sparta, 823-7865; Spang's Riding Stable, Tomah, 372-4822, 343-7499

## Highlander 6 Sends

Guess what, Muldoons? I think we're gonna go to Iraq.

We had a successful rotation to Yakima, but that was easy part. It was preseason, now the real season starts and we need to get our heads in the game. We have a long road ahead to get to the Super Bowl, so get yourself physically and mentally ready. The pace is going to be fast and furious, so we need everyone to focus on the mission at hand.

Even though we have over 1000 hooahs in this battalion, this is truly no different than a 12 man A-team. We've got super squared away NCOs and junior officers that will lead the fight. I'm just along for the ride.

Keep up the motivation and continue to train hard. Just remember to "Do the Right Thing" and we'll be okay. See you down range, hooah!

## Chaplain's Notes:

CH (CPT) Hammel

"If we consider the unblushing promise of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospel, it would seem that our Lord would find our desires not too strong, but too weak.

We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered to us.

Like an ignorant child who

## Highlander 8: On the Way

And so it starts. . . .

Our arrival at our armories and subsequent movement to McCoy marks just the beginning of a year long journey. Just to put things in perspective, the previous unit I belonged to, the 2nd of the 163rd Armored Cavalry arrived at annual training in June 1940 and came home in December 1946. It makes our year seem pretty small in comparison, but a year is still a year. It's time away from families and our normal lives. It's a sacrifice to which we all agreed when we signed the dotted line and said "I do solemnly.."

The 1- 161 is bigger, leaner and meaner than it's ever been before. We currently have eight companies with over 1000 Soldiers. Think about that for a moment, we currently represent over a third of a normal Brigade. As this is written, we have two companies on post conducting range operations and

six companies at COL Freedom conducting platoon and company exercises. My goal is to get around to as many units as possible to visit with the troops as they conduct their training.

As I've walked the motor pool and ridden along on patrols it's been my pleasure to watch our NCOs in action. Our leaders are truly doing the right thing the right way. I'm seeing junior NCOs leaning forward, taking charge and making certain their Soldiers are trained and ready for whatever comes next. Our senior NCOs are holding my feet to the fire making certain Soldier needs are taken care of for pay, promotions, chow and housing.

Before I sign off for this edition, I should remind you to stay in touch with your families. Use the resources available that are free such as the MWR and the internet café. Cell phones are problematic with roaming and long distance

## "Why do we settle for slop?"

wants to go on making mud-pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."

- C.S. Lewis, *Weight of Glory*

"You will show me the way of life granting me the joy of your presence and the pleasures of living with you forever."

- King David, *Psalms 16:11*

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## NEED TO KNOW

Mailing address at Fort McCoy:

RANK, Name

Unit (e.g. HHC / 1-161IN)

1868 Regimental Avenue

Fort McCoy, WI 54656

## BACK IN THE WORLD . . .

West side: Sonic to build their classic drive-up restaurant in Puyallup, open Spring 2009

East side: Spokane County Interstate Fair runs through 14 SEP

Sports: Mariners - why bother; Seahawks - Tatum to play in 7 SEP opener vs. Bills despite knee injury

NCAA: NewsTrib picks Dogs to finish 6th, Cougs last in PAC-10; UW 10, Ducks 44; OK St 39, WSU 13

Elections: Gregoire - Rossi rematch; Obama-Biden vs. McCain-Palin, O/B up 2.5 points in latest polls

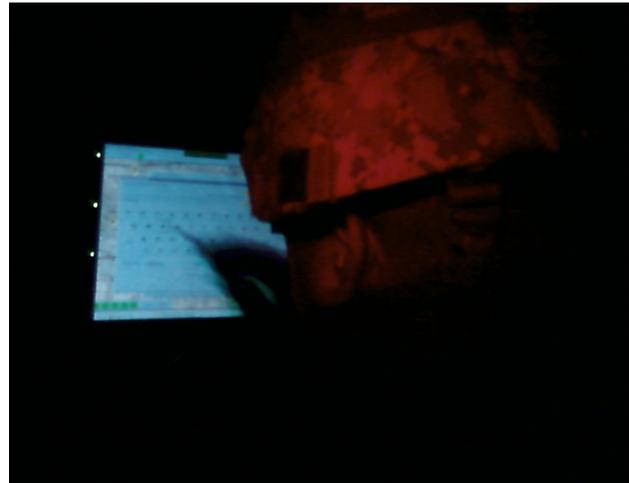
Regional: Strike cripples Boeing; Machinists reject contract by 80%, 87% voted to strike

# Highlanders in Action



With HMMWVs lined up, A Co soldiers conduct pre-combat checks before heading out on their first training convoy from C.O.L. Freedom, Monday, August 25

MAJ Fisher, Bn XO, sends a message using the Blue Force Tracker while on a route recon with D Co, Tuesday, August 26.



## Know Your Buddy

### SPC Eric Fox

Current pos: Gunner; MOS: 11C

Unit: E Co, Mortar Platoon

Time in 1-161? 6 months; Army? 13 years

1st, 2nd tour? 1st tour

Civilian job? Surface Water Maintenance Tech

Where? Federal Way

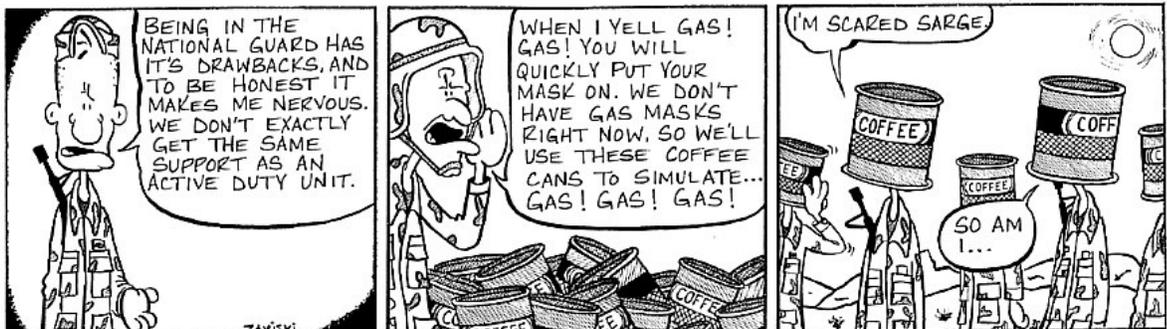
Why are you going? 11 yr break in service -- "We were losing young guys, tomorrow's leaders. I'm already trained; let them take the next fight. I missed the camaraderie and being apart something bigger of that you get in the Army."



## The Highlander

Is published bi-weekly as a command information resource for the soldiers of 1st Battalion, 161 Infantry, 81st HBCT

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Gunston St. by Zaviski