

August 2010

The Lightning News

News from the front for Soldiers, families and friends of HHC, 359th Signal Brigade



359th TTSB Soldiers represent Army in care drop

Kalitta Air donates over \$55,000 in care packages to deployed servicemembers

By Army Capt. Michelle Lunato

Bagram, Afghanistan -- A few Soldiers of the 359th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade represented the Army when a team from Kalitta Air delivered over 125,000 pounds of care packages that came solely from their company.

The Michigan-based company that makes regular overseas military deliveries held a "Support the Troops" donation drive and was overwhelmed at the response, said Cindy Goodboo, special project mail coordinator. Company employees donated time, sundries and money to make the drive successful. And to assist his team in supporting deployed service members, Conrad Kalitta, company owner, matched every dollar his employees put in. In total, the company collected over \$55,000 to support the troops, said Jennifer Radtke, Kalitta Air quality control records analyst.

"It was a shocker, and shopping for all that stuff was so much fun."

In addition to the variety of snacks and hygiene items, the care packages included letters and drawings from local schools, iTunes gift cards and Kalitta Air paraphernalia. "We just wanted to put a smile on your alls' face with heartfelt thanks," said Radtke. The company definitely reached that goal, said Army Sgt. Maj. John Schiffli, plans and operations sergeant major, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 359th TTSB. "These packages will mean the world to those service members who don't get a lot of mail from people."

The giving may have been just as rewarding as the receiving in this case though, said Schiffli as he recalled some of the Kalitta Air personnel were almost in tears when they were greeted on the flight line by thankful Soldiers and Marines. "There is nothing more comforting than to see all these service members," said Goodboo.

The company runs over 20 monthly overseas trips of "need it now" supplies that range from combat vehicles to pallets of food, but the crew does not normally get to see a lot of troops, said Mike Miller, Kalitta Air captain. So when they walked out of the plane to cheers and smiling faces from service members ranking from privates to



Photos by Army Capt. Michelle Lunato

Above, Army Sgt. Maj. John Schiffli, plans and operations sergeant major, takes a tour of the Kalitta Air plane that delivered the donated care packages. Below, Army Spc. Courtesia Wilson, generator mechanic, greets the Kalitta Air team.





Left, Army Sgt. 1st Class Dan Wallen, plans and operations noncommissioned officer in charge, waits with Marines for the Kalitta Air team to exit the plane. Below, Jose Saco, the Kalitta Air 747 loadmaster who lives at Bagram, stands before the 125,000 pounds of donated care packages.



lieutenant colonels, they were deeply touched, said Miller. “It makes you feel great that they came out to meet us.”

Getting to meet a few of the people who went out of their way to make service members a little more at home and happy was the real honor though, said Army Spc. Courtesia Wilson, generator mechanic, HHC, 359th TTSB. “We are appreciated more than we think, and that means a lot.” And considering the vast amount of care packages and the personal delivery when the economy is so tight, “it is a major sacrifice on their part, and we need to be mindful of that,” said Wilson.

The Kalitta Air employees and volunteers, many of whom are former service members themselves, did not consider their efforts to be a sacrifice, but rather one way to show the troops that we care about them, said Goodboo. “They knew what this would mean to the troops overseas and wanted to show their support.”

After seeing all the sundries come off that plane, I was duly impressed at how much effort and care must have gone into this project, said Army Sgt. 1st Class Dan Wallen, plans and operations noncommissioned officer in charge, HHC, 359th TTSB. “It was refreshing to know that so many people still care about us Soldiers.”

HHC Soldier Feature:

Plans, back-up plans & action = success

*Interviewed by
Army Capt. Michelle Lunato*

Army Spc. Corey D. Smith
administrative executive assistant

How has the deployment met your expectations?

“I came here expecting the worse, so this is way better.”

How have you adjusted to the random rocket attacks here?

“I am not worried. I have always thought whatever is supposed to happen will happen.”

What do you miss doing at home?

“I miss hopping in my car and picking up my friends.”

How is it working for the task force commander?

“Col. Kemp’s cool. He keeps me laughing.”

You said you wanted to be in information technology, so how did you get into the human resources field in the Army?

“I told the recruiter that I liked computers, and to get me any job that dealt with computers. I guess I should have been more specific.”

What specifically would you like to do in the information technology field?

“Technology point blank is my thing.”

How do you like the Army so far?

“I guess the Army might be for me. I look at it as one big family.”

How important is family to you?



Army Capt. Michelle Lunato

Army Spc. Corey D. Smith, administrative executive assistant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 359th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade, works for the brigade /signal task force commander Col. Chris Kemp while deployed for Operation Enduring Freedom in Bagram, Afghanistan.

“I love family. We have our arguments, but they’re there for me.”

“We can fight with each other, but no one says stuff about my family. If they did, we would have a big issue.”

You said you are close to your grandfather. How is he handling your being deployed?

“He’s worried. He’s really happy when I call to talk to him.”

What was it like growing up with five sisters?

“I learned a lot about women. Why they act the way they act,

and how to react and adapt.”

“It was hard walking down the street with them. They draw a lot of attention.”

Did you learn to just agree with them?

“No. I actually learned how to argue and win, but I also learned when not to fight.”

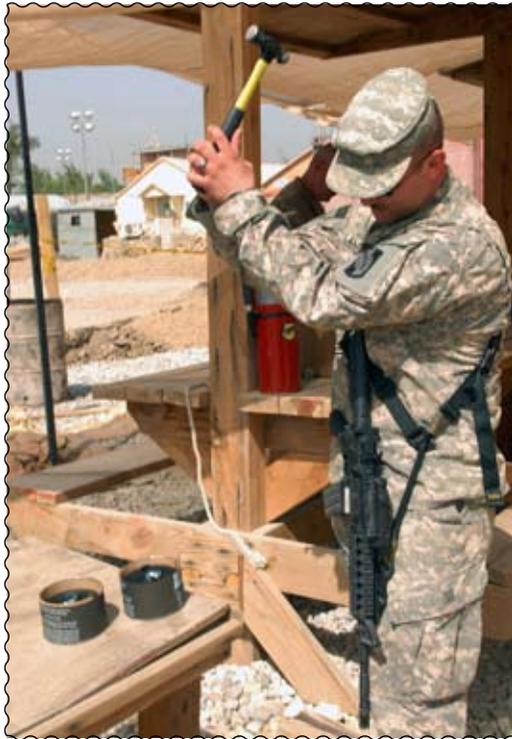
You said you wanted to do something special for your baby sister?

“I want to make it home for my little sister’s prom, to help her out

Preparation is key to success

Equipment checked, ready

Right, Army Sgt. Nicholas Lambert, command group driver, smashes his old canister so that it cannot be reused. Far right, Army Sgt. 1st Class Tim Hart, task force, CBRN NCOIC, performs an annual canister replacement on a Soldier's protective mask.



Photos by Army Capt. Michelle Lunato

“The M40 protective mask is the first line of defense in a CBRN [chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear] attack,” said Army Sgt. 1st Class Tim Hart, CBRN/training noncommissioned officer in charge. Just like all other individual equipment, the masks must be maintained, and the 359th TTSB “staunchly enforces CBRN training,” said Hart.



Beauty is constant in the world

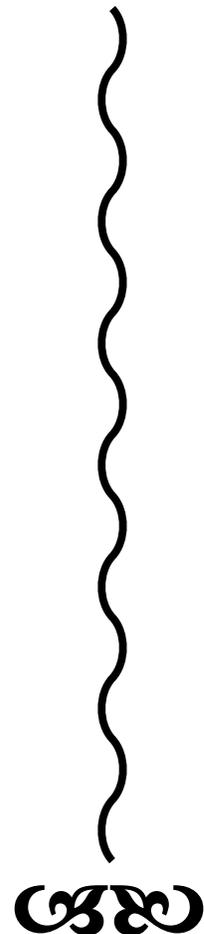
Capturing that beauty is the art of photography



Photo Illustration submitted by Army Spc. Michael Cannon



John Tourelot, JNCC-A





Army Spc. Paulius Manomaitis, 86th ESB



Brigade Highlights:

The Command, Control, Communications and Computer (C4) Support Shop



Army Capt. Michelle Lunato

Front row: Mr. Michael DeNovo, Army Sgt. 1st Class Jose , Army Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Doyle, and Air Force Staff Sgt. Robert Harrel. Back row: Army Staff Sgt. Tommy Andrews, Army Master Sgt. Denis Lugo, Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 David Mauriello, Army Capt. Hampton Culp, and Army Maj. Thomas Bollerman. Not in picture, Army Spc. Eric Mahaffey.

The Command, Control, Communications and Computer (C4) Support team is responsible for providing radio, frequency management, and telephone support for the Joint Network Operations Control Center-Afghanistan, the brigade and for coordinating those radio/phone/spectrum issues that transfer more than one regional command.

C4 supports all U.S. Forces-Afghanistan units/elements within the Combined Joint Operations Area-Afghanistan (CJOA-A) in support of combat operations within Operation Enduring Freedom.

The C4 team consists of:

Army Maj. Thomas Bollerman
C4 Support officer in charge

- Directs, integrates and synchronizes the radio, frequency management, and telephone support

operations and reporting in the JNCC-A.

- Oversees the support of all facets of C4 systems and supports the CJOA-A, and focuses specially on radio, frequency management, and telephones services.
- Maintains situational awareness of all operations, missions and initiatives on-going within the regional commands and across the CJOA-A to ensure communications issues are identified and resolved as expeditiously as possible.
- Sets the priorities and synchronizes the efforts of the C4 Support team.
- Coordinates the Afghan Wireless Communication Company tower expansion and integration with global secure messaging.
- Interfaces daily with the JNCC-A staff and commercial services companies within the CJOA-A.
- Ensures that the radio and telephone architectures fits the requirements of the war.
- Maintains network awareness in order to allocate resources to resolve network issues.

Army Master Sgt. Denis Lugo

C4 Support noncommissioned officer in charge

- Assists the OIC in the integration and synchronization of the radio, frequency management and telephone support operations in the JNCC-A.
- Maintains situational awareness of all operations.
- Coordinates the Afghan Wireless Communication Company tower expansion and integration with global secure messaging.
- Interfaces daily with the JNCC staff and commercial services companies within the CJOA-A.
- Provides oversight and coordination between subordinate NetOps radio, frequency management and telephone representatives.

Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 David Mauriello

C4 Chief

- Serves as the subject matter expert on the communication arena on issues as telephone services, radios upgrade and Microwave Line of Sight (MLOS) with band expand and installation request.
- Provides overall Technical and Operational Support for all C4I projects
- Assist the C4I OIC in ensuring the all C4I projects fit the needs of the war fighter
- Subject Matter Expert (SME) in the communications arena on issues as Afghan Mission Network, Radio, Spectrum Management, Microwave Line of Sight (MLOS) and Telephone projects
- Developed the CJOA-A radio communication architecture and deployment strategy for the Netted Iridium Radios
- Works directly with CENTCOM in the development, implementation, and support on the Netted Iridium Radios in order to enable effective command and control throughout the USFOR-A Area of Operation (AOR)
- Travels extensively throughout the CJOA-A in support of the various C4I projects

Army Capt. Hampton Culp

Telephone officer in charge

- Provides real time event management for signal support facilitating operations across the CJOA-A.

- Provides communication support to the USFOR-A command group.
- Coordinates the Afghan Wireless Communication Company and all commercial services companies
- Maintains command and control of all cell phones distribution in the brigade.
- Maintains oversight, and tracking of all cell phones repairs and training.

Air Force Staff Sgt. Robert Harrel (outgoing)

Army Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Doyle (incoming)

Telephone noncommissioned officer in charge

- Assists the telephone OIC in the integration and synchronization of the telephone support operations in the JNCC-A.
- Provides communication support to the USFOR-A command group.
- Works with the Afghan Wireless Communication Company and all commercial services companies.
- Maintains oversight, and tracking of all cell phones repairs and training.

Army Staff Sgt. Tommy Andrews

Microwave Line of Sight (MLOS)

noncommissioned officer in charge

- Serves as the MLOS NCOIC responsible for assisting in the management of all the CJOA-A, telecommunication activity responsible for the drafting of radio systems policy and procedures, including equipment certification programs to all task force units.
- Responsible for daily oversight and management of \$50 million in commercial line of sight contracts.

Army Spc. Eric Mahaffey

Radio Noncommissioned officer in charge

- Ensures the CJOA-A communication architecture supports the needs of the warfighter.
- Canalizes purchase requests to ensure the requested equipment meets the brigade's intent

See C4, page 25

Back to school affects more than the kids

Dear families and friends of the 359th TTSB,

SCHOOL HAS OR WILL BE STARTING; how does that make you feel? For some it's a bummer and for others it's a breather. Either way, school can be a challenge for both parent and child.

There are lots of changes that take place this first month of school. Our child probably leaves with high expectations and may come back after a couple of weeks with great disappointment. They may not make friends like they thought. Or, their close friend is in a different class. Maybe the teacher is mean like a witch in your child's eyes. Could be the teacher is actually very nice but maybe that stern glance on the first day of school caused your child to have a very negative perception.

Children are often tormented in their own heart and mind with low self esteem. They smile but inside they fear they might fail this year or they fear they won't get the math or they fear that you will be mad at them for not getting the math.

Low self esteem effects how they perceive others disposition toward them as

well. Okay, so they are wearing the shirt you bought them because they want to be obedient but when they wear it they are very self conscious. That doesn't mean they shouldn't wear it because in life we have to learn to wear things out of financial necessity.

However, it does mean that we may have to be sensitive to what is going on in their heart and mind.

Kids can be very anxious too! Anxious about the parent over here in Afghanistan, anx-

Then, hug them some more.

Ask them how they 'feel' about their teacher or other kids. Ask them how they are feeling about your other half over here in Afghanistan.

Let them talk. Try NOT to give too much advice. We tend to give too much advice because we think we have to fix the problem. Our children are blessed with brilliant minds and they often can fix things themselves; what they need is a safe and loving sounding board.

Yet, because we are so emotionally charged ourselves, we tend to hurry up the listening part and go straight to the advice part. Try just listening, giving them a hug, and telling them how proud you are of them and how much you love



Courtesy Photo

ious about the parent getting along okay back at home, anxious about walking home from school or taking the bus home. Children can be anxious about how other kids treat them.

Children often get very anxious when they hear mom and dad argue over the phone.

If you see your child becoming short tempered or down and quiet, or getting into more trouble than usual, try and diligently listen to them. First, hug and kiss them more; they need lov'n!

them.

Finally, remember that our children are very resilient and they most often 'get thru' the tough times. If you think they need more help than you can provide (maybe some professional help) then please call The Military One Source for counseling help.

We miss our children! We miss our spouses! We miss our families!

Blessings,
Chaplain (LTC) Gary Williams

Brigade Commander: *Finding a balance in work, play is critical to mission*

Dear friends and family of the 359th TTSB/
Task Force Thunder,

The hard work continues. As we lead the way, creating communications capabilities in Afghanistan for the warfighters, and eventually, the local population, there are numerous tasks to be completed. Your Soldiers are working on everything from laying fiber to establish new communications hubs to managing multimillion dollar service contracts.

To provide services to a rapidly expanding Coalition Force is not an easy undertaking. But, the team has been diligently plugging away, resulting in countless successes.

And from what we hear, it sounds as though our Family Readiness Group is working very hard too. I want to personally thank you for all the projects that you all have been managing. Between shipping us Girl Scout Cookies, unit T-Shirts and care packages, there have been reports of the FRG team holding bake sales and bagging groceries to save money for our Welcome Home Ceremony.

We fully realize your job at home is difficult, even more stressful than ours at times as you juggle your many responsibilities and families, in addition to the tasks your deployed loved one left you with you to complete. And on top of all that, you are finding time to support us as well.

Please know that we could not execute our mission without your love, support and understanding. For that, with my deepest sincerity, I applaud each and every one of you.

With all this mission focus though, we have

urged the team to take some time to relax and decompress.

As you will see in this issue, there is a vast array of downtime activities for your loved one to partake in. The Morale, Welfare and Recreation organization here offers everything from Hip Hop Night to Bingo to Step Aerobics. And, your loved ones have their own hobbies and goals to keep them physically and mentally fit as well.

We have reports that some of them are learning Kung Fu, taking online classes and even practicing the skill of sword fighting. This balance is critical to the vital mission we have in country.

Without your loved ones full effort, our Coalition partners would have a much more difficult time accomplishing their mission.

So with that in mind, please make time for yourselves as well. Find activities to keep you renewed and motivated. Whether it is leaning a new language, renovating a room or designing family scrapbooks, do something just for you. You deserve the break too.

Honored and privileged to serve you and your Soldier,

Col. Chris Kemp
359th TTSB Commander



Courtesy Photo

Want to send your Soldier, Airman or Contractor a message?

If you would like to send your loved one a message, picture, etc. that can be published in an upcoming newsletter, contact the 359th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade Public Affairs Officer, Army Capt. Michelle Lunato, at michelle.lunato@us.army.mil.

HHC Soldiers with September B-Days!



Photos by Army Capt. Michelle Lunato





Chief Warrant Officer 2 Philip Burns
September 18



Spc. Frank McDonough ~ September 25



Capt. Gervis Carlisle
September 26



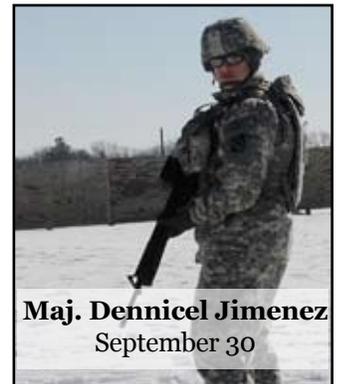
Staff Sgt. James Johns
September 24



1st Lt. Aaron Brunck ~ September 22



Sgt. 1st Class Antoine Taylor
September 24



Maj. Dennichel Jimenez
September 30

Happy Birthday
HHC
359th TTSB
Soldiers!

Family Readiness Group in action



Photos Courtesy of FRG



On July 23 several members of the Family Readiness Group volunteered to bag groceries at the Fort Gordon Commissary to make money for the Welcome Home fund.

After a number of hours and countless bags, both paper and plastic, the group managed to raise over \$1100.

Family members have also been selling baked goods at the Reserve Center on battle assembly weekends to add to the fund as well.





Army Capt. Michelle Lunato



Army Capt. Michelle Lunato

Far left, Army Sgt. Maj. Andrew Schuermann, Joint NetOps Control Center sergeant major, wears his unit T-shirt, which the FRG makes for the Soldiers, while he grades a physical fitness test in Bagram. Left, Army Spc. Darcelyn Kimbro, human resources specialist, takes a Girl Scout Cookie break thanks to the FRG's huge shipment of every cookie variety available.

Down-time in a combat zone

Finding activities to feed the soul, raise morale



Learning Kung Fu

Photos by Army Capt. Michelle Lunato

Above, Army: Sgt. 1st Class Edwin Cruz, spots, Staff Sgt. Lyle Sloan, as he is flipped over Staff Sgt. James Johns, all satellite communications noncommissioned officers after “attacking.”



Hanging out with friends



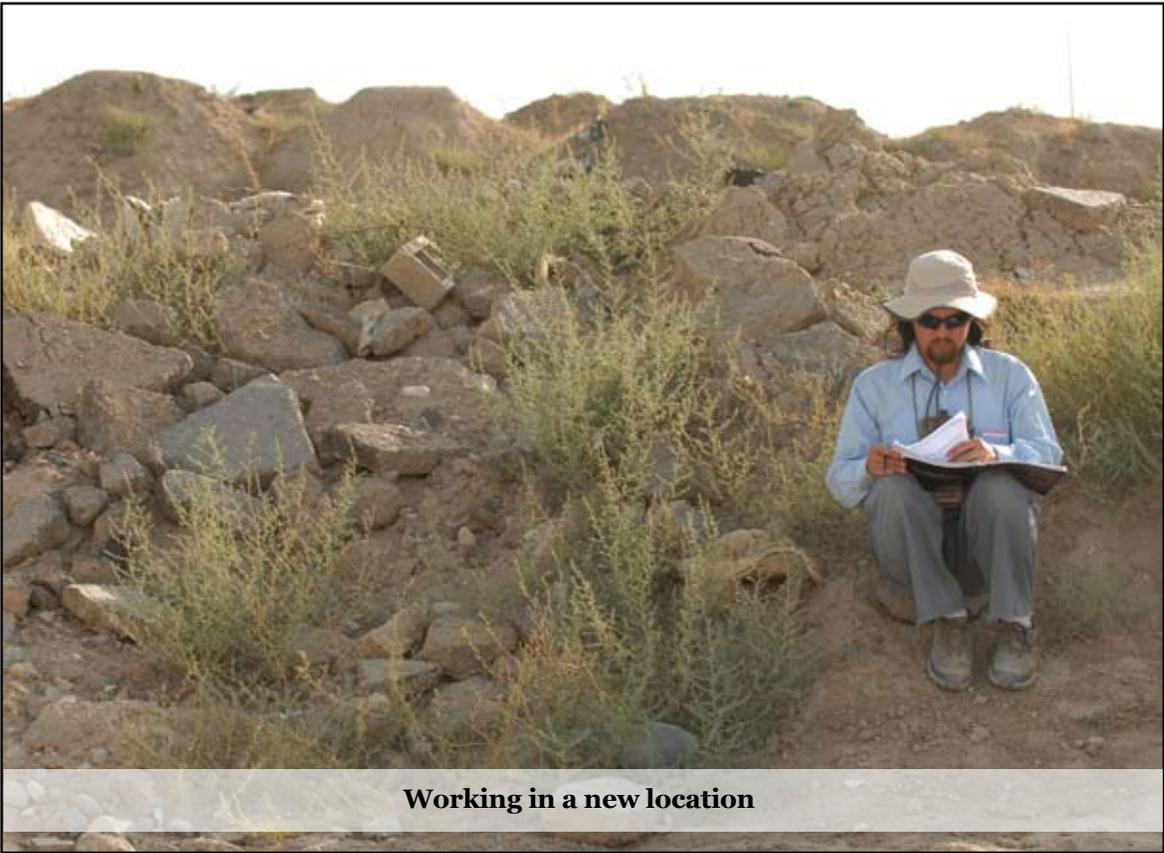
Taking a break in the massage chair

Above, Army Staff Sgt. Jeff Bates, HHC operations noncommissioned officer in charge, enjoys his daily 15 minutes at the chaplain’s office. Below, Army 1st Lt. Vincent Cooper, contracting office representative, collects non-alcoholic beer cans so that he can build a 17th Century Galleon (ship) like his grandfather.



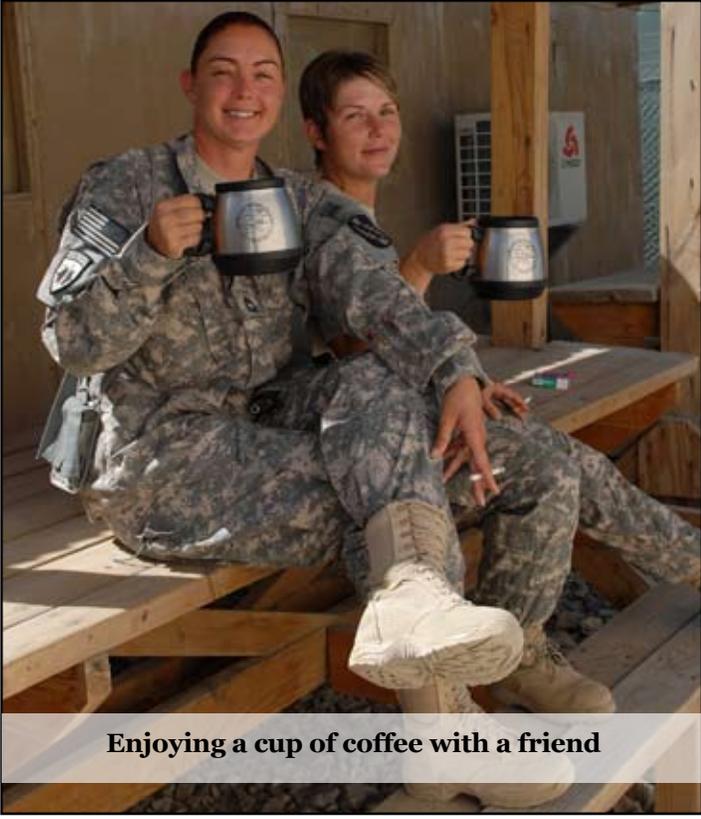
Collecting Cans

Left, Army: Spc. Eric Mahaffey, radio noncommissioned officer in charge, Spc. Michael Cannon, chaplain’s assistant, Staff Sgt. Chelsea Helsley, intelligence and security noncommissioned officer in charge, and Spc. Tyler Dietz, intelligence analyst, all relax on a deck talking story.



Working in a new location

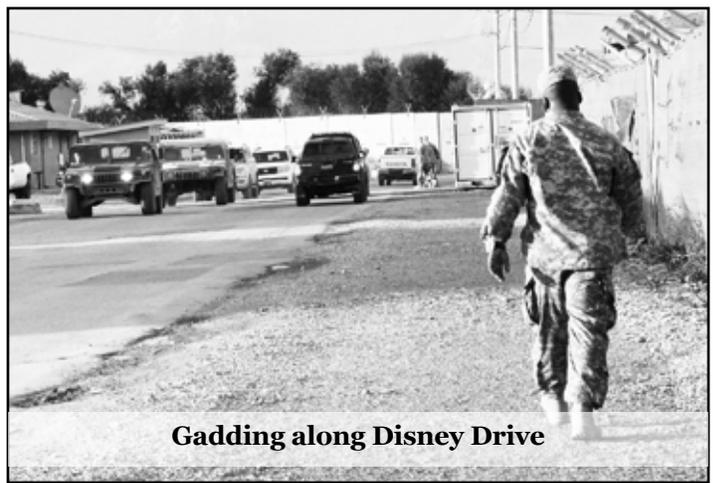
Left, Mr. Michael DeNovo, C4 Shop senior field technician, changes his scenery to complete his paperwork and get a break from the office. Below, Mr. Brent Jessmer, NetOps host base security system technician, breaks away from the office to sneak some snacks to “Jimmy” the goat on the other side of the Joint NetOps Control Center fence.



Enjoying a cup of coffee with a friend



Feeding the neighbor's goat



Gadding along Disney Drive

Above, Army: Master Sgt. Carolyn Suazo, information assurance/computer network defense noncommissioned officer in charge, and Sgt. Natanisha Hershberger, JNCC supply sergeant, have their daily ritual to start of the day. Right, Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 Marcus Fife, network technician, walks along Disney Drive looking for remote chances of fun and excitement.



Left, Army Chief Warrant Officer 4 William Wood, supply and logistics maintenance officer, is constantly working on some carpentry project. He uses his completed deck at the Supply and Logistics Shop to build smaller projects for other Task Force Thunder team members.

Building things for others to enjoy

Photos by Army Capt. Michelle Lunato

Right, retired (Army Lt. Col.) Scott Wisnieski, now acting as the Task Force Thunder Safety and Occupational Health Manager, is religiously seen enjoying the quiet early mornings on the steps of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company office.



Beginning the day with reflection



Recreating the Middle Ages

Above, Air Force Maj. Cheryl Lockhart, 455th Medical Command, and Army 1st Lt. Damon Pipkin, knowledge management officer, dual in a middle aged-style fight as part of the Society for Creative Anachronism, an international agency.

Right, Army Pfc. Michael J. Bush, information systems maintenance technician, is assisted by his comrade, Army Sgt. Melissa Gray, enterprise team lead, after a strenuous work out in the gym.



Helping a weary buddy

Below, Army Master Sgt. Robert Terstegge, 86th ESB liaison, rides the 8-mile Bagram perimeter multi times a day when he can. And on this trip, a little shopping on the side.



Biking for fun and transport



Planning for escape



Repairing safety signs

Above, Army Sgt. 1st Class Dan Wallen, plans and operations noncommissioned officer in charge, uses his down time learning how to fly planes so that he can later escape from Bagram Airfield. Right, Army Spc. Jessica Jones, mechanic, enjoys enforcing the traffic rules along Disney Road when she is not working.



Winning fame and fortune

Photos by Army Capt. Michelle Lunato

Above, Army Capt. David Jacobs, joint automation management officer in charge, plays in Texas Hold 'Em games each week.



Joining in on MWR or Company runs

Above, Soldiers from the 359th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade regularly run in the mornings along Disney Drive as part of unit or Morale Welfare and Recreation events.



Trying something new



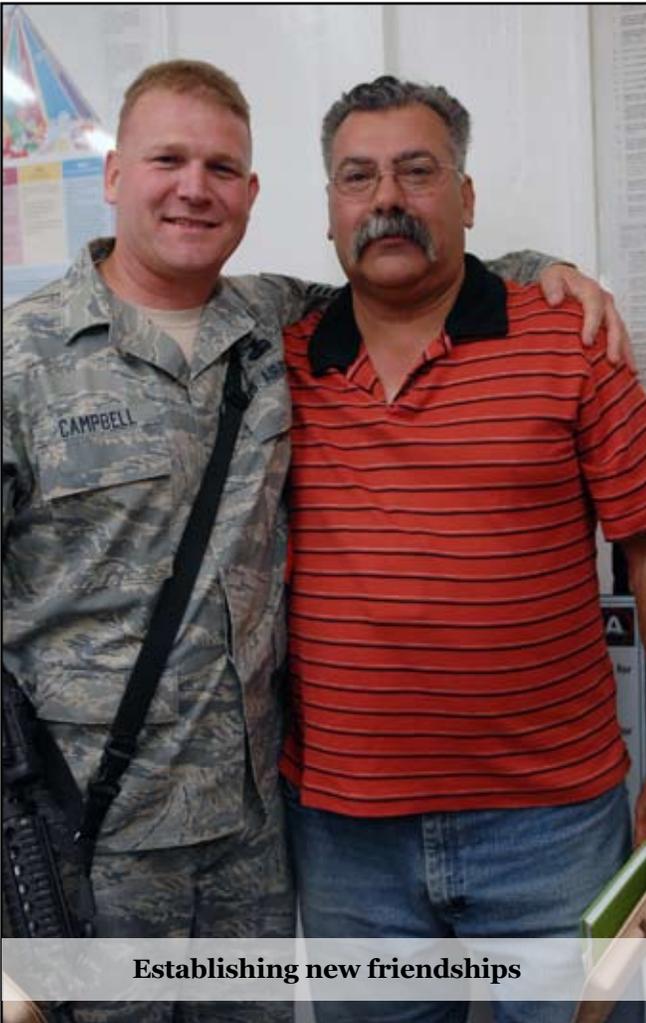
Attending Worship

Above, Army Spc. Kimberly Howard, resource management noncommissioned officer, and Chief Warrant Officer 2, enterprise system administrator, take time to feed their spiritual needs.



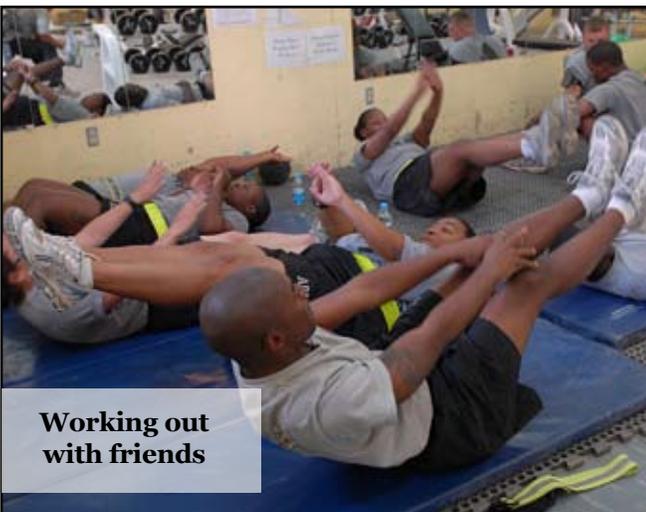
Making a friend laugh

Above, Army: Spc. Madriquez Gantt, JAMO technician, tries to make Spc. James Crooks laugh when he sees him on the way to work. Left, Army Staff Sgt. Chelsea Helsley, intelligence and security noncommissioned officer in charge, takes the opportunity to learn a golf swing.



Establishing new friendships

Above, Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Steven Campbell, enterprise noncommissioned officer in charge, enjoys his down time building a friendship with Mr. Joel Barrera, DISA voice engineer, who both work at the JNCC.



Working out with friends

Above, Soldiers from HHC, 359th TTSB, sweat together in the regular morning work outs together and follow it up with a healthy group breakfast. Right, Air Force Airman 1st Class Kyle Wilson, information assurance/computer network defense technician, takes a moment to practice his tactical skills.



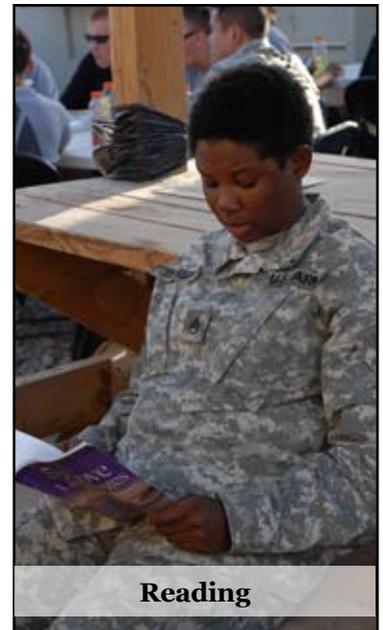
Playing music

Above, Army Spc. Eric Mahaffey, C4 radio noncommissioned officer in charge, practices his musical skills. Below left, Army: 1st Lt. Joe Addison, NetOps battle captain (night), and Sgt. 1st Class John Hembree, NetOps battle noncommissioned officer in charge, work out on a daily basis.



Lifting Weights

Right, Army Staff Sgt. Cassandra Jackson, human resources sergeant, decompresses with a good book.



Reading



Practicing combat skills



Modeling

Left, Air Force Airman 1st Class Pisces Lee, NetOps Controller, practices his look for the media.

Legal Consequences of “Loose Lips”

During World War II, the U.S. Office of War Information coined such phrases as “Loose Lips Might Sink Ships,” “Defense on the Sea Begins on the Shore,” “Defense in the Field Begins in the Factory,” and “Careless Talk Costs Lives.” This campaign was launched in an effort to limit the possibility of people inadvertently giving useful information to the enemy.

In today’s Facebook, Twitter, and Skype social-networking world, the potential for unguarded



communications is even more prevalent than the water cooler conversations of the 1940’s. Our enemy is adept and can intercept unguarded communications transmitted by phone calls, text messages, e-mails, or posted on internet social networking sites.

These unguarded communications can pose a threat not only to our national interests, but also the personal interests of our Soldiers and/or their family members. As a result, Soldiers and their family members must remain aware of not only the practical, but also the legal implications of such communications.

For example:

Wikileaks Classified Documents-

Wikileaks recently published on its website classified documents regarding military operations in Afghanistan. Although these documents have been made public, they are still classified until “declassified” by appropriate authorities. Presidential Executive Order 13526, “Classified National Security Information,” prohibits employees of the U.S. government from “...knowingly, willfully, or negligently” contravening any provision of this order, including the unauthorized access to classified information. The Executive Order defines access as “the ability or opportunity to gain knowledge of classified information.” Violations of this Executive Order



carry stiff sanctions, including reprimand, suspension of pay, removal, termination of authority, loss or denial of access to classified information, etc. While Soldiers are prohibited from visiting Wikileaks website, their family members are strongly advised not to visit the website as well.



Posting and sending information via the Internet-

The Departments of Defense and the Army have published policies on the Use of Social Media Tools and the Responsible Use of Internet-based Capabilities. In addition to operational security concerns, some internet postings, blogs, etc. by Soldiers and/or their family members can conflict with the Army values and/or national policy. These posts can include photographs, video clips, etc. Soldiers and family members should use considerable discretion in what they say and post via the internet.

Privacy Act of 1974-

The Privacy Act of 1974 protects records (e.g., SGLI, DEERS enrollment, LESs, etc.) that can be retrieved from a system of records by personal identifiers such as a name, social security number, or other identifying number or symbol. A system of records is any grouping of information about an individual under the control of a Federal agency from which information is retrievable by personal identifiers. The Privacy Act prohibits disclosure of these records without written individual consent unless one of the twelve disclosure exceptions enumerated in the Act applies (e.g., government’s need to know). Violators of the Privacy Act are subject to both civil (compensatory damages) and criminal (fines up to \$5,000) penalties.



Defamation-

In addition to the Privacy Act, Soldiers and/or family members who discuss the personal affairs

twitter



of Soldiers and/or their family members are subject to civil action under various state defamation statutes. Most states have per se defamation statutes in which the allegations presume to cause damage to the plaintiff. Such allegations include attacks on a person's professional or personal character and standing. Rumors, gossip, and innuendo regarding Soldiers and their personal lives can also have a negative affect on their morale and performance. As mentioned at the "Yellow Ribbon" Program, the Family Readiness Group (FRG) can be an unintentional conduit for such communications. FRG members are therefore reminded and advised to avoid such communications.

Thomas Jefferson reminded us that "Eternal vigilance is the price of Liberty." As we continue to prosecute this war on terror, remember to do your part in safeguarding communications that have both public and private consequences.

If you have any questions regarding these issues, please feel to contact the Brigade Judge Advocate, Army Lt. Col. Robert G. Drummer at robert.g.drummer@afghan.swa.army.mil.

As the brigade judge advocate has often stated since our mobilization and deployment, he wants all Soldiers to return home safely with "all their limbs and all their legal." A courts-martial during or at the end of the deployment is not a desired outcome for anyone.

Therefore, the entire 359th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade family is strongly encouraged to observe all applicable laws, regulations, and policies, both in theater and in the rear.

HHC Commander



Army Capt. Michelle Lunato

As the Afghanistan heat continues to scale up it seems like time is speeding up!

Congratulations, we've now hit our first 90 days in country (Yeah!!!)

I want to thank everyone for continuing to keep focused on the mission at hand.

Please remember to keep safety in mind as we start to increase in the numbers of Soldiers going on leave.

Congratulations on all of our newly promoted, I'm looking to have a few more before we head back!!!

Very Respectfully,
Capt. Gervis C. Carlisle
HHC Commander

HHC First Sergeant



Army Capt. Michelle Lunato

Well, we have hit our 90-day mark here in country, which makes your Soldier 90 days closer to being home! Be proud of your loved one as they are working hard on their missions and a number of personal goals as well.

I would like to thank all of your efforts in supporting your Soldier (Airman and Contractors too). I can't tell you how they light up when they get packages and letters. Your well-wishes really help them stay motivated and focused on the mission and their self-improvement goals.

I hope things are going well on your end of the deployment, and I urge you to contact me at andree.l.lipscomb@afghan.swa.army.mil if you need any assistance at all. If I can't help, I can at least point you to someone who can.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,
1st Sgt. Andree Lipscomb
HHC First Sergeant

Promotions and Awards



Army Capt. Michelle Lunato



Courtesy Photo

Above, Army Pfc. Christine J. Awkward, human resources specialist, gets promoted to specialist by the Headquarters and Headquarters Company commander, Army Capt. Gervis Carlisle.



Army Capt. Michelle Lunato



Army Capt. Michelle Lunato



Courtesy Photo

Top left, Army: Pfc. Jessica L. Jones, mechanic, is congratulated by Task Force Thunder Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Wilkerson after getting promoted to specialist. Left, Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Steven Campbell, enterprise noncommissioned officer in charge, was nominated and awarded the 955th Air Expeditionary Squadron's Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the month for July. Above left, Air Force Airman 1st Class Pisesces Lee, NetOps Controller, was nominated and awarded the 955th Air Expeditionary Squadron's Airman of the Month for July. Above right, Army Sgt. 1st Class John Hembree, NetOps battle noncommissioned officer in charge, promotes Army Pfc. Michael Bush, informations systems specialist, to specialist at the Joint NetOps Control Center - Afghanistan.

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and make it big.”

What would you be like if you were not so close to your family?

“I think I would be a different guy and have less care for things.”

Do you base your decisions off of your family?

Before I do a lot of things, I think about how it will affect my family.

Do you have a message to your family?

“I talk to them a lot. They know that I love them, and that I can’t wait to get home and get my life started.”

What does getting your life started entail?

“I really want to live the actual campus life, but I do want to try and do some online classes here.”

“I want to start a business. Maybe a clothing and shoe store, but that could change.”

Have you always wanted to do business?

Yes. “I have been working my whole life, as long as I can remember.”

In middle school, I used to make money selling snacks and drinks. “

I would be sold out by lunch time and have to go get another bag.”

I would make nearly \$100 per week and even had to

hire friends to help me keep up with the demand. *You seem to have a lot of plans for such a young man? Who influenced you?*

My grandfather, father [David Murray] and Sgt. 1st Class Antoine Taylor have been mentors to me. They all taught me the same things about having priorities and how to work on goals. “You should have a plan at all times and have a back-up plan for that plan.”

“I am pretty determined to be successful.”



Army Capt. Michelle Lunato

Spc. Corey D. Smith, administrative executive assistant, enjoys a break at the Readiness Training Center in Fort McCoy, Wis. in March.

How has the Army helped you with your plans?

“The Army has helped me dress more professional.”

When it comes to personal and professional relationships, what are your goals?

“I think every relationship teaches you something different. My goal is to show that there are good guys out there.”

“The saying, what goes around comes around is true.”

“I try to be a good person and not hurt others.”

How will you start your plans, when you get home?

“There will be some big changes, and for the better.”

What advice would you give other young adults?

“It’s not where you come from, but where you are going [that matters].”

C4 Continued from page 9

and purpose for the equipment.

- Keeps track of all netted iridium radio upgrades, repairs and training in the CJOA-A.

Army Staff Sgt. Jose Amador
Spectrum manager

- Assists the C4 OIC in ensuring the CJOA-A communications architecture supports the needs of the warfighter.
- Serves as the primary troubleshooter for the

network outages.

- Conducts quality of service checks (QOS).
- Identifies frequency requirements.

Mr. Michael DeNovo
Senior field technician

- Responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Army’s Defense Switched Network (DSN) cellular equipment and service at Bagram Airfield.
- He has been in country since July of 2006 and provides a great deal of continuity.

INSECT AND SPIDER BITES

Knowing what to look for, how to treat

Each year many people experience insect and spider bites serious enough to make them lose time off the job.

If you are stung by a bee, remove the stinger gently (with tweezers, if possible) and avoid squeezing the poison sac. Apply an ice pack or a cloth dipped in cold water to reduce swelling and itching. A sting from a yellow jacket can be deadly. These insects feed on dead animals and can cause blood poisoning. If you have an allergic reaction to a bite, get medical help immediately.

Of the spiders causing serious medical problems only the black widow and brown recluse are considered serious threats. The black widow has a shiny the size of a pea. With legs extended, it's about an inch a red or yellow hourglass mark on their underside. The is partial to outdoor latrines and other places that black widow spider will attack with even the slightest bite is less painful than a pinprick, and does not cause but soon, intense pain and stiffness set in. Symptoms fever, nausea, abdominal pain and chills. For children and the elderly, black widow bites can be lethal.



black body, about long. Females have black widow spider attract flies. The provocation. Its a hole in the skin, also may include

Also beware of the brown recluse spider. When it comes to insect bites, the bite of the brown recluse spider is 1/4-1/2 per body. Its bite hours of a bite, vomiting or a ing blood vessels into an open sore Anyone bitten by either spider should seek medical help immediately.



is one of the most feared. This yellowish-tan to dark brown inch long. It has a characteristic fiddle-shaped mark on its up-can have painful, disfiguring, and even deadly results. Within victims may suffer severe pain and stiffness, fever, weakness, rash. The recluse's venom destroys cells and clots blood, block-and leading to gangrene. Within 24 hours, the wound erupts ranging from the size of a thumbnail to that of an adult's hand.

Experts say, spiders typically don't go looking for human prey. Spiders are generally shy and try to avoid contact with humans. Leave them to their dark, secluded spaces – under rocks, in debris piles, sheds, closets and attics, and there's no worry. Invade their space, though, and risk a bite. Spiders will attack if trapped or if pressed against the skin.

Not all people react the same way to these spider bites. The variation may be due to the amount of venom injected or the person's physiology or immune system. The first line of treatment, if you suspect a bite is to apply a cold compress. However, if you have a bite and experience other side effects, get medical treatment immediately.